

The Wilson Times Journal

March 2009

Manila, Philippines

“EXPECTING THE UNEXPECTED”

This was the theme for the Northern Philippines Annual Conference (NPC) held February 23-24. Just as God has broken into our world numerous times throughout history, we are asking God to send his Spirit anew in our local churches and surprise us. While thrilled with the 7% growth in membership this past year, we are sobered by the reality of the 14 million people in Metro Manila still searching for answers.

Even so, with the aid of the Natural Church Development materials we have used over the past 1½ years, the average attendance in our established churches was found to be up 20%. More good news was that 108 people were baptized in our 9 established churches. This is in addition to another 25 baptisms in our church plants. Pray that these new believers will be disciplined and will be a source of encouragement for further outreach.

With a new conference year beginning, Jim will continue as acting superintendent, but will be stepping out as a local pastor.

SINGING THE BLUES IN THE HOSPITAL

January surprised us by welcoming Jim into the hospital with Dengue Fever for a few days, followed by several days of hospitalization for Deb in February with pneumonia. While Deb's latest x-ray still shows some pneumonia remains, she is much improved. However, her doctor feels her immune system may be weakened as she has battled several other illnesses, all within the last 1-2 months. Thank you for your prayers on our behalf. Jim is back to ??Normal??

G-12 ANYONE?

Originating in Bogotá, Columbia, G-12 is a cell based program of church growth. Please be in prayer as the Philippine General Conference attempts to glean new insights to aid in discipleship. While the program has tremendous possibilities, because of its roots in the charismatic movement, it also has potential to cause division. Pray that Bishop Tuan and other leaders will have discernment as they attempt to gain new insights without sacrificing our core values.

FINANCIAL UPDATE:

Thank you for your sacrificial giving in 2008. Combined with a last minute appeal to personal friends, our Missionary Support Account (MSA) was fully met; however, there was a shortfall of \$4,650 for the Philippine Country Shares (CSA). Pray with us that this deficit can be eliminated in 2009.

PRAISES & PETITIONS

1. Praise the Lord John was given an application to join the National Honor Society this past semester. While passing up the opportunity for now, it is a witness to your faithful prayers.
2. Bishop Tuan will oversee one Annual Conference in March and four more in April. Pray for wisdom, especially as G-12 is debated.
3. March 16 will find the three of us heading to Bangkok, Thailand as Jim participates in the annual Asia Leadership Team (ALT) meetings. We will then join part of the team in proceeding to India for a week. Pray for wisdom as we continue to tackle personnel, strategy, and financial issues. Pray also that our paperwork will be completed for both our work VISA's in the Philippines and our tourist VISA's for India.



Jim and the NPC Pastors

Contact Information:

**Jim and Deb Wilson, Christie and John
MCPO Box 2016, Faith Academy,
0706 , Makati City, Philippines**

Email: jdwilson@pobox.com

Phone: 011-63-2-655-1312

Vonage Telephone #: (630) 868-6703