



Thank you once again for faithfully supporting our family and ministry here in Sagada. God is doing something special in our midst, and we thank Him for allowing us to be a part of it. Although we had some times of discouragement, God has been very good to us. In 2019, we saw 16 people accept Christ as Savior. We praise the Lord for every soul the Lord allows us see saved. We want you to meet some of them. Below are some of the people, that because of your faithful prayer and financial support, whose lives have been transformed by the power of the Gospel.

charismatic churches, but she still felt that there was something missing. The first time she visited our church, she raised her hand for salvation. After two weeks of attending our church she was dealt with personally about salvation and afterwards accepted Christ as her personal Lord and Savior. Hilaria has finally found the peace and joy what she has been seeking for many years. Hilaria has been attending our church faithfully and has the desire to be involved in our church ministry outreaches. Hilaria has asked us to pray with her for her husband, Tyron, to accept Christ. She has a hunger to learn more about spiritual things. Please pray for Hilaria's spiritual growth.

Hilaria Augustin, saved November 17, 2019.

Hilaria is from a nearby town outside of Sagada but works in our local bank. She has known about our church for a long time and has seen me many times when I do my bank transactions. She has grown up as an Anglican, but like many others we meet in Sagada, Hilaria lacked real



Jane Bawing, saved December 12, 2019

Jane is a senior citizen in Sagada. She has been a faithful Anglican since birth. She serves as one of the board members of the ladies' auxiliary group in the Anglican Church. We first met Jane at our Bible Study Outreach in



her area. I sensed right away that Jane had a hunger to learn more about the Bible. She attended the Bible studies regularly and now often hosts them in her own home. She told me that in her church the priest doesn't really teach and preach the Bible, which is what she longs to hear. Jane represents so many others who have grown tired of the rituals and sacraments in the Anglican Church. Though Jane had a hunger to learn more about the truth she still did not fully understand salvation. The Anglicans have taught the people that the way to heaven is through good works. In December we scheduled a time to meet with her at her house where we planned to fully explain salvation to her one on one. After talking to her and explaining God's grace in salvation, she accepted Christ as her Lord and Savior. After receiving Christ she told Sandra, "I wish the others had been here, they need this too!"

Jane has an adopted son name Gaygay (pronounced "guy-guy"). He was a newborn baby when he was abandoned by his birth mother. Jane received him within just days of his birth. He is now 13 years old and has dropped out of school because of bullying from other students and teachers. Because of this, he has lost respect for authorities in his life including his mother and other relatives. He spends all day just wandering around town with other school dropouts. (Sadly there are many here.) He has been attending our church, and Micah and Matthias are mentoring him. Since the time he has begun attending, we have seen some improvements in his overall behavior, but we know true change will not come until he accepts Christ as his Savior. Jane's greatest desire is to see her son accept Christ. We are also committed to do our best to help her get him back into school.

Maricel Johnson, saved December 25, 2019

This year we received a special treat from the Lord. For our family Christmas dinner, we invited several people that are new-comers

to church. One of these is a family of three— Brian, Maricel, and Rian Johnson. They moved to Sagada last year from the south because of our cool mountain climate. Brian, an American, was saved over 30 years ago, but Maricel was not saved. She is from the southern part of Philippines called Bicol which is a heavily Catholic stronghold. When they first started to attend our church, she seemed very closed and not willing to even listen to a gospel presentation. Over time her heart softened as many, including Brian, have been praying for her salvation. When she arrived at our home on Christmas Day, one of the ladies in our church, who was saved from Catholicism, witnessed to her for over one and a half hours. Eventually, I joined the conversation and clarified some of her questions. Soon, with very evident conviction in her heart, she said she was ready to accept Christ. We praise the Lord for allowing us to share the greatest gift of all as we celebrated His birth!



Please pray for her spiritual growth. We are saddened that they now have to move back to the south to be closer to Maricel's family. Please pray also that they will be able to find a good church in their area.

Special Days

We've had some special events at church over the last few months that the Lord has used. In November we had Family Sunday. Family issues are a real concern in Sagada. A majority of the young people here have

made a mess of their lives because of dysfunctional home situations. We have many young people whom we counsel on a regular basis because of the hurt they have endured. There are also many broken marriages in Sagada. As I prayed for the theme of a special day in church God brought to me the issue of the family. My purpose was to strengthen the families in our church and to encourage those who have been directly affected by a dysfunctional family situation.

The Lord blessed this special Sunday as we saw many visitors come. A family whom we have been praying for since we arrived here in Sagada almost three years ago, finally attend the service. I preached on the subject of healing the hurting family. Everyone was blessed with the the preaching and the fellowship that followed afterward. We made a backdrop and had family photoshoots as a remembrance of that special day.



November 1st is a prominent holiday in the Philippines called "All Saints Day." It is one of the major holidays in the Philippines and is observed more than any other holiday by most people. Because of the nature of Sagada, this holiday is celebrated even more with pagan influences. Bonfires are lit at midnight while people dance around them chanting in their language. Locals believe that by doing this they can communicate with the spirits of their departed loved ones. Just as we did in the previous year, we had a fellowship in our house while the rest of the town were in the graveyards. We gathered together and took time to pray for our town that is so steeped in paganism.

December is probably one of the busiest times in our church. We have many outreaches and programs during this month. Our annual children's Christmas program was a success again. The theme of the program was "Happy Birthday, Jesus!" It was a unique presentation of the birth of Christ. The Sunday school teachers did a great job preparing the children. The children sang songs and recited Bible verses. We praise God that he blessed that day with visitors.

We closed the year with Vision Sunday on December 29th. I preached on the subject of our new theme which is "By Faith" based on Hebrews 11. I am challenging our church in this new year to walk by faith in God in their lives. God is already using this theme as I sense that people are truly learning how to live by faith. To close the year God gave yet another special treat as a young man accepted Christ as his Savior during the same Sunday!

Family Update

Thank you for continuing to pray for our family. God has blessed us with a family that is completely sold out to serving the Lord in this challenging area. Time and time again, God has used our children as instruments of seeing people come to church and many coming to Christ for salvation.

Health-wise, we are continuing to seek for wisdom for Matthias' hearth issues. Next month he is scheduled to have his annual 2D echocardiogram. We praise the Lord for His grace and provision for the tests he underwent last year. Though we are still left without answers, we are relying on the Lord's to guide us and also asking Him to heal Matthias.

Please continue to pray for our health and safety. Our desire is to give our best for the Lord while serving Him here. Please pray also for our ministries and outreaches that many will come to Christ. We thank God for you and for your love and care for our family.