



Please consider a year-end gift to PAMI to further our ministries and/or help aid typhoon victims.

Note that one-time or automatic monthly giving can be done via credit card on the *Donate* tab on our website with a modest fee of 2.2% + 30¢. But checks can still be sent to our PO box with no fee.

In lieu of a fall potluck this year, Mike, Ben & Pam have talked about their March trip at church services. You're welcome to hear updates at Emmaus Lutheran on Sunday Jan. 19, or invite us to your own venue.

SPREADING THE MINISTRY

Evangelism and discipleship have been a big emphasis these last few months. This has included film showings in 7 places (including various barangays in Barcelona, Bulusan, Bulan, and Irosin) during the months of Sept thru Nov, with about 800 total viewers. About 100 of those responded and are involved in follow-up audio Bible listening/study groups.

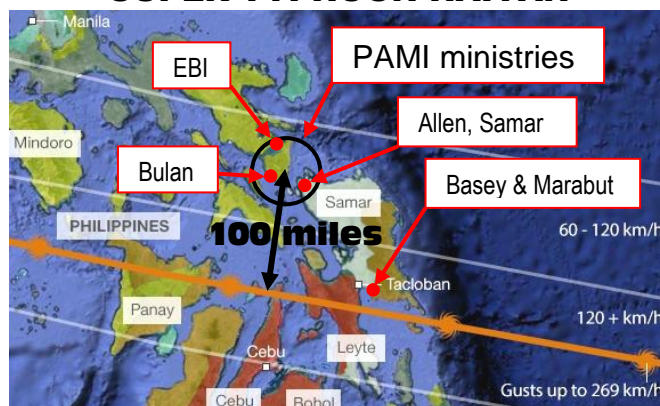
In Irosin, in addition to film showing, Pastor Gumer has begun street preaching. EBI graduate Jess Huab has been added as an assistant pastor there, and they are establishing daughter church sites in barangays of Tinampo and Patag.

After attending a T4T (Training for Trainers) seminar, Pastor Virgilio Fulo used those materials to begin a new discipleship class for Emmaus Bible Institute students. Students practice what they learn by going door to door and having Bible studies with residents of the nearby barangay of Penafrancia (read their exciting testimonies later in this letter). In turn, there was enough interest to build a small chapel there, which the students have been helping to construct.



About \$600 has been spent on construction of a small chapel in Penafrancia, near EBI. Finishing it could take a few hundred more. More daughter chapels like this are desired in other barangays. Please consider donating towards this.

SUPER-TYPHOON HAIYAN



The super-typhoon passed just 100 mi from PAMI ministries.

Although receiving a lot of wind and rain, PAMI ministries were fortunate to be spared damage from the Nov. 8th super-typhoon Haiyan (known locally as Yolanda). One of the closest PAMI sites is Ptr Randy's church in Allen, Northern Samar. Although he may not have electricity for a couple months (which makes for hot nights without fans), at least the people and buildings there are okay. But places in the south part of that same island were hard hit. Basey and Marabut, Samar were devastated just like neighboring Tacloban.

Ptr Randy and some other pastors have travelled to Basey and Marabut to offer grief counseling and other assistance. *The PAMI Post* has a few pictures from their visits there. Our hearts especially go out to pastors and church members that have lost family and friends, lost their homes, and lost their church buildings. They are trying to make do with small improvised shelters as torrential rains continue to fall. They need food, water, clothes, help to rebuild, and encouragement. PAMI has authorized an initial \$500 for Ptr Randy to buy relief supplies and bring them to southern Samar. If additional donations come in to PAMI designated for typhoon relief, we'd love to send even more help.



Ptr Randy encouraging typhoon survivors in Marabut, Samar

Izzy Allen Tidbit: "Man's way leads to a hopeless end--God's way leads to an endless hope"

PAMI FINANCIAL REPORT
January 1, 2013 – October 31, 2013

Receipts

Mission Support	\$21,247.00	
Designated	11,792.96	\$33,039.96
Memorials	275.00	
Other	662.00	937.00
Total Receipts		\$33,976.96

Expenditures

Regular Budget		\$37,300.00
Other Mission Field Expenses		1,410.00
Administrative Expenses		134.59
Total Expenditures		\$38,844.59

Receipts Minus Expenditures (4,867.63)

Cash Balance Jan. 1, 2013 16,346.18

Cash Balance Oct. 31, 2013 \$11,478.55

Prepared by David Steinmeier, PAMI Accountant

STORY FROM ARDELLE THORUD

I am going to tell you about a fellow I knew in the Philippines. He was one of the many boys who enrolled in the first class of EBI. At that time many parents were happy to send their sons to a free school and lessen the family food bill. We thought we had made it clear that each applicant had to produce a character reference from his or her pastor. Maybe the parents made the pastor feel sorry for their plight, or maybe he just wanted the kid out of his church--I don't know. Anyway, we had about 12 unruly, unsaved fellows.

