



Please consider a year-end gift to PAMI so that all the ministries keep going strong despite Ptr Chito's ongoing medical expenses.

Note that one-time or automatic monthly giving can now 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.

## CHRISTMAS THOUGHTS

Here's a poem written by Izzy Allen, a long-time PAMI board member:

*In a lonely little manger  
He lay His little head,  
with His mother bending over  
she tucked Him into bed.  
She knew this little son of hers  
would rule the world some day,  
but she thought about the suffering  
He'd go through on the way.  
So she picked him up, and cuddled him;  
she knew she'd feel the loss,  
when this little child's footsteps  
led from the cradle to the cross.  
But He will come again some day  
and claim us for His own,  
this little babe will be our King,  
we'll bow before His throne.  
So on this glorious Christmas day  
we'll give Him honor and  
we'll thank the Lord for all He's done.  
God's children say - amen.*

**This has truly been a banner year of ministry, but it hasn't come without a fight from the enemy.** On the positive side, partnerships with other organizations have really taken off. Compassion International increased the number of sponsored children from 100 to 150. The Asian Center for Missions conducted a KAIROS missionary training at our Bible School in March, and may come back to do more training this coming March. In April, we received about 1000 Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes, plus the Billy Graham Evangelical Association conducted crusades for both children and adults in neighboring provinces.

On the negative side, at the end of June our field director, Pastor Chito, was diagnosed with stage one cancer in his right lung, and has been virtually bed ridden ever since.

Nonetheless, ministries have continued. Our Bible school church has gone from having 14 small groups to 20, and they're busier than ever. Besides expecting 600 attendees at the Emmaus Christmas party (vs. about 300 last year), there will be a cantata, caroling, musical competition with other Compassion sites in the province, and the December 28th wedding of Sister Espie (our Compassion director) to Ptr Winston (a 2009 EBI graduate). Plus there have been numerous mass baptisms, Jesus film showings, Bible study outreaches, Christian radio programming, etc.

Despite trials, there's light shining in the darkness! The Bethlehem Star points us to the Light of the World. Also consider John 1:23 a voice of hope crying out in the wilderness: Let's prepare for the Lord's coming.



They'll soon be celebrating Christmas just like shown here from last year.



At the October 21 PAMI Potluck, Mark Paulson led singing with accompaniment by PAMI board member John Miller. Mark also shared how Risen Savior distributes Feed My Starving Children Meals throughout the Philippines. Mike Thorud showed a 33 minute video documentary of this last year. A narrated version of it is posted on Youtube.com: *Living Bread in Bicol--PAMI Mission Highlights.*

*Izzy Allen Tidbit: "If you're heading in the wrong direction, God allows a U-turn."*

**PAMI FINANCIAL REPORT**  
**January 1, 2011 – November 30, 2011**

**Receipts**

Mission Support	\$35,219.00	
Designated	<u>18,193.41</u>	\$53,412.41
Memorials	300.00	
Potluck Offering	1,022.00	
Other	<u>1,172.42</u>	<u>2,494.42</u>
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>\$55,906.83</b>

**Expenditures**

Regular Budget	\$39,550.00	
Christmas Love Gifts	<u>3,000.00</u>	\$42,550.00
Pastor Chito Medical	5,200.00	
EBI Dorm Remodel	2,000.00	
Educational Assistance	<u>1,300.00</u>	8,500.00
Other Mission Field Expenses		2,750.00
Administrative Expenses		<u>434.88</u>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>		<b>\$54,234.88</b>
<b>Receipts Minus Expenditures</b>		<b>1,671.95</b>
Cash Balance Jan. 1, 2011		<u>8,767.69</u>
<b>Cash Balance Nov. 30, 2011</b>		<b><u>\$10,439.64</u></b>

Prepared by David Steinmeier, PAMI Bookkeeper

**TESTIMONIES**

From Ptr Lorenzo Fugen, E2E Coordinator/Projectionist:



*I am so grateful for this ministry of showing the love of God among many people through Gospel film showing. I'm personally blessed and feel very privileged to be a part of this project of the E2E, witnessing people to come to the salvation of the Lord Jesus Christ. My experiences add up to maturity in dealing with different people – challenges and humbling experiences.*

