



# PAMI NEWS--Sept. 2020



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### Consider monthly sponsorship or one-time gift for:

- general support (where needed most)
- allowance for pastors, workers or students
- Medical/funeral help, chairs, Bibles, or kids feedings
- special projects (lots, construction, transportation)

One-time or auto monthly giving can be done via credit card on the *Donate* tab on our website with a modest fee.

Checks can still be sent to our P.O. box with no fee.

PAMI also gladly accepts donations in the form of stocks.

Like with most of the world, COVID-19 has greatly affected PAMI's ministries. The Philippine government imposed strict quarantine starting mid-March that included closing schools and banning group gatherings like church services. After several months these restrictions loosened up a bit, but the threat still looms. Considering the Philippines' population of 107 million, 250,000 confirmed cases and 4000 deaths don't seem too bad compared to the USA, but since it's accelerating there's a concern that stricter lockdown might be reinstated.

Despite the hindrances, God cannot be thwarted and I'm happy to report that good things were and are still being accomplished. When large groups were banned, smaller groups still met in homes and yards and some PAMI pastors started posting messages on-line via Facebook. When kids feedings were cancelled, then milk funds were instead used to provide distributions of rice. Without as many activities, extra time was spent preparing future curriculum and completing some facility repairs/improvements.



The Mabini pavilion got a new roof and the Mabini church painted in & out. Emmaus Christian Church is being reroofed, with steel trusses replacing wood ones, making it more storm resistant (\$9k).



When large group gatherings were banned, then church members worshipped in their homes or yards.



"I can stay safe by washing my hands"



Ofel, her daughter, and an EBI student sharing home-based lessons with Compassion sponsored kids in place of students coming to campus as a big group.

Rice distributed in place of group feedings.



Besides financial gifts, could use donations of used laptops, projectors, digital cameras, Christian books & CDs, school supplies, hotel sized toiletries, toothbrushes, t-shirts, baseball hats, small toys, etc. to ship in balikbayan boxes.



With the start of the school year delayed from June until Aug. 24th, EBI is now home to 11 students (including 8 Freshmen). One of the new students is Jason B. (far left), who Ptr Gumer took in off the streets of Irosin 5 years ago, happy to be discipled and to disciple others.



Ptr Gumer's Christian radio programs have been ongoing 3x per week, and even been posted on-line on Facebook. Ptr Gumer writes: *One of our radio listeners is 60 year old Sis. Monching, who sought out our church to attend. Praise God she is one of five baptized in Patag River on Aug. 17.*



In Culasi Matnog, 9 were baptized on June 19 (left). An additional 4 from Candumaay Matnog and 16 from Bulan are soon to be baptized as well. The church continues to grow despite COVID!



As the church in Irosin grows, a 300 sq m lot was purchased in Tabon-tabon with a \$6000 loan, half to be covered locally and half to be matched by PAMI. PAMI could use funds to help cover its matching portion, along with \$20k - \$50k for a 1-2 story building.

Along with the good comes the bad. There have been some recent medical challenges. Ptr Marlon (right) of PAMI's Bulabog Church needed a \$400 CT scan to see what was causing severe pancreatic pain. Thankfully it looks like gallstones rather than cancer. He may need surgery, but we are praying the stones dissolve or pass through his bile ducts. Ptr Michael of PAMI's Candumaay Matnog Church needed an ultrasound for a potential hernia. The owner of the Candumaay Matnog church & house buildings passed away of COVID in the Middle East. Sister Espie of PAMI's Mabini church had a college-aged brother that died in a motorcycle accident.



Here in the U.S., we are sad that long-standing PAMI treasurer **Don Klostreich** (far left, in Nov 2, 2019 board member photo) passed away from an embolism and weak heart at age 79 on July 25. Don was the last surviving member of those that incorporated PAMI in Dec. 1981, and faithfully served on the board for 39 years. You can hear Don talk about the early days of PAMI in *PAMI October 2012 Potluck Part 1: Legacy of Grace* found at [www.pamimission.org/videos](http://www.pamimission.org/videos). Don worked in the same Lake Street office as the other two incorporators, John Krizan and Milt Burck, and knew my uncle Norval Thorud from the Christian Businessmen's Association. He had a great mind for details and numbers. We will miss his humble nature, and the way he was always a good sport of anchoring *The Twelve Days of Christmas* carol at our PAMI Christmas parties.

### MISSION SUMMARY

PAMI is a non-denominational evangelical mission started in 1982 in Sorsogon Province of the Philippines, 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. The mission has 23 PAMI-paid Filipino workers in 24 places. Besides churches and pioneering works, there's a 4 year Bible school (Emmaus Bible Institute) with students learning to be church planting pastors and Christian workers. EBI also is a center for 160 Compassion sponsored kids. Radio programs and milk feeding outreaches to children are also conducted. All this is accomplished with an annual regular budget of only \$60,000. Gifts are tax-deductible and 99% goes to the field.