

Mission: To create, support, mentor, and network for Christ worldwide!

# MPI Update

Mission Projects, Inc.

Vision: Working together so everyone can experience the love of Jesus personally.



See story page 4

*A mass baptism, where Brother Casio had a big contribution, is held in a pool.*

**Special Issue on Sowing & Reaping! Mar.  
Learning to Lean in 2015 Apr.  
2015**

# Update

## “Before the Crown Must Come the Cross”

**D**ear MPI Supporters,

*“Then said Jesus unto His disciples, if any man will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.”*  
(Matthew 16:24)

This was a hard lesson for the Disciples. They looked for an earthly kingdom, even though Jesus had said: “*My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence.*” (John 18:36)

Denying oneself and taking up the Cross of Christ is a hard thing to do. In our dog-eat-dog world, everyone wants to be doing their own thing; everyone seeks his or her own interests. As someone has said, "We need to let go and let God." We need to humble ourselves before God, doing *His* bidding.

This is what MPI is all about; reaching out in service to those in need and sharing the good news of a soon-coming Savior!

Ruth and I just recently returned from a Mission trip, which included Panama and Guatemala, where we held evangelism meetings. It is thrilling to witness men and women, the youth, and couples, give their lives to Christ in baptism, leaving their sinful lives behind and taking up their cross to follow Jesus. They commit their lives to Jesus knowing that "Before the Crown must come the Cross."

In His Service,

*Ed MacKenzie*



### MPI President's Update

***The MacKenzie's*** travel internationally, conducting Lay Evangelism. They are avid birdwatchers. Ed oversees the accounting department at La Loma Luz Adventist Hospital and represents Mission Projects position on the Hospital's board.

*Ed MacKenzie, President*

## No Way to Pay! Worthy Student Aid



Noemí slowly walked into the business office, her heart heavy with sadness. Her son Aldric's tuition bill could not be paid, and she would have to enroll him in public school.

Was she doing the right thing? Did God want Aldric to leave Linda Vista University? For weeks she had been praying, but no solution came up.

"I've come to pick up my son's documents" she sadly told the secretary. "We have no way to pay the rest of his tuition."

"Let me see" the secretary responded. "Aldric Hueda . . . I see no problem here" she said. "His bill is paid and he can finish the semester."

"What?" exclaimed Noemí. "How can that be?"

"Your son has worked hard, gets good grades and shows much promise. Donors of an organization called MPI want your son to graduate, so they have supplied the amount he needs" responded the secretary.

"Wow, thank you God!" exclaimed Noemí as she hurried to share the good news with her son.

Shortly afterward Noemí sent a message of thanks to MPI as well. Your **Worthy Student Aid** contributions *really* are making a difference!

(*To participate in Worthy Student Aid, see form page 11 or go to [www.MissionProjectsInc.org](http://www.MissionProjectsInc.org) and click on "giving"*)



### Have you checked out our website lately?

We have a whole new and updated presence on the internet and while a few pages may be still under construction, you will enjoy reading all-new stories of the countries where you are making a difference! Check it out today at [missionprojectsinc.org](http://missionprojectsinc.org)

# Philippines

Brother Pedro Casio

## MPI Bible Worker in Southern Philippine

*Psalm 126:5,6 They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.*

*As told by Tessie Aspe a retired teacher in Southern Philippine*

**T**his is Brother Pedro Casio, a hard working man who formerly worked for a printing press as a binder while supporting his way to college. Marriage took place when he was a junior in college, which eventually made him stop schooling to support his family. While he was working in the press, a deep desire to share GOD's word began to grow within him. He prayed and studied the Bible more earnestly, all the while asking God to help him share His Word.

Brother Casio attended several Bible study groups conducted by different ordained ministers and laymen. He keenly observed their different methods and personal dealings with men as they shared. All the while he was doing his own Bible studies with other people, too. Later, after many studies and observations, he developed his own Bible studies. He became well in demand in giving Bible studies. This time he prayed to God for a sign about his ministry.

The press needed to lay off some workers, so he resigned. It was then that he applied as a layman in Atis Church, and was readily accepted because the church had seen his active work.

