

Mission Results January to April 2023

LOCATION	Baptisms	Ready for Baptism	Bible Studies	Vistitation
Apoc Apoc Aborlan Palawan	18	11	18	
Isla Verde	4	3	7	9
Negros Occidental	20			
Mauban, Quezon, Lucena	24	31	9	23
Pansoy		10	7	2
Dao		8	17	10
ORIENTAL MINDORO				
Bulalacao	63			
Binli			yes	
Balditan Stats not in yet			yes	
Labayan/Calatis.	16		yes	
TOTALS	350 people	185	63	58

BAPTISMS: Above is 1st Quarter 2023 January to March in our missions. We also helped two other mission groups who had many baptisms. In this 2nd Quarter there have been 33 more baptisms in Mindoro, and we don't yet have figures for the other areas.

Apoc Apoc Barangay Apis Aborlan Palawan

This area was the focal point of mission 2023. Within the first three months of 2023 there have been 25 baptisms with 4 more ready for baptism and there is at least another 18 people accepting Bible studies. The new membership is currently worshipping in a bamboo hut.



The photo on the left is a small dwelling that we have built for the Pastor in Aborlan.

The plan is for Essence of Health Ministries to help build a permanent church from funds raised from donors. The estimated cost is \$9,700 AUD of which we have already received \$6,000 for

this project, leaving \$3,700 yet to raise. The local Filipino pastor in the area has donated the land for the church building.

CURRENT PROJECTS TO FUND:

- **PALAWAN:** Church Building, Brgy Apoc Aborlan Palawan \$9,722 less \$6,000 already raised leaves a need for a further \$3,722 AUD
- **CHURCH PLANT** Manghero San Andres – There is an Evangelistic program planned before the end of this year. The funds needed for this project are \$4,000 AUD.
- **San Miguel MAUBAN Quezon:** We are currently raising funds to purchase land for the new church to be built at this location for \$6,944. So far, we have received \$500 towards this project leaving \$6,444 AUD to raise.
- **BIBLE WORKERS:** Bible workers are critical to the success or every outreach we do. They start visitation 3 months before and evangelistic program and stay on until the new church has become truly established with its own functioning leadership. We then send in a Bible worker trainer to train church members in the hands-on process of evangelising their area and planting new churches. The stipend for a Bible Worker is \$280 AUD per month. There is a great need for sponsors of Bible workers on an ongoing monthly basis. If you choose to sponsor a Bible worker, you can choose to interact with them via social media.

San Augustine Isla Verde Batangas



This is a smaller island off the coast of the island of Luzon. Luzon is where the city of Manila is located. Isla Verde is a Spanish name and simply means island green or green island.

A church was built on this island in 2013 but due to not having a pastor able to visit very often and no Bible worker or trained leadership the congregation fell away. When Edna went there with Pastor Fegalan, from the South Central Luzon Conference to run revival meetings most who attended were new people from the community. Over just a few weeks the remaining membership of just three people was swelled to 25 or more people. Immediately following the revival meetings there were 4 baptisms with 3 more ready for baptism, plus another 7 receiving Bible studies and more than 9 additional people accepting visitation.

We have had one Bible worker on location for some months and recently added a second. They are both busy with visitation and Bible studies as the people are very open to studying the Bible. The Bible workers need somewhere to live so we have built a small dwelling place on the back of the church. The \$1,000 cost of this project has been covered by a recent donation.

Negros Occidental

We support the local pastor with funds to assist the cost of evangelism. He is truly a dynamo and filled with fervour for Christ. He runs evangelistic programs almost back-to-back ongoing and is constantly baptising people. In the first three months of 2023 there have been 20 baptisms and more will be taking place very soon.

Mauban Quezon

We started evangelism in this location in 2022. When our Bible workers first started, they were a little discouraged because only a small handful of people came to listen. After prayer and just two weeks the numbers coming had swelled to around 70 people.

We have a temporary church in this area so that people can meet and worship. The nearest church is a well-established church in the town of Mauban and the membership and pastor support our work in the outlying rural setting in Mauban district where the new membership is now meeting. It is just too far for them to travel to the main church in the town. In the first few weeks of evangelising this area where there has not previously been a Seventh-day Adventist presence, the number of new people worshipping in the temporary church is greater than the number meeting in the church in the town. The temporary church now has 38 baptised members of which 24 were baptised in the first three months of 2023. There is another 31, ready for baptism, and nine more studying the Bible and another 23, accepting visitation.

