



THE BLUSTS

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Dear Pastor and Brethren,

May-June 2026 Prayer, Praise & Progress Report

“The LORD reigneth; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of isles be glad thereof” (Psalm 97:1). “Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice: and let men say among the nations, The LORD reigneth” (1 Chronicles 1:31).

Perla and I rejoice and count the many blessings that the LORD has given, one by one, and see that the hand of God is at work in our ministry. We praise God for His faithfulness, His goodness and His great love. The Lord Jesus Christ has led our ministry in the direction of truth and righteousness. And our commitment to the Word of God is stronger than ever. We share a vision and mission to spread the gospel message of Jesus Christ to lost souls in our communities, and as a result we are going strong. We have proven our commitment and loyalty to the work of the Lord and for that God has richly blessed us. Church growth isn't easy, but all of us have proven that it's not impossible to have church growth when every member of the congregation steps up and fully commits to winning the hearts and minds of those willing to listen to the gospel message of our Lord Jesus Christ. How can we welcome each day of the coming year in a manner that will best please God? How will we glorify God each day?

Kaamulan Festival is the only authentic ethnic cultural festival held annually in the Philippines at Malaybalay City, capital of Bukidnon. This year from Thursday March 19 to Thursday April 23. It is held to celebrate the culture and tradition of the seven ethnic tribal groups: Bukidnon, Higaonon, Manobo, Matigsalug, Talaandig, Tigwahanon, Umayamnon that originally inhabit the province. Tourist attendance from all over the Philippines and internationally was down compared to 2025. **My ministry goals at the Kaamulan festival were successful. Made new friends among tribals/Visayans, some visited our house, established new evangelistic Bible studies.**

Met a British man (70+) lawyer from Leicester, England. He said that he despises living there because after fifty years, it's now an Islamic community practicing Sharia Law with Sharia Courts. That Christians are arrested and jailed for preaching and praying, but not Muslims. He also said that Muslims have tried to kill (knife) him. He lived in Manila, but didn't like it so he moved to Malaybalay City. When he heard that I'm a Baptist preacher, he said “he's beyond redemption and I shouldn't try to save him.” He's in a homosexual relationship with a Filipino.

Malaybalay City mission church: Perla's cousin's wife step mother Vicki (60+) Baptist (GARBC) attended our church meetings. She said she learned more in one Sunday from English/Cebuano preaching than she learned her entire life in Baptist (GARBC) churches from Binukid/Cebuano storytelling. She thought that she was born a really good baby only to find out from our preaching that she was born a sinner. She wanted her husband to attend our church because he's one of the many drunkards in Baptist (GARBC) churches. However, she didn't return because all her friends are attending Baptist (GARBC) churches and she feels more comfortable with storytelling.

Four Bacalso sisters (ages 17 to 20), Boholana/Cebuana, Catholics from the remote mountains outside of Valencia City are staying at their cousin's (a surgical nurse at Malaybalay Polymedic General Hospital) pad during school break in April & May. They're being evangelized and attending our church meetings and learning much from the Bible. They greatly appreciate being allowed to ask questions about the Bible after our church meetings are finished. Some of their cousins are being evangelized and attending church meetings. Bacalso girls often visited Perla in April & May to learn more about the Bible, ask questions, for activities. Their parents are old fashioned. Their home has no water so they take baths and wash clothes in a nearby clear clean water springs.

Perla's first cousin Helen (63), Boholana/Chinese, Catholic (owns funeral homes) and her grandson Dain (17) from Nabunturan Davao De Oro (7 hrs. away) visited us from April 29 to May 4. Helen's sister Lydia (69) is our church member.

Barangay Managok: We get phone calls and texts all the time from our members and visitors who relocated to Valenzuela City Metro Manila and Lanao Del Norte to find jobs who tell us how much they miss us and they hope that there's a change in the local economy of Bukidnon so they can come back home and be faithful in our church.

Perla's niece Rosielyn (39), husband Gilbert (39), two teenage kids, Catholics visited us during their two-week vacation in April. They are from barangay Managok, but work in Paranaque Manila. It's the second time that I met Gilbert. He said only I talk to him about the Bible and that in the Catholic church, altar Bible is for decoration.

Municipality of Impasugong (mountains): Two people got saved: Mr. Pelistan (41) Baptist (GARBC) on Sunday March 29. He's a barangay official. Eliamar Dunggo (26) Baptist (GARBC) on Sunday April 5.

Municipality of Kitaotao (four hours away): Barangay Kisapwak: Evangelism with Rulle (32) Boholano farmer and his wife Me-an (25) Matigsalug tribal. **Barangay Panganan:** Ongoing daily evangelism in multiple locations. Ronie (52) Matigsalug tribal, former General Baptist deacon and former barangay officer who got saved a year ago in November is evangelizing the gospel of Christ to hundreds of people which resulted in four new outreaches in a nearby purok and three sitios (two hours round trip by walking). **Edita Sigan-a, a pagan got saved on Sunday April 5. Note:** A church building project was completed and is now ready for church meetings.

Municipality of Manolo Fortich: Befriended/evangelized/conducting Bible studies with CJ Bartoces (30+) SDA.

