

The Bruce Rice Family IN THE PHILIPPINES



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In March of 2020, two weeks before graduation, we were forced to abruptly suspend classes at **Westside Baptist College of Ministry in Dipolog City**. We had less than 48 hours for the students to pack their things and head home before travel restrictions were imposed. There was not even enough time for students to request transportation money from their families, so we had to pay bus fare for most of them.

At the time, we thought the interruption would last a couple of months at the most. However, the periodic lockdowns and varying degrees of travel restrictions continued on and on. After several frustrating attempts to schedule a commencement ceremony and resume classes, we eventually gave up and just sent **the WBCM class of 2020** their diplomas in July of this year.



Finally, after 18 months of uncertainty, **WBCM is open again**. There are **31 students** enrolled this school year. As the students began to arrive back on campus it was like a family reunion. The new students added to the excitement. Possibly the most excited first-year student was **our daughter Emily**. She graduated from high school in 2020 and had been waiting for over a year to get to be a Bible college student.

Please pray for the new students as they adjust to life away from home. **And pray** for the financial needs of all the students. **We appreciate** the churches and individual Christians that make it possible for us to provide a tuition-free education. Still, there are fees and expenses the students must cover themselves, including providing their own food.



Thank you for the investment you are making in the work of world evangelization. Through your prayer and financial support you are helping affect the lives of many people here in the Philippines. May God continue to keep you, guide you and bless you by His grace.

Sincerely in Christ,

Bruce, Jeanne and Emily Rice