



THE BLUSTS

EMPIRE BAPTIST TEMPLE • PASTOR ERICH P. McCANDLESS, PHD
412 S. Hawthorne Ave • Sioux Falls, SD 57104 • 605-339-2038 • EBT@EmpireBaptistMinistries.org



January-February 2022 Prayer, Praise & Progress Report

Dear Pastor and Brethren,

“But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God” (Acts 20:24).

Truly blessed to be found worthy to serve my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Focusing my time and energy upon ministry, training, helping Filipino carry out His Commission given to His Baptist church. Educating, encouraging, enabling Filipinos to reach and evangelize their people for Christ and in planting unaffiliated N.T. Baptist churches.

Members are moving forward with zeal for God, excitement among believers, and growth, spiritual and numerical. Three pastors in training and I do all the evangelistic preaching. It usually takes three to twelve months hearing the Word of God and receiving Holy Spirit conviction before some people repent and believe the Gospel of Christ.

Beboy (21) and Jenalyn Baray (15) got saved on Sunday, December 5 in our **San Fernando mission works**. Mission works are growing and in desperate need of more preachers. We are amazed to see God’s grace at work. **Bro. Hilario** surrendered to be a preacher on November 28 and is preaching in our **San Fernando mission works**.

Chequito (33) and Christine (34) Amante from San Francisco Agusan De Sur Mindanao lost their jobs as fish and fruit vendors due to government restrictions. So they abandoned their house/farmland and relocated to our ministry in San Fernando. Other people who lost jobs due to government restrictions are moving to the mountains to get away from government tyranny, rising price inflation and continual supply shortages. They said their only food source is to live off the land (fruit trees, planting rice/corn, root crops, vegetable farms, fish ponds, livestock).

We praise God that our converts have been transformed from wicked living to God fearing Bible quoting believers in Christ. Their desire is for all men to come to know Jesus Christ and accept His free gift of salvation (Ephesians 2:8-9) through the forgiveness of sin through the Cross, believing in the finished work of Jesus Christ (John 19:30).

We have evangelized many Catholics here who refuse God’s salvation. Their excuses: 1. They worry about what their family and friends think. 2. They worry that if they are saved, there will be no cemetery to bury their body. We also evangelized some Catholics here who claim to be ecumenical. They promote the unity of all religions. The Ecumenical Movement (i.e., let’s unite religiously by error; instead of dividing over truth as God commands).

We labor abundantly on this missionary journey by the grace of God and for the glory of God. We don't travel on this amazing journey without the help of God's people. Let us continue pressing forward toward the mark and keep fighting the good fight. May we strive every day to know Jesus, to rejoice in Him always and to make Him known! **Thank you so much** for your faithful prayers and support of us and our ministry. May God’s blessings be upon you.

Jeffrey C Blust

Philippines

“People that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits. And they that understand among the people shall instruct many” (Dan.11:32-33)

Field Address: Ruben Rodano St. Brgy 1, Malaybalay City, Bukidnon 8700 • Philippines • jblust@globelines.com.ph