



# WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

Your generous gift today helps promising scholars to become leaders.

Courtesy Photo: Ellery Paraso Ortiz



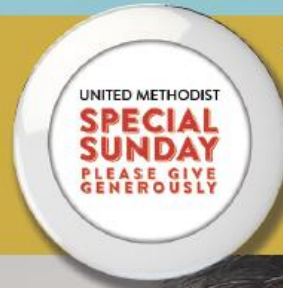
“WE ARE NOT ECONOMICALLY BLESSED, BUT BLESSED WITH TIME AND TALENT FOR THE LORD.”

ELLERY PARASO ORTIZ, WORLD COMMUNION SCHOLAR



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— Proverbs 19:8, NRSV



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# YOUR GIFT HELPS PROMISING SCHOLARS BECOME LEADERS

Ellery Paraso Ortiz is proud of his family's long, involved history as Methodists, which stretches back to 1902, three years after the first Methodist church in the Philippines was planted in Manila.

A scholarship funded by the churchwide World Communion Sunday offering is helping him pursue a deeper understanding of his church's heritage from a Filipino perspective. It's an understanding he plans to share with others, so that a remarkable heritage can inspire a resilient future for his church and nation.

After earning two history degrees, Ortiz now focuses his attention on Methodism and church history. He wrote a published paper in 2009 on the church's role in the development of Filipino nationalism during the first two decades of American rule there (1898–1918). During his research, he discovered a need for more documenting and publishing of church history with Filipino perspectives and "with a different kind of methodology ... to offer pastors, deaconesses and laity a different way to view their ministries," he says.

His own life has been steeped in ministry from his childhood in Manila, having served in leadership roles at local, district and conference levels.

Ortiz chairs his annual conference's Archives and History committee. "We are praying to organize the United Methodist Historical Society of the Philippines."

Studying at the University of Santo Tomas, where he is learning to be "meticulous and critical in research and analysis," has broadened his awareness of historical sources and modern perspectives. More than anything, he wants to "document this part of the world and make it known."

The World Communion Scholarship, funded by our gifts on World Communion Sunday, may help Ortiz make known worldwide the story of Filipino Methodism in ways that can inspire new, indigenous perspectives on ministry and mission.

## YOUR GIFT TODAY MATTERS

Your contribution supports World Communion and Ethnic Scholarships and Ethnic In-Service training. The World Communion Sunday offering makes a difference for people like Ellery Paraso Ortiz. Thank you for your generous gift!

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