

Healing Hands: A Successful Medical Mission in Barangay Pansoy, San Andres, Quezon



Essence of Health Ministry with the medical team and volunteers during the medical mission at Pansoy, San Andres, Quezon on January 7, 2023.

On January 7, 2023, a successful medical mission was held at Pansoy, San Andres, Quezon, organized by the Essence of Health Ministry in partnership with the South Central Luzon Conference, local churches, and healthcare professionals. This mission aimed to provide free medical services to the community, addressing various health concerns and improving access to healthcare for those in need, following the example of Jesus Christ, who healed and served the community during His time on Earth. A total of approximately 769 individuals were served during the event.

The medical team offered a wide range of free services, including general medical consultations, dental care, ophthalmology (eye care), pediatric consultations, blood testing and blood typing, as well as minor surgeries. In addition, free medicines and vitamins were provided to patients. The team consisted of 13 volunteers from the Essence of Health Ministry, 17 volunteer doctors and nurses, and several volunteers from churches in the Bondoc Peninsula District 3, who all played crucial roles in ensuring the mission's success.

The total cost of the medical mission amounted to Php 100,000, excluding the service

contributions of the volunteer medical team. The mission was а collaborative effort that demonstrated the power of volunteerism and essential healthcare services brought to а community that otherwise might have lacked access to such care. Reflecting the heart of Christ's ministry on Earth, the Essence of Health Ministry, alongside its dedicated team of volunteers and partners, is committed to continuing initiatives like this to serve communities in need and spread hope and healing to those who need it most.



Mrs. Edna Walker, the overall coordinator of the medical mission, delivers a heartfelt thank you message while the doctors and medical team continue to serve patients during the medical mission.



Faith and Healing: A Life-Changing Mission Crusade in Dao and Pansoy



This photo was taken during the final night of the nightly crusade in Dao on January 10, 2024.

9n January 8-19, 2024, two successful mission crusades were held in the sitios of Pansoy and Dao, San Andres, Quezon. These crusades were organized by the Essence of Health Ministry in partnership with LIGHT and the local churches of the South Central Luzon Conference from the Bondoc Peninsula District, aiming to spread the gospel and provide medical assistance to the community.

9n Dao, the crusade was led by speaker Emerson Garcia, while Pastor Experegion Fegalan spoke during the crusade in Pansoy. Both events featured powerful messages that touched the hearts of many attendees. Over the course of the crusades, 19 individuals made the life-changing decision to be baptized, committing to follow Christ and His teachings.

During their stay in San Andres, the volunteers from the Essence of Health Ministry, along with health missionaries, went beyond the crusade events to serve the community. They visited the sick, offering both spiritual and physical support, and played a significant role in helping many



recover. The volunteers also conducted children's programs, ensuring that both adults and children were reached with the message of hope.

The event received support from churches all over the Bondoc Peninsula District, who helped provide the manpower necessary to ensure the success of the mission. The total expenses for this mission trip amounted to approximately 14,000 AUD, which covered travel, materials, and the provision of health services to those in need.

This mission crusade demonstrated the power of faith and service, as it not only brought healing to the body through medical assistance but also nourished the spirit through the gospel of Christ. The Essence of Health Ministry remains committed to continuing such outreach efforts, spreading the message of love and compassion to communities in need.



The speaker in Dao calling those who are willing to be baptized during the final night of the crusade.



Growing in Faith: Bible Workers in Action at Dao Church



The Dao brethren gathered one Saturday afternoon for the Voice of Prophecy lesson led by Bro. Norly Comighod.

By the grace of God, the young and growing church in Dao continues to thrive. reflecting Through a commitment to spreading God's Word and nurturing spiritual growth, the congregation experiences both spiritual and holistic well-being, fostering a vibrant and thriving community that grows in faith and strength.

Voice of Prophecy Every Sabbath Afternoon

Svery Sabbath afternoon, the Bible workers, Bro. Norly Comighod and Bro. Lapid Yuson, faithfully conduct the *Voice of Prophecy* program. This initiative has become a highlight for Dao church members, deepening their understanding of God's Word and strengthening their faith journey.



The Dao church brethren, together with the Bible workers, actively participating in home visitations every Saturday afternoon, reaching out to the sick and those interested in baptism.