We are currently raising funds to purchase land for the new church to be built at this location in San Miguel Mauban Quezon \$6,944 AUD. So far, we have received \$500 towards this project.

Pansoy and Dao, San Andres Quezon, Luzon

This is the area that we evangelised in 2019 and built a church to the glory of God. Builders flew in from Australia including some from WA and the Mt Barker SDA Church. The main church in Pansoy is now well established and with our support and the work of faithful Bible workers a new congregation has been established in Dao, some distance away but in the same region. In the main church there are over 60 members. A good number more than that have been baptised in that area but transferred out to other places to find work. In the new temporary church, there are now more than another 20 members with 8 more currently preparing for baptism and another 17 having Bible studies.

We are planning an evangelistic series in Dao before the end of the year. The funds needed for this project are \$4,000 AUD.

Zamboanga Mindanao

The membership in this area has built a new church but have run out of funds to be able to put a roof on the place of worship. The cost to do this was \$700 AUD and this project has now been completed.

Padilag Bulalacao Roxas Oriental Mindoro

During covid we funded Bible workers through the South Central Luzon Conference to evangelise an area in Oriental Mindoro among the Mangyan people (Aboriginal people in that part of the Philippines). We needed to help one of the new congregations with funds to build a wooden church at Padilag Bulalacao Roxas Oriental Mindoro at a cost of \$2,500 AUD, and this project is now complete.



Other churches built in Mindoro

Labayan church project has now been completed



Benli church has been funded by Adventist World Radio in an area evangelised by Essence of Health Bible workers.

Bible Workers

The success of all the work we do is the result of prayer, the power of the Holy Spirit and the God ordained work of the Bible workers we fund. We send them into a new area to visit the locals and find Bible studies three months before we do any evangelistic programs. We then bring in medical teams to meet the needs of the people in the area: Medical help, dentistry, and optical help, as well as training in using natural remedies that can be done at home at no cost. We then follow up with evangelistic programs for adults and for children.

We have very dedicated hard working Bible workers some of whom reject paid holidays and one Bible worker doesn't accept a stipend because he can live off the local gardens. They all work hard and many of them experience difficulties that we in the west would maybe not accept. Some of them walk through mountain areas for four hours just to minister to various groups. Many of them also live in very small living quarters and some live in houses that we might not think would come up to the standard of a backyard garden shed. All readily done for our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Most of our Bible workers could not live and work without a stipend and would have to get a job elsewhere that though it may earn them more money would take all or a significant portion of their time that would detract from their work for God. It costs around \$280 per month to support a Bible worker and we are looking for people who would like to sponsor a Bible worker. If you choose to do this, you may wish to correspond with the Bible worker you support via social media and get ongoing insights into their work and the blessing that God gives in souls being readied for the second coming of Jesus. The Bible Workers produce a never ending stream of baptisms.

Australian Donors

Essence of Health Ministry Great Southern Incorporated

Bendigo Bank

BSB: 633000

Account: 205 660 244

Cash donations can be handed to Russell or Edna

International Donors

Use details above plus Swift Code: BENDAU3B

Alternatively contact Edna to walk you through setting up a World Remit Account where the fee per transaction is only about \$1.99 instead of \$30 for bank-to-bank transactions using swift code.

MIRACLE ON ISLA VERDE

Edna and Jade (a nurse), were running a children's program when they were interrupted by someone rushing in and breathlessly saying, "quick we need your nurse – someone is having a heart attack."

When the nurse arrived at the village house the patient was already limp down one side, unable to speak and lapsing in and out of consciousness. Her BP was through the roof – 200+/100+

Then the nurse called for a substance to shock the patient back into functioning – heart and brain – chilli. They quickly crushed and brought the hottest they had – Devil Chili.

Edna and the nurse stayed in that house all night attending to the patient who showed a little improvement but was still paralysed down one side.

Within 48 hours the patient appeared quite normal. Absolutely no disability, no signs of having had a stroke and was out harvesting bananas as a gift for those she said saved her life.

What you need to know at this point is that they were on an island. The only hospital was on the mainland and the sea was up – no boats were moving that night.

The nurse was also a medical missionary and familiar with herbal treatments and immediately ordered the onlookers to get her a blood thinner and product to quickly bring down the blood pressure – crushed garlic. A with it patient may not be able to handle that well when stuffed under your tongue but I guess if you are almost dead that doesn't matter.

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Praise God.