



Pag-Asa News – December 2022: Christmas Initiatives

Hello dear ones,

Shortly I will take you along on my trip to the Philippines. But first, I want to tell you about our planned Christmas activities and news about my wedding, which I had to postpone. So let's journey together in a time machine which will first take us to the near future, and then (in Part II) travel back in time.

Born to Shine

We are now back in the dark season. The days are short, and the sun sets early. The darkness can sometimes affect the mood. How good the light of Christmas illumination and flickering candles do! Jesus also came into the darkness to bring light. He was born to shine, to be the light of the world. And He invited those who belong to him and live with him to carry His light into the world. We are all born to live in his light and to shine with it. We only need to invite Him to bring light into our darkness - His consolation into our disappointments and sadness, His victory into our failures, allow Him to shine His light on our trespasses against God and other people, to cleanse us of them and forgive us. Then He can also shine through us, and we can reflect His light. This is the Christmas message that we also want to pass on in word and deed in the Philippines. Therefore, if everything works out, we will give the children and young people T-shirts with the inscription "Born to shine" and a meal. We also want them to know about the light of the world. We will distribute packages of food and toiletries to adults.

A wedding with obstacles

I am sorry that I am only now telling you about my trip to the Philippines. The last weeks were not very easy for me. Ángel's and my wedding was scheduled for December 9 and 10. Since April we have been organizing the papers. In the last few weeks, we had a lot to do with wedding preparations. It was very exciting. But unfortunately, the bureaucratic process kept causing delays and the offices requested additional documents that had not been asked for initially. Ángel's visa did not arrive in time, so we had to postpone the wedding. As you can imagine, this was not an easy period. In addition, I had already moved because of the upcoming wedding, which of course took a lot of time as well. I am grateful to God for the beautiful and centrally located old apartment and feel very comfortable here. It was a godsend, as it was offered to me by friends who had moved out of the apartment and recommended us to the landlord. So, everything worked without problems - despite the otherwise rather tight and not very favorable housing market in Münster. God is faithful.

"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: [...] He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end. (Ecclesiastes 3,1+11; NIV)

Since it was my concern to get the German version of this newsletter on its way as quickly as possible before because of the upcoming Christmas activities, the continuation (Part II) of this letter was originally created and will be sent as a separate document, in which I report on what exciting things I experienced in the Philippines and mention current news and prayer requests. I wish you a wonderful Advent season and God's blessings! Thank you very much for your prayers and donations!

Warm greetings,
Sara-Lena

My work is based on donations. If you want to support Pag-Asa financially, you can transfer the money to the following account or donate via PayPal using the QR code. If donation receipts are desired, please send your address to Globe Mission (on the remittance or by email to claudia.vogel@globemission.org).



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