Evangelizing the gospel of Christ to tribal pagans. Teaching Bible believers be buried bodily as Bible believers believe in a bodily resurrection. God's people have always buried their dead with this magnificent hope burning in their hearts. "We will see that brother or sister again in that same body, only changed, glorified!" Hallelujah! Only through the death and shed blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ can we have this certain hope. Bible examples of burial - Gen.23:1-4; 25:8-10; 35:19-20,29; 49:33; 50:1-13; Dt.34:5-6; Joshua 24:29-30,33; 1 Sam.25:1; 1 Ki.2:10; Mt.14:10-12; Acts 5:5-10; 8:2. That Bible believers will never have their body cremated willingly. Cremation is a wicked practice (Amos 2:1). Pagan beliefs such as cremation, reincarnation and karma be rejected.

The Philippine government declared a national energy emergency over the Iran war on Tuesday March 24. President Bongbong Marcos cited "imminent danger of a critically low energy supply" and ordered authorities to act against hoarding and profiteering. A war between America, Israel and Iran just became a national emergency thousands of miles away in the Philippines. Fuel shortages and doubled fuel prices is unaffordable for fisherman and farmers causing food production to plummet. As natural gas, the feedstock for fertilizer is cut off, the prospect of famine is looming by 2027. The Middle East war has translated directly into doubled prices for rice, fresh foods and other essential goods in local markets. For impoverished households already dealing with limited income and rising living costs, this economic pressure is pushing more families closer to food insecurity and deeper financial hardship. The Middle East war/Persian Gulf closure is collapsing livelihoods and the local economy. Frequently in Bukidnon, there is no electricity (black outs), no municipal water (turned off for hours), ATM's (off line) and gas stations (no fuel). True security lies in the Word of God and in Jesus Christ. The systems many people trust—energy, water, medicine, transportation are designed to fail under stress. Signs of economic depression are evident: inflation devouring wages, unemployment, families crushed under debt. Filipinos are admirably resilient in spite of the hardships that they suffer in this life. Having said all this, hundreds of our members and visitors temporarily stopped attending Bible studies and church meetings as they are in survival mode trying to increase their livelihood to avoid starvation. They love us very much and will most definitely come back if they have sustainable income.

In case of disruptions, preparation is not just a prudent measure, but a spiritual imperative. We're called to be good stewards of the resources and gifts God has entrusted to us, ensuring that we're ready to face whatever lies ahead. Preparation encompasses physical survival, personal sovereignty, spiritual readiness. It means equipping ourselves with the knowledge and tools necessary to protect our lives, defend our freedoms, and strengthen our faith. **Spiritual readiness is the cornerstone of our preparedness.** It's through our faith that we find the strength to endure and the wisdom to navigate the challenges ahead. This involves deepening our relationship with God, immersing ourselves in Scripture, and cultivating a life of prayer and worship. Our faith must be a living, dynamic force that guides our actions and decisions, ensuring that we remain steadfast in the face of adversity. The world is getting darker. Christians and now even some of the nonreligious crowd is noticing it.

The King James Bible is our authority. Bible believers are fundamentally a submissive people (James 4:7). We place ourselves under the rule of God, and thus the rule of His Holy Word. We receive, and in no way edit, the Bible. The Bible is not an open-source document. Composed by human authors through the Spirit's agency, the Word is the very speech and breath of God (2 Timothy 3:16). Faith must be unwavering and rooted in the unchanging truths of Scripture. Spiritual deception is the most subtle yet dangerous threat people face. Many are being misled by false teachings and ideologies that appear benevolent, but are rooted in deception. The Bible warns us against such deceptions, urging us to test everything against the truth of Scripture. As we navigate these challenges, we remain grounded in the Word of God, allowing it to be our compass and our shield. Our faith must be active, discerning, capable of distinguishing truth from error, guiding us through the maze of spiritual deception.

Sadly, some Baptist missionaries/pastors choose untruthful/unrighteous pastor students over truthful/righteous members. Explanation given is too much money and time was invested in untruthful/unrighteous pastor students to abandon them. Phenomenon where God's men are reluctant to abandon a strategy or course of action because they've invested heavily in it, even when it is clear that abandonment would be more beneficial. These pastor students foolishly think their perversions (that causes members to quit) is a trial and testing from God. These members refuse to return there because trust was broken.

A remnant of the Lord's Baptist churches is speaking truth about the state of the culture, and continuing to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ. However, more Baptist churches need to take a step of faith and actively participate in evangelizing their local communities to save their nation from the brink of collapse. Backing away and secluding oneself from society is not an option for true Baptist churches. We are called to go out into the world, not hide from it. As the representatives of Jesus Christ on this earth until His return, it is the duty and responsibility of Baptists to engage culture, in love, as He did and save souls from the grip of the devil. Christianity is proactive, not reactive. Obey God's will. This is what Jesus did, and His followers are to live out His example.

We have intense heartfelt love for the Word of God and the beloved Baptist brethren who are faithful obedient servants of the Lord Jesus Christ. Much appreciation for the Lord's Baptist churches who are beacons of hope, standing in the gap, reaching lost souls with the gospel of Christ. May God bless your labour for souls in your ministry. Thanks for praying, sacrificing, and partnering with us. Your giving is making a life-changing impact in the Philippines.

Jeffrey C. Blust

Philippines

"People that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits. And they that understand among the people shall instruct many" (Dan.11:32-33)

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