His hard labor did not escape the eyes of men from the Union Conference. Pastor A. Asoy, who was the head of the Ministerial Department during that time, offered him a scholarship in Theology at South Philippine Adventist College, at the same time offering him a part time job as a layman while studying. This made him happy. But he had a big problem because of being out of school for a very long time; he could not speak English, although he could read and understand it. After four years of study and work, he got his diploma and became better equipped for the LORD's work.

He continues his Bible studies at every opportunity or he creates one. He is still working as a layman up to this time. Here are a few of the Bible students that made their decision for God.

*This white-haired man was a hired killer before knowing Jesus through the Bible studies given by Bro. Casio.*





*Nelia Bernardino, President of The Philippine Councilors League for Mindanao, studied the Bible with Bro Casio and was baptized.*



*Sister Nellie de la Pena, a former Catholic nun, after listening to Brother Casio's presentation about the Sabbath vowed to → follow Jesus by baptism.*

*18 precious souls accepted Jesus as their Savior after studying with Brother Casio in Makilala, South Cotabato.*



*General Santos City Traffic Enforcers receiving Bible studies from Brother Pedro Casio.*



**PRAISE GOD!** *Thank you to our generous supporters who help workers sow and reap in the Philippines!*



**Monthly Lay Worker Support in Philippines \$160**

# Thailand

## “Yes, I believe there is God”

By: Ana U Abendan



My body pain was gone after you massage my thigh with the muscle pain ointment.” the spirits’ priests’ wife said.

"Oh really mother?" we answered, as we welcomed her to come inside the center. We felt very blessed that day when she came to visit us and to talk about the healing that she experienced.

We talk and talk until we arrived to the topic about God. Her youngest daughter’s husband is a Sunday Christian. And she also shared with us the experience that her daughter experienced.

At that time her granddaughter was sick and they brought it to the hospital. She said that if her son-in-law believes in God, it must be that he will fully devote his time to God and must have his full trust in God and if he is like us who believe in spirits, we also should fully believe in the spirits, she explained. Now, when her granddaughter was sick, her daughter also commented about their beliefs. She said that if they want to be a full Christian, they should always go to church and do what Christians do. But we also go to Teacher Ana and Teacher Elma to have prayers, her youngest daughter answered.

By then we continued to talk about God. “Mother, do you believe that there is God?” I asked.

“Yes, I believe there is God. My husband who is a spirit priest even believes that there is God. But you know the old men and women like us, since we are young, offer something and do ceremony to our spirits so for me I cannot be a Christian.” She said.

“But are you willing to study the Bible with us?” I added. “If you want to share your beliefs with us, we can listen.”

"Will you listen to God's word that we will share with you?" So then, we just started to tell her about our God's great love to all people around the world, not only to Christians but also to her.

"Our God loves you so much and we want to share His great love to you. It is not compulsory but that you may just know about His ways." we told her.

"I think my daughter can take my place and if she wants to be like her husband she can quit believing in spirits and ending all the sacrifices and offer the last offering for the spirits and then can start to be a Christian like you."

"Yeah! We are happy to hear that and we will be happier if you want to listen also what she is going to hear about God. But anyway we just want you to know that God also loves you and not only your daughter. If you have time we can share again God's word to you. We are praying for your granddaughter." Then after that she also permitted us to pray for her and her granddaughter that was in the hospital.

We thank God that in that simple conversation, we shared the word of God. Elma and I are happy to see her enjoying talking with us though she knows that God and their spirits are different. We hope and pray that she can give us another time to share God's word to her the next time in her convenient time.

Please pray for the Mien people that they may understand how God loves them so much. We thank you for your constant prayers and help for the ministry in Thailand. God will bless us all and may our heavenly Father always be with us all the time.



***Monthly Lay Worker  
Support in Thailand \$170***

# Special Update

## Dream Big part 4 Mexico: San Lorenzo School

*In the previous three issues, we have shared the San Lorenzo school “Dream Big” story. For more than 32 years the dreams continue expanding as this little school in the remote mountains of south Mexico has provided a Christian education for hundreds of young people. Many have continued their education elsewhere and now can be found among leaders in God’s work throughout Latin America.*



**D**ionisio continues dreaming big, as do his children and grandchildren. They are expanding the campus by plenty of hard work, growing and selling crops, building fine furniture, creating handicrafts and a lot more.

