

OPEN DOOR MISSION

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

Dear friends,

Autumn 2021

Hello to all! It is surely interesting times we're living in, and we are wondering whether another lockdown is in our near future here in the U.S. Unfortunately, the Filipino people have not had much relief from quarantine since the beginning of the pandemic. In the big cities, like Manila, the lockdown is called Enhanced Community Quarantine, and people are still largely confined to their homes. The city churches are having worship virtually, but also are communicating so they can get help to those in need of relief goods during this difficult time. Depending on what part of the Philippines you are in, some people are permitted to meet in small groups. One of our church planting Pastors, Ptr. Jonathan Retuya, was hospitalized for Covid. Thankfully he is okay now and is out of the hospital. We were able to send some help to him. At the church on the island of Mindoro, Pastor Reynante has reported that they are permitted to meet at 50% capacity for worship. They are able to continue their discipleship program and have recently had three baptisms. We are thankful that the work of the Kingdom continues, even under these challenging circumstances. In Cebu, Pastor Fred Dajalos has reported that they have been able to continue the campus ministry through small groups. There have been some baptisms there as well.

Makati Integrated Christian Academy just recently started school. The school system has now changed the school year to August through May, like in the U.S. They are only able to do school virtually at present and have students from Kindergarten through Junior High this year. The Christ's Mission Foundation International, Inc., has had to put the prison ministry on hold, as they are not permitted to enter the prisons at this time. Also, the blood donation program is not permitted to be conducted at this time. The CMFII is focusing efforts right now on partnering with the Christ's Corridor Philippines in church planting. This organization was started by the Christ's Corridor in Canada, who Tito has been working with when he goes to teach in Canada. Even during these challenging times, Pastor Nestor Morines, who heads up the Foundation, is trying to help start a church in the province of Samar. Concerning the Institute in Canada, Tito is scheduled to go there in mid-October to teach. We will see if travel and quarantine guidelines make it possible for him to travel to Alberta at that time.

Please pray for the family of Domingo Nanale, aka Brother Jinggoy, a long-time partner in the Mission in the Philippines. He was an ex-convict who became a Christian and then a missionary. He travelled around the Philippines sharing his testimony and baptized many into Christ. He recently passed away, and ODM was able to help with the expenses. He will be greatly missed in our brotherhood! Thank you for your prayers!

On the home front, we are preparing for my mother to live with us full time. She is no longer able to stay in her condo due to her dementia. It is a busy time as we try to go through everything at her home, and also prepare our home for Mom to live with us. The rest of the family is doing well, keeping busy with work, school, and life. We can't believe that our little Finly Ann just turned one already! The older we get the faster time goes!! We remember when Finly's Daddy, J.T., was about her age, and that's when we started our first church plant in Manila, Christ's Church in Makati. How the years have flown by!

We thank God for His faithfulness to our family and to ODM! And we thank God for all of you, our faithful prayer warriors and supporters!! In these uncertain times, we are grateful to have a Heavenly Father who loves us and listens to our every prayer! We keep you all in our prayers. God bless you all!

Love in Christ Jesus,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "The Pels". The letters are cursive and connected.

Tito & Sandy Pel

“Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” Phil 4:4-7