



# the Emmanuel Connection

November 2014

## Focus on Noel Taban in the Philippines



Noel Taban is the Project Management Coordinator in Mindanao, Philippines.

EI in the Philippines has responded to many calamities that hit the country in recent years: Typhoo Sendong (Washi), Typhoon Pablo (Bopha) in Davao Oriental, 7.5 magnitude earthquake in Bohol and recently Typhoon Yolanda (Haiyan). Noel's job varies from disaster response to disaster relief operation, to feeding, medical missions, deep-well drilling, shelter kit distribution, livelihood beneficiary selection, attending inter-agency meetings (of all the organisations working in Haiyan devastated area, mostly called by UN).

He always works with the local churches, local government and other persons in authority. He sometimes drives alone for 15 hours from his base to Tacloban and Samar, the hardest hit place by the typhoon, which is not easy. It is truly very tiring and exhausting but he feels real joy when seeing the smiles of the people he serves. He always reminds himself: "I may go home very tired but I'm more blessed than the people we helped." That is why he enjoys serving people.

It is heartwarming to see people rise from ruins, not just the physical but also the spiritual aspect. Many have received the Lord as their personal Lord and Saviour, as those who received help heard the Word of God preached/shared to them by the local partner pastors.

Noel is single (but engaged and getting married February 2015). He is the Associate Pastor for community transformation in his church, and co-owner of the family-run business of air-conditioning.



Relief distribution in the rain

## Please pray for us every day in November!

- 1 Tanzania:** Please pray that Andy and Angela settle back into life and work in Iringa easily. They have returned from their furlough mid-October.
- 2 Malawi:** The first week of November will see the end of term and the end of the first year for the students at the Evangelical Baptist Bible College of Malawi, where John Naudé is teaching. Please pray for them as they return to their families and seek to put into practice what they have been learning.
- 3 Brazil:** Thank God for Carla Silva's recovery after falling off a ladder in the last week of August. She had banged her head and back but sustained no serious injuries. She is almost completely healed and only suffers from a little back pain.
- 4 Philippines:** Please pray for safe travels for Pastor Alex Pacis, travelling to Malaysia for a conference November 4 - 7, and then on to the Philippines for meetings up to November 13.
- 5 Sudan and South Sudan:** Please pray for Reyn Lauer and Des Clark as they settle into their new roles of leadership in FAR.
- 6 South Africa:** Please continue to pray for the progress on the third Safe House, as well as for strength and endurance for the house mothers. They have a very difficult calling and often feel overwhelmed by the tragic stories and counselling sessions they have with the children.
- 7 El Mission (USA):** Continue to pray for a Finance specialist for the EIM Board.
- 8 Haiti:** We have a new parent couple for the Boys Home in Marbial. This couple were students from the Bethesda school in Marbial. Please pray for the boys and the new parents.
- 9 Tanzania:** Please pray for Rachel travelling to Arusha November 9 - 14 for a Bee Keeping Symposium. Pray for progress for this initiative which we hope will lead to future projects.  
**Malawi:** Please pray for Charles Mukiwa, Daniel Mahete and Martin Phiri, who are taking responsibility for El Malawi whilst Paul and Helen Jones are on furlough.
- 10 South Africa:** There is still no news on the Sayers' visa applications which have been in application for about a year. The visa laws and requirements have changed so much in the past 6 months that it is difficult to know what the process is any longer. Please pray that this will be resolved soon.
- 11 Philippines:** Please pray for the ERRP Annual meeting on November 11 - that there will be a quorum. Pray for the Board Members' availability.  
**United Kingdom:** Please pray for Sue and Linda as they prepare the necessary documentation for the financial year end.

