

Bringing HOPE to the Philippines (July 3, 2007)

"For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God." Col. 3:3

Hello from the island of Mindanao! This past month has been eventful to say the least, but very, very good. The team from Denmark did a great job in everything they did. They left a mark on all of us as they just came to serve. The mural that they painted on one of our outside walls was very well done; on part of it they put handprints of some of the kids in Tabitha- it definitely brightens up the street. They plan on coming back next year and I look forward to seeing all of them again. There were several youth who either recommitted their life to the Lord or became new believers. This happened at the youth nights or open airs that the team did. Several of the new believers are attending a new believers bible study on Wednesday nights. Please continue to pray for them as they grow in their new relationship with the Lord. I am also holding a new bible study at my house on tuesday nights for young men in the community. So far it has been really good. They are a good group of guys and are hungry to get closer to God. My administration and finances work is going good. Not always the most exciting thing to do, but I enjoy doing it because in the end it means changed lives. Pray for me as I preach this Sunday... I think I will preach on prayer, being persistent and heartfelt in our prayers for others.

As I am sure you have heard, France has had his surgery completed. It was quite a fight to get it all done, but worth all the effort and frustrations. There appear to be some complications with the surgery, but I am not a doctor so please wait for the final word on what is happening. I believe a newsletter talking about France has already gone around so I won't repeat things here, but I can tell you a bit about the rest of the family. France's brother Bryan has been in church every week and is now coming to my bible study. Although he is a bit young for my study, he is very smart for his age and really wants to come so I don't mind. I think he has a lot of potential for growth and he is one I would like to see disciplined more. His older sister Cheryl is often in church and comes to staff devotions in the morning; she is also volunteering in the Tabitha feeding program and often helps out with the hygiene station. It is nice to see the family so involved in our ministry. Please continue to be in prayer for France as he continues to recover.

I also had the chance to visit Mecole and the Matigsalug tribe in the mountains last week. If you remember him he is the little boy who we helped get cleft pallette surgery for. He will need another surgery in November which will involve reconstruction of the pallette inside his mouth; a much more painful and invasive surgery then the one he had a few months ago. The next few months look exciting so please pray for God's anointing to be poured out on all the staff and volunteers- we need God's Spirit to refresh us and guide us.



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