

# The Bruce Rice Family IN THE PHILIPPINES



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**Sending Church**  
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Dear Friends:

Our first fifteen years in the Philippines were spent in Cagayan de Oro City, on the northern coast of Mindanao Island. In the **summer of 2001**, we transferred to **Dipolog City**, in western Mindanao, to start a new church. A team of workers from Cagayan de Oro City went with us. A few weeks after arriving in Dipolog City, we had the **first Bible study** in our rented house. One year and three months later, the Bible study group was **organized into the Westside Baptist Church** of Dipolog City.



In **early 2003** the church bought two large, repossessed lots from a bank. After renovating one of the old houses that were on the property, the church transferred to the new location later that year. In **2007 construction was started** on a new auditorium. We began **using it in 2010**, even though it was far from being finished. In fact, the building is still not complete, but work continues a little at a time, as the church can afford it.

Last month, on **Sunday, November 17**, we celebrated the **20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Westside Baptist Church**. Preparing for that event became a sentimental journey, remembering many people and recalling exciting events from the past, and thanking God for His marvelous goodness and grace. Over the years, **635** persons have professed their faith in Jesus Christ through baptism. **Three other churches** have been established by WBC and **two new mission works** were started this year. Eleven former staff members are **now pastors**, and two former staff members are **foreign missionaries**. We marvel at what the Lord has done in this place. Thank you to the many **churches, pastors** and **individual Christians** who have had a part in this ministry. May God continue to bless you for the love you have for world missions.

November 19, 2022

