

The Bruce Rice Family IN THE PHILIPPINES



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April and May • 2021

Greetings from beautiful Mindanao. After being closed for over a year, we were looking forward to re-opening Westside Baptist College of Ministry in Dipolog City, on June 21. However, once again we have been forced to adjust our ministry plans because of the virus. During the last few weeks Mindanao has experienced its worst outbreak since the virus first reached the Philippines last year. Hospitals across the island have been overwhelmed; but thankfully the mortality rate has not been unusually high. But as usual, the restrictions enacted by the government are more harmful to the general welfare and well-being of the people than the virus itself. Hopefully, by the first week of July we will have a clearer picture about when we can welcome the students back and begin a new school year.

An Encouraging Camp in April. We had our annual summer youth camp at Salug Valley Baptist Church in Molave. Because of travel restrictions, we were not able to join together with other churches as we normally do. Still, over 80 youth and young adults attended the camp. Church members prepared the meals.



An Exciting Conversion in May. A young policeman named Bryan has visited Salug Valley Baptist Church a few times at the invitation of one of our members. Bryan is originally from this area but is assigned in the western part of our province. He does not get to come home very often. The last Saturday in May, the church member that had been bringing Bryan to church, brought him to my office. The Lord opened the heart of this young man, and he trusted the Lord Jesus Christ as his Savior. He wanted to get baptized that day. In spite of the rain, we gathered a few people together and had a baptism service for this new believer in Jesus Christ.

Thank you for the vital part you have in helping affect the lives of so many people in this part of the world through your prayer, encouragement and financial support. May God continue to bless you because of the blessing you are to so many others.

Sincerely in Christ,

Bruce, Jeanne and Emily Rice