

reach bulletin

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Property Leased for REACH National Center

REACH is one step closer to bringing to fruition the Oplan Bayanihan that envisions building a new national office. A lease was signed between REACH and the Gozon Foundation on December 19, 2006 giving the right of use to a 202-square-meter lot for REACH's disciple making ministry.

The agreement gives REACH the right to use the lot at 23 Lanzones Street in Project 2, Quezon City for 25 years, renewable every 25 years upon agreement of both parties. REACH is required to pay the yearly property tax.

The lot is leased to REACH on condition that it is used to:

- Develop and equip people to become disciples of Jesus Christ;
- Cultivate and employ resources to achieve maximum impact so the com-

munity of disciples can minister to the spiritual, physical, and social needs of members and society at large;

- Undertake specific activities to develop, facilitate and sustain a contextualized, infiltrative disciple making movement, including socio-economic projects;
- Serve as a hub to evangelize, establish, equip, and send disciples into the harvest fields throughout the world to fulfill the Great Commission of Christ; and
- Help men, women and children see and understand the beauty, goodness and love of our Lord Jesus Christ to the end that they are inspired to reflect such beauty, goodness, and love in their own lives.

Five families currently occupy the lot and will vacate the premises by April 30.

A more active fundraising campaign is being developed for the construction phase.



Future site of the REACH National Office. The existing house will be used as a guys apartment until funds are raised for building a multi-floor building.

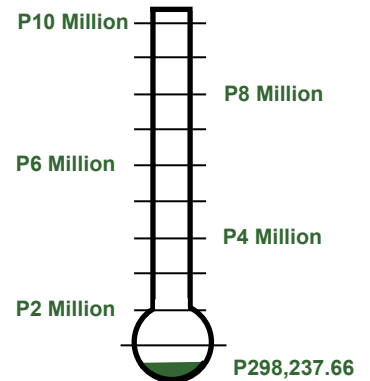
A dinner show and art raffle may be held later this year, as well. Preliminary plans for the building include space for an office, conference area, and a guest house.

Some members of the Gozon family have been involved in Bible study with Norma Liongoren and Alma Francisco in previous years. One of them, Flor Gozon Tarriela, a respected Filipino banker, facilitated the lease.

The Gozon Foundation has made similar agreements with other Christian organizations over the years, leasing land for ministry purposes.

REACH expresses its deep gratitude to the Gozon family for their generosity. ☺

Oplan Bayanihan ng REACH (As of Feb. 28, 2007)



Besides cash, donations can be given in kind. For example, property was donated for REACH to sell and use the proceeds for construction. If you have an item to donate, contact the REACH office at 926-1896, or send an E-mail to reachorg@yahoo.com. ☺

Vision: The gospel and God's Kingdom, actively and freely permeating all levels of society in a holistic and contextualized manner.

Mission: To develop disciples of Jesus Christ as whole persons and promote a contextualized holistic Christian discipleship in the developing world.

How to Pass the Torch of Leadership—

The REACH staff kicked off the new year mingling together, sharing personal and ministry highlights, talking and listening to God in contemplative prayer, and learning how to pass the torch of leadership. The annual retreat was facilitated by Ed and Oyay Jimenez at Maryhill in Taytay, Rizal on January 6-7. The facilitators drew heavily from Dr. Andrew Goh's book from which the retreat was named.

The Need for Leadership Succession

“There’s no success without a successor.” The Apostle Paul understood the succession principle when he wrote to Timothy, “to entrust the work to reliable men who will be qualified to teach others (2 Tim. 2:2).”

Oyay said leadership succession broke down in three generations in Joshua’s day (Joshua 24, Judges 2:10). Joshua’s generation was marked by commitment (they knew God). The second generation was marked by compromise (they knew about God). The third generation was marked by confusion (they knew not God).

She said God has no grandchildren so, “Each generation must come to a personal relationship and walk with Him... unless we impart to succeeding generations what has been taught in our generation, there is no guarantee of a continuing faith.”

