Ortiz Family Newsletter

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Life in America. Our family is continuing to adjust back to life in the USA. We are grateful that Ruth's mom has graciously allowed the five of us to invade her little home. Paul has started his own construction/remodel business (The Master's Trim LLC), and we are grateful for the work God has brought our way. We are so thankful that God provides opportunities for us to serve Him, whether we are here in America or across the world in the Philippines.

Continued ministry at Shalom. We sure miss our dear friends and daily involvement in ministry at Shalom. Thanks to skype and email, we have been able to keep in close communication with the team at Shalom as they move the project forward. The crew has been working hard, and the cement plastering of the interior and exterior walls will be completed in the next few weeks. Building engineer, Egay, is doing a superb job of leading the building project. Mark, a young man who was trained and discipled at ACTION's Working Hands ministry and completed his "on the job training" with Paul, is not only a diligent and responsible construction crew leader, but has also stepped up to lead morning prayer and devotion time. We are so thankful that God has raised up these two men to carry on and lead the work. *Please pray for the safety and spiritual growth of our crew.*

Trip to the Philippines. Paul will be heading back to Manila from April 9-May 6 in order to work with the crew on the final phase of the building project. He will also spend time helping to plan and schedule work for the coming months as the project is finished. In the last month, God has brought together 9 men and 3 women (from 3 different countries!) to serve together with us on this project for 10 days in April. The men will work with Paul and our crew to lay the cement grounds around the building. They will also work on tiling the bathrooms. The ladies will help with clinics, deliveries, and projects that are needed at the birthing home. Ruth gets to accompany the team and will make sure they are well fed and taken care of. She is also anxious to spend time at Shalom with new moms and newborn babies. *Please pray for strength and energy for Paul as he will be working long days during his time in the Philippines. Pray also that our team will be a blessing to others and bring much glory to God in our service to Him.*

The future of Shalom. We have enclosed a recently printed brochure about Shalom. We hope your hearts are encouraged as you read about the impact Shalom is having for the Gospel in this needy community. Thank you for standing together with us in prayer and financial support over the last couple of years. We are trusting God that this new facility will be fully operational by the end of the year!

Serving the Master Carpenter,
Paul and Ruth, Kai (11), Ryan (9), and Alana (7)

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