

# Clemente Update

September 2010

## Agape Missions Team

"Heavenly Father, please provide for the needs of this family," Charlotte prays for our host family. We are in Butuan City, visiting homes whose families are members of the Ahon Ministry Center. It is our short-term mission exposure trip, called Agape Missions Team, and we are getting to know the Ahon Center which serves indigent folks working among the garbage dump area of the city. Charlotte's prayer acquires a different meaning knowing that we are praying for poor families and people living a hand-to-mouth existence. Prayers for good health and food on the table are always welcome here.

Agape Missions Team's visit happened last month. We were so grateful for all of you who prayed for us and supported us in this mission trip. We were there for ten days. Several Free Methodist leaders at Butuan City extended their help. We were blessed by the assistance of Sharon, Rodel, Tessie, Kristen, and Ruel. Bishop Jum Tuan was also there to give us advice. We could not have done this exposure trip without their leadership.

Charlotte's prayer above was uttered in Mandarin Chinese. I translated this into Cebuano because Cebuano is the primary language of the family members we were visiting. It was my first time to translate a Chinese prayer into Cebuano, and without the help of English or Tagalog. Charlotte's prayer became even more meaningful because it is coming from a fellow Christian from across the seas, Taiwan. It was a prayer for God's provision, a petition to the Almighty God who looks beyond the color of our skin and whose love surpasses all ethnic boundaries and language barriers. "Give us our daily bread." It was a prayer that united two people from the city of Kaohsiung and Butuan City.

## Prayer Requests

\*\*\* Pray for students, faculty, and staff at Holy Light Theological Seminary as a new school year begins. Pray for David as he teaches three classes, leads a small group of students, and develops the mission center.

\*\*\* Pray a prayer of thanksgiving as Holy Light Theological Seminary celebrates its 55th Anniversary the first week of October. Pray for the various activities of the week. Pray for God's presence and provision for the continuing ministry of the Seminary.

\*\*\* Pray for David as he organizes a missions trip to Cambodia for January 24 - February 1. Pray for the participants -- students from Holy Light and young people from different Free Methodist local churches.

\*\*\* Pray for Carmen and Jacob and their physical, emotional, and spiritual growth. We are thankful to God for this season of joy and good health.

## The Typhoon Day by Carmen

I woke up in the morning early. I ate breakfast, talked to my mom and I started to put on my clothes for school. Just when I was putting on my last sock, the phone rang. My mom answered the phone. Then she told me that there was no school. So I decided to wear only one sock the whole day.

Another story was that in the afternoon, I was reading a book. Then a car pulled to our house. I was wondering who that was. So I peeked out the window. I just saw a taxi. Then someone came out of the taxi. It was my daddy! When my dad came in, I rushed to him. "How was your trip?" I asked. "Were you OK in the plane during the typhoon?" "The trip was fine," said my dad. "And I was OK in the storm." I was going to sigh with relief 'til I heard a voice called, "Papa, Papa!" It was my little brother Jacob. "Why are you wearing one sock?" asked my dad. "I'll tell you the whole story," I said. So I did. It was great to have my dad back.

## Financial Facts

We have received financial commitments from churches and individuals to cover 92% of our budget for this year. So far this year, actual giving is running slightly behind for those financial commitments. If giving continues at the current pace, it looks like we could end the year about \$11,000 short of our budget need.

These are the *facts*, but we operate by *faith*. Please join us in prayer regarding our financial situation.

If you feel led to make a contribution to help with this need, you can do so online at:

<http://www.fmwm.org/missionary/index/clemente.php>.

Or you can send a check to:

Free Methodist World Mission

PO Box 535002

Indianapolis, IN 46253-5002.

(Make the check payable to "Free Methodist World Mission" and write "Clemente MSA" in the memo line.)

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