

May 2021

"Buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with him through faith..." - Colossians 2:12



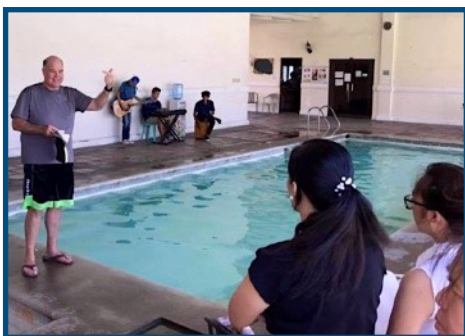
Resurrection Service

One of my favorite things in ministry is when people step out to proclaim their faith in Jesus Christ - we call it Baptism. The church rented a local club house with a pool to celebrate Resurrection Sunday. Following a special message out of Luke 24 - and a huge feast from a table full of food that went from one end of the room to the other - we asked if anyone would like to be baptized.

Baptism is not about becoming a part of a particular denomination (*a common teaching in the Philippines*). It is also not required for salvation (*thief on the cross*) though it is command for all believers - Matthew 28:19 / Acts 2:38. The purpose for baptism is to make an outward declaration of the inward transformation that takes place when we put our faith in Jesus. We are buried with Christ (*seen in being submerged under the water*). The old person we used to be before we put our faith Jesus is dead. We are

then resurrected as a new creation in Jesus Christ - we have been born again (*seen in coming up out of the water*) - John 3:3 / 2 Corinthians 5:17.

There were a handful of people who planned on being baptized - but one by one people touched by the Spirit just began to walk into the water with the clothes they wore to church! Emboldened and excited to make that public statement of their love and faith in the God who died to save them! It was an incredible and amazing thing to watch and be a part of - Romans 10:9-10!



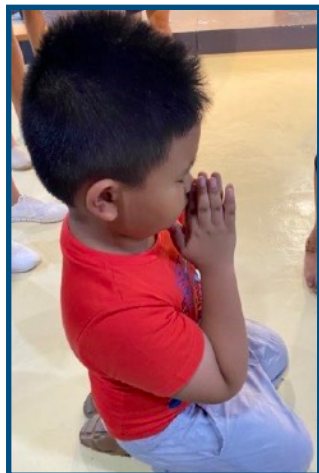
Baptisms on Resurrection Sunday



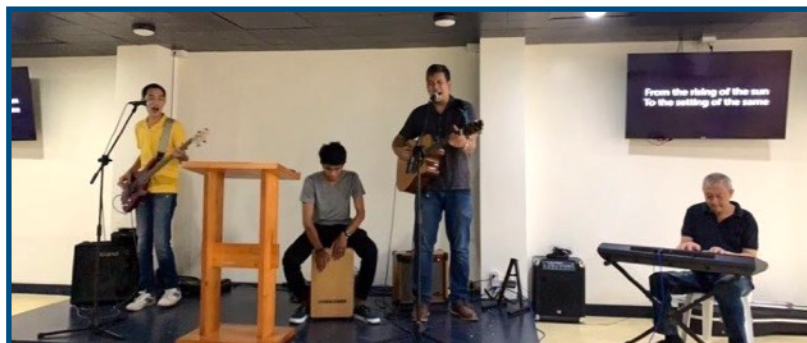
PHILIPPINES



Kids singing Jana Alayra songs



The church continues to be blessed as we step out in new ways to minister and serve. There are Bible studies five times a week. Sundays mornings we are working our way through the New Testament (*currently in 2 Timothy*). Tuesdays we have a mid-week service in Bacolod going through the Old Testament. Wednesdays we have a midweek serve in Silay also going through the Old Testament. Thursday mornings the women gather together to go through the Book of Joshua. Then on Fridays we have a bi-weekly prayer meeting that meets in various homes.



The worship ministry has blossomed over the past few months. The church now has a full worship team on a weekly basis. The kids have also begun to do special songs as part of the worship service. They are beyond adorable as they worship Jesus to the words and motions of Jana Alayra songs!

May is looking to be another busy month! We will be in Himamaylan the first weekend giving out more Christmas Shoe boxes. The first round was handed out in the end of March - but the remainder of the boxes have arrived and we will give out around 300 to San Antonio Elementary school. Later this month we have a one day joint Women's Retreat planned for Simbahan sa Bukid and Calvary Bible Fellowship. Then towards the end of the month we will have our first youth camp! We are excited to see what God has in store and as always covet your prayers as we continue to love and teach the people God brings!

Love - David, Jen and Hallel



Online Taekwondo class



Surprise birthday party for David in Himamaylan