Developing leaders is a slow process, but not unusual! Apprentices in the sushi trade in Japanese restaurants spend years washing pots and pans before handling the food itself. Biblically speaking, a person must prove himself in little matters before being entrusted with greater responsibilities.

Succession can be aided by what Pastor Edmund Chan calls an *Empowered Team* where the leader lets go and allows the team to lead towards a *compelling vision*. Similarly, REACH’s commitment to *team leadership* operates on the principle of *Primus Inter pares*—a leader is the first among equals.

Oyay said, A team should reflect different backgrounds and gifts rather than a bunch of gifted individuals and that leadership is thought through, taught, and cultivated.

Reflection Questions:

1. Are you deliberately grooming potential leaders now who will take on the responsibility of taking care of the ministry after you? Can you name them now?
2. How do you recruit leaders? Do you wait for gifted personalities to turn up and volunteer their service?



3. What qualities/characteristics do you look for, in assessing a person’s potential for leadership?
4. What specific activities or programs are you undertaking in order to develop your potential leaders?
5. What activities/programs would you like to do but are not currently doing, to help develop your young leaders?

Components for Leading Well

Look behind you. Is anyone following? Ed said organizations rely mostly on volunteers who don’t want a boss. “They want someone they can trust to get them better procedures and results than they would get if they were on their own.”

So how can you be an effective leader? Help people see the vision and find a sense of destiny.

Proverbs 29:18 says, “Where there is no vision, the people perish.” Activities become meaningless if the objectives aren’t understood from the beginning.

He said leaders see what others don’t then show them how to see it so they can take part. Elisha exemplified this in 2 Kings 6:17 when he prayed for his servant’s eyes to be opened to the reality of God’s protection.

Leaders also anticipate trends or potential roadblocks as possibilities, not problems. While, King Saul’s army saw Goliath as “too big to hit”, David saw him as “too big to miss!”

Sense of Destiny—Christian workers and leaders want their lives to amount to more than just being a cog in a machine. Presenting an eternal perspective helps people rise to the defining moment in life when they can say this is what God wants me to do with 100% confidence.

This is not limited to religious life. In the 1950s Akio Morita sat in a restaurant in Germany. The parasol decoration in his drink was labeled “Made in Japan.” Not content that Japan be associated with trinkets and cheap imitations, he worked the rest of his life to prove that made in Japan meant “originality, quality and value for money” and made Sony a worldwide brand name.

Without Getting Burned



REACH members enjoy a light moment during a fun time.

Reflection Questions:

1. Do you have a vision in life? What is it?
2. Do you have a collective vision for the ministry? What is it?
3. Do you know the vision of REACH? How does it relate with the visions in #1 & 2?
4. How are you inculcating your vision to the next generations?
5. Do you have a sense of destiny for your life? For your ministry? What are these?
6. If none, how can you discover it?
7. How would you like your epitaph to read?

Character Comes Before Competence

Oyay said, “The ambitious, greedy, willful and corrupt often hold the reigns of power. Leadership is often assumed by the aggressive than by the able...”

However, the Apostle Paul wrote to Timothy “...if anyone aspires to the office of bishop, he desires a noble task.”

How can the two be reconciled? Oyay said, “The heart of the matter is the matter of the HEART.”

Who-ness vs. What-ness—Oyay said we need to focus on *who* leaders are rather than on *what* they do. *Who-ness* is permanent. “It is the real you when no one is looking.”

In contrast, *what-ness* is temporary. It is based on one’s actions or position.

Christians should understand the difference. 1 Samuel 15:22 says God delights in humble and contrite hearts (*who-ness*) rather than in sacrifices (*what-ness*). Oyay said leaders can fall into the following practices without this sense of identity, security, and significance that comes from God’s acceptance:

- Looking to people and to ministry as the primary source of identity and affirmation,

- Becoming too possessive of the people they minister to,
- Unwilling to expose their people to the ministries of other gifted preachers and teachers,
- Becoming too possessive of the work itself,
- Difficulty in handling criticism and obstacles in their way,
- Desiring to always show to people that they are capable,
- Feeling bitter and/or that people are exploiting them or taking them for granted.

