

CELEBRATING
10 YEARS

2005 - 2015

10 Years of Sending, Serving, and Sharing

As I contemplate what a privilege it has been to send, support, and care for those in full-time ministry over the past ten years, I know I have a front row seat to watch what God is doing in the lives and communities of those we support. We have the joy of seeing first-hand the fruit of their labor. It is the work of the Holy Spirit, their obedience to serve, and our support that makes this a reality. So as we celebrate ten years, the sower and the reaper can rejoice together.

Many books have been written about men and women of God reflecting on their lives. We are part of the stories that are now being written - stories of joy and pain, tears and laughter, disappointment and rejoicing. Stories of God's faithfulness and love. Maybe it will be titled "Heroes of Faith in Jars of Clay."

Come celebrate with us August 23, 2015! 🍷



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10TH
ANNIVERSARY
2005-2015

COME CELEBRATE WITH US!

AUGUST 23, 2015
MELLINGER MENNONITE CHURCH
SEE INSERT FOR DETAILS

THE SECOND TUNIC



Sending, Serving, Sharing
The man with two tunics should share
with him who has none. **LUKE 3:11**

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July 2015

Refreshing Retreat

by Clyde Hollinger

What I am commanding you today is not too difficult for you to reach . . . Love God, walk in obedience, keep his commands . . .

Then you will live. Deuteronomy 30:11-16 condensed



REACH

My wife Elaine and I are neither globetrotters, nor adventurous, nor young. Still, when we received an invitation to be part of a ministry team going to the Philippines, it didn't take us long to say yes. The event was a Refreshing Retreat provided by The Second Tunic May 4-9 in Davao City. Six weeks later we left our home in the little town of Rothsville and boarded a jet to go farther from home than we ever had before.

The week was to be a time when those in full time ministry could be ministered to and find refreshing and renewed hope and passion. The theme chosen for the week was "Reach" with reference to several verses in Deuteronomy 30. I also think of an invitation Jesus once gave to his disciples, "Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest." (Mark 6:31)



Clyde with guests

Our responsibilities were to be on staff for the week and to interact with those who were invited. This included worship, attending morning teaching sessions, casual conversations, personal care time with the Philippine participants (none of whom we knew), and prayer. Oh yes, and eating together, sometimes foods that were unfamiliar to us, but we expected that. I did miss my salt shaker, but soy sauce made a good substitute!

continued inside

Refreshing Retreat *continued*

The week turned out to be a blessing for us and our guests. We listened, responded, rejoiced, cried, and shared together experiences of our lives. It helped us that we could speak in English. As the week drew to a close we often received comments that such a retreat was a great help for them, our brothers and sisters in Christ.

We felt some sadness as we left, wondering how long it would be before we would see our new friends again. We wonder if the Lord sent us not only to benefit those we served, but also to broaden our appreciation for what He is doing elsewhere. To God be the glory! 🍷

“Do What He Asks You” - Mary, the mother of Jesus

by Mary Martin

I awoke with the sunrise on Monday, May 4, with a sense of excitement. I thought of all the preparation that went into this Retreat. A team was gathered, notebooks of teaching materials were printed and assembled. Mugs were designed, ordered and then filled with treats. Our team gathered together to pray and a welcome card was made for each guest. Oh...and all those hours of traveling! Now this day finally arrived! I was so excited see our dear Filipino friends again, and make some new friendships! With a sense of expectation I looked to the Lord, believing that God would indeed meet each person in a special way, and he did!

The last evening the guests surprised us with gifts. This gift reminds me that God is the potter and I am the clay. It also brings to mind Jesus first miracle. It was at a wedding that Jesus Mother looks at the servants and says, “Do whatever he tells you”. Jesus simply asks them to fill the jars with water. When that was completed, he asked them to draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet. It’s my job to do what Jesus asks me to do. It’s Jesus himself that turns the water into wine. So may you also be encouraged with my parting words to the retreat guests, the words of Mary, the Mother of Jesus, “Do whatever Jesus tells you to do”.

Obedience is within your reach, and watch as Jesus, himself, turns the water into wine! 🍷



Our Father’s Love

He will feed their hunger, He will freely give

by Amber Weaver

All good things begin with love. I built this team because of my love for friends of mine in the Philippines. The vision was to provide a way for them to experience a different culture within the Philippines and to live out their love for Jesus in new ways. Seven Filipinos between the ages of 17-25 got to experience a week-long outreach for the first time. They love Jesus and were brave. Despite fear among them, they said yes. We had heard this place was filled with Muslim rebels. People asked, “Do you want to die?” after we told them where we were going.



Amber & friend

But then we got there and met the Muslim college students, their smiles and hearts filled with excitement. We began by teaching English, culture, guitar, and computers. The students were eager to learn. Most of them will be the one child in their family that will be able to attend college and become the provider. We realized they are people just like us, wanting to feel loved and accepted. With hurt and tears in their eyes they asked, “Do you think this is a bad place, because we hear what the media says about us. Are you scared of us?” As we felt their pain, we explained how honored we were to be there with them.

We couldn’t share directly about Jesus, but we knew that God was there. As the last day approached, we each shared part of our life story with them as a way to relate, encourage, and inspire them. They reacted with tears, understanding, and love. They asked, “When will you be back, because we will miss you?” They are so hungry for love that will never leave, but we realized we might never be back. As we sang the song “I Can Sing of Your Love Forever” for them, we reflected upon their love and the love of our Father in heaven. He is the one who will feed their hunger; He is the one who freely gives. Their striving will cease. All the glory that happened this week belongs to Jesus. Packed tightly into a truck, we left the school shouting, “Thank you Jesus!” We are so happy and grateful. Thank you Second Tunic for supporting this team. 🍷

Amber did a three month internship in the Philippines in 2014. This year she joined The Second Tunic ministry team for the Refreshing Retreat and then continued on to lead this outreach.