

DOWN to EARTH

Emmanuel International UK News
Forum House, Stirling Road, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 7DN Phone: 01243 537040

AUGUST 2010

Maraming salamat!

"Thank you very much!" This is the message from our In-Country Representatives in the Philippines. Your response to our Philippine Flood appeal in 2009 meant that we were able to send money to be used in the immediate relief efforts, as well as for the rehabilitation process that followed. Below is a brief report on how the money was used and the thank you from our Representatives.

In September 2009, typhoon Ondoy and Pepeng hit the Philippines one after the other. The devastation was huge: houses were swept away, livelihoods disappeared, and loved ones gone.

Suddenly, our *kababayans* (countrymen) were forced to evacuate. Life could have been so miserable and hopeless but God heard the cries of his people and sent many kind-hearted people willing to extend a helping hand.

People from abroad sent help in a series of events only God can orchestrate. Emmanuel International Philippines met faithful people and began relief efforts in various areas affected by the floods. To hundreds of evacuees we gave food, mosquito nets, thermoses and towels, and even toys on Christmas Day. With the help of so many of you, not only did we meet the need for physical food but health needs and spiritual food as well.

The need for rehabilitation was brought to our attention as the immediate relief needs ended. Again, God brought kind-hearted, faithful and loving people to us. (Some of these incredible people are local pastors.) We were able



House swept away in floods ...

to reach over 100 families with tangible acts of kindness by distributing materials to fix or rebuild homes.

We also assisted families to create a new livelihood assistance by helping them set up *merienda* (snack) places, hamburger stands or *sari-sari* (miscellaneous) stores. We helped restore fishing equipment, provided shoe repair materials and carpentry tools. We provided chicks that could be a family's income and more.

We also helped with people's medical and dental needs through medical missions. Only God knows how many people we have touched through your faithful partnerships - and not just with material things. The most important of all is the love of Jesus Christ in the lives of those we shared with.

Because of our practical help to the victims of typhoon and flood, we were able to share God's message of salvation and many professed to receive Christ as Saviour!

To all of you, on behalf of Emmanuel International Philippines and all the people who shared in your generosity, from their hearts both here and abroad, to God be the glory and *Maraming Salamat Po* (many thanks)!



...new shelter for the family.

Philippine relief in photos...



Sample of food parcel



Sari-sari store



Providing chicks



Thank you

Graduation Announcement

It is with great pleasure that we announce that Kenny Copsey has graduated on 2 June 2010 from the Faith Academy of Manila, Philippines.



Esther Bethany Jepps



John, Sarah, and Reuben Jepps are pleased to inform us of their fantastic news - they have a lovely little baby girl. She was born on 4 August 2010 at 2.40am, weighing 7lb 5oz. Sarah (née Mackay) worked with EI in Rwensande, Uganda from 2000 till 2003.

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