*There were times that we stayed in a remote village for 3 days, showing Gospel films in different barangays – you have to walk for 5 hours in a mountainous terrain. We were harassed by drunk villagers in the midst of a showing. Some people warned us not to go to a certain place because there was just an encounter between the rebels and the military. But after prayer, we proceed anyway and were not harmed by the said threat.*

*Prayer or spiritual warfare is intensified as a part of this ministry. The enemy is trying his best to hinder people from coming to the Lord Jesus Christ. Our continued prayer is for more churches to schedule film showings. Good weather is also a factor – in a place like Bicol (south of Luzon), it rains almost every day. Please continue to pray for God's timing.*

From Jess Huab, EBI intern:  
*To God be the Glory! I stay most of my time in a very remote village called Cawayan. This place is my burden because this is where my roots come from. I pray that they will be saved too.*



*At first, I received strong persecutions from the people here; that is, they disturbed my teaching (children) when they passed our house church by shouting. Mostly, those who did this were drunk people. But I just keep on teaching children and pray. I ask the church and other Christians to pray for me. And praise God, because the work for children continue and God even open opportunities for me to start Bible study with adults and young people.*

*We did film showing here in Cawayan and people are becoming more receptive to the Gospel. I am so glad too that I started to have discipleship training to some of the youth here; in fact, some of them want to go to Emmaus Bible Institute when they finish high school.*

*I really thank the Lord for the opportunity to become a Bible school student. Because I could see for myself great things that happened to me. Before, when I was not yet Christian, I was very poor in my studies. Now, I can't imagine that I would teach people. I thank the Lord for the wisdom.*

**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 25 Filipino workers in 14 locations. Besides churches and pioneering works, there's a 4 year Bible school (Emmaus Bible Institute) with 35 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 \$40,000. Gifts are tax-deductible and 99% goes to the field.

## DECEMBER 2011 CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM PAMI PHILIPPINES!

**“Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you: He is Christ the Lord.” Luke 2:10-11**

**The omniscient God knows** fully well that we are finite, fragile, with many limitations (Psalm 139:13-16), subject to sorrows and troubles in this life (John 16:33). He gives these strong and comforting words, “DO NOT BE AFRAID,” about 365 times in His Word – more than enough to strengthen us in our day to day life – because we have the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ: our eternal, blessed hope. These are the same comforting words that I embrace and hold unto that makes my soul at ease and peaceful even in this hard ordeal and heavy trials of life.

And Glory to God that Good News of salvation has been proclaimed to more and more people in this region: Of the 14 small groups that we started in 2010 at Emmaus Church in Sorsogon, each group is continuously growing in number. As the ideal size is 10 or 12, when many of the small groups grew up to 20 or more, we decided to form another group out of it. Now, we already have 20 small groups and are still growing. For our Christmas Thanksgiving this coming December 25<sup>th</sup>, we are preparing for 600 people to come to Emmaus Church for Fellowship & Celebrations.

Prior to this great harvest of souls, people in these barangays were not very receptive, but that changed as we showed them the love of God in more tangible ways--like the Respond Team of 2009 (Bro Mike Thorud, John Miller, Sis Becky Petersen, Claire Efteland and Danielle Johnson) ministering to big numbers of children; our partnership with **Operation Christmas Child** where we ministered and gave gifts to about 600 children; our partnership with **Will Graham team** which resulted in bringing 200 adults to Pili Stadium's crusade and 200 children to Albay Astrodome in order for them to listen to God's Words. Plus we showed the Jesus Film (via Faith Comes by Hearing Acclaimer portable projection system) to every barangay and followed up with audio Proclaimer and Bible study. Our partnering with **Compassion International**, which first sponsored 100 children and now added fifty more children, caters to the spiritual, physical, socio-economic needs of the children. These and many other ways of reaching people have been used by God to soften the hearts of the people and eventually of them seeing more and more the love of God in Christ Jesus. This fulfills our vision of bringing holistic transformation to families and communities; making them disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Last November 21<sup>st</sup> **Memorandum of Agreement** has been signed by Sorsogon Provincial Pastors Officers in support for the **Asian Center Mission** to start the **Missionary Training Program** in Emmaus Church. Now, we have 20 scholars to start with who are praying to do cross-cultural mission locally and in the 10/40 windows of the nations. The program will start March 2012.

