BIBLE EDUCATION CENTER Philippines

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BIBLE EDUCATION CENTER, Philippines

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NEWSLETTER

News Letter Quarter 3 of 2022



Group of students after the Study



Bro. Michael lecture about God

PREACHING AT THE CMU UNIVERSITY RECOMMENCES

For the past two years the regular Bible Seminar held at Central Mindanao University (CMU) in the Philippines was suspended due to the ongoing restrictions brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. CMU is one of the largest Universities in the Philippines and currently has over 25,000 tertiary students enrolled in their courses. As face to face classes were progressively resumed at tertiary level, the BEC staff have successfully negotiated to reinstate the regular Bible Seminar classes inside the campus. It is fortunate that we were once again allowed to organize and to regularly conduct the classes in facilities adjacent to the university canteen. Currently they are being conducted every other week due to conflict of schedules of the students.



We are fortunate to have the presence of 12 young Christadelphian students studying at the University and an adjacent tertiary college,. They are instrumental in bringing their classmates to the seminars. This type of preaching by inviting friends and classmates is proving very successful and we are encouraged by the interest and questions of the participants (continue..)

Further assistance was extended by the BEC team and the Mailag Ecclesia to provide speakers. Materials like workbook and take home sheets are also in line to be provided to assist the students as well as to get them involved during classes. Bro Joshua Khu being the focal person of this activity is very grateful of the support of the Kalilangan and Mailag young people who have volunteered when it comes to assisting, organizing and entertaining the students during the scheduled classes. Visiting speakers are welcome to assist in leading the seminars which are coordinated by Bro. Joshua and Bro Michael Alesna.

BEC CAGAYAN DE ORO

The work of producing and distributing flyers, Sunday School materials and teaching aids as well as coordinating the numerous weekly Online meetings for Ecclesias, Sunday Schools and interested friends scattered throughout the Philippines archipelago continues. Visitors to the BEC shop are amiably entertained by Brother Jodel with the assistance of Bro. Fernando Bagunoc who regularly helps at the Shop. Regular " face to face" classes for friends are also conducted.

Plans are in hand to upgrade and expand the facilities and further enhance the BEC's preaching activities in the local community.



A regular visitor received his new Bible

BEC VALENCIA

Through the passion and support of the Mailag Young People, the weekly Bible class is regularly conducted at the BEC shop in Valencia City. The start of classes was adjusted from an earlier schedule to 5:30pm in the afternoon for the benefit of students from nearby Colleges and Universities.



A regular Bible study at the BEC Shop

KALILANGAN

The group of vibrant Young People in Kalilangan Ecclesia have recently instituted several new initiatives. They meet together weekly at the Ecclesial Hall for " First principles" classes aside from the regular Ecclesial Bible Class being conducted at their hall. A choir has also been formed under the guidance of Bro Ernesto Facun for weekly practices. They perform for the Ecclesia for 30 minutes prior to the commencement of the Memorial meeting and assist in setting a spiritual tone for the partaking of the Lord's supper.

The young people also coordinate 3 Sunday schools for children from the local community that has expanded to over 140 regular participants. The BEC team are supporting further improvements to the facilities including concreting of the play area for group activities and provision of additional chairs and AV facilities.



