



CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS



Here in the Philippines, Christmas began in September. They have the expression, "Basta 'Ber', Pasko na". Translated this means, "as long as the month has a 'ber', like September, October, November, December, it is already Christmas!" Thus, we have heard the Christmas music in the malls, and have seen Christmas decorations around town since September. Sure does make for a looooooong Christmas celebration.

Christmas eve is alive with parties past midnight and fireworks lighting the sky precisely at midnight. Christmas day is silent as everyone is sleeping in.

Handmade 'parols' of Christmas stars are the most popular form of decoration in homes and around the town.

Christmas carolers come door to door beginning mid-November through January 6 (Three Kings Day). Their purpose is to raise funds for their community project, for their church, or even for their own personal needs. This is a great opportunity to give Christian tracts if you don't succumb to the spirit of SCROOGE from the constant ringing of your doorbell.

COLLEGE STUDENTS EXCELL

Eight college students meet with Barb every Saturday for tutorial in English. They are part of the Hope for Davao Street Children ICCM project. Combined with this program are opportunities for educational and cultural exposure. All represent street based and squatter based community families. They are active in their local church at Oceans of Life Ministries, Bucana Celebration Center. Charity has been in the ICCM Scholarship program for the past 4 years and will be graduating in March 2008 with her B.S. in Social Work. She has indicated to her pastor that her desire is to work as a Social Worker with ICCM projects in Davao City and in the tribal hostel. What she has received spiritually and educationally through the program she wants to contribute to the future of other youth who desperately need the church to come along side them in their very difficult situations.



Left to Right (front): Ann-Ann , Barb, Charity (back) Rosalee, Mac-Mac, Mark, Carlito, Mary Antonette, Genelyn.

ENCOUNTERING GOD RETREATS EMPOWER LEADERS

70 individuals joined the Oceans of Life Ministries Encountering God Retreat in mid-October. The unsaved were set free from the bondage of sin, gang leaders surrendered to the authority of God in their lives, various addictions were bound, generational curses were canceled, and many received spiritual gifts through the Holy Spirit. For one month the testimonies from the encounter have been proclaimed in the various celebration centers of Oceans of Life Ministries. The movement of God resulting in passionate and spirit filled leaders has been evidenced.

Butuan EGR: 35 couples are scheduled to participate in an Encountering God Retreat in Butuan City at the Bancasi Campgrounds on December 13-15. The group consists of pastors and spouses together with some church leaders and spouses. Those participating have indicated to Filipino Bishop Tuan that they are interested in the process of training church leaders by first becoming themselves the person whom God can best use in building His Kingdom. They will submit to the process of first restoring the image of God in their own lives. This is followed by the restoration of God's purpose in their marriage. Then they will receive the fullness of the Holy Spirit together with the impartation of spiritual gifts to each according to God's purpose. It is a power filled 3 day encounter resulting in a God-driven movement of building passionate and spirit filled leaders for Kingdom building.



BISHOP TUAN RE-ELECTED



Filipino Bishop Rev. Jim Tuan was elected bishop for another 4 year term at the Philippine General Conference 2nd session, Oct. 30-Nov. 3. Then the following week, on Nov. 8-11, Bishop Jim was elected president of the Free Methodist World Conference held in Brazil. Thank God with us for this spirit filled man of God who is passionate for seeking and saving the lost.

EXTRA MILE PROJECTS

Fred's court case from the motorcycle/vehicular accident in April 2006, has been settled. Dr. Brown has allowed us to raise the amount of the settlement through 'Extra Mile Projects'. God has

wonderfully provided! If some of you would still like to share in donating toward the \$1,500 remaining as a 'thank offering' to the Lord for bringing closure to this ordeal, you may send a check to Free Methodist World Missions, P.O. Box 535002, Indianapolis, IN 46253-5002. ATTN: Charlotte. Clearly mark the check for EXTRA MILE project # WE356605 (Fred Adams' case). Thank you for your prayers which have sustained us through a very difficult court case and settlement.

MISSIONARY AND MINISTRY SUPPORT UPDATE

Philippine Country Shares are short approx. \$30,000 for 2008. (Correction from Oct. letter)

Adams' Personal Support package is short by the following for 2008:

- Southern Michigan: \$2000
- Pittsburgh: \$6000

Your support has been overwhelming. For over 26 years God has used you in blessing us and

our/your ministry in the Philippines. Your prayers have brought us through difficult times. You have shared our joys. Join us in thanking God, in advance, for His continued provision for prayer and financial support. Truly we are partners together in making Christ known!

PRAYER POINTS:

- Please continue to pray for God's provision of the additional personal support and the Philippine Country Shares we need to begin 2008 fully supported.
- Please pray for the Encountering God Retreat with the pastors/spouses/church leaders in northern Mindanao on Dec. 13-15. Pray for the transformation necessary to make each one effective for the ministry, for personal renewal of the mind, for unity in marriages, for passion to seek and to save the lost, for the vision to train leaders, for the wisdom and the vision to lead their churches.
- Please pray for the March Encountering God Retreat to be held in Davao City. Pray that the participants who God desires to be there will come, that facilitators will be anointed by God, that the ground will be prepared for them to receive, and that the result will be transformed lives passionate for God and empowered for ministry.
- Please continue to pray for our Oceans of Life Ministries church plants through the Urban Church Planting initiative of the Philippine General Conference, that each day we'll experience fresh wind and fresh fire from the Word. Pray for the daily renewing of our minds to reflect the heart and mind of God to the world around us.
- Please pray for grace for us as we celebrate the Christmas season with our children and their families, our mothers, and our siblings and their families, far from us geographically, but so near and dear to our hearts.

DONOR PROCEDURE

Churches and individuals are now able to become donors to the Adam's support and to the Philippine Country Shares. If you or your church would prefer to donate 'on line', go to www.fmwm.org and click the word "Give." Next, click on electronic giving. You will be given a user name and password. After entering your donor information, you may make a contribution using your credit card.

For those who prefer to give via check or wire transfer, please contact FMWM, ATTN: Charlotte Roberts, P. O. Box 535002, Indianapolis, IN 46253-5002. Or you may call the World Ministries Center, FMWM, and ask for Charlotte, 1.800.342.5531. For answers to questions regarding the personalization of support for missionaries or country shares, ask for Warren Hawkins.

UPCOMING DATES & EVENTS:

December 2, 9, 16	Post Encounter Lessons / School of Leaders 1 - Lessons for Leaders
December 5, 12, 19	School of Leaders 2 - Lessons for Leaders
December 13-15	Encountering God Retreat - Butuan City
December 23	Jesus' Birthday Party - Sunday Celebration
December 26-29	ICCM Pastor's Kids Leadership Camp - Butuan City
<i>Fred will be taking a one-month Home Assignment from Feb.1 to March 6. He will be based out of Spring Arbor, MI. His focus will be on missions meetings in Southern MI and Pittsburgh conferences</i>	

Revs. Fred and Barb Adams;
 e-mail: fnbadams@yahoo.com;
 Vonage Phone: 517.579.4780