

Philippine Missions

TOM & BECKY

December 2024



Here's what has happened in the last month!

As we reflect on the phenomenal results God orchestrated in the Deaf Community this year, we express our heartfelt gratitude to all of you who have sacrificed to support Deaf Evangelism in the Philippines. Thank you to pastors, churches, and all the individual benefactors that have helped make a dream and vision a reality.

The stark reality of life reminds us periodically of the purpose of this mission. In June 2023, we had just two weeks to help a UPC church in Dasmaringas, Cavite establish a Deaf Ministry.

After we moved to Cebu, Ruby, an interpreter from Tagaytay, would make the one-hour trip to Dasma, for their evening service, to continue this ministry. At the end of July 2023, Jun, a young Deaf man, was baptized and he received the Holy Ghost at the end of August 2023.

Jun was faithful in attendance at church and would travel to all youth events. The Sunday before Christmas, he was excited to attend the church anniversary service. On his way to church and walking to catch a jeep, he was struck by a car and died.





We began the month preaching at our home church in Cebu and baptizing a young Deaf man.

In Mandaue a Deaf girl was baptized after being invited to church by her friends.



The other 4 Sundays we attended the church of Brother Gequilan, our District Presbyter, in Cebu. Tom preached two of those Sundays and Becky worked with their fledgling Deaf Ministry. Also, we started to use the more experienced interpreters from Lapu-Lapu City to help. For the next few months, we will provide taxis and lunch for these interpreters.

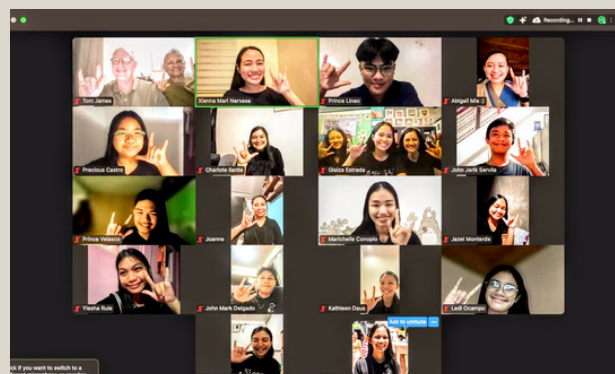
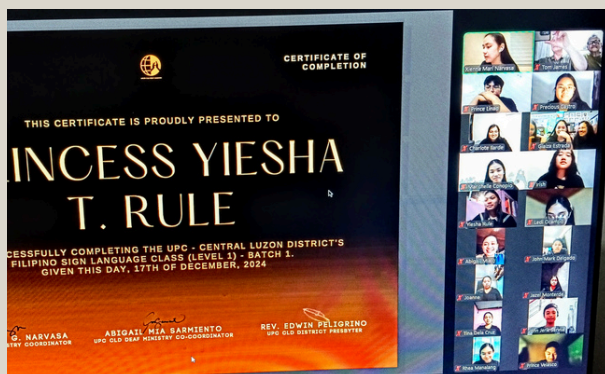


We were involved in two church anniversary services that needed help interpreting for the Deaf. At Mt. Zion, our home church, we had 31 Deaf in attendance, some traveling 2 hours for the service. Each Deaf family received a 5kg bag of rice for Christmas and clothing and toys that were donated by friends in America.

UPBI Graduation Ceremony



We joined fellow teachers and the graduating class of UPBI on December 16th. The students were thankful for the donated clothes we brought them. The girls were excited to have new outfits for their youth conference. The entire student body did an FSL presentation of the song "Goodness of God."



On December 17, we were invited to join an online ceremony to recognize 26 FSL-1 students who received certificates of completion for the 3-month course. Their teachers, Abigail and Xienna, were Becky's students a few years ago.



One desire we have is to develop a team of interpreters who could travel and spend 3 to 6 months in a city or district teaching FSL and Deaf culture, evangelizing the Deaf community, and helping churches start Deaf Evangelism Ministries.

In Masbate City there were 8 Deaf who had been recently baptized and one with the Holy Ghost and no interpreters in any UPC church.

After talking to Masbate District officials and the pastor of Cagba church, we approached Ruby about moving to Masbate to help this vision materialize.

Ruby's pastor supported her decision, and we agreed to provide a monthly salary and asked churches in Masbate to help her with housing and transportation.

During the month, Ruby, started FSL classes at Cagba UPC and online FSL classes. She interpreted for the Deaf at church and interacted with them and their families in Masbate. She has gotten some of the youth involved interpreting the songs and was involved in interpreting during their youth conferences in December.

“

*We want to thank all
of you for your love,
support, and prayers.
God bless you!*

”

