



TCM East Timor: Ministry Updates

January 10, 2024



James 4:6 – But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

Thanksgiving

1. Evangelism and Visitation



The gospel of salvation is gradually impacting the districts. Last month, we were able to visit the districts of Ainaru and Same which are 5 hours away from Dili, visiting relatives and friends of the church members. These visits were successful, and we even had moments of sharing. The most important thing was sharing the gospel thru personal evangelism to two



families. Although, we were occupied with various activities last December 2023, God blessed us by His grace in an amazing manner, even if other scheduled programs were postponed. There have been many things that we planned in our hearts, but the Lord's Will prevails. We cling to the guidance of the Holy Spirit of God regarding ways to share the gospel to the locals who have been blinded by darkness through their culture and human traditions. We keep on praying that they will be enlightened by the Word of truth and be more encouraged to learn and study God's Word.

2. Church members Choir



The church members were busy last December 2023, singing Christmas songs in some offices and in department stores with prayers and inspirational

words from the Team during the presentation. The activity impacted everyone hearing the joyful carols about the Lord Jesus Christ. It was mainly emphasized that our Savior was born as man, dwelt with sinners, died on the Cross and rose again in His glory. We upheld to them that Jesus Christ is the true manifestation of God's gift to humanity which greatly shows God's immeasurable love for sinners.

3. Worship Service



The local churches in East Timor are really struggling from persecution by the dominant Catholic religion. Until now, new Protestant Churches which are legitimately registered are not yet allowed to conduct any religious activities such as child dedications and officiating marriage ceremonies. These are the common concerns of Christians who transfer their membership to a duly established Protestant church (registered

way back 25 years ago) as they want these church ministerial activities to be conducted to their family members. ***Dedication/baptismal certificates and marriage licenses are among the major documents required for a citizen to acquire a passport.***

4. Bundles of Joy



The church had the usual giving of gifts to the members and some friends in the Christmas season. *The kids received complete school supplies during the Christmas day celebration. They are happy with these gifts and are more encouraged to study harder, considering the very difficult economic condition of this country. Also, the church has found ways for the parents, specifically the mothers, to find menial jobs for sustenance/family support. We praise the Lord that our friends have honored our church and the NGO as good references for job seekers. Here, parents at times, cannot attend worship services as they look for resources to meet the very basic needs for food. Another gift-giving was for everybody, where a member gave to each family, and the church provided a special collection of 2nd hand clothes.* This giving of gifts is the church's initiative since 2022 as one of the ways of caring and establishing rapport with the members.

5. TCM - NGO Scholars Finish School Year on Top of the Class



Our two scholars from the kindergarten topped the school year 2023 during the moving up ceremony on 15th December. Jeremy Eunico Soares and Alexandre Saavedra were first and second respectively, and garnered merit and other academic awards. The older Saavedra sibling, Maria Felicita, was also our 3rd scholar and on the honor roll while the older Octah Eunike Soares (partially supported) received the Singer and other awards. These kids were enrolled at a LIS (Christian School) where the missionary kids have been enrolled and where Ciony has been volunteering. Arsino kids, Jirah, grade 7, had her achievement awards, while John – grade 11 and Jack pre-K received merit awards. The school, Lighthouse International is in partnership with our NGO scholarship program which granted favors to our members' children. Praising and thanking God for His provisions as the parents of these NGO scholars are active in the church.

6. Church Conducts 2nd Leadership Meeting



As part of the leadership development of the church members, the second leadership meeting was conducted on December 8, 2023 with Pastor Gomer Indino as the main speaker. Pastor Indino shared his life story and the couple's ministry while they were in Brazil. Missions tips and words of inspiration were shared by Pastor Gomer and Ma'am Nene as they embarked on a new field assignment in East Timor. They are so glad with their desire to serve God in missions, their intention to immerse in living in this nation and to continue utilizing their gifts and skills with the locals. While the Team is hoping to see results in God's time, we are pleased to continue working with the church members as God leads. Pastor Aaron gave the facts on missions and elaborating missions as the heart of God. As part of this leadership meeting, the church has scheduled evangelistic trainings for 2024, so as their participation in the sharing of the gospel will be duly harnessed as we go along to peoples/places where the gospel is not yet heard/preached.

PRAYERS AND CONCERNS:

1. Pray for the coming evangelistic trainings for the members and leaders.
2. For the missionary kids' school year 2024 and their needs.
3. For the processing and approval of visas of Gomer and Nene Indino.
4. For visa renewal of the Arsino's and working permit.
5. For wisdom in pastoring the church with mixed cultures, languages and dialects and nationalities.
6. For trained leaders to be more built up in the grace doctrines and to have more leaders.
7. Sponsorship for one (1) Timorese scholar who wants to take a formal study in IGBI, Philippines.
8. School Registration of our two (2) NGO CY 2024 scholars.
9. For the NGO Financing project – agricultural farm that the Team has initially started.
10. The conduct of agricultural livelihood training program and recreation activity to the proposed community outreach.

[2 Thessalonians 1:11](#) – Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of *this* calling, and fulfill all the good pleasure of *his* goodness, and the work of faith with power:

For questions and suggestions, please feel free to contact us at:

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