

## ***In this letter >>>***

*Back in the Philippines!!!!*

*But still mainly ONLINE work :-)*

*Photo section for the enthusiasts!*



**News from the Philippines, August 2021 - nr. 52**

# *News Letter* **Iljo**



## ***In the agenda***

Aug 6-9? Batangas trip to Shepherds Home for servant leadership

Sept DMin counseling course (Monday/Friday)

19/08 Brainstorm research on how pastors view their relationship with God, especially in times of trouble and grief.

23/08 Beginning of the ATS school year. I will be doing world missions every Thursday morning.

29/08- 5/9 Holiday

6/9-10/9 Langham sermon training curriculum writing

## ***Back to the Philippines!***

Warm regards from a very wet Philippines. The rainy season has started! And this year's 5th hurricane is also coming alongside. It has now been raining almost non-stop for 14 days. Many are already in evacuation centers; complicated by Covid-19.

I want to tell you first something about how I was able to get back here in Manila. After an continuously extended ban for foreigners to travel to the Philippines, the borders suddenly opened in May to people who still had a valid visa. And I did! My second vaccination was also brought forward a bit. Then there was another problem... a flight! A maximum of 1,500 people are allowed to arrive in the Philippines per day. KLM had two more flights in May and then again at the end of July. There were still two seats available! Then it was suddenly hard work to download all the apps and sort out papers. Traveling in covid times is clearly more difficult than before :-).

The day before my flight I got my negative covid test. At Schiphol we had to say goodbye outside this time. The poor young girl at the check in counter had 3 screens full of things she had to check if I had any. Fortunately everything was fine. Overweight of the suitcases was allowed. Finally I was the only "white" person on the plane (the rest were mainly Filipino men, who work in the maritime industry). I had three chairs to myself. Suddenly the head stewardess comes to me, that she had an email about me, and that she had to check if I had form A (I didn't have form A, but also didn't need it. Colleagues had already had problems with this), so is said that I had all the forms I needed and that were also checked at the check-in desk. Luckily she was happy that I had the forms! and I was allowed to stay.

Upon arrival in Manila, there was some confusion as to whether or not we should remain seated for inspection. In the end we were all sprayed with a cleaning agent that really couldn't hurt :-)) and we were allowed to go outside.

We were met by many people in Coast Guard uniforms. After another form and temperature check we were divided into two rows.



Seafarers and not :-0. A Filipino who worked in Germany and I were the only ones in row two.

Then we had to go from stall to stall, where we checked whether we had a trace app, whether our reservation for Quarantine hotel was real, pay for the covid test and then a last one to check everything again. Then we were allowed to proceed to immigration. I had to pay a fine because I was away too long because the Philippines had closed the borders. I had to pay for it somewhere through the catacombs of the airport and then I was allowed to pick up my bags. Showing some papers here and there and I was taken to quarantine hotel in an official taxi.

Here started 10 days sitting in a room 24 hours a day with a meal delivered to a chair in front of the room three times a day. Luckily there was Netflix, friends bringing food and virtual lunches together. On day 7, TWO covid tests were taken in my hotel room, so that they were really sure I didn't have covid. After 52 hours the awaited email came! NEGATIVE.

Friends came to pick me up (now I was suddenly not allowed to take a taxi) and I was allowed to quarantine at home for the last 4 days. And afterwards I received a nice form full of stamps I had completed my quarantine.

### **Pancake sale in Wageningen**

The mission committee has again organized a Pancake campaign this year. Just like last years, we would have loved to organize it again at Markt 17, but unfortunately this could not go on due to the corona. We opted for a different setup by baking at home with a group and delivering the pancakes. Many orders had been passed on . Together with youth members of Lukas and Johannes we got to work. Baking was done with an enthusiastic team and of course we kept in touch via Face time, how nice! The pancakes were packed in a nice box and delivered to everyone. What a success that was! A beautiful proceeds of 475 euros, this proceeds is for the good to support the work of Iljo de Keijzer.



