

924 F. Ablen St. Cogon, Ormoc City, Leyte Tel. No. 561 9564 Website: www.OrmocLighthouse.com

### Highlights for 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter2017

#### **Earthquake**

July 6, 2017, Ormoc was hit by a devastating earthquake. It did not do much damage in the main city, except for cracks and some buildings that were deemed to be dangerous after that. However, up in the mountain near the epicenter, more than 10 baranggays in Ormoc and 3 baranggays in Kanangga where evacuated and several thousands of people where displaced.

Two of the Lighthouse Churches, Tongonan and Milagro was greatly affected. In Tongonan, nearly everyone lost their homes and most of our church members as of the writing of this update is still in the evacuation center.



The Lighthouse immediately initiated a survey of the damaged areas. After the survey we did a small relief operation where we gave out vegetables, noodles, blankets and others. As of today, in cooperation with Central Philippines Convention of Southern Baptist Churches and Asia Pacific Baptist Aid, we are conducting Trauma Care in Tongonan, and is planning to have a medical mission by November.

#### **Livelihood Training for Women**



The earthquake happened 3 days away from our 18<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations. But it did not stopped us celebrating God's goodness. We invited Ptr. Danny and Cora Medina to be a part of the 18<sup>th</sup> year celebration.

July 8, 2017 we conducted a discipleship seminar for pastors and workers while the pastor's wives also have their livelihood seminar.

The livelihood training is about making necklaces, earings, showl, anklets and bangles. Everyone seems to enjoy the said training even though it was hot that day and no electricity. But thank God

for the generator. At least we have lights and have a couple of fans running.



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#### The Lighthouse Celebrated 18 Years of God's Faithfulness

July 9, 2017 the Lighthouse Christian Ministry celebrated 18 years of God's faithfulness to the Church. There's no electricity and some of our brethren are still coping up from the earthquake happened 3 days back.

This year's theme is "Transcends" taken from Philippians 4:8-9.

Thank you Ptr. Danny Medina for delivering such a wonderful message. It's now time for the Lighthouse to take another step as a Church especially in the area of discipleship.



#### Visit to South Harvest Church in Kabankalan



It was an interesting time also to have a visit to South Harvest in Kabankalan in Negros island. Had a short but very meaningful meeting with PIEI Director (International) Ptr. Ellery Laquihon, Southland College President Juan Antonio Villaluz, and Pastor of South Harvest Church Ptr. Hesper Escober.

South Harvest is the new partner Church of The Lighthouse Christian Ministry through Partners in Evangelism International. They have sent help during the typhoon Yolanda Response and latest, for the earthquake that happened July 6, 2017. We feel so blessed to have built a good relationship with them.

### **Children Ministry Continues**

Back in February, we started a children ministry where we cater the children in NGA community. These are the children that usually spend their day just playing around the street. After 6 months, relationship has been established and they started to see the people in the church as friends.

They have been very punctual and have been zealous in attending our weekly story telling session. They are





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learning stories from the Bible, elementary songs, moral values, and discipline. There are still a lot of things to do. But it is already rewarding to see these children starting to learn how to pray.

#### **Lighthouse Christian Ministry – Merida Launched**

One of the best news there in the field is the launching of the latest addition of the newly planted church in the town of Merida, Lighthouse Christian Ministry – Merida. It started in a very humble beginnings. It is mainly composed of the relatives of one of our pastors from Guintigian. Together with other pastors, they started a Bible study in Brgy. Tinago and baptized several new believers after 2 months of Bible study.

The launch was witnessed by some of our fellow workers from Panay island, Ptr. Zonita and Ptr. Rob. They visited us to learn and to see what we have been doing in the ministry. They came together with our PIEI Director – International Ptr. Ellery Laquihon.



Behind is the initial building setup.

Now they are striving to put up a small gathering place where they can start worshiping God together. The place is not much, the materials will be made of light materials. But the seed planted in that area will continue to grow. Please pray for our new brothers and sisters from Merida.

### How to Lead a Bible Study New Batch



In August, yours truly also launched the new set of Bible Study leading trainees. They are composed of young people and young adults who has the desire to serve and lead people to Christ both in discipleship and being a good influence.

The training mainly covers the book of Ephesians as the main Bible study material, basic inductive Bible Study, strategy in handling Bible study effectively, and strategy on proper relationship building for with the Bible study group. These lessons will equip them not only for Bible study leading but also for leading our growth groups.

The main idea is, we will be able to strengthen our man power when it comes to Bible study leading. So we do hope more members will be equipped in leading a Bible study group.

The new batch is expected to start their own Bible study groups soon enough after the training process. It will be an individual project at the end of the training.



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#### Baptism on September 10, 2017

It's another year and it's another opportunity to share the gospel, disciple and grow. Despite of many setbacks that happened in the first and second quarter of this year, God blessed us with another opportunity to have a baptism this 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of the year.

We baptized 3 new believers this September 10. Two weeks after our baptism, Tongonan group also baptized 10 new believers.



LCM Tongonan baptized 10



LCM - Ormoc baptized 3

### **Prayer Requests:**

- 1. Pray for the on going Trauma Care for earthquake survivors in Tongonan.
- 2. Pray for the upcoming Medical Mission on November 24-25 and DRRM training.
- 3. Pray for the recovery of earthquake survivors so as our two churches who have been greatly affected, LCM Milagro and LCM Tongonan.
- 4. Pray for the construction of the new comfort rooms in LCM Ormoc.

PS. Would you like to be a sponsor of <a href="www.TheDisciplers.com">www.TheDisciplers.com</a>? The Disciplers is a blog started by yours truly around 7 years ago. It has been visited by thousands of people who seeks answers from various issues in Christian life. Currently, we are even offering sermon outline preparation tutorials for people who are subscribed in my website.

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Ptr. Vincent Olaer