

Dear Pastor and Church family,

Since our last letter of July 2022, we have been able to see a couple of months that were dedicated to the quite 'normal' work of the ministry. This is a bit different for us since we have become generally used to quite a lot of big problems, surprise enigmas, and bumps, and situations that take our time, emotions and energy. It has been a refreshing few months dedicated to visiting members, having Bible studies, establishing a flow of services and activities.

Our immediate plans for what comes next at Hope Baptist Church include using the upcoming holiday season and going into the New Year to make a big push in establishing several new ministries for the church. Please do pray for wisdom as we look to introduce such ministries as:

1. Additional Sunday school classes
2. More children's ministries, including Saturday Bible Clubs
3. Missions: we will begin carving out what our 'missions' program will look like. Currently, we still contribute to the Faith Promise Missions program of Calvary Baptist Church.
4. We hope to bring on a part-time youth pastor
5. Weekly Cottage Prayer Meetings: this is a ministry that we used for many, many years wherein we visit one family a week, in their home, for a short time of fellowship and Bible study. This is both relationship building, as well as, increasing and encouraging the appetite of our members to know, understand and employ Biblical principles in their daily lives and with their families.

This time of refreshing has also been very convenient for us personally and for our family; in general, as we continue to work towards accomplishing the needed paperwork for adoptions and travel, and as we adjust to being parents to 3 younger children WITHOUT the help and presence of any of our adult children. Having young children at our age has been beautiful and exciting, but at the same time, a bit challenging. Please do pray that all of the legalities can be settled as soon as possible, and that we would be able to travel as a family to America for a furlough by late summer of 2023. We have not been home since summer of 2017, so we look forward to and feel strongly that a trip is definitely due.

Construction and reconstruction has been progressing on the church building for about the last month. As you know, we were mid-construction of the ministry building, which houses the church, when the pandemic hit and truly threw us into a bit of a financial whirlwind. There was a large amount of work left undone and because of that, there were some facets of the building that suffered wreckage, mainly due to the lacking waterproofing on several outside walls. However, we are pleased that we are now nearing the total completion of the building and we look forward to making the most of the building in order to establish more ways of reaching out into our community with the gospel and making disciples of those who are members or attenders of our services.

We are thankful for how God has moved and guided the leadership of Calvary Christian Academy through a very difficult and challenging new school year. We were praying for a minimum of 200-210 student enrollment in order to scrape by in meeting the basic financial needs of the school. By God's grace, we are pleased with the 240 students that enrolled; this will allow us a bit of breathing room on the budget, but yet, it is still not enough to raise our teacher's salaries. Our dedicated teachers have yet to have a salary increase for the last two years, so we are still looking for ways in order to honor and repay the amazing dedication they have shown to the school during this time. If you are able to send a special love gift for our teachers, it would be our humble pleasure to see to it that they receive it. Also, please pray with us for a new teacher. Carl is currently teaching high school science since we have yet been able to find a qualified teacher; please pray that God will send the right person for this position.

Thank you again for your loving and dedicated support to our family and ministry over these many years. We look forward to updating you about the ministry of Bahay Sibol very soon!

Loving and Serving Christ,

Bro Gormley & Family

The
Gormleys
Your missionaries to the Philippines

September 2022