Contrasting Portraits: Aaron and Joshua—Aaron and Joshua worked with Moses, but Joshua was chosen to succeed Moses and lead the Israelites into the promised land.

The difference? Joshua developed his own personal relationship with God. Even when Moses left the tent, Joshua stayed behind to experience his own touch of God (Exodus 33:11). Aaron rode on Moses’ success—but fell by the wayside. God’s grace was abundant in Aaron’s life, but Aaron made crucial mistakes. He allowed the golden calf to be made, usurped Moses’ authority, and kept quiet when his sons Nadab and Abihu did wrong. As a result, he could not go into God’s presence freely.

Finally, Oyay said, “Apart from character, ministry is only a religious activity at best and religious business at worst.”

Reflection Questions:

1. Why would anyone want to follow you? Follow your ministry group?
2. Reflect on Matthew 7:24-27. There is no substitute for the quality of the inner person. What is the foundation on which your life is built on? Your ministry is built on?
3. It is so easy to lose the Lordship of Christ in our minds and lives. Sometimes the very work we do for Him may displace Him. Having an “accountability group” who can lovingly but firmly keep us on track is important! Who is your accountability group in the home? In the ministry?
4. How do you keep each other accountable to one another? How can you further strengthen your accountability to one another?

Good Followership

A good leader is a good follower. Ed said, “Conventional wisdom has it that you are either a leader or a follower, either leading or being led. In reality, nearly all of us are both at the same time – just in different areas,” He said we need to be good at both because bad followers usually make bad leaders.”

He said, “Followership is not blind obedience, or mindless conformity. It’s having enough guts to take a stand against a leader. The key is to do it for the good of the group and the group’s



The Parade of Stars had REACH members such as Marissa Nuestro of Bayombong report on personal and ministry highlights of 2006.

goals—not for personal gain and not as a troublemaker.”

In the book, *The Power of Followership*, Robert Kelley defines

effective followers as people who manage themselves well; are committed to the organization and to a purpose, principle, or person outside themselves; build their competence and focus their efforts for maximum impact; and are courageous, honest, and credible

They also think win/win, demonstrate respect, are proactive, listen beyond hearing, and appreciate differences. Finally, Ed said followers and leaders orbit around a purpose rather than followers orbiting around the leader.

Reflection Questions:

1. As you review your past, describe how you were led i.e. characterize the leadership style of your leader.
2. How did you respond as a follower? Characterize your followership.
3. Since we are both leaders and followers, in what areas do you lead and follow at home? In the ministry?
4. How would you describe the leadership style in your ministry area? The followership style in your ministry area?
5. Are there areas for improvement that needs to be done? How will you achieve these? 🍃

Meeting the Family

DFS 1—Welcome to the Family of God

Becoming a Christian is never quite the same for any two people. All of us traveled a unique path that brought us to a point of recognizing our guilt before a holy God, accepting Christ and finding the joy of forgiveness.

However, the Christian life is not meant to be a solitary experience. Just as a child could not survive long on its own, neither can a new born Christian.

DFS 1, *Welcome to the Family of God*, introduces a new believer to God’s eternal family and highlights the privileges of belonging to this family. Lessons are taken primarily from the Gospel of John.

The journey to faith in Jesus Christ may have been short or long, but it doesn’t end there. The journey takes

on a whole new dimension, but new members of God’s family can be assured that they will find guidance as they travel this journey.

Each chapter describes an important member of God’s family that will help the new believer’s spiritual journey in life. Chapter one, *Our New Self in Christ*, describes being born again and being a new creation. Chapter two, *God, Our Heavenly Father*, describes the importance of having the right father and relates God’s character traits. Chapter three, *A Shepherd for Wandering*

Sheep, explains who are the rightful sheep of Christ and who Christ is on our behalf. Chapter four, *The Holy Spirit: Our Permanent Companion*, teaches the role of the Holy Spirit in our lives as a helper and comforter. Finally, chapter five, *Our Brothers and Sisters in Christ*, helps the new believer understand how the eternal family was formed and relationships within the family.

