

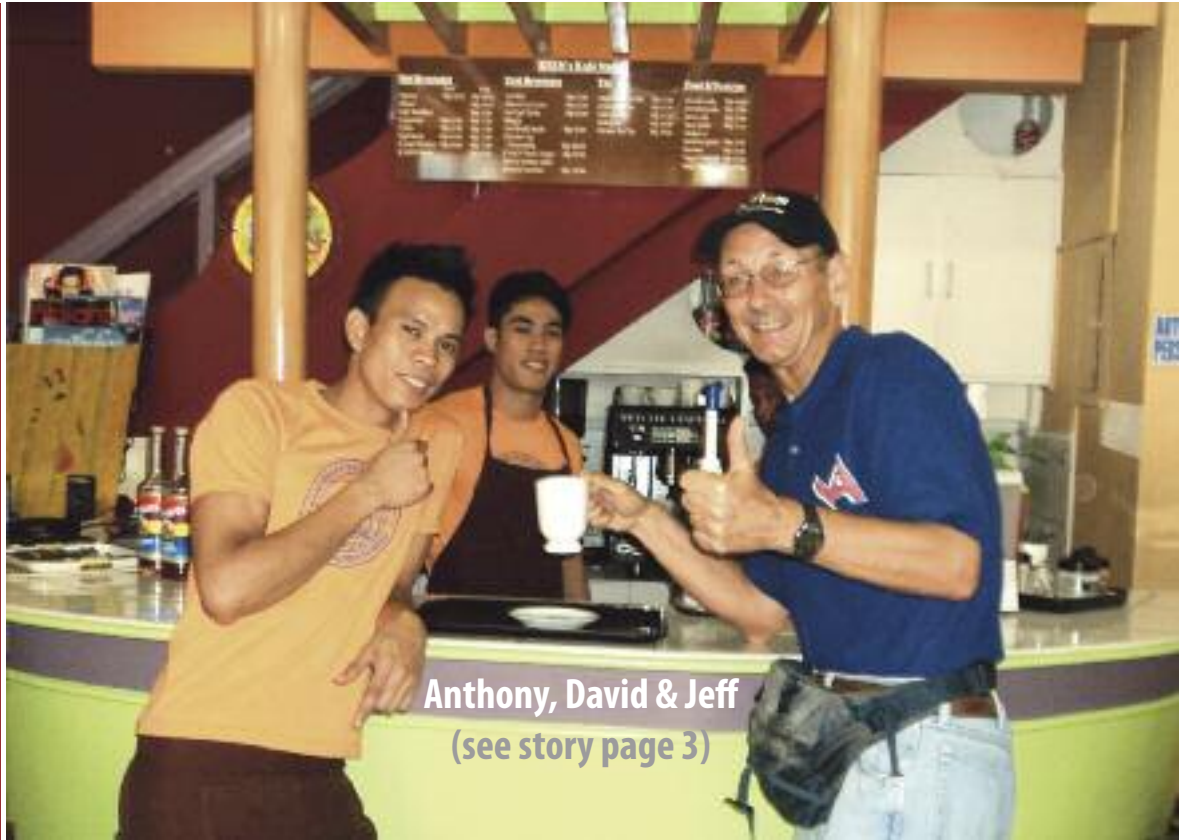
"Yes, LORD!"

Jeff & Mary Ann Anderson, missionaries for 25 years in Manila, Philippines with Action International Ministries

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What does the LORD require of you?
To act justly
To love mercy
To walk humbly with your God.
Micah 6:8 (NIV)

"The steps (delays and stops) of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way."
Psalm 37:23 (KJV)



Anthony, David & Jeff
(see story page 3)

Stay the course, contend for the faith

Delays: Eye surgery, funeral and getting affairs in order

Our return to Manila was originally scheduled for June 14, but was delayed due to a third eye surgery on June 8 to remove clumping on the macula. I was not allowed to fly while I had gas in my eye that was inserted during the procedure. Following the surgery I had two follow-up appointments with my doctor and she said the retina is fine but it could take six months for vision to improve to whatever grade it will be. Pray for healing because I see double sometimes with distortions and depth perception is off so reading is difficult and I can't drive. Pray also that we can find a retina specialist in Manila whom I'll need to see for ongoing care.

During our delay in Minnesota, when I wasn't sitting in our chair at a 45° angle because of gas in my eye, we did a few things which needed doing but couldn't get at before our original departure date. We were able to square away our Roseville apartment for people who are staying in it for the next two years, we updated our Wills, Health-Care Directives and Power-of-Attorney. We also attended the funeral of our dear friend Ron Carlson who unexpectedly went to be with the Lord on June 16.