Bringing God's Love to Homes

Beyond church walls, the bible workers extend their ministry through heartfelt **home visitations**. Whether visiting individuals preparing for baptism or offering prayers for the sick, their presence brings comfort and hope. With listening hearts, they lend encouragement to those facing challenges, embodying Christ's love in action.

Training the Newly Baptized

Recognizing the importance of leadership within the church, the Bible workers focus on training newly baptized members to lead in **Sabbath worship**. This effort empowers the new members to grow in faith and service. The vision is clear: to equip today's learners to become tomorrow's mentors, ensuring a sustainable cycle of growth for Dao church.



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The brethren actively participating in the Sabbath worship at Dao Church together with the brethren from Talisay Church.

Support from the Zone of New Jerusalem

The Dao church receives valuable support from the Zone of New Jerusalem, as its three member churches take turns every Sabbath to accompany and encourage the congregation. This collaborative effort fosters unity, providing much-needed spiritual support as the church continues to grow.

Reaching the Community Through Radio

*F*aking the message of hope beyond the church, Bro. Norly and Bro. Lapid host a local radio program every second Sunday of the month. This broadcast serves as a powerful tool for evangelism, touching lives in the community and sharing the love of God with a wider audience.

A Church on the Rise

Through the dedicated efforts of our bible workers, and the support of partnering churches, Dao church is steadily flourishing. Their mission to nurture faith, build leaders, and share God's Word in the community stands as a testament to God's work in this vibrant, young congregation.

As the seeds of faith take root, the church in Dao is a growing light in its community—one visitation, one prayer, and one broadcast at a time.



Bro. Norly and Bro. Lapid broadcasting on the local radio program at Dao church.



A Call for Prayer and Support

Let us join in prayer and support for our Bible workers, and the brethren of Dao Church as they continue to grow in number and in faith. May God's guidance and strength empower them in their mission to spread His Word and nurture the spiritual lives of all those they reach.

We also extend our heartfelt thanks to the generous sponsors who support our Bible workers, helping make their ministry possible. Your contributions are a blessing, and we are deeply grateful for your continued partnership in this important work.



Spreading Love and Nourishment in Tadian, Mountain Province



During the feeding program at New Lubon Elementary School, as the pupils waited in line to receive their food.

The Essence of Health Ministry, In partnership with the Mountain Provinces Mission, conducted a series of impactful feeding programs in Tadian, Mountain Province, as a testament to God's love for the children. These events were held at Lubon Elementary School on November 28 and December 12, 2024, and at New Lubon Elementary School on December 9, 2024. The Essence of Health Ministry allotted 30,000 pesos for these feeding programs, with a budget of P5,000 allocated for each feeding.

The programs provided not only physical nourishment to the children but also a sense of community and care. The Masla brethren graciously volunteered their time and efforts to ensure the smooth execution of these programs, exemplifying their dedication to serving others. \mathcal{P} astor Richard Sardual, assigned to the Tadian District under the Mountain Provinces Mission, played a vital role in coordinating these efforts. His leadership and guidance reinforced the mission's commitment to extending God's love in meaningful, tangible ways.

The beneficiaries of the feeding program expressed their heartfelt happiness and felt truly blessed by the love and care shown to them. Through these feeding programs, the Essence of Health Ministry continues its mission of sharing God's compassion and hope, one meal at a time, leaving a lasting impact on the children and their families in Tadian.





Building Faith, Brick by Brick: Apis Church Construction



The current structure of the on-going church construction in Apis, Palawan as of December 15, 2024.

The church construction in Apis is progressing steadily. The foundation has already been completed, ensuring a strong and stable base for the structure.

The metal framework, which will support the roof, is currently under construction, signaling significant advancement toward the completion of the building.

9n addition to the construction efforts, Angel Olino, a dedicated Bible worker, is present in the area to support the spiritual needs of the community during this transformative period.

The progress reflects the collective commitment to establishing a place of worship that will serve as a beacon of faith for the community.



Gratitude and Appreciation

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the sponsors of the Apis church construction. Your generosity and unwavering support have made this project possible, laying not just a physical foundation but a spiritual haven for many. Without your kindness and dedication, this dream would have remained unfulfilled.

