

Visayan Island Ministry

December 2011

Brent and Chris Ralston P.O. Box 65 6014 Mandaue City, Cebu Philippines Email: ralstonbc@gmail.com



Pastor Jason receiving his plaque of acceptance in CBAP

CBAP Biennial Conference

Our Conservative Baptist Association of the Philippines (CBAP) Biennial

> Conference was held on November 28 to December 1 with over 700 delegates from all over the country converging upon Cebu City. It was a fantastic conference with challenging messages from the Word, mean-

ingful worship, inspiring testimonies and reports, practical ministry -oriented workshops and seminars, warm fellowship, and many opportunities for networking. A highlight was the acceptance of 45 new churches into the association, including four Filipino churches in Canada and one in Hong Kong and an Indian church in Metro Manila. Of the 45 new churches, 6 of them came from our region of the country, including our daughter church in Umapad, Mandaue. Our goal was 11 new churches but we are thankful for these Our association of churches now has over 600 churches and 1 fellowshipping group comprised of another 183 churches. The goal is to have 2025 churches by 2025. We are thankful to be part of such a forwardthinking organization that still considers its priorities to be evangelism and church planting. Although it was an exhausting time due to Cebu being the host city and having extra responsibilities, it was a real encouragement to us personally.

Romil & Nena Deloso

Nena suffered her second stroke in the last 6 years with a blood clot on the brain. After a few tense days and much prayer, it was discovered that the blood clot can be treated with medicine. Due to catching the stroke early on, and getting to the hospital immediately, it was not as life threatening as it could have been. Nena was released from the

hospital after only six days but faces three months of rehabilitation as her speech and left were greatly arm Pastor Romil & Nena were our partners in planting New Life Community Church for nine years before the first stroke. and are now church planting on the island of Bohol. Please pray for her continued

rehabilitation. And we are praising the Lord that the almost \$2000 that was needed for the hospital bill and rehabilitation costs has ALL been given by churches and concerned individuals right here in our region. What a blessing and testament to the Body of Christ.

2012 Budget

We have been able to help 23 church planters with minimal monthly financial support in 2011 through your generous gifts and donations throughout the year. Many of these have struggled under the economic burden that they face, and without our help, some of them would have to quit the ministry. So thank you for your generous giving and faithful praying for these servants of the Lord. As we look towards 2012, we know of at least 2 new church plants taking place, one in a major city

center, and another 3 church planters that need financial help immediately. We anticipate needing to raise an additional \$3000-\$4000 in 2012 to cover our budget (so far \$900 has been given). If you sense the Lord's direction to help at this time, please send your gift to: World Venture, 1501 W. Mineral Ave, Littleton, CO 80120, and designate your gift for "Phil-Visayas Church Plant Develop Special Project #6420-925." As the Lord has so faithfully provided in the past, we know He will provide

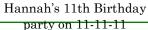
what is needed again. And please continue to pray for the many micro finance projects that are underway with our church planters. It is our desire to see them at least partially self-supporting in the next year or two.



Hannah Moment

In discussing our Intercessors letter one evening around the dinner table, we were talking about possibly including a "Pastor of the Month" column. The question was raised as to how we would select the pastor for each month. Hannah's suggestion was that we pick the pastor with the greatest *iniquity* ("ah, Hannah, I think you mean *initiative*").







Merry Christmas

We want to thank all of you for your faithful prayers, generous giving, and encouraging partnership as we close the doors on another year of ministry here in the Philippines. Although it can be discouraging at times, God is clearly at work in our midst and we are grateful for the opportunity to have a small part in what God is doing here. We trust all of you will have a blessed Christ-

mas celebrating the birth of our Lord. Christmas will take on a special significance for us this year as we will spend Christmas Eve in Bethlehem. Yes, you read that right...we will be visiting Chris' two sisters and their families in Turkey and Israel from December 8-29. As you think of us, we would ask for prayers for safety, smooth connections of all airline flights, good

health, and a great time with family visiting the Biblical lands.