Dr. Ron Carlson: steps into heaven

Dr. Ron Carlson was to be in Havana, Cuba when he entered heaven doing a conference for pastors with ACTION mission-

ary Brian Stewart and Pastor Dave Waters. For some unexplained reason from the Cuban government the team was not given their visas so their trip was cancelled. The guys eventually realized this wasn't our Enemy thwarting their plans but God redirecting their steps for some unknown good reason. Ron and his wife Marge then took some time to go to their cabin in Wisconsin. One afternoon as usual he laid down to take a short nap and he woke up in heaven with the Lord. Ron was 61.

Ron was a good friend through the years and he's one of the key guys who brought ACTION and Doug Nichols, ACTION's Founder and International Director Emeritus, to Edina Baptist (now Grace Church Eden Prairie) in the mid '80s. Mary Ann knew

Ron since junior high but I first met Ron and Marge in '85 shortly after they served in Manila with ACTION for a year doing Bible conferences particularly teaching sound doctrine in order to expose the false teaching of cults. In the Manila Bulletin, a major daily newspaper, he was nicknamed the "cult buster" because of his excellent teaching and exposure of false teachers and their groups. Ron always was a huge encourager of others and his favorite expression which I can still hear with his booming voice was "I'm all for ya!" and he meant it.

He and Marge founded Christian Ministries International, based in Eden Prairie, Minnesota, in '75 so their sons Pastors Jason and Jared will carry on with their dad's work by "earnestly contending for the faith" (Jude 3) worldwide. Pray for Marge, Jason, Jared and their families during their time of grief. It was an honor to hear many tributes given by Ron's friends and colleagues — many were from Cuban pastors who had come to love Ron from his previous ministry trips to their beautiful country.

We talked with Marge at the funeral home and she shared that although she doesn't understand why God took Ron now when the message of truth he was teaching is needed more than ever, she trusts that God will use others to continue contending for the faith. She was happy to learn we were returning to Manila soon so she strongly exhorted us to "stay the course."

Steps: Family time

Our delay also enabled us to have a few extra days with our kids. Mary Ann and I left Minnesota for Spokane, Washington June 27 and we had a sweet time with Danny and Micah (our daughter) Scott who live there, Amos our son who flew up from Pasadena, California, Danny's folks Chris and Janet and his brother Bryan. It was sweet because each of us are where we should be, following Christ.

Stops: None yet

We left Spokane July 6, arrived in Manila the 7th and hit the ground running. Although Mary Ann was sick with severe vomiting and diarrhea for several days, we got a lot done and are back into our lives and ministries here. The major "to-do" we got done was buy a Hyundai i30



We enjoyed hiking in Riverside State Park near Spokane with Amos, Micah and Danny

"Whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked."

1 John 2:6 (ESV)

after doing much research. We needed to buy a small vehicle because when we moved into a smaller apartment last year our assigned parking slot also became smaller. We chose a vehicle with some power, a diesel because it's cheaper here and can get through flooded streets and a hatchback which will allow us to carry gear. We're pleased with our purchase and I'm itching to drive but can't! We purchased the car using funds we received from the sale of our previous vehicle, donations received for our vehicle project and personal savings that we're trusting the Lord to reimburse as donations continue to be given. At this time we're still needing \$5,000 to complete this project so we ask you to prayerfully consider sending a gift to the ACTION office nearest you listed on the back page.

Our personal monthly support is creeping up so we're at 90-95% for which we thank the Lord and you who are giving. We ask you to prayerfully consider joining our support team if you haven't and send your gifts to an ACTION office. We're grateful for each gift, regardless of size, because they're given with sacrificial love and prayers for the Lord's glory, the advancement of His Kingdom and the good of those He's called us to work among.

Feeding hungry children

Currently we have 23 six-month feeding sites under the supervision of partner churches in cooperation with local health workers and officials. As food is available from Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) or funds are in-hand we start

new sites because trained church workers are waiting their turn to start. Recently we received word from Maple Plain Community Church, who supports us, that they'll join Grace Church Eden Prairie in sending us FMSC food so this is a huge help! Some people have asked how they can assist us feed the hungry but aren't able to send FMSC food. The cost of a site by purchasing food at a local market is \$3,400, which includes all other related expenses for 60 kids.