A weekly study by the young people of Kalilangan Ecclesia



30 mins choir presentation of the young People of Kalilangan



ARGAO, CEBU

After another year of frustration and confinement resulting from COVID, travel, restrictions have now eased. A visit by the BEC team was recently made to encourage the Ecclesias in Cebu, both at Argao and in the Balaas mountain. Brn Albert Cruz and John Elton spent an enjoyable 4 days with the local Ecclesias providing both practical and spiritual support and encouragement. Repairs to members houses are still being effected from the earlier typhoon that devastated the area last year. The group at Balaas were forced to relocate their homes. The Hall in Argao is also still in need of further repair and replacement of part of the roof. Those from Balaas travel down at least monthly to fellowship with the members at Argao and stay in the Ecclesial Hall. A visit was made to Balaas and fraternal lunch and Bible studies were enjoyed by all. Despite the arduous 3 hour journey via motorbike and Jeepney up tortuous mountain tracks it was a joy to spend the day with them and encourage them in the Faith, following the hardships they have endured over the past two years. The Cebu Ecclesias are particularly grateful for the ongoing support of Punchbowl Ecclesia and Sunday School particularly for for their Sunday School work. , Also the BEC team for the weekly ZOOM meetings and Sunday School programs that sustained them during the pandemic The Sunday School work is coordinated by Sis Conchita Amarillo and Miguela Delo Santos and local volunteers .There are currently 74 children enrolled in the Sunday School classes conducted by the Ecclesia.

It is worth mentioning that Sister Conchita is truly the backbone of the ecclesia. A very active sister and a fearless preacher of the gospel for over 40 years despite her advancing years. Truly an inspiration not only to the Cebu brothers and sisters but to all of us too. We pray for God's help on this great work and His blessing on this little ecclesia who hold fast to the Truth, despite their adverse circumstances. We are living in trying times. Ecclesias are challenged to encourage and nurture their members while continuing the work of preaching God's word to those who are disposed to listen. In such conditions, this trip was a particular blessing. We all left with renewed enthusiasm to build up our little meetings and strengthen our fellowship, both within our own ecclesias and farther afield May our Lord Jesus return soon, bringing the promised reign of peace, equity, and justice that our poor world so badly needs. "Even so come Lord Jesus".

"Even so, come, Lord Jesus"





FURTHER PREACHING SEMINAR AT KALILANGAN

The gratifying response to the 1st Bible seminar at Kalilangan hall, earlier this year encouraged the Ecclesia to conduct a further seminar last month. The theme "Hold on to the pattern of sound Doctrine" was chosen. Banners were erected on the main Highway in front of the Hall.The Ecclesial members also a distributed over 1400 flyers in 3 local towns on market days. The seminar was attended by approximately 50 friends from the local community. Two talks were given dealing with" The God of the Bible" and "The Significance of Baptism". A lively question session ensued and continued over merienda. The preaching campaign was supported through the financial assistance of ACBM and the Bible Education Center (BEC).

The seminars are intended to introduce Christadelphians to the local community, considering that the Ecclesial there is still young. The Ecclesial Hall was just built 2 years ago with the support of Ecclesias in Australia, UK and USA.

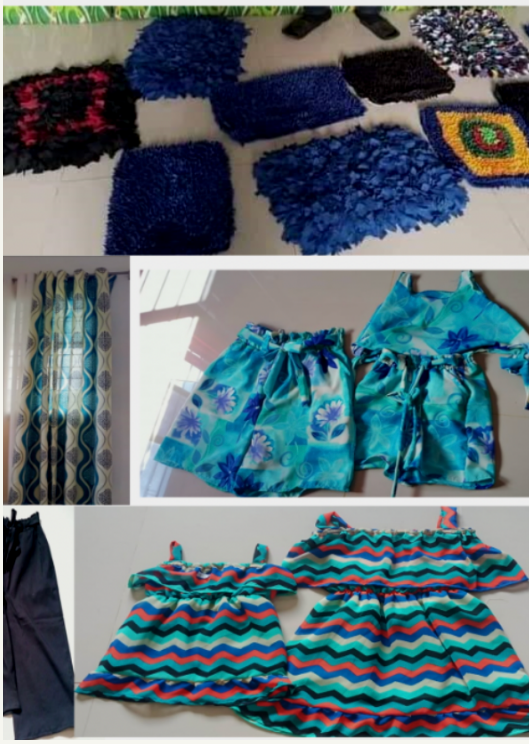
"Hold on to the pattern of sound doctrine that you have heard from me, with faith and love in Christ Jesus."
2 Timothy 1:13:

The members of the Ecclesia worked together, distributing flyers, setting up the hall and preparing snacks and food for the participants as well as following up the contacts. Further seminars are planned in coming weeks to capitalise on the interest shown.