We also lift up a prayer to God for each of you. May He bless you abundantly, grant you good health, and continue to guide and sustain you. May He multiply your resources so you can remain a channel of His blessings to others. Your faith and love have sown seeds of hope in the Apis community, and we pray that God's grace will be with you always. Thank you for being an instrument of His work!



Story of Faith

I was thankful and blessed to be part of the Essence of Health Mission Trip 2024 in San Andres, Quezon. At that time, I was in my mission field in Isla Verde, Batangas, but when Ate Edna invited me to join the mission trip, I gladly accepted. That month was cold and during the rainy season, but praise God, when we held the medical mission, the weather was fine, which allowed most of the residents to come and avail themselves of the medical services offered.

During the medical mission, I met Nanay Ofelia, a stroke patient who was using a rod staff to support herself as she walked. When I saw her, I immediately helped her and accompanied her to avail of the medical services. After her check-up, I asked her, "Where is your house, Nay?" She said, "Just there," then I asked, "Can we visit you tomorrow?" and she agreed. The next day, we visited her and did hot and cold baths on the affected part of her body. We also held Bible studies before the hydrotherapy, and after that, we massaged the affected area. After the treatment, she was able to move her hands and feet more easily and she improved day by day until she decided not to use a rod to walk anymore. We also invited her to come to church every Saturday because we found out that she was already an Adventist with her daughter. She was baptized many years ago, but she had stopped attending because her daughter was studying away from her and there was no one to accompany her. So, when we invited her, she was very excited, and when the Sabbath arrived, she came very early to walk with us to church. I loved seeing Nanay Ofelia not missing the nightly meetings. I pray that she continues to attend church and is properly nurtured by the pastors, Bible workers, and the brethren.

Meanwhile, during the children's program and nightly evangelistic meeting, it rained most mornings, but in the afternoon, before the program started, the rain would stop. It would rain again during the meeting, but stop when the program ended. God is so good to control the rain so that everyone could go home safely and not wet.

I was blessed to be partnered with Tita Cora in handling the children's program. It was our first time working together in this ministry, and I was blessed by her prayers, advice, and love for God, especially since she lives in Canada. On the first day of the children's program, there were only a few children, but as the days went by, the number of children increased. We were happy to see them coming early to help us clean and prepare the chairs, and even staying after the program to help. I loved how the children listened, participated, and continued singing the songs that we taught them, even outside, teaching younger children what they had learned. On their graduation day, we were happy as they presented their memory verses and songs they had prepared, with their parents there to witness what they had learned.

The most awaited event for me was the baptism, where attendees of the nightly evangelism surrendered their lives to Christ and accepted Him as their personal Savior. A few days later, we left Quezon, and it was the saddest thing, but our prayers were with them.

After a week of rest, I was supposed to return to Isla Verde, but I noticed small red marks on my back. I thought they were just pimples, but every day they increased in number and size. I developed a fever and headaches and eventually realized I had contracted chickenpox from some of the children. When I was there, I made myself close to them and addressed their every need because I wanted them to feel the love of God for them, but I got infected. I thought I would not have it because I thought I had already had it when I was young, but I was mistaken. My mother told me that those were just measles. I suffered for almost three weeks with fever, headache, itchiness, pain, and deep scars all over my body, which made me think I would not return to Isla Verde because of my scars. But God reminded me that what Christ experienced was far more than this, so why should I be ashamed if I got this while doing His will in serving and teaching children?

In the fourth week, I returned to Isla Verde to continue serving God. Now, God has sent me to a new mission field here in Palawan. I was blessed and amazed at how the Lord works in the lives of others and in mine as well.

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Story of Faith

The moment when the invitation to speak at the crusade was offered to my fellow pastor in Pitogo, Quezon. Three weeks after the invitation was extended to him, he informed me that he was not allowed by the leadership to go to San Andres because there would be no one left to take care of the brethren in Pitogo while he was away. Another reason he was not allowed was that his assignment was in Pitogo. With just one week remaining before the crusade, there was no other speaker available, so our health director, Pastor Fegalan, decided that I would take his place.

