The Varney Family to the Philippines

Holding fast the Faithful Word

Ends of the Earth Mission

Dear Friends, February 15, 2025

REGION

Since our last letter, the tense situation in the West Philippine Sea has quieted down. There is still a U.S. military presence here, but the saber-rattling is much less. Undoubtedly, the November election in the U.S. helps to account for the change.

OPPORTUNITY

In our last letter, I asked you to pray with us regarding the chance to put 150 Bibles into a Middle School. Galatians 6:10 (KJV) "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith." We appreciate all who responded. We have delivered the 150 Bibles to the teacher in charge, and ministry partner; and looking forward to the distribution date. Beyond this, we are also anticipating the delivery of even more Bibles in the near future. A BIG "thank you" to all who helped by prayers, finances, research, and logistics; it is all part of sowing and reaping: Galatians 6:9 (KJV) "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

CHURCH

It sounds crazy to say that we purchased our church property 20 years ago, and are just now receiving the title, but that is the case. On February 14th, we made our last payment on the paperwork (not the lot itself), and will have our title soon. We are thankful to have secured the hub of our ministry efforts.

FRIENDS AND HOME

Our long-time friend, James Thompson is, at this writing, undergoing Angioplasty surgery for clogged arteries; please do pray for him. He is a fellow missionary serving in Mindanao, Philippines.

Tess underwent a minor surgery on January 20, and is recuperating well.

Our little island of Palawan was hit with a record rainfall in this month of February. In four day's time, a steady, heavy rain dumped on us the equivalent of a normal 6-month's rainfall. Flooding followed. Some lives were lost, including a whole family whose van was swept off of a bridge. There was a good bit of damage to homes and infrastructure, and Federal funds were provided to help those affected.

ON THE LIGHT SIDE

Driving home in a heavy rain, we saw 8 young boys sitting in the edge of the street in a wide puddle. They were shirtless and smiling. Also they were beckoning with their hands, as if to say: "bring it on". I am happy to report that we baptized 8 boys by total immersion in less than 5 seconds!

Sincerely,
Mark Varney and Family

SENT OUT BY:
Batavia Baptist Temple
Pastor Phil Taylor
770 Riverside Drive
Batavia, Ohio 45103
PHONE:
513-732-2739

CONTACT US:
Mark Varney
P.O. Box 301
Puerto Princesa, Palawan
5300 Philippines
PHONE:
011-63-915-455-2300
EMAIL:
pastor.m.varney@gmail.com

TO SUPPORT US:
Ends of the Earth Mission
P.O. Box 4574
Beeville TX 78104
FINANCIAL QUESTIONS?
admin@eotem.com
(361) 254-1034
davereese6@msn.com

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