

John Mark & Kristin
Catalan
Jaelyn, Jasmine, & Kaydence

Missionaries to the Philippines



October 16, - December 2023

Dear Praying Friends,

Happy New Year! 2023 has been amazing. God has given us many opportunities in the ministry and blessings to our family. There are also many challenges that God has brought us through. We praise the Lord for everything that happened in 2023. We also praise the Lord for another year so that we can start fresh and continue to serve God. I do believe that God has great plans for all of us this year. I look forward to how God will guide and lead us as we continue to serve Him. We are thankful for all the opportunities God has given us to share the Gospel. We are amazed at how God has been working in the Philippines.

We had our first Water Baptism. All these young people in the picture got saved in the past couple of months and followed the Lord in Water Baptism. We rented a pool since our Church does not have a reliable water supply yet. Please pray for these young people as they continue to walk with the Lord and grow spiritually.

On December 3, we celebrated our 1st Christmas as a Church. I asked the people to invite their friends and relatives, and they did. We were 90 plus in attendance, including the kids that day. Please continue to pray for the people of this Church, as many of them are new Christians. Please pray for wisdom for me as I continue to disciple them so that they grow strong in their faith in God.

Though we are gathering as a church already, we are not officially recognized as an organized church yet in local government papers, meaning we are not yet registered. Please pray as we work on this starting this year.

Due to personal and health reasons, we came to the U.S. on December 4, 2023, for a very brief furlough and personal trip, and we are here until mid-January. We are thankful that we can visit 8 of our supporting Churches in N.C., SC, and G.A. It was a blessing to meet everyone once again. We were encouraged and spiritually refreshed by everyone's kindness and love for our family. Since our visit to the U.S. is partly personal, we want to clarify that we are not using any mission money for this trip. We are using our savings and contributions from our friends and family. We are excited to return to the Philippines on January 17. Please pray for our safety back.

Thank you so much to those who have given toward our Church project. We have received \$6,000 out of our \$37,000 estimated amount that we will need to fix up the Church building.

We are always grateful for your faithful prayers and support to us. Please do know that we always keep you all in our prayers. May God richly use us and bless us this new year.

In His Service,
The Catalan Family



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