

# Philippines-Palawan Mission Project Update



### Planting Seeds, written by Christine

It was the first Sabbath of March 2021 when I received a call to conduct a weekly afternoon Sabbath program for children while adults carried out Bible Studies. My housemate, Charymie Gay Barnedo, and I agreed to take on the challenge.

The first meeting was attended by two boys. The boys worked on the "Creation Wheel" which showed the importance of the seventh-day Sabbath. They had fun choosing the color of crayons for their wheel. The following Sabbath our attendees increased to seven, ranging from toddlers to teenagers. This time the older ones assisted the younger ones. On the third meeting our topic was "The Forgotten Dream." As usual the children experienced a fun afternoon putting colors on the craft and scribbling prayers on the back of their work.

Children's evangelism is like planting seeds in the minds of the young so that when they grow older they will not forget what they have learned. "But Jesus said, suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 19:14

## Youth Courage, written by Edgar

I have read stories about "underground churches" in countries where religion is illegal, and now I feel like I am living the story myself! Religion is not illegal in the Philippines, but because of Covid19 outbreaks many areas have been put into quarantine. The road to the Sagpangan Church is blocked with barbed wire and a guard. This means traveling five miles out the back way instead of the half mile back home. Due to the lock-down I asked the seven newly baptized youth from seven different families to gather themselves together for Sabbath worship instead. Deverson and Rhea Jane would like to one day become missionaries. They led the worship initially but without adult support, it became difficult. I told them that they could gather at our place again if they could find a way to come. Courageously, they found a way around the lockdown fence and came to our house to worship.

I seek your prayers for these young warriors of Jesus to ignite the passion to reach out to the young people who are unable to go to church anymore because of the restrictions. It has been extremely hard for these young people to observe





the Sabbath in their own homes. We enjoy spending time together and normally make Sabbath into a whole day event. With all the restrictions, this important piece of our lives is gone. Please pray not only for the youth, but the whole village of Sagpangan and that God's Spirit will prevail.

### Unforeseen Partnership, written by Monique

In the summer of 2019, a young couple from Sagpangan were offered an opportunity to earn better wages as teachers in Ratchaburi, Thailand. Upon arrival they were blessed to find housing just a few steps from an Adventist Church. However, with the coronavirus crises, church attendance became minimal. Many members were unable to attend even when the church was open. Unphased, Michael and Cecil chose to attend church services and began leading in the worship programs. Due to their dedication, Michael was selected as an elder.

With their zeal for mission service in a foreign country, Michael and Cecil conduct weekly outreach activities such as sharing pamphlets and booklets (in Thai) to people they meet. Although they speak little Thai, they believe in building friendships and being a witness for God. They ask for the Holy Spirit's leading with the friendships they develop and the literature they share.

Praise the Lord, His leading is producing fruit! Recently, they were invited to host a house blessing to share scripture songs. "God provides a way when there seems to be no way." Isaiah 43:19

"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

- 2 Chronicles 7:14

We are encouraged that such a young couple, so far away from home, is active in the Great Commission. They have reached out to Bruce and me for assistance in providing the small congregation in Ratchaburi with monthly video Sabbath messages to offer the congregation a more diverse exposure to the Gospel message. This unforeseen partnership has extended AWA's reach to another part of Asia.

#### **Prayer Request and Project Need**

• Spirit led project manager, pilots and mechanics willing to answer the Call to serve with AWA.

God bless you!

Your AWA Philippines - Palawan mission families, Christine Cayetano

Edgar and Raylene Espinosa

Bruce and Monique Wilkerson

Your AWA Mission Families serving in the AWA Philippines - Palawan Mission Project:

Christine Cayetano



Bruce & Monique Wilkerson

