

Greetings from a SLIGHTLY cooler Philippines!

We have even enjoyed a couple weeks of high-70s temperatures! I'm sure that would thrill some of you who have been buried in steady snow this US winter. But for us, living only about 400 miles from the equator, any time we are below 85 degrees is something to enjoy! I wore three-quarters length sleeves OUTSIDE (not in the air conditioned malls) and didn't "drip."

Manila, about 600 miles farther north, has enjoyed almost two months of high-70s weather. Global warming? Maybe. For sure, we get some of the cold air coming down from China. We'll enjoy whatever we can get!

Thanks for your prayers for my sister Lynn. She was required to stop taking her medications for Rheumatoid Arthritis for six months to give the heal surgery and bone graft some time to recover. She said recently that she is able to walk now with less pain. But during that period, the Rheumatoid was very active, especially in her wrists/hands and legs. She has an amazing tolerance for pain, but is having difficulty now using her hands. Please pray with us that the medications will give some relief, especially use of her hands. Thanks for your partnership in prayer on both sides of the ocean!

There are a few important prayer requests for ministry for the next few months. Will you join us in prayer?

1) Jenine, the 10-year-old daughter of one of our Filipino families working among the M*slims in two poor communities needs to take medication for Primary Complex (TB for younger children). This is the third time she has shown symptoms in the past few years, and her third time to take the meds for 6 months. I wrote to the parents thanking them for not only offering their own lives, but the lives of their two children to serve the Lord. Please pray that she will take the medication joyfully (she really doesn't want to have to do that again) and responds well to the medication.

2) In March, we as a WorldVenture team are holding several important meetings with business specialists from the US. They will help us evaluate, strategize and moveforward with the Hope Mountain ministry that Hagquists (and I) have been working with for several years. Please pray as these men meet with the Hope Mountain board and other interested parties. We are continuing to develop Hope Mountain as a "center for transformation" to be used for retreats, camping, training (biblical and community development projects). The men will help us continue the development process of the property. They also will meet with key business people in the area, challenging them to see their business as an opportunity to reach out for the Lord. BAM or "Business As Missions" is also a platform used to enter into countries that don't allow missionaries to enter freely. So through jobs and companies that are valuable to the "closed countries," workers live, make friends and do business using biblical principles. And we ask God to touch hearts through these "business people" that are 24/7 witnesses through their businesses, family life, community life, etc.

3) In April and May, several mission activities designed for youth will be happening in the M*slim communities where our Filipino partners work. One group will use music and activities for youth to serve and make friends in the communities. In a second exposure trip, youth will do service projects, help tutor pre-school M students, lead youth activities, etc. Please pray for the Kairos Missions Course that I and several other facilitators will lead for the youth before they have the missions exposure trip

into the communities. We are asking God to touch hearts for missions - as prayer warriors, mobilizers in their churches, and goers.

4) Dawn Scheler, a Senior at Moody, will be coming in May-June to do her internship with one of our churches. Her focus will be on youth. Please pray as she encourages the local youth to grow deep in their relationship with the Lord and be witnesses for Him in their families, schools, etc. She will also help the local youth leaders to continue to develop their church's youth ministry. Joy Joy Santander, one of our Filipino young people at Hope Mountain, will join with Dawn for the first 4 weeks of her internship. Joy Joy is also a Bible school student here in Mindanao. Pray for a good partnership between Joy Joy and Dawn.

CHANGE OF POSTAL ADDRESS: Please note that my new postal address is:

Sandy Eckelberry
CBM
P.O.Box 2003
1160 Q.C. Central Post Office
NIA Road, Quezon City
Philippines

Thank you again for your partnership in the work here in the Philippines,
Sandy