

Hedel, August 2014

Time really flies!

I've now been almost three months ago in the Philippines. But what a lot has happened! We've had training, visited the disaster area after "Haiyan" and lots of meetings. We have had periods of drought and of flood. Days with and without power, and with the typhoons, we are already at the letter "M". "Glenda" was the one with the most impact on us. Until now (nearly three weeks after the typhoon), there are 100,000 homes without power, many houses roofless and the death toll has risen to 100.

The World Cup is over with a third place, than we heard the MH 17 And the incredible stories afterwards. Within a week, another two planes crashed. It sure was an intensive time.

I also received a visit from the Netherlands; Rev. Wim Poldervaart came by to view the work after the disaster It was very nice to get a "Spanish speaking" Visitor, because the Philippines over 400 years was a Spanish colony, we still have quite a few Spanish words that Wim easily picked up. The downside was that it causes him to occasionally went to speak Spanish and we could not follow him. It was fun to see how our GZB leaders are accustomed to adapt to different cultures and my colleagues were thrilled that he simply ate fish for breakfast 😊 Below I leave Wim himself speaks about his experiences here.

### **A Filipino "Pentecost".**

In the month of May, I was a week visiting Iljo. The trip had three objectives. Evaluate the

emergency program (see: <http://www.gzb.nl/actueel/noodhulp-philippines-what-is-with-your-money-done>), getting acquainted with the organization ABCCOP the organization Iljo works and see Iljo in her working environment. I am grateful for what I've seen.



"A little Pentecost" I would call the special church service (Sunday, May 18th) in Altavas (Aklan). In Altavas is since a year a small church that was founded by ABCCOP-workers. The church has during and after the typhoon Haiyan showed very much concern for her city and the victims. The pastor himself lost his home and now lives with other affected family members at his in-laws. Just before that time, the small congregation moved into the same house for the Sunday services. But now there was no room!

Because of its positive and committed attitude to help, many people are attracted to this little church. "What do they have that we have not!" , is the thought. Every week new people come. Today not only the house is filled, but even the street, with the consent of the mayor. With more than 300 people, the Bible opened (many of them have not yet one) and I can share the Word. The people are like the cripple man from Acts 14 (the part where I

preach the Word from). They listen attentively to the Gospel Nothing, not even the heat - it's around 40 ° Celsius - can interfere. For some it is the first time they hear the Gospel. The liberating gospel. The joy is great and the music is heard far into the village. People come to faith. The concern of the church is now: How we equip them (partly a function of Iljo and her team) and how we can get our own building where all these people can come together" (There is now a land loan given, but you still have no building standing with that. That is no problem for them: the Lord is their God and Savior!)

I am silent and deeply grateful for what the Lord has done, is doing and will do. What is still the secret of these people? Frankly, it's no secret. It is what Acts. 2: 1 says they were all united together. I am reminded of Psalm 133: 3

Where love lives, the Lord commands' blessing:  
There He Himself dwells, there is His salvation obtained And life for ever.  
There lives the Lord. Here lives the Lord; in this simple-hearted!

Ds. Wim Poldervaart

Last week (24 July), Rev. Chito Ramos, Leader of ABCCOP was able to visit the the GZB office.

**A nice piece of reciprocity.**

We have also been granted a number of projects to help in Aklan to help their church building and training for new believers and leaders. Church people are helped to a start some form of income again.

For those who want to see more, want to donate and want to stay informed look at:  
<http://www.gzb.nl/project/gzb-loves-noodhulpactie#.Uq> - BaVq4dc,

<https://vimeo.com/100676115> or find me on facebook.

**Mission trip**

The team from Rhenen has now also arrived. They slept in the poorer districts, evangelism done, "loomed" gospel bracelets, kids clubs and gave guitar lessons and even a website was designed for ABCCOP. If you want to follow them, please check: [www.diaconalereisfilipijnen.waarbenjij.nu](http://www.diaconalereisfilipijnen.waarbenjij.nu)  
In my next newsletter, I will make them talk about their impressions!

**Teachers training**

A week after my arrival was the second week of our training new teachers in the mobile Bible School. Also this week was again visited by more than 50! Some who had missed the first week were still others who had a replacement sent really could not and the few sick, looking forward to the third training this month.



People willing to support this special unique training opportunity you can through: P65247 (OMF) of PH.1.002 (GZB).



Greetings, and sorry for a great delay in the translation. It will still have many mistakes, but thanks to google translate at least there is food for prayer again !

*Iljo de Keijzer*

#### COLOFON

**De GZB en de OMF werken samen om de uitzending van Iljo de Keijzer mogelijk te maken.**

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