



Dear Praying Friends,

December 5 marks 25 years of missionary service for Mary Ann and I in Manila with Action International Ministries. Through all the ups and downs, twists and turns, joys and sorrows, God's grace has been totally sufficient. We have no regrets. We do not look back wishing we had done something else with our lives. We are not on the run from anything or anyone, nor are we hiding anything. We live in openness and transparency with God's people around the world. We are very ordinary people with an extra-ordinary calling upon us to serve our wonderful Lord among the poor. Because the Lord Jesus has been faithful over the years, we can trust Him for the future. AND SO CAN YOU. Thank you for your steady prayers and support because without you, we could not be here. You are much appreciated and loved. The following are brief updates and requests for prayer.

1. Hard copy newsletter update:

This week our fourth quarter hard copy "Yes, Lord!" newsletter should be in the mail. Thank you for reading and praying through it. Feel free to pass it on to others and post it on church bulletin boards. Here is the link to download it on our website: http://web.me.com/jma.anderson/site/Blog/Entries/2010/11/18_4thquarternew.html

2. Update on Fish & Bread Feeding and Alternative Learning System Ministries

Currently we have 14 F&B feeding sites, 11 of which are using the Department of Education's Alternative Learning System for basic literacy. Last week ACTION helped sponsor training for several church workers who are wanting to start ALS classes in their churches among street children and out-of-school youth. This basic training was followed by two days of enhancement training for those already involved. The three trainers from the Department of Education were very impressed by the dedication and skills of those they trained while they sat in on the prayer meetings and devotional times. Last Saturday I had a meeting with a few deacons from our church in Manila, Greenhills Christian Fellowship (GCF), to explain this ministry to them. They are very encouraged by this ministry and totally on board, wanting to get involved both financially and with manpower. Fish and Bread and ALS are gaining a lot of traction because the hungry are getting hungrier and those who have trusted Christ are wanting to change which for many means learning to read and write. More and more churches are getting involved with the poor in their neighborhoods because the poor are literally at their doorstep, however, churches need to be mobilized and trained. In December we will be starting 7 new feeding sites while some finish. We have been told by folks at Grace Church Eden Prairie that we will receive 11 boxes of Feed My Starving Children food through May which is a *huge* blessing.

* Yesterday I spoke in 2 churches who have partnered with us in ministry. The first being the Fort Bonifacio Evangelical Church with whom we just completed a 6 month feeding program and they wanted

to express their deep appreciation for our involvement with them. The second Sunrise Christian Church is located in a very slummy squatter community with whom we have been involved for about 3 years doing feedings, medical clinics, flood relief, Christmas parties, camping and open-air crusades and they wanted to express their appreciation to those who have helped build their church. It was one of those rare days where the Lord allowed me to see and hear what He is doing through these very basic ministries which are meeting needs of people and building His church. All of our ministries are Christ-centered and the Gospel is shared with the intent of leading people to turn from their sin to Christ as Savior and many do.

3. Evangelistic Christmas Party Ministry

This week our Christmas parties begin and everything is pretty much ready to go. Please pray that congregations will be ready with open arms and warm hearts to receive into their fellowship new brothers and sisters in Christ who will trust Him as their personal Savior and Lord in these parties. Currently we have 30 scheduled for street children, prisoners, rural and urban poor families. My cry to the church, even last week as I led a workshop for over 70 pastors on ministering to their communities, is "let's open our front doors and let the people in!" We will be going out into the streets and lanes of the city, the highways and hedges to compel the poor, crippled, lame and blind to join us in these parties (Luke 14:21 and 23) Pray that we will see a great harvest of souls who will be added to the church.

4. Mary Ann's Moody Bible Institute Studies

Mary Ann continues diligently in her course work at MBI. Currently she is studying Elements of Bible Study and has turned in 5 papers in recent days. The other day she received this word of encouragement from her professor "Your work is excellent, and you are doing very well in this course." It has been a challenge for Mary Ann to stay up to date with her course work with all that goes on in our lives but she is focused in getting her assignments done, which spurs me on in my Bible study as well. Pray for her as she carries on with her work. As an aside, she told me the other day that the people involved in our ALS programs have inspired her in her studies as well as a friend from GCF to get her Master's in Education so she can teach. It's amazing how we can encourage each other in our walk with the Lord and in service to others.