## *Praise*

- o Praises for being able to come back to the Philippines!
- o Thanks for the many opportunities to meet people during my leave, despite all the corona restrictions.
- o Thanks for online/Onsite Langham level 3 and Increase Online conference. We also had an ABCCOP Webinar on a theological subject.
- o Thanks for a good birthday in a small circle and big on Facebook :-) Thanks!

## *Prayer*

For Langham preaching, we meet in the first week of September to prepare the material so that even someone with little education can pass on the training.

As a result of the Increase conference, among other things, there seems to be an opening to teach about TEE at the Seminar, and how it can be a good tool for pastors and missionaries in training.

Do you pray that this may take place at the right time?

A good balance of going back to doing things face-to-face and staying safe with regard to corona here.



### **Back in Lockdown :-)**

At the last minute of sending this letter, we received the message that we will be back in lockdown in Manila from August 6-20. We do not yet know many details of what is and is not allowed, but with the travel activities there is now an extra big question mark. They will probably be postponed. In a relatively short time, the number of daily positive tests in Manila has doubled. The countries around us cannot handle the outbreak. So to prevent or at least delay this outbreak of the delta variant, we are going into lock down. Lockdown is annoying all over the world! In the Philippines this only means that many people have no income these weeks (transport is also stopped) because a lot of jobs here have a "no work, no income" system.

Fortunately, thanks to many donations, the vaccination continues steadily, but with 110 million inhabitants, 16 million jobs are just a drop in the ocean. Still 100-200 people a day die from Corona here and it is very difficult to be hospitalized. A Filipino colleague wanted to have his wife and son admitted with covid this week (severe breathing problems and dehydration), after 4 rejections in hospitals and after 4 hours of standing in line at hospital 5 they went home and asked someone out. the church arranged an oxygen bottle. They're making it well now.

# Increase Conference on TEE

In my previous newsletter I wrote about the conference, which would take place online. Before I flew back to Manila, this one did indeed go through! It was quite an experience. The first day the Russian translation went wrong and people ended up in the wrong break out rooms. But in the end everything went pretty smoothly and over 200 people were online to learn about TEE. It was translated into different languages and people from all over the world were now able to think further about partnerships, how important the practical application of theological education is.

There was a real sense of God's presence at various points in the program. We feel blessed that many participants were encouraged: it was inspiring and encouraging. I didn't want to leave the conference! says one participant, while another said: An excellent and uplifting conference for which I would like to thank the planning team. It was a great achievement, we keep learning. Of course it was also about Teaching Online in these Covid Times. Especially what we can do in the many remote areas, with poor internet.

For many people, the testimonials were a real highlight! We heard from 17 people in Asia about how they use TEE and what it means to them. From Papua New Guinea to Cambodia, and from New Zealand to Turkmenistan, we heard people pay tribute to God for what he has done in their country through TEE. In short, we had a great time online! (Unfortunately no photo, for the safety of many)

## Langham Online and OnSite

This conference with more than 100 people preaching also had to be online because of Corona. Many of the poor do not have good internet, or no computer. So in 7 strategic places we had churches with internet and big screens, where people could come out of the rent with up to 10 at a time. It was quite an organization! Of course, there were areas with power outages and groups had to be canceled due to people being infected with corona, but eventually most have now completed level 1, 2 and 3! and many are involved in a "sermon club" where they continue to learn together.

