



The Bruce Rice Family

In the Philippines

Field Address

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Sending Church

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Mission Board

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December 4, 2014

Dear Pastor and Church Family:

Since arriving on Mindanao Island in 1986, by the grace of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, we have established two churches and two Bible colleges. From 1986 to 2001, we lived in Cagayan de Oro City, establishing the Lapasan Baptist Church and the Lapasan Baptist College and Institute. From 2001 to the present, we have lived in Dipolog City, establishing the Westside Baptist Church and the Westside Baptist College of Ministry. In addition to the two churches we have personally started, we have also assisted graduates of the two Bible colleges in starting churches. Now, we are planning and preparing to start our third church.



On Sunday, January 11, 2015, we will begin having morning and afternoon evangelistic services in the town of Molave (Moo-lah'-vee), a sixty mile drive through the mountains south of Dipolog City. The drive takes about 90 minutes but offers some beautiful scenery along the way. Molave has a population of 50,000 and is the largest town in Salug (Sah'-loog) Valley, an agricultural area with a total population of over 170,000 people.

Last month we rented a two-bedroom house in Molave to use for services and for housing for the married couple that will be assisting us. We have invested much time and expense to clean up the property and renovate the house to make it presentable for services and livable for Bro. Loper Asenda, his wife Ellen and their daughter Zia. We really appreciate the staff and students of WBCM because they have done much of the work for us. The renovation and final cleaning should be finished by the end of December.

Initially, our two families will be driving down on Friday afternoons and then coming back on Sunday evenings. We will not yet be able to live in Molave full-time because of our continuing work with Westside Baptist College of Ministry. Even though I am no longer the pastor of Westside Baptist Church, I am still the executive director of the college and teach several subjects. Bro. Asenda and his wife are also involved in the college and in various ministries of the church. Eventually, Bro. Asenda and his family will move to Molave permanently, and then he will travel back to Dipolog City once a week to teach. At that time we will be able to begin mid-



week services.

We also rented a small, furnished apartment in Molave for Jeanne, Emily and me. It will not be feasible to stay in a hotel or lodging house each week and have to eat out so often. In addition, it is inconvenient to live out of a suitcase every week. Adequate housing in Molave has been very difficult to find, so we thank the Lord for providing both a house and an apartment. During the week we will continue living in our house on the college property in Dipolog City.

In addition to preparing a meeting place and housing, we have been gathering together the many material things that are needed to begin a new church. Some of the things on the list are: building a pulpit, Bibles for new converts, hymnals, tracts, discipleship lessons, teaching materials for children, plastic chairs for adults and for children, an electric keyboard, a whiteboard, electric fans, and an attractive sign. We are also making some over-due repairs on our vehicle so it can better handle the trips each week. We do not want a breakdown in the mountains. It is certainly an exciting and challenging privilege to start another New Testament church.

Of course the most important preparation of all is the spiritual aspect. This requires the work of the Holy Spirit in response to the prayer of God's people. Will you please pray with us for the new work in Molave, for our family and for the Loper Asenda family? Will you help us pray that God will prepare the hearts of many people to receive the gospel and that a strong church will soon be established in Molave? Will you pray that God will glorify Himself in that area and that the church in Molave will eventually become several churches in Salug Valley? Thank you and may God bless you during this holiday season.

Sincerely in Christ,

Bruce A. Rice
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