5. Our helper Ate Pilar ("Ate" is pronounced "Aht-ay" and means older sister)

By Mary Ann

Last Friday was the last day that our helper Ate Pilar worked for us. We came to a good arrangement for both of us so she could return to her home province of Bohol to take care of repairs on their family house and take a break. She worked about 20 hours a week cleaning, doing laundry, ironing, cooking and baking. She could accomplish a lot in the few hours she was here. Because of living in the tropics and a city with heavy pollution, everything needs to be washed and cleaned much more frequently than at home in Minnesota, so house-help is really a necessity. Having her assistance provided a livelihood for her and enabled me to work more effectively in ministry. We have known Pilar since we arrived 25 years ago. She has worked for several ACTION missionaries through the years and became available to us in 1998. She has been a model of diligence and served well. Please pray for her as she takes care of her house with the bonus we gave her and then will be without employment.

6. Furlough / Car needed

December 14, as you may recall, we leave Manila for our 6 month furlough basing in Roseville, MN. We are in need of a reliable winter-ready car so if you have one you could loan or lease to us, please let us know. We are praying about this daily. We received word the other day Amos will join us December 19 to January 9 (which will be wonderful) so if anyone has a vehicle he could borrow during those days, that would be a great help.

* Speaking of cars, we have initiated a project to raise funds for a new vehicle upon our return to Manila in June. We're hoping to raise \$20,000 to buy a car that will serve us reliably for several years.

* We are also needing to raise more personal and ministry support to replace those that have needed to drop off or reduce their giving. Pray for the Lord's supply for these needs.

* We are looking to fill up our speaking schedule so if your church, Sunday school class, Bible study, school, family or office would like us to come and share about our lives and work, please get ahold of us. You can track our schedule at our website which we will keep updated. Two meetings we have scheduled for January are the 16th at the Fil-Am Christian Church in Coon Rapids, MN and the 23rd at Elim Baptist Church, Minneapolis, MN. For more schedule information, go to: <http://web.me.com/jma.anderson/site/Calendar.html>

7. Anniversaries

Anniversaries help us mark special events in our lives as I mentioned December 5 marks 25 years of service in Manila. December 21 marks 31 years of marriage for Mary Ann and me. We married with the Lord Jesus and His Great Commission as the center and foundation of our walk together in Christ and His grace. Even before we were married we were involved in full-time ministry at Midwest Challenge in south Minneapolis working with drug addicts, street people, prisoners and prostitutes. Mary Ann started in '76 and I in '77 so since then we have been involved together in ministry full-time. You may want to read our profile webpage on our website to get the full story. Also on that page is the Covenant we wrote before coming to the Philippines. <http://web.me.com/jma.anderson/site/Profile.html>

Jesus remains the center of our lives and His glory among the nations as our passion. This is why we have kept the name "Yes, Lord!" for our newsletters because this is the way we want to live and die saying "Yes" to the Lord as He bids us. When we were commissioned by Grace Church Edina (today Eden Prairie) in 1985, Galatians 2:10 was my selected verse which the missions pastor then, Woody Phillips who is now with the Lord, read to the congregation and prayed for us. It reads, "They only asked us to remember the poor-- the very thing I also was eager to do." (NASB) By the grace of God which He has poured into us His ordinary vessels and with a lot of grit, we will do so.

Again, *thank you* for standing with us. Have a very Merry Christmas.

Your partner in ministry and brother in Christ,

Jeff

"Yes, LORD, walking in the way of your laws, we wait for you;
your name and renown are the desire of our hearts." --Is 26:8 NIV

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Our web blog: <http://www.jeffmaryann.com>

ACTION Philippine website: <http://www.actionphilippines.org>

Double click here for secure online giving <<http://www.actioninternational.org/anderson>>

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