



Dear Friends and Partners in Ministry,

I am sending a brief report from my recent March trip in the Philippines, as well as an update on the missionaries and staff we are supporting through Care4MORE on a monthly basis. I also have some prayer requests for my upcoming trip back to the Philippines in May.

As I reflect upon our most recent trip, 4 “P’s” come to mind: **Perseverance** from our staff and missionaries on the ground full-time, **Preparation** for the many teams from the U.S. now arriving at the KIDS International ministry center, **Prayer** and **Planning** for the future location of our Hope Alive Clinic/Hospital.

We continue to provide thousands of meals every week for the poor and needy in the greater Manila area (including Cainta & Antipolo) through Pastor Art Ornias and hundreds of partnering churches through our Meals and Values program.

Salamat (many thanks) and blessings for your prayers and support!

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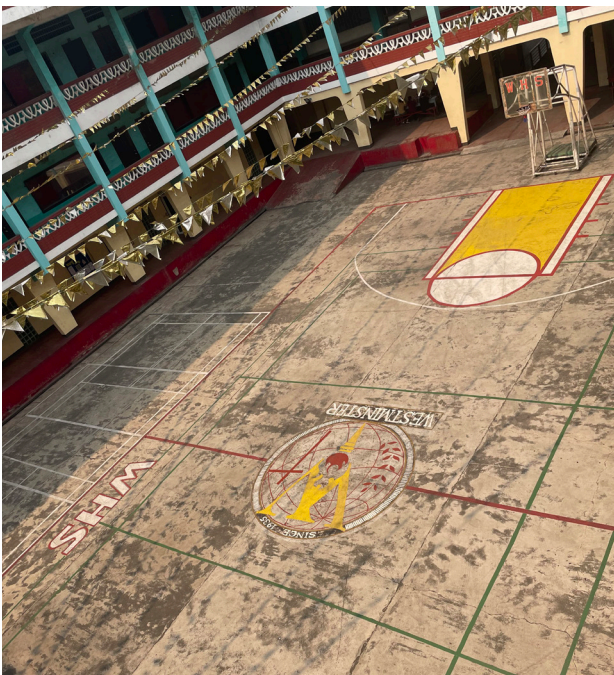
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APRIL 2023 UPDATE

TONDO EXPANSION

Along with Venus and Joy (leaders in our Tondo Girls Home who are pictured on the next page), Pastor Art, and Pastor Alex Pantua, we visited potential properties for rent, lease, or purchase to expand our presence in Tondo. One property was the former home of Westminster School (a former Christian school) that is only using the first floor since Covid-19, of their four-story building. We looked at two different 1500 square foot spaces where we could begin our Tondo youth ministry, as well as store items used for our feeding program. Having a full basketball court, as well as already have gated security on the property makes it a possible option.



TONDO MINISTRY GROWTH



Dr. Melton is pictured with Joy (L) and Venus (R), the directors of our Tondo Girl's Home.

ABOVE: There is also a three-story building within walking distance of our Tondo Boys and Girls Home (former Tondo Initiative Center) that we also visited that may be available to us, as the current building is unoccupied. We are conducting a study of the current status of both water and electrical for this building, so I will report more on this potential space next month. Please pray as we continue to negotiate a potential lease or rental agreement for this growing and needed ministry. We are confident the Lord will open the correct doors to us as we faithfully pursue this next step of growth!



NEW LIFE CHURCH IN TONDO

We also met with leaders of New Life Church – Tondo, and will again meet with their pastors and leadership in May to explore partnering in both a weekly and monthly youth and children’s outreach ministry program. The possibilities for serving the people of Tondo and showing the unbounding love of God is ENDLESS! We are praying to find the right ministry partnerships which can be sustainable and long term difference makers in the region. Will you pray with us?



HOPE ALIVE CLINIC

I was privileged to again spend quality time at our Hope Alive Clinic. I am very impressed with our new doctor, Paulina Roa, who has come on staff to assist our Hope Alive director, Nicole van den Engel. There is great need for an additional mid-wife, as 10 precious babies were born during my first four days there! Continue to pray for the growth of the internship program that has now been added to assist those who are currently in nursing school.