A major difference between DFS 1 and the *Dilemma of Choice* is the absence of scriptural passages next to the

question. Only the reference is included in DFS 1 to help new believers become familiar and comfortable with handling the Bible. It also reinforces the concept that the Bible is the authority in life and not a collection of quotes.

Lest you are tempted to skip the introduction, don’t. The introduction explains to new believers how to complete the Bible study each week and why lifetime study, consistent intake of God’s Word, and application are important. 🍃



30th Anniversary Celebration Set During Tabor Visit

The Tabor clan, including some of the children and grandchildren, will visit the Philippines from June 18-July 5. During the homecoming, REACH will celebrate its 30th anniversary. Local celebrations will be scheduled to coincide with the Tabors’ visit. 🍃

Intern Profile: Net Soriano

A few weeks before graduation, I found myself completely directionless. All my friends and classmates were prepared and waiting for graduation day, but I was still rushing to beat deadlines and praying to God that my renowned *terror* thesis adviser would soften her heart and allow me to graduate on time.

I envied them. All they talked about were resumes, dream companies, masteral studies, Alabang, Makati, and job interviews. My graduating housemates were shopping for business attire while I was glued to my pile of papers. Sometimes I slipped into bed, staring blankly out the window and asking myself, “What’ll happen to me next?” “Where will I go after college?”

I used to think that people who didn’t know what to do with their lives after college were simply irresponsible. Now I fitted my own description of these people. All of a sudden, I felt like I was sailing in the ocean searching for God’s lighthouse.

Meanwhile, *Ate* Cha and I talked. She asked me, “*Ano’ng balak mo pala pagkatapos ng college?*” I answered honestly, “*Ewan ko nga po...*” She subtly mentioned the idea of an internship while looking for a job. Of course I had thought about it. “*Pwede naman, why not.*” However, it seemed an impossible suggestion. I still had my thesis manuscript to complete, so I ignored the idea.

But God burdened my heart. After my tormenting days with manuscript-makeover, my thesis adviser said I could finally join my batch mates in the graduation march. Not only that, I would be marching with a pin and medal along with four other honor graduates of the department. I was not expecting such blessings. My only goal was to finish my thesis satisfactorily and graduate on schedule. I was so overjoyed I couldn’t help but thank the Lord almost everyday.


So when I awoke one time, I said, “Lord, I want to give you my life and serve in Your ministry after I graduate.” Yet it wasn’t clear if I would be a full-time intern or not. I wondered, “What would my parents say and expect? Will they like the idea of a full-time internship? What about my masteral plans? Is the Los Baños ministry opening a door for internship?” Still, I held to my conviction.

By the end of April, I pleaded, “God can you help me with this please?” I did not know what to do. All of my quiet moments with God ended up with the message of trust. “What do you mean Lord? What area of my life do I need to put my trust in You? I need You to be specific.” And He said in Psalm 62:8 “Trust in Him at *all times*, o people; pour out your hearts to him, for God is our *refuge*.” Very well, Lord, I trust you in everything. It was as if God wanted to tell me aloud, “Do not worry about

your future, Net, I’ll take care of it.” So I asked advice from an elder in the Los Baños ministry. She told me the core group would have to discuss it first. There was no assurance, but I was relieved that I shared it to her. I just needed to wait for God’s perfect timing.

Meanwhile, I submitted resumes around the campus, through the internet, and went home. I told my parents what I felt. They reminded me that there were many things to consider, but supported me later on. I received a few responses to my resumes, but said no because I was waiting for the core group’s decision. Before long, *Tita* Mhel called up in June and asked, “*O kelan ka ba babalik dito?* So that was it!

