

THE BACHORIKS IN THE PHILIPPINES

December, 2011

Dear praying friends,

It is 6:00 AM. 9° F. Partial lunar eclipse. A cup of hot tea. An open Bible. What a way to start a Saturday, before loading up for a drive to central Wisconsin. We praise the Lord for the unusual life He is giving us this year. Thanks for your prayers during these days of travel, preaching, studying, and writing.

As the year draws to a close we marvel at the goodness of our Lord in so many ways: the gift of His Son to bring us into fellowship with Him; the gift of life and health to serve Him; the gift of safety in travel; the gift of music with which to enjoy life, be edified, and glorify Him; the gift of fellow-laborers to carry on the work while we are in the states; the gift of family and friends here, in the Philippines, and in many other parts of the world; the gift of God's word to guide us; the gift of prayer to communicate with our God; the gift of provision for all our needs and so much more; the gift of so many who pray for us. Thank you for being a gift of God to us.

Our furlough seems to be flying by in so many ways. Ruth is gaining much from her piano lessons and the conference she attended last June that will be a help in the piano section of our music program. I have survived and been stretched intellectually and musically through two graduate classes at the University of Minnesota. I have not yet taken any seminary classes - it looks like that will have to wait until we get back to the Philippines. Alicia has settled wonderfully into her new life and studies at Bob Jones University and the other children are doing well at Woodcrest Baptist Academy. The Lord has blessed our travels - precious times of renewed fellowship in so many churches, as well as with family and long-time friends. In addition, the Lord has also opened the door for us to present our ministry in several new churches.

Later in December we plan to travel to South Carolina to get Alicia and spend Christmas with my family, then we all will go to Sterling, IL, to spend New Year's with Ruth's mom before returning to Minnesota for the younger children to return to school. Alicia will get to spend a week with us before returning to Greenville. In the coming months we will visit churches in Minnesota, Illinois, and Kansas. Lord willing, at the end of January I will be in Mexico, presenting a music seminar at the church of old college friends.

Below you will find several on-going prayer requests - thank you for remembering us before the throne of grace. We trust you and your families have an especially blessed time remembering the incarnation of our Lord and Saviour.

Your fellow-laborers in Christ,
Doug & Ruth
Joseph, Julia, Lydia, and Evan

- 1) Please pray for co-workers and 3 graduates who are teaching our classes at BJMBC in our absence.
- 2) There are some complications about where BJMBC will be able to hold classes for the school year beginning in June 2012. Pray for God to open doors and provide a location. (The Lord has given a short-term answer to this need - the Bible college will be able to remain in its current location for a few more years)
- 3) We are living in Minneapolis, MN during this furlough. Please pray for safety as we travel many miles.
- 4) Remember the graduates of BJMBC as they serve the Lord as pastors, teachers,

missionaries, church planters, and lay people.

5) Pray particularly for church planting efforts in the southern region of the island of Palawan. This area is largely unreached with the gospel.

6) Please pray for an increase in our support level - we are now just over 80%

7) We are burdened for our children, Alicia, Joseph, Julia, Lydia, and Evan – that they hunger and thirst after righteousness.

8) Pray that we, Doug and Ruth, will be passionate about knowing Christ and becoming more like Him.

9) Please pray for special needs in the Philippines (BJMBC building and piano fund, van and motorcycle fund for our return)

10) Alicia is preparing to serve the Lord on a musical mission team from BJU next summer; please pray for the preparations and her needed support

11) Would you continue to pray for the work on the book - new working title - Biblical Musicology: a Handbook for Music in Missions