July 18 our team sponsored a community health workshop for many pastors and church workers. Government and non-government health workers and medical professionals taught on various aspects of community development, which was very helpful. We saw a documentary on hunger in the Philippines, especially in far-flung provinces, and we were shocked at how wide and deep it is and getting worse. *We, along with our partner churches and agencies, are committed as God enables, to feed the hungry with nutritious physical food in one hand and in the other soul satisfying food from the Word of God.*

We are looking into how we can partner with Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF) in using their excellent materials and tap their expertise in ministry to children and their families. They also want to tie-up with us because they want to minister to children-in-crisis so we're working this out as I write. Our first step is we helped sponsor seven pastors and 10 workers from 11 churches in our network to a five-day in-house training on how to use CEF's materials.

Linking our ministries

August 1 we opened a feeding site using FMSC food in Banaba, San Mateo, Rizal which was overwhelmed by typhoon Ondoy in September '09. Since Ondoy, which killed several people and wiped out many homes in this low lying area along the Marikina River, we've done major relief operations, had a large medical clinic, distributed Gallon of Care school supplies to students who lost everything so they could resume their studies, helped a partner church conduct a first ever Daily Vacation Bible School for kids, held evangelistic Christmas parties for all ages and had a feeding in a different area of Banaba. The fruit of all this work is lots of community goodwill and a new church of about 30 families called Christ's Blessed Gospel Ministries, which is overseeing this new feeding.

We're not involved directly in planting churches but when people trust Christ through our ministries of mercy in partnership with a local church they want to gather together for instruction in the Word of God, corporate worship and participate in the ordinances of believer's baptism and the Lord's Supper. When I saw the very simple place where Christ's Blessed Gospel Ministries gathers for worship on Sunday afternoons with an open Bible on the pulpit, benches facing it, song sheets and announcements on the walls I was thrilled to be in God's house.

We learned recently that Community Bible Church whom we visited in Lebanon, Oregon is sending three boxes of Gallon of Care packs. The children in their DVBS program this summer put the packs together. What a tremendous encouragement to all of us!

A satisfying cup of coffee!

Recently I visited KSEM Kafe which is part of Kanlungan sa Erma's ministry for street kids. Kanlungan sa Erma (Shelter and an abbreviation for the Ermita-Malate districts of Manila City) is a partner ministry we helped start 23 years ago and they opened KSEM Kafe in February as a training program for their graduates. I was served a great cup of coffee by Anthony and David, two former hard-core trouble-makers who came to Christ at a camp years ago recruited by Kanlungan, after which they went through our Honest Hands life skills

discipleship ministry at 2nd Mile. Now they're serving great cold and hot coffee, which was grown, dried and roasted at Kanlungan's farm along with delicious pastries. I'm a coffee lover and this cup of coffee was actually more than great it was satisfying to my soul to see David and Anthony serving the public instead of being a public nuisance.

Evangelistic camping

The theme for our camps this year is "I Shine" with the verse Isaiah 9:2 so all our teaching is built around this theme. June 15-17 we had 32 street kids recruited by eight participating churches join our camp. All the kids indicated they trusted Christ as Savior and are being followed up.

August 3-5 we had an evangelistic camp with 53 street kids, with 44 indicating trusting Christ. Serving at the camp were five partner ministries and a team of eight from Bethany Baptist Church in Red Deer, Alberta and a World Team missionary from Australia. They did very well mingling with the campers and handling their jobs such as morning exercise, team building course, skits and songs.

October 5-7 is our last camp. It was originally September 14-16 but we have too much going on in September to give it our full attention so we postponed it.

Following are two camp testimonies:

1. Jerry (age 17): I have been through many trials after my mother got married when I was in 3rd grade. I have not seen my father. I have 3 step siblings who are grown up. They are good to me and I have no problems with them. My mother is a housewife

and my stepfather is a mechanic who is sick and doesn't have a fixed income so we are financially unstable. I only finished my first year of high school because my family cannot send me to school. I joined the Alternative Learning System (ALS) program sponsored by Jabez Community Christian Fellowship. I realized that I don't have a future with my gang and prayed that God will change my heart. I heard the Gospel at church and attended services but I didn't understand the Gospel. At camp the speaker clearly explained what salvation is through Christ so I thank the people who encouraged me to join camp. I am ready to be a disciple of Christ, continue my studies through ALS and learn a livelihood skill.

2. Melvin (age 17): Before I was fond of fighting, would go home late at night and wouldn't obey my parents. I've been in jail and a heavy drinker and smoker. I thought about my sins and wondered how I could be forgiven but now I realize God is here and has forgiven me through Jesus Christ. I am listening to God and following the guidance of my counselors because they're helping me with my future. I really thank the Lord Jesus because He's listening to my prayers and if it wasn't for Him I wouldn't have attended camp. Now I know how important He is to me and I am to Him.

