

# OPEN DOOR MISSION

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**“Behold, I have put before you  
an open door.”  
Revelation 3:8**

Dear Friends,

Summer 2020

Greetings from our home to yours! “May the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you.” II Thes. 3:16

It certainly has been interesting and challenging times that we have been living in during these past few months. Gracie and I had a terrible flu in March while Tito was teaching at the Christ’s Corridor Leadership Institute in Canada. They were not doing testing yet in our area for the coronavirus, but our symptoms matched up and we figure that we had it. We are praying that you all are staying well and have been able to avoid contracting Covid19. We survived the several months of quarantine with our sanity, thankfully, and hope it has been the same for you!

We were very relieved that Tito made it home from Canada before they closed the borders. The convention planned for this summer in Alberta was cancelled, but hopefully the Institute can continue there before too long. During the shelter in period, we were able to keep the Sunday services going from our home every week for the Moores Hill Church of Christ between the three of us that were sheltering in then. Tito preached on Facebook live twice every Sunday morning and then posted the sermons as well. Gracie helped with the technical side for the worship services, and she also helped me with the music. The Bible studies and church meetings were held via Zoom on-line during the quarantine, which everyone is probably familiar with by now. Moores Hill Church resumed meeting for worship when it was legally permitted, with three services on Sunday mornings so that there was enough space for social distancing. The Church is now holding two services each Sunday with social distancing. *During these unprecedented times of our lives, many are struggling with the new normal. The new normal keeps changing too, and we wonder if things will ever be the same as they were in pre-coronavirus days. We are so thankful that we have a loving and all-knowing God that guides us in this life, and who we can call on in difficult and trying times! We do not know what the future holds, but we do know that our God will help us make it through today and is already there waiting for us tomorrow!*

The churches and ministries have been continuing throughout the lockdown in the Philippines as best they can. There has been no lifting of restrictions there, like in the U.S., and the GCQ (General Community Quarantine) is continuing indefinitely. One blessing that has come out of this difficulty is that Makati Integrated Christian Academy is able to continue educating students via on-line courses and has started the new school year already. The government is encouraging schools to do this because of the coronavirus concerns. MICA won't have to look for a new place to move right now since the work is being done online. The Principal, Veeves Dalipe, along with the teachers, are managing the classes from their homes at this time. This is a big blessing!

We do have a few specific prayer requests for our family. Please continue to pray for our daughter-in-law, Sarah, who is on the front lines as a nurse during this medical crisis. We are especially concerned about her because she is seven months pregnant. We ask for the Lord's protection over her health and the health of the baby! We recently found out that our third grandbaby will be a girl—which is what we have been hoping and praying for, and we are very excited about! She will be joining big brothers, Nehem and Abram, in September. Of course, the health of my Mother, Rita Penny, has been of great concern throughout this pandemic. She is 86 years old, so those of us who help regularly with her care have tried to be extra careful and to limit our exposure to others. We thank God that she is doing fine right now! We would appreciate prayers for her.

We thank you for your continuous prayers for our family and for Open Door Mission! The Pastors who lead our churches and ministries in the Philippines have been so grateful for the continued faithful help during this difficult time when so many have suffered financially there due to the lockdown and not being able to work. Hopefully there is a vaccine coming soon to help deal with the virus around the world. We keep on praying for better times ahead for all of us! We would love to come visit when things settle down. Please give Tito a call on his cell phone at 513-373-0413 if you would like to chat or set up a schedule with us to visit this year. Be safe and may our Gracious God keep you and bless you until we meet again!

Love in Christ Jesus,

*The Pels*

Tito & Sandy Pel

P.S. Since March we have been praying about the pandemic at 2 pm and 8 pm daily, along with our fellow Christians from Northern Hills Christian Church, and from Canada. Recently we personally added another item to that daily prayer time regarding race relations in the U.S.A. It is concerning and heartbreaking that there is so much confusion, hurt and misunderstandings among many of our fellow Americans right now, and even hatred. We are praying for love to prevail as we move forward through these difficult times as a nation. We look forward to the future when all of us believers will be at God's throne in heaven worshipping Him with people from every tongue, tribe and nation! In the meantime, we pray that all may come to know Jesus as their Savior. We also pray that we as believers, with the help of the Holy Spirit, will have the patience, strength and love to be an ambassador for Christ in whatever situation we find ourselves. May the love of Christ be evident in our lives every day! These times have caused us to remember the TV show that Tito hosted in the Philippines, called "What Would Jesus Do?".