Continue to pray for Nicole van den Engel, (our full-time missionary director), Rona (our lead nurse), and our new midwife, Mary Rose, that we from Care4MORE support monthly, as well as our entire HOPE ALIVE Clinic staff. Hope Alive currently ministers to 375 active pre-natal mothers, and over 50 mothers in the postpartum program. We covet your prayers regarding the plans for the future clinic expansion project and prayerfully, a future Level 1 city hospital for Cainta, Rizal. Please be in PRAYER for our meeting with the Department of Health (DOH) this coming Friday, April 14. I will be having a Zoom meeting with Nicole and our Hope Alive Staff this Saturday as a follow-up to the meeting with the DOH. The municipality is being patient as we conduct our studies, and we carefully research, plan, and pray! There is an additional 757 square meters that may be available right NEXT to the 325 square meters CARE4MORE purchased for the clinic expansion and our dream of becoming a hospital with an infirmary and pharmacy to better serve the dire medical needs in this area of Cainta and Antipolo. Continue to pray for perseverance for Nicole, Paulina, and each of our nurses and mid-wives, and especially for the hundreds of young mothers-to-be they minister to monthly!



IMMANUEL BIBLE COLLEGE

We rejoice that funds were provided through Music Across Borders for a new keyboard at Immanuel Bible College! I will look forward to purchasing another digital Yamaha or Kawai keyboard for them when I return in May. Music is now the largest major at the Bible College, and we will look forward to participating in their commencement and graduation activities in May.



As I shared previously, the campus is in great need of repair from the devastation caused by the last typhoon. The wall by the creek bed was damaged during the storm and may be condemned by the Cebu city government, so we are still on hold to repair the gymnasium roof until the status of the property wall is known. We continue to trust the Lord for His perfect timing and faithfulness for this needed work.

CUATRO CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



I was able to spend quality time with our principal at Cuatro Christian School. It was meaningful to see her joy and vision for CCS as it continues to grow and expand.

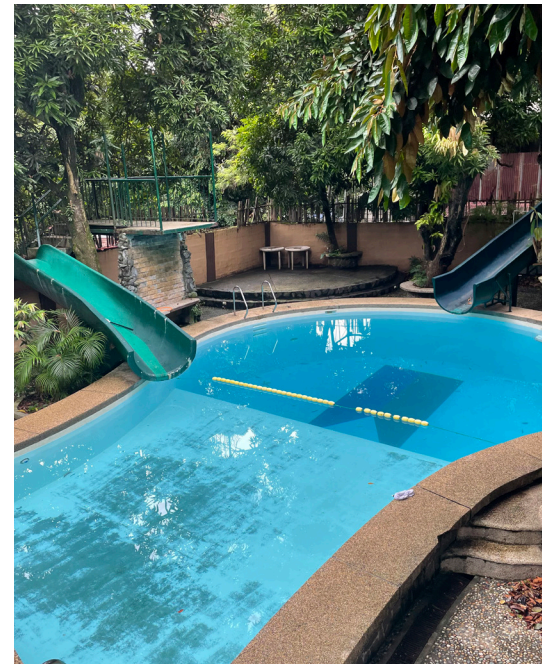


Our 10 new teachers love their students! As I visited each classroom, I saw the joy of learning and vibrant children at every grade level. The Lord has accomplished so much through CCS since its founding in 2005! It is encouraging to know the best days of CCS are in front of us!



KIDS INTERNATIONAL

Kids International will soon have a coffee shop available near the pool at the YM, which will not only provide a nice “hang-out” spot for our mission teams coming to Cainta from the U.S. and other countries, but internships, training, and employment opportunities for new baristas! We had a team of 40-plus come from both Hong Kong and South Korea while I was there, so as international travel continues to open up, more and more service teams will be coming for ministry!



There is also construction being done on the Boys and Girls Home near Cuatro Christian School in Cainta, Rizal.



CUATRO CHRISTIAN SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION

RIGHT: The construction of the third floor classrooms of the high school building are continuing to progress on schedule. This is much needed space due to the growth in enrollment.

BELOW: This is the location of the new outdoor basketball and volleyball courts for Cuatro Christian School students as well as international groups who visit throughout the summers. We can't wait to see the construction done!



A great joy was to rejoice with our first ever high school basketball team! They took second place at their level in their first year of formation. It is a testimony to the growth of CCS, as well as the strong leadership in coaching and youth ministry provided by AJ Ornias, who we support monthly!