- 12 Uganda:** Pads Ministry - By the time you read this, the school year will be all but finished. We praise God that we have been able to help over 2,000 girls with good information, encouragement from the Bible and pads and knickers to allow them to stay in school and keep up in class. Please pray for them, that these things will change the course of their lives for the better and that somehow through this contact they may be led to follow Christ. Please pray for next year's plans and particularly for a way of making this ministry self-sustaining and owned by the community.
- 13 EI Mission (USA):** Please pray for healing and restored mobility for Barbara Graham's mother, Lucille Blesh.
- Philippines:** Praise God for wonderful news that the mothers recently trained in health care and first aid are using their knowledge to help others in the village.
- 14 Haiti:** Thank God for the Girls Home in Delmas which is now completely repaired and reconstructed. The girls are out of danger if there is another earthquake.
- Tanzania:** Please pray for the fuel-efficient stoves work which we hope to start moving forward this month in Mwanza.
- 15 Canada:** On November 15 there will be a Dessert Night at Sardis Fellowship Baptist Church where the VanWoerdens will talk about Tanzania, Emmanuel International and the work they will be doing there.
- Malawi:** Graham Jones (Paul and Helen's son) is getting married today to his fiancée Molly.
- 16 Philippines:** Pray for the possibility of having the Faith and Farm Center in Baroyon to also be a center for SEE (Seminary Education by Extension) for all the tribal pastors in the area.
- 17 Brazil:** Pray for Sérgio and Beth Souza as they need God's guiding for 2015 ministry. (They are currently working with the Terena people.)
- United Kingdom:** Please pray for the EIUK Annual General Meeting as we start making arrangements for this new format meeting - that it will be informative: Andrew and Miriam Wingfield will fill us in on their work in Tanzania and Mark Simmons will speak about FAR.
- 18 Tanzania:** Please continue to pray for Tim's teaching (each Tuesday) as he concludes the Missiology Course at the Bible College, and pray for Tim and Rachel's work with the college as they consider future missional courses.
- 19 EI Mission (USA):** Pray that we can reach new donor partners and donor churches.
- 20 Tanzania:** Please pray for Rachel as she is now meeting bi-weekly with a group of women (mothers of children with albinism). Pray for relationships to grow, for God to be at work as they read the Bible together and for success as they start income-generating projects.

- 21 Malawi:** There are currently 3 large projects for which we are awaiting the go-ahead. We would appreciate prayer for 2 of these in particular: The largest, known as NJIRA, a wide-ranging development project, where we would like to have permission to go ahead and engage, or re-engage staff and begin work. And a UNICEF project, contributing to their child protection strategy, where the approval process has been interminable and where we would also like to begin re-engaging staff and working with the beneficiaries.
- 22 Philippines:** Praise God for a successful medical outreach in a Muslim village in partnership with OMF and other organizations. Five members of Ken and Ruth's small group accompanied Ruth in the outreach.
- 23 South Africa:** Please keep Living Hope Bible church in your prayers. We endeavor to be faithful to God's word and leave the growth to Him. This is sometimes a very slow process and can be discouraging at times, as any pastor will tell you. Pray for the growth and spiritual fruit of those who have become part of the body.
- 24 Tanzania:** Pray for Dan, Andy's assistant, who has started a degree course in Dar es Salaam in Water Resources and Irrigation Engineering. Give thanks that he is able to study again after a break, working with EI.
- 25 Philippines:** Please pray for the Awana program, more children are coming now (over 118 has registered) but the volunteer helpers are getting fewer. Please pray for commitment to the children's ministry.
- 26 Uganda:** CHE - This month Mike and Marianne are following up with already trained groups. Please pray that the teams which are moving well would be encouraged, and for wisdom to know how to get stagnant groups moving again. Please also pray for planning for 2015, and for the handover to Rev. Patrick which will be completed by the end of the year.
- 27 Haiti:** Please pray for Mrs. Fara who is suffering from kidney cancer. She is the wife of pastor Moise, pastor of the Lavoute church in Jacmel.
- Philippines:** Pray for the beginning of a savings club in the tribal village of Baroyon.
- 28 Tanzania:** Mongers in Mwanza: Please pray for the crops recently planted and our work with the rural farmers in different villages. Pray for good rain!
- 29 Brazil:** Praise God for his goodness in providing funds so that the Águas Formosas Day Care Center building work continues on.
- Haiti:** Please pray for Mrs. Dabel who is suffering from cancer. She is a member of the Marbial church.
- 30 Uganda:** Church of Uganda Diocese of Kitgum, our church partner in Northern Uganda - The retirement of Bishop Ben means a lot is going on. He has to finish his retirement house and say farewell to his people. Meanwhile the diocese is going through the selection process for a new bishop; some unexpected problems have caused delays. The diocese office staff face an uncertain future. Please pray for this whole process.