Ministry in Samar is flourishing too. Ptr Randy's radio ministry continues to reach large numbers of listeners, even outside the Samar area. Ptr Randy also partners with Christian agencies ministering to children at risk; now, they're given 7 computers not only for office use but also for teaching those who are interested to learn computers; which become a good tool too for evangelism. Allen PAMI is very active partners too of the local government unit--Ptr Randy as lecturer to some government offices and those in the military.

Castilla PAMI has been blessed to have a new lot and building for their church. The sponsors were Christians from South Korea. Pastor Redgie and Ptr Lorenzo scheduled many Gospel film showings in Castilla, which the church now continues to follow up, establishing many home Bible studies.

Irosin PAMI church, through their energetic pastor, Ptr Gumer Gile, continues to become a more established church, as they started with PAMI weaning policy. They're able to locally support part of the pastor's allowance and other church

expenses. Irosin church continues to have strong impact to their communities through their massive evangelism and empowered ministry by their regular overnight prayer and fasting. Ptr Gumer is very enthusiastic with the men's ministry which they just have formed. They too have farm (leased by one church member) which become one of livelihood sources of the church.

Other PAMI churches are growing the same, by the grace of God. Many new believers were baptized this year by Emmaus Church, Irosin PAMI church and Bulan PAMI church; and many still are in the lists for the next schedules.

Furthermore, beloved in the Lord, please continue to pray for God's miracle for me that He may give me extended life for my family and ministry. I am into this natural/alternative treatment for my lung cancer. Lord's willing, I may have all the tests this December to see the progress of medications. Thank you for all the intercessions.

Thank you very much for all the support that you have given us to continue the ministry that God has entrusted to us. Thank you also for those who wrapped and sent Christmas gifts for all the families of PAMI pastors and workers, and who provided cash love gifts as well. Special mention of thanks to Emmaus Lutheran Church for the amount that they gave for the refurbishment of Emmaus dormitory; not only that the dorm has been strengthened, but we're able to build one new room for children/EBI use.

Finally dear people of God, we want to say that we are so blessed to be part of this mission of serving God and reaching out to people for HIM in partnership with so faithful servants of God like you. **Merry Christmas & a bountiful New Year to all. TO GOD BE THE GLORY!**

**Along with PAMI Philippines pastors, workers, families, friends, members, We love you in Christ,  
Pastor Chito B. Mendizabal (EBI-PAMI Philippines Field Director)**

**Here are a few more comments from Pastor Chito's wife Ofel:**

Our weekly routine at Emmaus is still the same: Our EBI classes are from Monday to Friday; Compassion classes on Saturday; Sunday is worship and family visitation in the afternoon. I'm teaching a Compassion class every Saturday from 8 am to 2 pm. I'm also teaching the adult Sunday school and assist kids' ministry at Sirangan (near the Sorsogon market). We also have around the clock prayer, and everyone took part an hour or so to pray so there's 24 hours of continuous prayer. Due to many answered prayers, people keep on joining in the round the clock prayer. Praise God!

We organized too Women as well as Men's ministry. With women's group, we visited one church member here who's suffering from cervical cancer stage 4. Many trials are coming but we give the highest praise to our Living God because we know that God is our strength, our divine healer. He is gracious and faithful to those who put their trust in Him.

Some parents of kids in our programs are attendees in the cell groups and are now very active in the church. They take part in our Sunday service and prayer meeting as Presider, Scripture reader, song leader and even playing guitar. Because of the additional children in the Compassion program, Ptr Chito constructed another room for children. We now have 6 separate classes for children every Saturday. We're very blessed for this great opportunity of bringing strong impact in the lives of the children and parents, which eventually bring strong impact to the communities. Before, people in the communities are indifferent; now they are very receptive to the Gospel and becoming generous too through giving of fruits, vegetables and food.

As Christmas is approaching, we are busy preparing for lot of activities like preparing for Christmas Children's presentation this coming December 20<sup>th</sup> – the children are very excited for the party and program.