

Dear friends,

We just got back here in Cagayan de Oro City this afternoon after a 14-hour drive from the Zamboanga City Ministry Center. We travelled there Tuesday last week. Our original purpose was to see how we could effectively assist the Arena Blanco fire victims, who are members of our church, concerning their livelihood. When we got there, we learned that the city government has given them the go signal to rebuild their homes since they no longer can stay in the school building which served as their temporary evacuation area. The government gave each household a tarp tent material and 5000 pesos (roughly \$100). Rebuilding their homes became top priority. We would like to thank you for your prayers and financial assistance which made it possible for us to assist them in this urgent project. When they learned that they will receive housing aid, several of them could not hold back their tears. One woman asked if she could sing a song of praise (in Sama language) right there and then since her heart was overflowing with gratitude to God for His goodness and to you all for your kindness. They are truly overwhelmed by your lavish expression of concern for their plight. Thank you all from the bottom of our hearts.

We will go back on the second week of December. We hope to encourage and support them in their efforts to make a living. Again, we remain grateful to you all for making it possible to help these Sama brothers and sisters in Christ. This brings to mind 2 Corinthians 9:12-13 "This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. "

In Him,

Rene and Lani



Sunday Worship service at Zamboanga Christian Church



Rebuilding their homes in Arena Blanco



Houses on land



Houses on water (low tide)