I’ve been an intern for six months now. Those months involved a mixture of excitement and frustration, hope and discouragement, joy and anxiety, love and pain. It’s not as easy as I used to think. I learned to adjust, relate and become sensitive to the needs of others. At times the enemy made me feel that I had decided impulsively. But God comforted me with John 15:16, “You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit...” Truly, He is the One behind all the things that are happening and will happen in my life. This makes me all the more eager to obey Him.

I also believe God opened this door for my spiritual development. Being an intern gives me the opportunity to be molded by God into the person and disciple He wants me to be. Most of all, I realize that it is not only service to God that matters but allowing Him to take total control of my life and trusting Him at all times. He has called me not only to serve but also to be faithful. Yes, an internship is a journey of faith. With the help of *Ate* Cha and *Tita* Sim, I am discovering more of God’s abounding grace and unconditional love day by day. So what began as a personal inquiry became a step to discovering God’s eternal faithfulness. 



Standing for Peace In Mindanao

By Jim Ouano

Weeks before 2006 ended, I tried to recount the wonderful things the Lord had done for the ministry, my family, and myself. I thought I had more than enough blessings, but God caught me by surprise. I was yet to reach the year's climax.



Jim and Ann Ouano. Jim represents REACH as he networks and labors with other holistic organizations.

November 28 was a typical Tuesday. My schedule was jam-packed, my classes were picking up speed, and there were the kids to fetch. A streamer suddenly caught my attention that read, *MINDANAO WEEK OF PEACE*.

It dawned on me then that it was time for the Marawi Convergence (MARCON) to make God's love and presence real at Mindanao State University (MSU) and Marawi City—especially among our Maranao brothers.

I felt the Lord's urging and visited the Institute for Peace and Development in Mindanao (IPDM), the office coordinating the celebration. I wanted to see how the Evangelicals could take part. From then on, the Lord kept opening doors for us.

They invited me to talk about peace on the opening day, November 30, after the walk for peace that morning. Rightfully fitting to the theme—*In the Name of the Almighty, God of Harmony, Care for the Earth*—I mustered the courage to speak of my faith in front of Muslims, Lumads, and Christians alike.

I emphasized the most essential requisite of achieving peace—having peace with God. A Christian student later said, "Hearing that from you *kuya* liberated me from my inhibitions of opening the gospel to people. I've seen that even Maranaos... are now open and freely listening. They are ripe for harvest."

Later MARCON found its own nook in the MSU gym for

its peace exhibit. We displayed books, Bible study materials, and peace-building manuals loaned from the seven Christian groups in MARCON. We encouraged walk-in visitors to sit and read our materials, and explained our perspective on peace and the peace initiatives the group was conducting.


The exhibit ended on December 2 and culminated with a song-writing contest. To our great delight, our song, *Let's Come Together* won the best suited for the theme award. I was elated by what God had done in the last three days and never suspected that the Lord had another surprise for me.

A tree planting project was scheduled for December 4. The sun was high when we boarded two Philippine Marines 6x6 mobiles. But a cold drizzle set in and drenched us during our hour travel to Brgy. Lumbac. Later, officials in Brgy. Pagalongan ushered us, still soaked from the rain, into a shed for an orientation. The events that followed were overwhelming.

The IPDM staff informed us that both barangays are Peace Development Communities along with 13 others working for peace in war-torn Lanao. It broke my heart to learn that these officials were ex-Mindanao National Liberation Front (MNLF) combatants who for so long hid and used arms to seek justice from prejudice and to find upliftment from their economic plight. Now these communities engage in farming and agricultural production through aid from the UNDP and other organizations.

I was asked again for a few words and poured out my heart that we Christian Evangelicals have been indifferent to our community outside the church. Our priorities were always our personal relationship with God and our fellowship with Christian brethren. The community, especially the Maranao community, was out of the picture. I saw then how much Christians have missed by not making friends and reaching out to them. Former MNLF commander Taha, now Brgy. Captain of Pagalongan relentlessly embraced me after I spoke. I felt a deep surge of genuine love and friendship. To this very day that scene keeps coming back to me vividly.