The members were also encouraged by the studies led by Brn Efren Facun,, Michael Alesna, Joshua Khu and John Elton during their 4 day visit to the Ecclesia.

TABITHA COOPERATIVE

The Tabitha Sisters Cooperative located in Kalilangan Ecclesia continues their work. Some of their produced by the sisters is showcased. The products are available for sale and all proceeds go to support the Ecclesia's preaching and welfare work.



SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS WORKSHOP







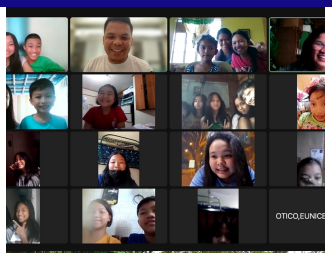
With the commencement of the new Sunday School year a workshop was organised and conducted via ZOOM for Sunday School teachers throughout Luzon, Cebu, Bohol and Mindanao. Last month. A total of 74 teachers tuned into the live broadcasts, The workshop featured skilled professional teachers as instructors and covered such topics as new teaching strategies, tips on lesson preparation, use of arts and crafts, use of Sunday school songs and plays and teaching demonstrations over two weekends last month. We are particularly grateful for the work of our Sunday School coordinator Sis Eleanor Cruz as well as Sis Rose Stone, Miguela delos Santos, Sunshine Soriano and Brethren Jodel James, Ernesto & Alex Facun, Jeric Magnino and and Ruben Madriaga for their skill and professionalism that made the event such a success. Also to the BEC team for their coordination.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Face to face Sunday School recommenced this September. Enrolment was conducted during August through the 1st week of September. The BEC team and Sunday School teachers currently have over 650 chidren scattered across the Philippines in the classes they coordinate every week.

- *Malingin Sunday School*
- *One of the Mailag Sunday School*
- *Kalilangan Hall Sunday School*
- *Maramag Sunday School*
- *Kapon Sunday School*
- *Tabitha Sunday School*

To cater for 74 Sunday school children who are unable to attend face to face classes due to their remote location a virtual Sunday School is conducted via ZOOM every Sunday Afternoon.









CABAHANGAN SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Mailag BEC team have been impressed with the rapid growth of a new Sunday School in Cabangahan established earlier this year. Over 60 children now participate in the weekly classes, often accompanied by their parents. The BEC multicab is used to house the senior class. An appeal has been made for 60 plastic chairs to support the work there.



The group have also been honing their acting skills and have developed plays of Biblical incidents to entertain the Sunday School children and seniors.



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BEC PHILIPPINES

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

The BEC Management Committee, consisting of representatives primarily drawn from the local ecclesias, are particularly grateful to our donors in Australia, USA, UK and Canada for their ongoing support for our humble labors in the Master's service. Also to the Williamsburg Christadelphian Foundation (WCF) and for their ongoing material and financial support. To them all we express our heartfelt gratitude. Thank you so much!

Your donations will enable us to maintain and further expand the Master's work in the Philippines. Our 2022 plans include further preaching, Sunday School, CYC and fellowship initiatives for the local brethren and sisters. We look forward to keeping you informed and "in the loop" via our regular newsletters. May you also remember the work of the BEC in your prayers. We also sincerely welcome your financial support.

Fieldworkers are also very welcome to visit and support the work of the BECs when travel restrictions are eased. Airconditioned accommodation is available for any wishing to volunteer to visit and support our work at the BECs. An enthusiastic welcome and warm Filipino hospitality for volunteers can be assured!

IF YOU ARE ABLE TO ASSIST US OR IF YOU HAVE ANY INQUIRIES, PLEASE CONTACT US AT:

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The Bible Education Centre Inc. is a duly registered non-profit entity in the Philippines.

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The BEC Philippines Team