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Subject: Evangelist Randy Chovan Family Prayer Letter Winter 2015

Date: January 26, 2015 at 11:08 PM
To: douglas-erickson@hotmail.com

Dear Praying friends and Faithful Financial Supporters,

Our heart for you is reflected in this verse: (1Thes. 2:17) "But we, brethren, being taken from you for a short time in presence, not in heart, endeavoured the more abundantly to see your face with great desire".

Grace and I have just returned from three weeks of intensive ministry in the Islands of the Philippines. There are over 7000 beautiful islands rich in history and lush with palm trees. The heat and humidity greeted us upon our arrival Saturday, January 3, 2015. We flew from the capital city Manila on the island of Luzon to the southern most island of Mindanao. All of western Mindanao is Muslim under Sharia Law. The eastern part of the island is democratic with various Christian denominations represented. We arrived in the city of Cagayan De Oro at 8:00 a.m. Sunday morning and were driven an hour and a half to Iligan City where our first meeting would began at 10:30 a.m. We did miss Sunday School that morning due to flight delays. This was my third time to minister to the Bible Baptist Church Fundamental, pastored by 82 year old Ludick Babia. I was the keynote speaker for the Missions Conference. I preached twice each morning, each evening and had an session with just the men one afternoon. Grace had an afternoon session with ladies. We saw one precious soul profess faith on Sunday and many revival decisions throughout the week. It was a blessing to be used to encourage and challenge the pastors and wives who came.

On January 8, we flew back to Manila (after another flight delay!) where we were picked up by our next host pastor, Nap Donado and wife Shirley. They are Filipinos who are church planting missionaries to their own country. Our home church in Huntsville, AL, acts as their sending church, We had a wonderful meeting seeing souls saved and Believers rededicating themselves to serve our King. It was a blessing to see Believers from other churches attend the meetings and respond to the Word.

On January 15 (my 59th birthday), we flew (another flight delay!) from Manila to Davao City, also on Mindanao. Davao City is the largest city in the world as far as land mass and is the second largest city in the Philippines after Manila. We were picked up at the airport by Pastor Albert Dillo and his two assistant pastors, Bro. Noel and Bro. Tom, of Nehemiah Baptist Church, Carmen, Davao del Norte. This was my third time to minister in this church (Grace's second). This was also our busiest week of the three. I preached 21 times in six days. I preached to the parents of the Christian school, to the whole school staff, to the church in revival meetings, to the area pastors in a pastor's conference. I taught a homiletics class to area pastors. I preached to the entire Municipality of Carmen; the mayor, the vice mayor, council members, secretaries, chief of police and his staff, the Fire Chief and his officers, etc. I preached chapel at the Ezra Christian school. All in all, 26 souls professed faith in Jesus Christ for a total of 30 for the three weeks. Praise God!

We returned to the USA on January 23. (The first and last "legs" of our return flight were delayed!) I had three days to rest my worn out throat before starting another week of meetings at Elliot Road Baptist Church in Gilbert, AZ, where we are engaged in ministry this week. Our winter schedule will continue with a flight to Vancouver, B.C., Canada, to preach in Burnaby, a meeting in Prescott, AZ, and then on to the Big Island of Hawaii for four weeks from the end of February to the end of March. From Hawaii, I will continue on alone to Pohnpei, Micronesia, and Guam. (The expense of travel and the increasing difficulty of Jonathan's schooling hinders their joining me. We are still praying about where Grace and Jonathan should stay during this time.)

April will bring me to the Philippines again for three weeks. The remainder of April and May will find me in the US military churches of Japan. I will return to the Philippines for another three weeks which brings us right to the third week of June. (Visas are required when spending more than three weeks in the Philippines. We have just learned that has been extended to 30 days so we will be able to schedule longer trips without getting a visa for the country.)

We trust our God for His blessings on this ministry. Your prayers and support are invaluable and appreciated. We, together, are truly colabourers together with God (1 Cor 3:9). May He use all of us to bring a dying, hell bound world to Himself and to strengthen His believers.

With love and appreciation,

Evangelist Randy Chovan Family