Later that same week, we had a disaster management seminar. Our group included former MNLF combatants, Mindanao Islamic Liberation Front members, the Marines, and Christian Evangelicals. We discussed ways to prevent the disaster caused by war. None of us wanted war because of the impact on our families and agreed to keep the peace negotiation on the table.

To borrow a line from William Carey, "Attempt great things for God, expect great things from Him." As MARCON has attempted to win our community in Marawi City, the Lord opened doors of opportunities for us to participate in Kingdom building. We want peace, and I must say it is no longer a dream. God can change the hearts of Kings and turn the desert into pools of water. I believe He can change the hearts of our Muslim brothers and turn Marawi City into a garden of Eden, if we exchange our lives with them. 

Tiguman Appointed Projects Coordinator in Caraga Region



Joylene and Maxie Tiguman

Maxie Tiguman was designated as Projects Coordinator in the Caraga Region by the REACH Board of Trustees during a meeting last December 2. The decision recognizes and affirms Maxie's dedication and involvement in holistic activities in Mindanao over the years.

As Projects Coordinator, he will oversee and orchestrate various projects in the Caraga region so the objectives and activities are accomplished as planned and are consistent with the vision and mission

of REACH. He will also look for funds and other resources to implement the projects and keep REACH informed of the projects' progress.

Over the years, Maxie has initiated feeding programs and peace building and represented REACH in inter-agency collaborative projects for holistic community development in Mindanao. Some of these organizations include the Christian Reformed World Relief Committee, ACDA and the Caraga Convergence. ☺

Millers Return from Furlough

The Miller family returned to the Philippines on January 23. They are back in Davao and meeting with key leaders in Mindanao. Gary says they are eager to hear how God has been working among the ministry areas and discover together His vision and activities for REACH in Mindanao.

Two of the Miller children, Joanna and Jonathan are in the U.S. attending college. Hannah and Suzanna returned with their parents. Suzanna says, "It feels good to be home!" She will be home schooled while Hannah has finished high school but is looking for service opportunities for further growth before entering college. ☺



Gladys (center) a former Balara High School student helps follow up some of Marlon Callueng's students.

Outreach Moves to Campus

Nearly 300 second-year high school students heard the gospel, prayed for forgiveness and received Jesus as their Lord and Savior in December 2006. The occasion was a values formation program among Marlon Callueng's students at Balara High School in Quezon City.

The students represented five classes and each class was brought to the library one by one through out the afternoon for the program.

The gospel was presented through the video *The Crossing*. Students were divided into groups after each presentation to discuss the video and then given an opportunity to receive Christ.

A follow-up Bible study

continues each Monday afternoon so students can be established in their security with God. The program is based on the *Assurance* verses and REACH's *Dilemma of Choice*.

Joining Marlon in the outreach and follow-up are Tina Brooks; Metro Manila interns Godwina Calinao and Jerry Francisco; and Marlon's former student, Gladys.

Tina says she already sees changes in the students. Some students who were quarrelling have learned to forgive each other, and students who were ashamed to look up because they aren't the brightest or most attractive in class now have more confidence to share during the discussions. ☺

H.S. Camp Date Changed

The National High School Summer Camp date was changed to April 14-17 and will be held at Long Beach Resort in La Union. The subsidized fee for each camper is P1,100.00, excluding transportation. Beddings will be provided. Please bring your Bibles and ball pens. ☺

Abba's Child Distributes Food During Christmas Season



Abba's Child staff and students distribute goods to Davao City's poor.

Students of Abba's Child Science School learned a valuable lesson about the less fortunate in society. The school solicited donations of old clothes and food items from the parents of the students enrolled in the school.

"The outpouring of support was tremendous!" Tess Lozada said.

The items were packed by teachers and distributed on December 18 by both teachers and students to families

in a homeless community in downtown Davao City. The families live in Osmeña Park and do odd jobs during the day. Many of the people, especially the women, are Bible study contacts of staff members of Koinonia Theological Seminary where Tess is taking her masteral program.