The plight of the poor

Since we arrived in Manila it's rained hard just about daily because it's monsoon season. Some days it is very hard to

**Pastor Peter Erratt
from Bethany Baptist
Church joining
a camp activity.**

**"The people walking
in darkness have seen
a great light; on those
living in the land of
the shadow of death
a light has dawned."
Isaiah 9:2 (NIV)**



move about the city due to flooding and I see street people looking for shelter under bridges and awnings trying to stay dry. The day after we opened the new feeding in Banaba we were pummeled by driving rain and the Marikina River was close to overflowing so people were evacuated to higher ground. Such is life for the poor masses of Metro Manila. Even July 7 around midnight when we were going to our apartment from the airport I saw many street families in their push-carts and kids with their bikes and side-cars piled high with recyclable plastic bottles, scrap iron and other stuff which they bring to junk shops for a few pesos. This is the daily life of millions and reminds us over and over of our calling and task to minister the Gospel of God's grace and Christian compassionate care to the poor. We are your hands, feet and heart and thank-you for continuing to send us. I pray we *never* lose our sense of *urgency* and *passion* even after all these years of life and ministry in our sprawling adopted city.

Evangelistic Christmas parties are seriously fun

In October we'll start planning this year's evangelistic Christmas party ministry for street kids and their families, prisoners and rural and urban underprivileged families with our partner ministries. The first week of December the parties will start and run possibly into early January if we have the funds. This year our team's budget is 16,750, which covers food and gifts while our partners recruit the party-goers, host the activity and are responsible to do the post-party follow-up. Evangelistic Christmas parties aren't a stand alone ministry but a major link in our chain of ministries through-out the

year by providing a jump start to an outreach or a boost to one that's taking place. While the parties are filled with Christmas fun we are serious about preaching the Good News of Jesus Christ, helping people turn from sin to the Savior and connecting them to a Christ exalting church. Also if someone needs special intervention we'll help them get it. Each year I'm amazed how God uses these parties as a means to draw people to Christ and boost ministries such as in our Banaba story. As the Lord leads your family, Sunday school class, office or school you may want to adopt this vital ministry as a project. If you do get a hold of us for more information if you want it and you may send your donation to the ACTION office nearest you.

Walking with Mary Ann

A journey toward a desired destination starts by taking the first step, followed by one step in front of the other. In September '77 I started my life-time of full-time ministry when I joined Midwest Challenge (MWC), in south Minneapolis, where I served through '84. That same month I met Mary Ann who worked with young women caught up in drugs, alcohol and prostitution while I worked with guys involved in similar lifestyles including prisoners and the homeless. In '78 Mary Ann went to Niger for nine months to serve with Sudan Interior Missions (now Serving in Mission) while I stayed with MWC and helped open our center in Willmar. When Mary Ann returned we got reacquainted and to make the story short through the wise counsel of her parents and mine, along with pastors Bob Ricker of Edina Baptist and Herb Franz of St.

Paul's Evangelical Free Lutheran Church we married December 21, '79.

After leaving MWC we went through missionary training under the mentorship of Pastor Woody Phillips the missions pastor of Edina Baptist at the time and Missionary Internship in Farmington, Michigan (now Missionary Training International in Colorado Springs, Colorado) for nine months while we raised support. Then on December 5, '85 we left Minneapolis for Manila in a major snowstorm with our two little kids, Amos and Micah, and haven't looked back since.

Through all the ups and downs of life and ministry Mary Ann remains a reliable partner and God has proven Himself over and over to be faithful to His call upon us. Walking with the Lord Jesus, with Mary Ann at my side over the years, has been an adventure just as I promised her it would be in '79 when we took our first steps together.

Mary Ann is now on our team's Council which serves to advise our field director Mike Gingerich. I was on the Council since 1988 and while I was field director she was ineligible to serve in this capacity. Now she can and will do an excellent job due to her years of experience in various capacities so pray for her and her colleagues as they serve our team.

Mary Ann also continues her on-line courses at Moody Bible Institute. Currently she is studying "The Church and Its Doctrines." She's getting closer to her goal of earning a Bible Certificate from MBI so pray she'll have concentrated study time and continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of Christ.



Action International Ministries

www.actioninternational.org/anderson

To sign up for our monthly "Yes, LORD!" email updates contact us at: jeff@actionintl.org. Visit our website for calendar items, updates, photos, blog and more details at: www.jeffmaryann.com. Gifts are tax deductible and may be sent to an ACTION office near you or go online to www.actioninternational.org/anderson. Giving may be designated for the following:

- Street Children Ministry (75031) • Disaster Relief and Development (75501) • Evangelistic Christmas Parties (75035)
- Fish & Bread Feeding (75504) • Camps (75040) • Anderson Vehicle Fund (40012G) • Anderson Support (40012A)

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