RICK & BECKY MARTIN

MISSIONARIES IN ILOILO CITY, PHILIPPINES SINCE 1977

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Dear Friends,

This past October Iloilo Baptist Church held its 44th Annual Pastors and Workers conference. Each year we have the same purpose and that is to encourage and challenge the pastors and workers who attend.

This year we had 3 speakers. One was Pastor Jack Trieber of the North Valley Baptist Church in Santa Clara, CA. Brother Trieber (shown preaching) has been a dear friend for 35 years. Through the years I have learned so much from him. His messages touched our hearts and challenged us to do more for our Lord.





Bro. Trieber brought 3 men from his church. One was Alvin Martinez (shown singing) who led the singing during the conference and spent a lot of time teaching and showing delegates how to have a song service. I have been to his church several times and they have the most amazing singing. Alvin Martinez brought so much joy to the delegates with his great and humble spirit! It is hard to explain the blessing these men were, including Caleb Galvan, their pianist.

Here are some pictures of some of the night services.









The overflow section on Wednesday night.

It was great to have Bro. John Narvaez preach for our conference once again. Bro. John was in our first graduating class in 1982. After working on our staff for many years, he and his family started an underground church in a restricted access nation. Here he's praying for our "standing offering" for 4 chosen Filipino foreign missionaries during the Conference. Years ago, I visited our sending church, First Baptist Church, Hammond, Indiana, and Pastor Wilkerson had a standing offering. I was so



touched we decided to have one every year at "Missions Night" during our Pastor & Workers Conference. Each of these 4 missionary families shown here received about \$1,000 US dollars during this standing offering! This year it took 32 minutes for everyone to pass by and give their offering, but the delegates seemed touched. During the offering different groups sang mission songs.

Here is what Becky had to say about the ladies' sessions:

"Lucia Omison was also in our first graduating class of our Bible College in 1982. She spoke to the ladies. The day she flew back to Manila she died of cardiac arrest. We were so shocked and sad to hear this however, we know she's with the Lord Jesus. Cheryl Caalem also spoke. Cheryl is the wife of Pastor Billy Caalem, who has stage 4 bone cancer. Please continue to pray for him. Cheryl was the first person my husband led to Christ when we came to Iloilo. Kelly DoMoville, who is married to Randy DeMoville, was our other speaker for the ladies. Brother DeMoville is a good friend of Rick's and has the same sending church as we do - the First Baptist Church Hammond Indiana. Below is a picture of Lucia and her late husband."

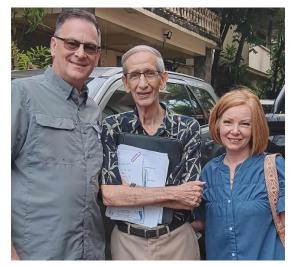






Ladies from all over the Philippines came!

One of the highlights was having Dr. Arthur Lockard, head of B.E.A.M.S. Bibles, and his wife Rhonda. It was their first time to be in the Philippines. His messages were so encouraging to the pastors and workers.



About 11,000 Bibles were given to the Pastors and Bible College students.



We are also thankful for Bibles from Bearing Precious Seed, in Milford, Ohio and Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church in Oliver Springs, Tennessee.





Bible College students receiving Bibles





Brother Lockard is an effective speaker and has a passion to get Bibles to missionaries and pastors around the world. One of the highlights of the conference each year is the distribution of Bibles to pastors and workers.



Below Becky shares about giving out Bibles:

"Dear Rodilyn, far left, always bringing 1st timers to church. She brought 9 last Sunday morning after the conference. (Only 7 are shown here.) All received Jesus as Savior. It is exciting to see their big smiles as they hold their B.E.A.M.S. Bibles! This has been a very hard month for Rodilyn - first she lost her 18-year-old niece, JenJen who died of kidney failure. The following week her dad fell & hit his head at JenJen's wake. He was rushed to the hospital where he died a few days later. Thankfully he was saved at our Christmas musical last year. Just a few days after her dad died, Rodilyn had a miscarriage! That's 3 tragedies she went through all right together and yet here she is Sunday morning, with a big smile, bringing these precious teens to Christ!"



For the past 8-10 years we have been organizing workshops to help the delegates become better equipped to serve our Lord. This year's workshops included:

Church Planting

Music

Radio

Ladies

Discipleship

Business Leaders Roundtable

S.W.I.M. (A program allowing pastors to work with police officers)

Pictured right is Retired Police Col. Elmar Silador. Left is our graduate, Pastor Leo Decinal. They come to our conference every year to talk to the pastors about S.W.I.M. – "Squad Weekly Interactive Meeting", which is a ministry to reach and encourage police officers. Bro. Leo is the coordinator of all the pastors in the whole country for this. They teach the pastors how to be "life coaches," leading policemen in Bible studies etc. S.W.I.M. is a huge open door the Lord is using to bring police all over this nation to Christ.



Police Col. Silador was the first police officer to win the highest military award, the Medal of Valor (comparable to Congressional Medal of Honor- U.S.A.) when over 500 NPA (New People's Army) surrounded and attacked his police station of only 34 men with mortar fire. He gives God all the glory for saving him and his men. He is a very humble man, always asking for prayer for

this full-time ministry of S.W.I.M. as he travels all over the Philippines with Bro. Leo.

Here are some of the pastors attending the SWIM workshop.



Becky again, sharing some sad news during the conference:

"I had a hard time smiling in this picture - I had just walked Kelly down to the gym as she was going to speak to our ladies when Anabel (left), our staff & my dear friend, gave me the very sad news that one of our Bible College students had just died."





"Tuesday morning during Chapel we had a memorial service for John. Several of his classmates stood before his casket and talked about what a wonderful young man he was. He and several of his classmates are from the T'boli tribe. A few days later we flew his casket down to his family. Please be in prayer for them. So hard to keep back the tears - I kept thinking of our oldest grandchild, TJ, who turned 18 on Oct. 24. I can't imagine what John's family is going through.



Friday morning, we held the Alumni meeting with 3 speakers: Pastor Jack Trieber, Arthur Leonard and Alvin Martinez. Pictured to the left is Bro. Trieber speaking at the Alumni meeting of the IBC graduates. This was the morning after the conference with 828 of our Alumni attending.

Please pray for:

- 1. The Christmas musical that our choir, orchestra, and actors (staff, students & church members) will perform on five separate nights before Christmas day.
- 2. The "Help the Needy" program, especially the 7 medical missions we are having on Mindanao Island.





3. One of our graduates, Pastor Leo Gardose lost his 22-year-old son in an automobile accident. Pastor Gardose started a Bible School and has started many churches.

Lastly, we want to thank you for being a part of what the Lord is doing here in the Philippines.

God bless,

Rick and Becky Martin