

THE GONZALES NEWS REPORT

January 2026

Jesus, We Are Resting

Our next prayer letter is not due until February, but we wanted to share our situation with you as soon as possible.

As you know from previous letters, we have been working tirelessly to secure my permanent residence visa and Jonell's tourist visa so that we could take our furlough. In December, we rejoiced to receive the news that my visa had been approved. Soon after, we informed you that all of Jonell's documents were complete and that we were simply waiting for his appointment dates. Those dates came quickly. On January 9, Jonell attended his biometrics appointment, and on January 12, he had his in-person interview at the U.S. Embassy.

Going into the interview, we were very confident that Jonell would be granted his visa. We had followed our visa lawyer's guidance carefully, and so many of you were faithfully praying. However, the Lord did not will it to happen. Jonell's visa was denied. This news came as a great shock to us, but we are choosing to rest in Christ.

After researching the denial, we learned that this outcome is not uncommon and was not due to anything we did wrong or any error on the part of the consular officer. Ultimately, it was simply not God's will. My dad also spoke with an immigration lawyer who has helped other BIO missionaries obtain immigrant status. He confirmed that our only option at this time is to apply for a spousal immigrant visa. This process can take 12-18 months. We have already begun the application, praying the Lord may allow it to move more quickly, and once again, we are choosing to rest in Christ.

Many of you may have seen our announcement on Facebook that, in the midst of all this, God has blessed us with a precious gift. We are expecting a baby! Baby Gonzales is due on July 24. Our original plan was for me to give birth in the United States during furlough, but now I am trusting Christ to keep both our baby and me safe through the remainder of my pregnancy and delivery here in the Philippines. God has graciously provided another American missionary wife who has given birth here before and will be delivering again shortly before me. She has been a tremendous encouragement and resource, helping me understand what to expect and what will be needed. My parents are also preparing a box of items that will not be provided or easily found here. If you would like to give toward this need, you may contact the BIO office or my parents. Though this is not how I imagined welcoming our first child into the world, I am choosing to rest in Christ.

As we rest in Him amid the uncertainties ahead, we will continue to serve the Lord faithfully. We will move forward, praise His name, and build the ministry He has entrusted to us. As we have mentioned before, we currently live about an hour away from our church, which limits our effectiveness in ministry. We continue to pray for the funds needed to build our home. We purchased the property last August and have completed the land survey. Since



MISSIONARIES TO THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS



Sending Church:

Faith Baptist Church
Pastor Mark Campbell
118 Colossians Court
Jefferson City, TN 37760
(865) 475-7608
faithbaptist.net

Mission Board:



1136 Romans Road
Jefferson City, TN 37760
(865) 262-0900
biomissions.org

Contact us:

(615) 455-0251
gonzales@hope4thehopeless.net

"Defend the poor and fatherless... rid them out of the hand of the wicked." Psalm 82:3-4

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Jesus, We Are Resting cont.

we will no longer be traveling to the U.S., we will begin the process of securing the land title so that electricity and water can be installed. We are resting in Christ and trusting Him to allow us to begin building this year.

We also want to reassure you that our burden for an orphanage has not changed. It remains very much at the forefront of our hearts. Due to current circumstances in the Philippines, we have been advised to wait until after the next election year to begin that process. Because of the sensitivity of the situation, we cannot share details at this time. Please know, however, that God is still clearly directing us toward this goal. Recently, He has even brought two teenage orphans into our church. I look forward to sharing their story in our next prayer letter. Once again, we are resting in Christ and trusting His perfect timing.

As we close, Jonell and I want to sincerely thank each of you for your prayers, love, and faithful support. We had so hoped to be with you in person this year to share what God has been doing, and we continue to pray that the Lord will make that possible soon. Please continue to pray for us in the coming year, that we would rest in Christ and allow Him to shape us more into His likeness through every circumstance.

God bless you all.