Tess said the activity exposed the students to the reality that many in society are living in much more difficult circumstances than they do.



Abba's Child launched a high school fellowship during a pre-Christmas alumni reunion. Twenty six of 32 students from several classes attended. They meet once a month.

Davao Ministry Trades Christmas Party for Evangelistic Outreach

In place of the usual Christmas party, REACH Davao conducted an evangelistic presentation on December 8. Participants in the drama were mostly students.

Students from several campuses: Davao Agro-industrial College, University of Mindanao, and the University of Southeastern Philippines-

Mintal, as well as contacts of the REACH members were invited to the program.

That morning, an evangelistic workshop was conducted with Mimi Arcillas as the speaker. The evening presentation was a good venue where workshop participants practiced their newly developed skills in evangelism.

Davao Core Group



Left to right: Jack Flora, Nars Lozada, Henry Boque, Luth Satorre, Sario Boque, Edwin Cruzado (standing), Binky Crusado, and Glenda Nasol.

Davao Day of Caring and Sharing

Some members of the Davao core group visited Glo Cahatian and her sons in Kidapawan, South Cotabato. Glo and her sons are doing well under God's loving care. The team members were Binky Cruzado, Sario Boque, Luth Satorre, and Nars and Tess Lozada.

Returning to Davao, they dropped by Luth's place where some from REACH Davao: Jack Flora, Glenda Nasol,

Luth's nieces (Angging, Joy, and Kaykay) spent the night for the annual Christmas program that Luth and her family sponsor for the community, primarily for the children. The following day, they conducted house-to-house caroling with a gospel presentation and distributed goodies to the households.

Indochina Outreach Established

A disciple making team seeks to reach Indochina for Christ and could provide opportunities for REACH members to co-labor with them to penetrate the region and make disciples.

An update on the mission endeavor was given during the January staff retreat.

Over the past two years, a five-member local team was established, a key contact visited the Philippines for discipleship exposure, and a mission trip conducted in a neighboring country.

The group's location provides easy access to neighboring countries and they wish to

plant a disciple making team in ten years in each country. They also want to receive, facilitate, and train prospective missionaries with strong discipleship backgrounds.

The base country's need for technical expertise could create opportunities for REACH members to co-labor with the ministry. The country needs English teachers, and experts in agriculture, forestry, environment, economics, rural development, IT, commerce, and management.

In 2004, a REACH member asked God to send tent-makers to Indochina. He was convicted by Ezekiel 47:6-10


which speaks of a river that makes the salt water fresh and contains large numbers of fish. The verse brought to mind the Mekong River region.

In 2005, God spoke to him through Isaiah 45:2,3 and Leviticus 26:8-11. God promises to level the mountains and give the treasures of darkness and that five will chase a hundred and a hundred will chase ten thousand.

The need for Christ is great. Buddhism is the predominant religion with no concept of mercy or grace. People believe in a cycle of death and rebirth. They earn merit or a better position in

the next life through good works. The team has found that Buddhists respond to Christ when personal needs are met, and there is an emphasis on new life, a secure future, and hope.

Due to the political situation, activities must be discreet. As a result ministry is often one-on-one, with occasional gatherings over a meal or outside the country for more intensive training.

In such an environment, sacrifices may be necessary, but he added, "Vision without daring the unknown and taking the first bold step remains a dream." 

Ministry in the Final Frontier

The Great Commission given in Matthew 28:18-20 motivated three REACH members to accept invitations to visit Indochina last year for ministry, cultural exposure, and to explore opportunities for further ministry there. One of them was hired recently and is returning this month.

"I want to obey God and be part of the fulfillment of the remaining task," one said. "The Indochina region is part of the block where most people are still unsaved and where the gospel is not open."

A second one said "It is a special privilege to participate in this task." She said there was a spiritual hunger among Christians and non-Christians alike.

"In an underground worship service, I discovered that a lot of those who attend the service were not being followed up because there is shortage of equipped laborers to do the work. Not only that, there are a lot of opportunities to reach out the unreached, but the laborers are very few. Let us pray that God's people who are equipped in discipleship will respond to this need for workers."


