

October-December 2016

Newsletter

When September arrives, everybody is excited to count the days towards Christmas day. In the same way, Filipino migrant workers start gathering varieties



of stuffs to make their package boxes full and that before December these packages will be sent to the Philippines and hoping these shall be received on the eve of Christmas as presents to family and everyone. To most migrant workers, they must take much more overtime and part time jobs in order to buy more stuff for their boxes. Most often we see them sleepy and have zombie-like eyes due to lack of rest. They sometimes abuse themselves physically for one thing, to make sure their family is happy on Christmas even through the gifts.

Sad to say that many of them would confess to us about their emptiness and being homesick despite gifts were sent to their loved ones on Christmas. It is their fondest desire to be with their family in the significant occasions like Christmas. Their hearts are silently and deeply mourning. They know that their presence is irreplaceable with material things. However, they do nothing but trying their best to be a good provider for their family.

Our ministry has a huge part to ease the pain of the throbbing souls and hearts of these migrant workers. Care and counseling through the Word of God is being imparted for their awful soul and heart. There were tight

hugs from them with their finger nails being hit to our skin during counseling sessions. There were cry of depression being heard from them who are deeply troubled.

Being the listeners of their angst, we confidently share the Word of God to them that somehow lift their spirits especially as they journey this 2017. We help them aware that God does not promise no troubles, no struggles and no mourning that come our way but one thing God has surely promised, that is His presence to be with them or with us for the rest of our lives. ***“Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.”*** Deuteronomy 3:16.



Our leaders in the ministry initiated to have a coin bank. Everyone deposited coins to the coin bank from September – Mid December during worship service. The earnings went to gift giving. And everyone has received present on Christmas day.

Tahanan Christmas Cantata presents the story of the life of every Filipino Migrant worker. This event is a series of songs and dances with narration in between. This event features “Christmas Is Jesus”. The ultimate purpose of this celebration is to reach out everyone with the Gospel of our Lord. Truly, this is

October-December 2016

Newsletter



fulfilled! There were about 90 individuals stood up and accepted Christ! Hallelujah! Everyone is moved and ministered by the message of the Lord thru His servant bishop Rodolfo Juan! All the praises and glory be to God who had made this amazing event, a very successful and overwhelming one! Praise the Lord!

TAHANAN 3rd founding anniversary was celebrated last November 13, 2016. The event is



graced by the presence of Bishop Ciriaco Francisco. The celebration focuses on the theme "Change is On". Everyone is enthused by the Lord's message to value

this life being transformed by Christ. Glory to God's name!

SCENARIO OF FILIPINO MIGRANT WORKERS (by: CHARIS DOROTHY a Missionary kid)



Last "All Souls Day", I saw some OFW (overseas Filipino workers) cried. At first, I thought they are happy because they belong in the community called TAHANAN, but

actually they are not. It wasn't easy for them to be happy like some kids playing around happily at the playground. They are happy, but not one hundred percent happy. They always worry about their loved ones, especially the "First Timer" workers.

One Saturday, my OFW friend and I, went to 7-11 to buy some snacks. After few minutes, his phone rang, and he pressed the green button. I heard their conversation, it seems that his older sister said, her phone was about to break and he responded that he will just buy her another one, with a worried face. Then after that, we continued our chitchat thingy.

Finally, the beautiful Christmas has come, they should be happy to celebrate this occasion, but some of them are not happy. Maybe it's because of their family, I mean; it is because of their family! It's not easy for them to celebrate Christmas without their family. They always trying to forget all the worries in their lives, but they couldn't do it. They always suffer when it comes to "Happiness", except if they spend their time more with Jesus, they won't have any worries anymore. But the thing is, some of them don't want to do that. By the way, I already talked to some of them, and most of their problems are about family, love-life, relationship. But I

October-December 2016

Newsletter

think the Filipino Migrant Worker's primary problem is about Family.

The New Year's Eve has come, everybody is waiting for their family to call, but the problem is, Philippine's signal is so slow, so, some of them couldn't call their family. The New Year's Eve is important to celebrate because it's about being new and having a new good life. It's more fun to celebrate it with your family. I think they couldn't have much fun every New Year's Eve, because they are away from their family, they cannot celebrate it with happiness without their beloved real family.

My best-friend told me that she and her sisters were once left behind with their Mom in the Philippines, because their Father went to Taiwan to work in a factory and to find some good salaries for their family. After some years, my best-friend's Mother went to Taiwan too, because Life in the Philippines is hard, and I think all of the Filipinos know that too.

We are very grateful to God for the spirit of life, hope and love having you in our journey for migrant ministry. Indeed, you are the answer to our prayers. Despite your financial & emotional struggles, you are still so strong to endure the call to Christ's MISSION. We are intensely praying for you in order that you may continually touch many lives in Christ's service.

We would like to invite you to pray for missionary work with Migrant Filipino Workers in Taiwan. We invite you to walk with us in a missionary journey and pray for us in the ministry of Migrant Workers in Taiwan. Pray that our ministry can be an instrument to be a blessing of God's love.

We are humbly knocking to your generous heart to support Global Ministries by assisting with our salary support through the advance #s so we can remain faithful to the call the Lord made on our life. We invite you to engage in hand-on activities like supporting migrant workers for their Spring Sportsfest.

For financial contributions, you may:

1. Use Global Ministries' website:

www.umcmmission.org to send a donation for my

salary support. At the bottom of the page, click on "Missionaries". Scroll to our name on the missionaries' page and our profile will appear. At the bottom of our profile is a link to make an online donation.

2. Through mailing a check to your local church or conference office. Write "for Alma J. Navarro # 3022029, and Richard B. Navarro # 3022030" on the memo line of your check.

***If not sending through a local United Methodist Church, you may send your check to:
Advance GCFA ; P.O. Box 9068 ; New York, NY
10087-9068.***

We end with words to say thank you and we appreciate so much for your faithful support!

***Sincerely,
Richard & Alma Navarro
RNavarro@umcmmission.org/ANavarro@umcmmission.org***