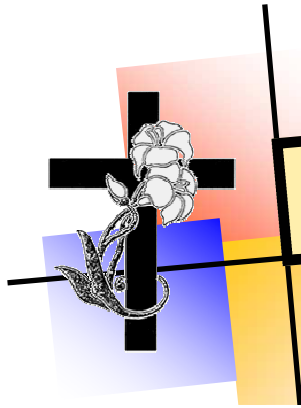


*For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.* Mark 10:45



# Winter Philippine Report

## Easter 2005

### With Servant Hearts and Servant Hands

Easter and the contemplative days that precede it speak of servanthood. As our Lord Jesus was concluding His ministry among men and women, He endured the horror of a Roman cross. Thus He demonstrated to all mankind for all time the extreme ends to which the love of God would go to redeem a lost world. Our Lord Jesus Christ as the Suffering Servant is the finest example of what a servant is. Jesus gave many examples throughout His public ministry with the disciples. Jesus is the Creator God Who made the universe and everything in it, yet He laid all this glory aside to become a servant among us. He showed us the life of a true servant.

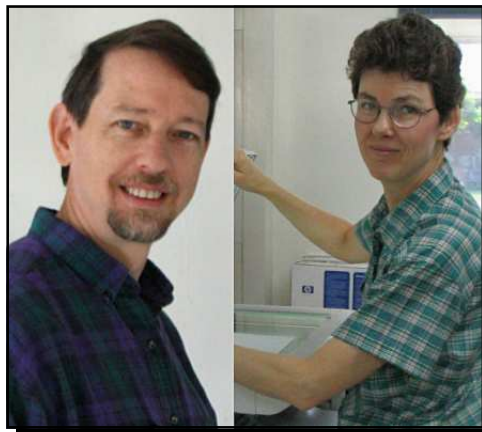
He is God, a sinless, perfect being. We are sinful and have more imperfections than we like to admit. How can we measure up? Yet Jesus encourages us to live by His example of love. He said, *"The greatest among you will be your servant"*. (Matt. 23:11) He also commanded us *to love one another*. (1 John 3:23b)

**Missionaries** come in many nationalities, shapes and sizes. They come from many walks of life. Some felt their calling as adults and some as children. Some have taken up this occupation after retiring from jobs in the secular world. There are too many for us to describe here other than a few examples, so we will write about three couples and a single man. They are servants who have come here and given of their time and skills to help move Bible translation forward.

**Glenn and Norma Bouwkamp** are the first couple. Glenn retired after a career teaching in public school in Michigan. Norma worked at home raising their children who are now grown and out on their own. Glenn and Norma have not had much time to enjoy their retirement years as it is normally viewed. Rather, they have been giving of themselves in volun-



teering overseas. At our southern center, Nasuli, they taught elementary school for four years and ran the children's home for two years. After some time in the US, they gave another three months teaching at a mission school in Davao, also in the southern Philippines. When they left Davao for the US, they wondered what might be next. Well, next was an e-mail from Sally asking if they were available to help finish the current school year. (One teacher needed to leave for family reasons.) They answered almost immediately and now are here teaching classes in the 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades.



**Trevor and Norma Douglas** are members of another mission group. They are from Canada and have been serving in the Philippines with their mission for many years. Cur-

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### Praise 'n Prayer

- Praise for each of the folks presented in our Easter letter. They and many more are daily giving of themselves for the cause of Bible translation.
- Praise for the large number of folks who sent Christmas cards this year. Each note of blessing encouraged us.
- Praise for peace and safety experienced by our field workers. Praise for the many safe miles of driving and flying. *The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear Him, and He delivers them.* (Ps. 34:7)
- Praise for our continued good health. Leon will be 64 this year, but he feels great with seldom any complaint. Sally too is doing very well. A daily two mile walk at dusk helps us stay fit.
- We give thanks for great communication with our family spread far and wide.
- Pray for Kristy as she looks for a suitable place to live and finds a Bible centered church near by.
- Pray regarding our school staffing needs. Sally is still looking for an upper grades teacher for next year. He or she needs to handle several subjects.



(Continued on page 2)

rently Trevor is the director of an indigenous Bible school located about 25 minutes drive from our Center. The Bible school is for speakers of a language group that SIL completed the translation for nearly 20 years ago. This is exciting in itself. But our focus is on Trevor and Norma as they volunteer to drive to our school every day to teach some subjects where SIL has been unable to fill the teaching needs. They are selfless people who actually tell us *thank you* for allowing them this privilege.



In the center of this picture is a young man from England who has come to teach 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade at our school. **Chris Sutcliffe** came from teaching public school with classes of 30 children to a class of two little boys! But Chris has handled this transition and also taken on the job of teaching P.E. for our whole school. Chris also teaches an English as a Second Language program for some Filipino young people as an after-school activity, and he leads a youth group for our junior high and high school kids on the center. In this picture he is with some of our own young people on an Outdoor Education trip to the Taal Volcano.



**Bob and Ann Owens** are dear friends with Barnabas International. Bob was a pastor for many years prior to joining Barnabas. They travel to many mission fields every year and usually arrive in Bagabag in mid-January. They spend about four weeks with us bringing encouragement, warm fellowship, and good teaching. They bubble over with the joy of the Lord and it just overflows to all of us on Center. Most of the year, we have no one who fills a pastor



Pictures used in the collage by permission of Microsoft office graphics library.

role among us. That's because we are mostly a technical, parachurch group with few trained in pastoral ministry. Bob brings serious, expository preaching that we hunger for. Ann brings the woman's side of the pastoral ministry and holds a weekend retreat for the ladies. Sally went this year and received a lasting blessing from it. Bob teaches a wonderful Sunday School class before church, and during church, before preaching, he has an exciting children's message—which the adults love too. Every kid in the hall hurries up front to crowd around him. It is so great to watch this event!



**This funny collage with linked hands** in the center demonstrates how we feel about you. **It represents all of you.** Yes, each of you who prays for us, writes to us, speaks to others about our ministry, helps with gifts toward our regular support needs is also the Lord's servant. Just as the space shuttle cannot do its work in space without an army of dedicated support people back on Earth, so, we cannot live and do the work of missions without the lifeline you provide. **Thank you!**

When the Apostle Paul was bringing the message of salvation to the Corinthians, he said, *For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.* (2 Cor. 2:2)

**We serve the King of kings**, we take no pride from what we've done, but only in the cross on which the Lord Jesus gave His life for our salvation.

**Christ is Risen—He is Risen Indeed!**

Leon  
and for Sally



*See the color version of our letter by going to the following web site:*

**[www.trinitynh.org/mis-winter.htm](http://www.trinitynh.org/mis-winter.htm)**

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*My lips will shout for joy when I sing praise to you-- I, whom you have redeemed.* Psalm 71:23