At first, I felt uneasy because I had no experience speaking for such a long period, especially for two weeks. I told Pastor Fegalan that perhaps someone else could do it. I felt unqualified and lacking in knowledge. But Pastor Fegalan reassured me that he had confidence in me and that I could do it. So, I accepted the invitation. As the days approached, I became more nervous, and I prayed to the Lord, asking if I was worthy of such a service. I prayed that He would give me the courage I needed.

On Sunday morning, January 7, 2024, at 3 am, I was about to travel early to San Andres. I waited for the Barney bus, but unexpectedly, I was not allowed to board. The bus passed by, and the next trip wouldn't be until 9 am. I went back to Ate Cecile's house to rest and sleep. I waited for the next bus, hoping I wouldn't miss it. When I saw the bus approaching, I thought I was in luck, but once again, I was not allowed to board. I was frustrated and didn't understand why this was happening. I had to wait for the next bus. Fortunately, a van passed by, and the driver offered to catch up with the bus since it would stop at the next town, Macalelon. We caught up with the bus, and I thanked the driver for his help. As I boarded the bus, I found the last empty seat. I finally arrived in San Andres around noon and met Pastor Fegalan, who was conducting a medical mission.

After that, there was a meeting led by Ma'am Edna Rivera Walker. She asked if I had any experience with crusades, and I told her that I only spoke during midweek, vesper, and Sabbath, but I had never spoken at a crusade. She then asked if I was ready for the crusade, and I answered, "I'm excited," though deep inside, I was nervous. We arrived at the venue for the crusade in Sitio Dao, and I was introduced to the congregation, who warmly welcomed me. I prayed, asking the Lord to speak through me.

As the evening came and more people gathered, I thought I could start with an energetic and happy greeting, similar to what Brother Jek (Jericho Valdez) does. He is our Bible teacher in San Rafael, San Pablo, Laguna, and also our elder. I followed his approach. At first, I was nervous, but soon I became comfortable. I enjoyed speaking in front of so many people. I realized how fulfilling it is to share the Word of God. In the mornings, we visited people with Ate Edna to perform water therapy. She taught me how to do it. One person we helped was Tatay Boy, who had suffered a stroke seven years ago. Every day, he gained more hope that he could recover from his illness. We prayed continually, believing that through the Lord, he would heal.

I also made many new friends. Each night of the study was a blessing to those who listened, and it was a blessing to me as well, as I continued to grow in the love of God. With the help of the Lord and the Holy Spirit, the crusade in Pansoy and Dao was successfully completed. The crusade led to the baptism of nineteen souls, including the granddaughter of Tatay Boy. I thank the Lord because He guided each one of us. I will never forget this experience. All I can say is that it is truly a joy to serve in the Lord's work. Sometimes, we think we are not capable or worthy, but because of the Lord, He strengthens us and gives us the wisdom to use our talents for His work.

-Emerson Garcia

Healing, Serving, Building: Preparing Hearts for Christ Return



Story of Faith

I am assigned to Tadian, Mountain Province. I am currently visiting 50 individuals who are interested in baptism, with the assistance of Bro. Daniel Macario Christopher Rosel. We are working together at the evangelism site, and according to our observations, things are going well. However, the real challenge is the need to focus on the people, as pagan practices are still common, and they are not easily accepting the truth.

We have been conducting feeding programs and gift-giving events. The Essence of Health Ministry generously provided 30,000 pesos for the feeding program. What is truly heartwarming is that even the parents have been helping with the cooking. We were able to bond with them, and they got to know the Seventh-day Adventist faith. Even the principals and teachers joined us in this activity.

In Lubon, we now have a worship service, with 7 people attending, and sometimes up to 12. For a planter like me, that number is already encouraging, and I am truly happy to be part of this ministry and to witness the growth of God's work here.

-Pastor Richard Sardual

Bible Workers in Our Mission Field

- \Rightarrow Pansoy, San Andres, Quezon–1
- \Rightarrow Dao, San Andres, Quezon–2
- \Rightarrow Tadian, Mountain Province– 2
- \Rightarrow Apis, Palawan–1

Call for Prayer and Support

We seek your prayers and support to complete the church construction in Apis, Palawan. Your generosity will also help sustain ongoing and upcoming projects. Every contribution, big or small, makes a difference.

As **Essence of Health Ministry**, we are committed to reaching people, preaching the gospel, and preparing the world for Christ's return. Join us in this mission of faith and service.