They soon found mischief more fun than studying. They deliberately broke rules. They picked fights with the male students at the high school across the highway. They sat outside during study time at night and flirted with the school girls.

Very quickly we tried to stop the foolishness. But we found caches here and there hiding many homemade weapons. No guns; President Marcos had outlawed them and if some were found, you might lose your head.

Nor and Letty took turns sleeping in the dorm to keep down any outbreaks. Such a difficult time it was for Letty. She was determined to get a handle on the problem. I was there one time when the boys, armed with all their weapons, ready for a fight, started out towards the far edge of the school yard where their invisible, non-existent enemies were about to invade the property. Although the leader was much larger than her, Letty yanked the weapon right out of his hands, and broke up the trouble.

But one fellow didn't join in. We learned later it was because he was a scaredy-cat. Anyways, he was available and reachable. Nor worked with him and soon he gave his heart to Jesus. I don't remember that any of the other boys were admitted to school the next year.

Enrollment numbers shrank, as we insisted that prospective students were Christians, not just church goers. What a different atmosphere resulted.

Our young friend had an enemy: fear. He was afraid of everything. He and Norval went to war with the devil. The battle took a long time, but finally Satan slunk away. For keeps.

It was time for the young man to go on an internship. We sent him home to his barrio. Somewhere in the year we heard bad news. Our fellow had gotten himself drunk! What were we to do?

American that I am, I said, "Out with him!" I couldn't see any benefit in keeping a scoundrel like that on board with us. Thankfully, nobody agreed with me!

Our guy genuinely repented. He went on to become the pastor of the Bulan church, which grew and is PAMI's largest congregation.

By now you probably know his name: Virgilio Fulo. And today he is our field director.

God can do wonderful things with ordinary people! He stepped into Virgilio's life and changed him from a weak little mouse, into a soldier in the King's army!

I am thankful for Pastor Virgilio.

.....and now some things for which other PAMI board members are thankful:

THANKSGIVING/CHRISTMAS POEM
by Izzy Allen, 90 year old PAMI board member

*Thank you God for sending
Your son to each that day
You picked a lowly manger
For your only son to lay
The shepherds came to see Him
And worshipped that small boy
They went away rejoicing
Their hearts were filled with joy
And then there were the wise men
Great presents they would bring
Who saw the star and travelled far
To see this greater King
Now we His lowly servants
Should pause and say a prayer
For all the needy people
Here and everywhere
We thank Him for His promise
He gave to everyone
That someday we will celebrate
Christmas with His son*

THANKFULNESS OF BOARD MEMBERS

Izzy also says: *I'm thankful that we have heard of so many giving their hearts to Christ over the years. Also for Ardelle and Norval, who left their home here and went to a place where they hardly knew anyone or anything. They braved all the unseen hardships and problems that came up. I'm happy and proud to be a member of PAMI*

Tom Perin says: *I'm thankful how Norval's or PAMI's goal is being attained by our fellow Filipino leaders. That God has provided leadership after Ptr Chito passed. God has kept the mission operating solid through trials.*

David Steinmeier says: *I'm thankful for Ofel's courage and faith to take on EBI after losing her husband and becoming a single parent, for how EBI also serves as a center for Compassion International, for God's provision, and Chris Yohnke's many years of devotion on the board.*

Mike Thorud says: *I'm thankful how EBI has generated most of our pastors and workers, and that Filipino graduates are now running the mission & training the next generation of Filipino leaders. It's indigenous. Also for partnerships and cooperation with other organizations and churches. Also for PAMI being like a family, where everyone chips in and loves each other.*

Danielle Johnson says: *I'm thankful for the example PAMI gives of reaching their own country for Jesus. I appreciate the heart they have for their neighbors close by, who can sometimes be the most difficult to reach.*

