

THE GONZALES NEWS REPORT

May 2026



MISSIONARIES TO THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS



Sending Church:

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Preparing for God's Provision

"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end. Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you. And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart." (Jeremiah 29:11-13)

Visa: We are thankful to share that Jonell's visa application has now been submitted. While we do not know how long the approval process will take or when we will be able to move to the next step, we praise the Lord for His help over these past several months as we gathered the necessary documents. Please continue to pray that the remaining steps will go smoothly and that everything will be approved in God's perfect timing.

Pregnancy: We are excited to share that God has blessed us with a baby boy. We are thankful and eagerly awaiting his arrival in July. I am now in my third trimester and doing well, and we are continuing to prepare for our little boy while trusting the Lord to provide for every need. Please pray for a safe and natural delivery without complications.

Mission House Project: Since our last prayer letter, we have felt the urgency of securing the title for our property so we can begin phase one of the housing project, especially with gas prices rising to \$12 a gallon. We are still waiting for the process to be completed, but we are grateful for the love gifts already given toward the \$2,000 needed for fees and taxes to finalize the title. At this time, we still need just over \$1,000. If the Lord leads you to give toward this project, donations may be sent to BIO marked "Gonzales Mission House Project." We are trusting God to provide and to bring this need together in His perfect timing.

Ministry Project: In our last prayer letter, we shared that we were raising funds to build classrooms for our children's ministry. Originally, phase one included a firewall, but after further review, the engineer said it is not needed at this time because the lot adjacent to us is empty. Because of that, the cost of phase one has been reduced from \$20,000 to \$10,000. With the rainy season approaching in June, we are praying this need will be met so our children's ministry can continue without interruption. If you would like to give toward this project, donations may be sent to BIO marked "Gonzales Ministry Project." In the meantime, we are clearing the area for the first classroom as we prepare for God's provision.

Beauty for Ashes: In our previous prayer letter, we introduced one of the young people who began attending our church and is considered orphaned. In this letter, we would like to share what the Lord laid on Jonell's heart and mine last year. Our church is located in a rural mountain area, and most of our members are farmers. Life is not easy for them, and much of what they earn goes toward caring for their families and helping their children receive an education. Because of this, the Lord burdened our...

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

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hearts for our college students, especially one young lady whose father has passed away and whose mother works several odd jobs to provide for the family. Although she is not technically orphaned, we felt led to give her and two other young ladies in college a monthly allowance of \$10. We thank the Lord that, through your faithful support, we have not missed a month. This coming year, we will be helping seven college students. We are praying that God will use this season to prepare them for future ministry opportunities, especially as we continue to pray about having an orphanage here one day. Several of these students are studying nursing, teaching, and engineering, and we look forward to seeing how God will use them for His work here in the Philippines.

Ministry: We want to share a little of what the Lord has been doing in our ministry over these past few months. Much of this season has been marked by waiting and preparation, but we have also seen God work in meaningful ways. For the past twenty-one weeks, we have been teaching through the "Articles of Faith" Sunday school series provided by our sending church. Each week, our people have been learning the foundations of our Baptist faith, from salvation to tithes and offerings. They were challenged to memorize three to four verses each week, along with the assigned Article of Faith. For each verse and article memorized, they were able to draw for a prize. These prizes included canned goods, rice, spaghetti, soap, and other helpful items that met practical needs throughout the week. At the end of the series, six ladies had perfect attendance. Four of them memorized every verse, and one of those four also memorized all the Articles of Faith. One lady thanked us for the bag of rice she had received, sharing that they had run out of rice and had no money to buy more until the next day. We thank the Lord for allowing us to minister not only to spiritual needs, but also to practical ones.

Jonell also had the opportunity to serve as a lecturer at BIO-Philippines' annual conference, "Serving While Waiting," which took place during the last week of April. We also just finished our BIO-Philippines' summer youth camp, entitled "In Times Like These," with eleven young people from our church, but a total of 170 youth in attendance. We are currently preparing for our back-to-school retreat on May 22. Each student who attends will receive a packet of school supplies, which will be a great help to them. The theme we have chosen is "Dwelling in the Word of Christ Richly." We are looking forward to seeing God work in the hearts and minds of these young people through lectures, messages from His Word, and, of course, fun games as they prepare to return to school in June.

In closing: Thank you for your faithfulness in supporting and praying for us. Without you, we would not be able to do the ministry God has called us to here in the Philippines. We continue to seek, pray, and plan for the future ministries God will allow us to have, and we also look forward to the day when we can visit each of you in person again. God bless you all.