Government officials praise San Lorenzo as a model school, the students often come out on top in statewide achievements, and little by little the campus sees steady improvement. A recent addition is the concrete basketball court—no more sliding around in the sticky clay mud!

This twelve-grade school for indigenous young people is making a huge difference, thanks to God’s leading, your support and a vision by people who choose to **dream big!**



*Dionisio continues to be active at the school, within his community and in villages beyond, planting seeds for God's kingdom, always with a vision to expand the Gospel message through Christian education.*



**Editor's note:** from the results noted in the above story, you can get a better picture of why we feel so strongly about supporting San Lorenzo's devoted teachers! MPI provides \$500 monthly for teacher salaries.

# MPI Directory

[www.missionprojectsinc.org](http://www.missionprojectsinc.org)

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## NEWSLETTER EDITOR

# PLAN AHEAD!

Helping you make plans for a future gift for your favorite MPI outreach is the essence of our Planned Giving Department! Here are a few ideas:

- **Name MPI as a beneficiary** of your IRA or 401(k) retirement plan, life insurance policies, or investment brokerage account.
- **Designate MPI as a dollar amount** or percentage beneficiary of your will or revocable living trust.
- **Transfer valuables** such as stamp, coin or antique collections to MPI through a simple change to your documents.
- **Get more income now** or for your anticipated retirement. **Plan a future gift option** that will pay you a generous, fixed income now for as long as you live, provide immediate income tax relief, and ultimately provide funds for MPI outreach!

To learn more, contact MPI Planned Giving at 866-356-5595.

## Lay Worker Support per month by country

Belize	\$350.00	Mexico	\$500
Philippines	\$160.00	Others	Varies
Thailand	\$170.00		

If you prefer to receive your MPI Update by email just send a note to:  
**[mission.projects.inc@gmail.com](mailto:mission.projects.inc@gmail.com)**  
to let us know. You will still receive your receipts by postal mail.

**Mission Projects, Incorporated (MPI)** is a supporting organization of the Seventh-day Adventist church, dedicated to spreading the Gospel by way of medical, educational, and evangelistic endeavors. MPI works in complete harmony with local Conferences and Missions, does not accept tithe, and is a member of Adventist-laymen's Services and Industries (ASI) and Outpost Centers International (OCI).

# Memorial Gifts

At Rest  
Woodard, Pauline  
By Warren Woodard  
David Gouge  
By Ed & Ruth MacKenzie



## Thailand, Huai Fai Village, Report to Date

**Baptisms:** There are 3 newly baptized members—it took more than 1 year for the first baptism. 18 adults and children now attend worship and study regularly.

### MPI-sponsored Lay Bible Workers:

Ana and Elma

**Background:** About 14 years ago, before MPI started working in Thailand, Brian Wilson, a young AFM Missionary, started working with the Mien tribe people. Some time later, Alejandro (Jhun) Cardeinte, a Filipino, and Mr. ChanChai started working with Brother Wilson in Huai Fai Village in Thailand. Jhun now oversees Ana and Elma, the two girls that MPI is sponsoring in Huai Fai Village.

**Other:** Bro. Kaoj, a newly baptized Mien young man is helping Jhun with translating and is also teaching English. He and Jhun help Ana and Elma some with their work in the village.

## MEMORIAL & SPECIAL OCCASION GIVING

Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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In behalf of: \_\_\_\_\_

Anniversary  Baptism  Birthday  At Rest  \_\_\_\_\_

Please send card to person below:

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City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: M.P.I. ♦ P.O. Box 504, College Place, WA 99324

## Yes! I'd like to help someone learn about Jesus!

*Please return this card with your tax-deductible donation to:*

**M.P.I., P.O. Box 504, College Place, WA 99324**

*Indicate amount donated to each fund*      \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Lay Workers

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ La Loma Luz Hospital (Belize)      \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Church Building Projects

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ San Lorenzo School      \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Church Roofs

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Bibles \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Literature      \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Use where most needed

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Worthy Student Fund      \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Other

I'd like to make my gift by charge card:  Visa       MasterCard

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Return Service Requested

39 persons baptized  
as part of Bro. Casio's  
Bible studies.



Brother Casio is  
one of the Adopt-a  
Ministers that  
MPI supports at  
\$160 per month  
in the Southern  
Philippines.

*See story page 4*



**and they spoke the word of God  
with boldness.**