



March 2023

A VISIT TO THE PHILIPPINES

After only eight months since our call to begin The Way Out Ministries Philippines (TWOP), Terry and I were on a fifteen-hour flight to Manila. Upon our arrival, we met up with TWOP Board Member Linda Fernandez and her brother Phillip—*“tour guide extraordinaire!”* The next morning, we woke early and flew once again to Occidental Mindoro, landing in San Jose—and that is where we left our hearts!

The adventures were great! Motorized tricycle rides through the busy streets that broke every American driving law ever written, a wild boat ride across the China sea in a wave-crashing, wind-blown fishing boat, a jungle walk on Illin Island, eating fresh coconut hand cut by our trail guide, and the many sights and stops traveling from the bustling city of Manila to the countryside of Tuba, Benguet. All of these things were outdone by the people we met in our little church, Chapel by the Beach. The beautiful and exuberant children that we sang with, played with, prayed with, and fed. The fifteen couples that we ate with and taught to walk with Christ. Hearing worship in Tagalog and watching costumed children dance for us to God Bless America—what a warm and hospitable people they are and so open to hearing the gospel of Jesus.

While in San Jose, we saw our ministry center being built. The first floor is almost complete and the roof is nearly finished. The structure is solid brick and concrete and the finishing work, electrical, and plumbing are beautifully done. By the end of our visit, God had made it clear to us to offer a full-time job to the builder. **Mark Salcedo** accepted our offer to be TWOP Director of Facilities. “I believe that God is calling me to this work,” he said. Mark will direct and oversee all of our building projects in the Philippines and manage all repairs and upkeep at our facilities.

We also hired Mark’s mother, **Divina Canapit** as Director of TWOP. She was instrumental in the beginnings of our church and has tirelessly worked for years in reaching the people in San Jose with the gospel. The ministry in the Philippines is in good hands with this strong woman of faith. She attracts volunteers with her persuasive personality and vision. Davina is an avid prayer warrior! Please keep this mother and son in prayer as God brings good things to San Jose through TWOP.



TWOP in San Jose—under construction!

Would you like to receive these updates digitally? Please email Kelli at kgilmore@rca.org to be added to the email list. You will receive more timely updates from the missionary you support and help us be good stewards of our resources.

You can hear and see more updates on TWOP including Terryl and my report to The Gathering Church by going to our web page at thewayout.org and selecting "International" on the menu.



Barry & Terryl Bruce with TWOP Board Member Linda Fernandez (left). Some Filipino friends (center). Our newest team members— Davina Canapit & Mark Salcedo (right).

JESUS LOVES HG

The New Year sent our founders to the Philippines and our church, The Gathering, to the streets of Hawaiian Gardens for our annual outreach of love to the community. Volunteers shared the love of Jesus by offering free services to the community.

A free car wash, free tokens and soap at a local laundry mat, and a trash pickup that cleared 75 pounds of trash from the city streets and sidewalks. Prayer and counsel were also offered to those in need. Forty volunteers participated in the four-hour outreach.



Serving at the laundromat and "real men pick up trash" – Jesus Loves HG

CAMP IS COMING

Our summer camp programs are coming soon! Natasha Martin, one of our camp counselors, shares the importance of kids coming to camp in her story below:

I have been a teacher at Kid's Church for the past ten years, but my first year as a camp counselor with The Way Out was a different experience. It was a chance to put love and teaching into action and to form bonds and develop relationships with the fifteen girls and two other counselors in my cabin. At camp, our girls got to witness the love of God. All of these girls weren't Christians, but five of them accepted Christ as their Savior!

I accepted Christ at the age of four when a stranger knocked on the door and handed my seven-year-old cousin a tract because no adults were home. She and I read it, discussed it, and made a sincere decision to ask Jesus

RCA Global Mission does not receive denominational assessments or covenant shares. We depend on the faithful generosity of churches and individuals.



Natasha (left) at camp with some of her campers.

into our lives. We even prayed together! Because of that personal experience, I know how sincere the heart of a child is and how God completes the work he begins just as He has done in me.

Sponsorships for children to attend camp have eternal returns. In addition, these campers also get to do things they might never have the opportunity to do, such as zip-lining, camping, hiking, star gazing, archery, forest laser tag, singing and praying around the campfire, and most importantly learning to love and to be loved! Learn more about camp sponsorship at thewayout.org and click on "partner" and "Be A Camp Sponsor."

In a society that increasingly rejects God and celebrates sin, children must *"taste and see that the Lord is good."*

Sincerely,
Barry and Terryl