If you want to see the graduation video you can click on this link:  
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1HJ5C66R3PH6AiuqdY6pJ6ABAF4SB2L6J/view?usp=sharing>



De GZB en de OMF werken samen om de uitzending van Iljo de Keijzer mogelijk te maken. Voor adreswijzigingen en overige informatie kunt u terecht bij de GZB: Postbus 28, 3970 AA Driebergen. Tel: 0343-5124444 E mail: [info@gzb.org](mailto:info@gzb.org)

De Thuisfrontcommissie van Iljo kunt u bereiken via de secretaris: Peter Quik. Velgtstraat 23, 5321 SX Hedel. 0653867807 [p.a.quik@outlook.com](mailto:p.a.quik@outlook.com)

Voor vragen van financiële aard kunt u contact opnemen met de penningmeester: Jan-Willem Lapoutre: [jwk@lapoutre.be](mailto:jwk@lapoutre.be)

Giften kunt u overmaken op: NL 53 RABO 0329 2015 81 t.n.v.: Diaconie v.d. Prot. Gem. Wageningen.

God's word is a light to our path!  
Слово Божье - свет стезе нашей!  
*Let there be light!*  
Да будет свет!

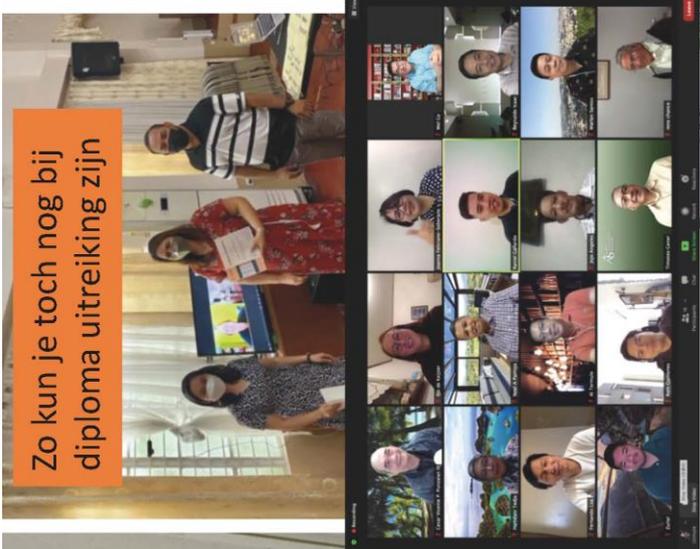


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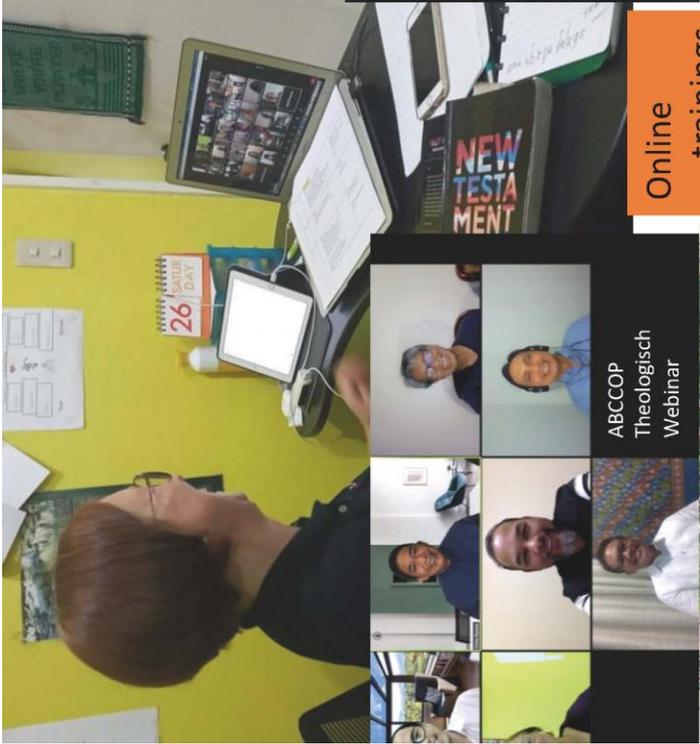




Regen seizoen begonnen



Zo kun je toch nog bij diploma uitreiking zijn



Online trainings



Een verre reis voor live training kunnen maken. 6! uur enkele reis