Don Klostreich says: *I'm thankful the recent storm did not cause injuries or damage to PAMI people or property. Thankful how extra funds coming in at year end make up for other months that are low.*

Lois Kompelien says: *I'm thankful for how people in the Philippines labor wholeheartedly for the Lord. God started this mission and kept it through all these years. We give God all the glory!*

TESTIMONIES

Ferkay Calubag, an EBI student writes: *As part of our discipleship class midterm exam, on August 30th the Sophomores and Juniors went to the place of Barangay Penafrancia, Sorsogon City to evangelize the people who don't know yet about Christ. This is our target because PAMI is planning to plant a church there. Though walking there is far, every one of us put in our mind that what we are doing is not just for our grade in the subject but for the glory of God and for the people without Christ in their life. Our group is composed of 3 members; my companions were Bro. Benjie and Sis. Leah. Finding a contact was not easy, because a lot of people reject God's Word. But God guided us into the house of Bro. Arnelo Lajada. He was so open to the Word of God. We can see it in his eye how he desired to learn about God. The second contact was the household of the Patula family, where there were five people. We didn't expect that they will let us share about God because they were gambling, playing cards involving a small amount of money. They knew they are sinners. They thought God*

wouldn't forgive them. But we are amazed. We really feel how sincere they are in listening to God's Word. We can't really explain how God moved upon them. Praise God, they all accepted Christ as Lord and Savior. We are so blessed that God is using us in His ministry. To God be the glory.

Leah Gimena adds: *I observe that every time we meet them, glory to God that the Holy Spirit is working on them. One of them, Tatay Conrado Patula, has a critical condition of cancer in the kidney. When we pray for him, he accepted God and we see his happy face and I know it's in his heart.*

J.L. Guerra, a Bulan church young person writes: *"I am your Creator. You were in My care even before you were born." (Isaiah 44:2)*

I like this verse because I do believe that God called me for a reason. The words are simple, but it expresses how great the love is.

I was in fourth year high school when I met Bro. Felmar Guray, the son of Pastor Pio Guray. He invited me to their Church (PAMI) and I didn't refuse his invitation. I enjoyed their company, but I especially enjoyed the presence of the Holy Spirit. As days passed by, it looked like there was a force pushing me to go back to that church and I know that force is God's Holy Spirit guiding me on His way. I can say that God's love is amazing and truly great.

As a return for the love and care that He gave to me, I am serving Him through tambourine dancing, teaching Sunday school to children, Bible study outreaches, by leading a cell group and by discipling others. I'm very blessed and thankful because at this young age of mine, He is using me for the expansion of His Kingdom and for the glorification and magnification of His Holy Name. Even though I am sometimes preoccupied with things like college project deadlines, assignments and others and it seems that there's no room for my hectic schedule, but still God keeps on motivating, inspiring and reminding me that no matter how trivial things may be, He will help and recharge me to go on with our daily lives.

Now, I can testify that serving God is not a burden, it is a privilege. This is how God works in my life.

Mommy Hilda Reyes Garcia, a very active widow of Bulusan church says: *God changed my life since I was baptized in the year 2008. I ignore all my bad habits like smoking, drinking liquors and snobbing. All these bad habits vanished because God send Ptr. Vergil Gacis as an instrument to make me a Good Samaritan, like always praying for and helping people. Ptr Ver asks me to go with him in all barrios to conduct Bible studies and help treat the ailing with holistic remedies. It is rain or shine. There are many times I slide because of slippery mud. But I'm very proud to be a believer and member of PAMI Bulusan Church.*

TESTIMONIES CONTINUED

Hi! I'm Florida F. Robles 48 years old, married to Boy Robles with 3 children. Before, we stayed in Manila; my husband was employed in a certain office but accidentally suffered from a stroke and heart failure. He could no longer talk, and could only walk short distances.

But I really believe that there is God. I want to give you the Testimony of my Husband. One day he said, "I'm tired of this. Let's walk even though it's very hard even to take a single step." Then I met Mommy Hilda and she asks what happened to him. So Mommy Hilda holds both hands of my husband, pressing them firmly, along with his two legs and feet. Then told me that she will serve a free massage with her medicines and encourage us to enter the PAMI Church and told me to attend every Sunday.