In spite of many fruitful opportunities to encourage and share with people, travel was not without its difficulties. The first one said, "Before this trip God promised that His favor will be upon us and that He will always be with us. Indeed He was true to His promise. Our travel from one country to another was difficult and tiring. We traveled by land through bus and train for four days on a zigzagging road and about 20 hours of

rough road. God was so good! He gave us extra stamina to bear the hardship.

"Another favor was he provided us with a lady who understood and spoke English on our way to the second country. She was very friendly and very helpful. She helped us all throughout the way, hence traveling in a foreign land with a foreign language became comfortable for us. All throughout our stay, God provided people we met for the first time to help us. Indeed God is so good!

"Satan was also trying to discourage us on our travel to the second country. Two buses we rode were destroyed three times each with flat tires and busted electric connections. It also took us very long at immigrations at the border. They kept scrutinizing our passports as if questioning the genuineness of our passports. They only released them after two-and-a-half hours."

In spite of the difficulties encountered they were blessed by the enthusiasm, hunger and eagerness of new converts for fellowship and spiritual nurturing, the hospitality they received, God's provision and the opportunities He opened to reach out through university campuses, teaching English, and in the homes of people.

Their third partner has a job lined up and returns to Indochina this month. She hopes to follow up several young people she met. 

Venue Changed for National Leadership Conference

A conflict between public transportation schedules and the National Leadership Conference dates forced a change in venue. The conference, set for April 28-May 1, will be held at Maryhill Compound in Taytay, Rizal.

Transportation from the REACH office to the venue will be provided for those unfamiliar with Maryhill. Participants needing a ride should meet at the REACH office before 7:30 a.m. on April 28.

Reach office is at Unit 201 HGL Bldg., 130 K-10th St., corner Anonas St., East Kamias, Quezon City. Look for the Mercury Drug store along Anonas. The office is on the second floor. The tele-

phone numbers are: 926-1896 and 433-8478

Registration is from 7:00 to 9:20 a.m. The registration fee is P1,925.00 for three and a half days per person (including food and lodging).

All ministry areas are requested to prepare a special presentation. Native presentations will be performed during the Cultural Night and all other presentations performed during the Fun Night.

There will be a Scripture memory contest, so get those LAMP 1 verse cards out and brush up, because "You're On the Spot." Cash prizes will be given to first-, second-, and third-place winners. ♻

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Estigoy Visits Missions in Thailand

Rodski Estigoy, one of the National Development Staff, went on a short-term mission exposure in northern Thailand while in route to an official assignment for his office, the Bureau of Postharvest Research and Extension.

He visited and cheered up Filipino missionaries assigned at the border of the Union of Myanmar. He also preached at the Mae Sai Grace International Church, a group of expat Christians, Burmese transient workers, and Thai converts.

His trip exposed him to the work of Filipino missionaries who are involved in development in agriculture and teaching English and computer skills. These missionaries are sent by different Filipino churches in the Philippines.

He stayed in Mae Sai, Chiang Rai, Thailand for three days and had fellowship with the missionaries and their families. He proceeded

afterwards to Chiang Mai for his technical conference for a week.

Rodski hopes more people from REACH will be missionaries in Indochina. He said, "Filipinos are effective missionaries in Indochina because they look like them. They can also adjust easily to the food, weather, and culture, and have the edge because they can speak the English language." ♻

reach bulletin

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Editorial Board

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Disciplemaking in the Developing World

REACH Ministries is developing disciples of Jesus Christ as whole persons in the context of the developing world. Specifically, it seeks to maximize the growth of disciples and disciple-makers in the face of complex social and economic environments in the developing world. Toward this end, REACH is committed to the following: the whole person; indigenous leadership styles; the poor; and disciplemaking through—staff development; ministry enhancement; socio-economic development; high school and collegiate outreach; developing contextualized materials; and practicing godly administration and management.

For more information about REACH or how you can partner with us contact:

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