Since then, we followed her advice, we attend at PAMI Church, with Ptr. Vergil Gacis and Mommy serves a prayer to us. Now I thank to our Lord Jesus because my husband can talk and walk. He always gives testimonies of how powerful is our God. We thank God for using Mommy Hilda as an instrument that serves channels of his blessing for us. Now our whole family was already baptized.

Lola Grand Presentacion, an 81 year old widow of the Irosin church says: *Before, I'm a slave of my old beliefs. Day and night reciting the holy rosary, calling on the spirits of those who've died and hoping that they can help me, like my husband who really loved me. I worshipped and prayed to a number of idols but I felt that God is very far from me. I knew already of Jesus and God but there is no peace and help from Him. I think He is very far away from me. Why? However, God loves me so much. He used the radio program of Ptr Gumer. I heard very clearly that God is not far away. That was stated in Jer.23:23-24. But how do I connect to him? The following day I heard a message to accept and believe in Jesus Christ. So I surrendered my life to Him. In that moment I experienced peace and joy when I followed the short prayer on the radio program. After that I sought out Ptr Gumer's house and I thank God because I found it. Now I'm assured that I'm safe because my God and Christ Jesus are in my life. And I'm assured that our God is not far away. Our God is with us if we have a personal relationship in his Son Jesus Christ. Then I surrendered all my idols and burned my books. One book is enough for me. That is the Bible, the only book I treasure now. The word of our Lord Jesus is enough. He is the only mediator for me to our God.*

OUR NEWEST ADDITION TO PAMI

This was from Ptr Jess's application: *To introduce myself, I am Jesus F. Huab, 26 years old and married. I graduated from EBI in 2012. Since May 2013, I've been living in Patag (a barangay of Irosin), working hard in rangas, stocking all kinds of stone and sand. When the tracker comes, we sell it to them. We also plant vegetables. Even though I work hard, it is not enough and my heart is always to do ministry in God's vineyard. My wife also says*

"we need to do our part and God do also His part." So wherever we go, we also carry our audio Bible, even in rangas or in coconut farm. Even if we don't talk with people, God's word is in their ears.

This month of September 2013 we established in Patag a house to house prayer meeting composed of 9 adults, 7 children and 5 young people. Also we have Bible studies and youth fellowship every Sunday afternoon, and three months feeding program 5 days a week handled by my wife, Sis. Rebecca.

Now our Bible studies talked with me to put up a small church building. The place is ready and some materials also being prepared such as lumber and bamboo. We only need a carpenter and nails and strings for nipa leaves for the roof.

We have other Bible studies in Cawayan (a mountain village where I have family, and where I did my internship) but I couldn't go regularly to teach them. But some day if God's will we put a church there because God loves them also and they need Jesus.

UPDATES FROM SIS. OFEL AT EBI

VIRTUE cell groups are continuously growing by His Grace. Families of Compassion kids are still participating in our Sunday Service Worship, like emcee, responsive readings/Scripture reading, and sometimes rendering a special number. EBI is still running smoothly with students who have hearts responsive to the call for God's service. Every Friday night, the students have their Prayer and Fasting. Every Saturday, they go out for their outreaches to nearby barangays of Pangpang, Guinlajon and Penafrancia. We're also still conducting feeding and Bible studies in Capuy. Another possible opportunity is The DSWD (government Dept of Social Welfare & Development), "I HELP PROGRAM", which held a free seminar last Sept 3-4 making the pastors and workers to be become partners for their program 4P's "Programang Pantawid Pampamilyang Pilipino" (Family Philippine cash transfer program), where the pastors can conduct the FDS (family development sessions) or bible study for the indigent families who are the recipient of this program.

MISSION SUMMARY

PAMI is a non-denominational evangelical mission started in 1982 in Sorsogon Province of the Philippines by Norval & Ardelle Thorud, aimed at reaching the unreached, teaching and discipling, and assisting the suffering. U.S. missionaries stayed until 1989. The work has flourished with national workers ever since. PAMI now has 22 Filipino workers in 12 locations. Besides churches and pioneering works, there's a 4 year Bible school (Emmaus Bible Institute) with 23 students learning to be church planting pastors and Christian workers. Radio programs and milk feeding outreaches to children are also conducted. All this is accomplished with an annual regular budget of only \$45,000. Gifts are tax-deductible and 99% goes to the field.