

Dear family,

It's been sometime now since our last update. But as it's been for the past five years, we have continued to be on the move.

Presently I (Kermit) am in Eagle Bend, Minnesota while Raquel is on her island of Caluya with her family.

Last week I was able to see my grandson for the first time. Michael, Shoni and Jude picked me up at the Twin Cities airport on Nov 15 and I got to enjoy the smiles of Jude. [Below: Jude with loving mom Shoni. My friends in the Philippines say he looks like me. However I'm still trying to figure out where those Scandinavian traits are. : ) Actually I don't see Michael or Shoni in him either. I just see Jude.]



After I wrote the above, Shoni sent me the below pictures of me, Shoni, and Jude side by side. I'll let you be the one to decide if Jude has picked up on any of my traits. Also would you say Shoni is a cross between her

dad and her son? :)



After a few days with Jude and company, I was able to hitch a ride to central Minnesota with my dentist buddy John who happened to be near the Twin Cities. Another close friend of mine, Chris Klein, is letting me use the upstairs of his insurance office, where he actually grew up. At one time this was an old Swedish Lutheran church that was converted into a home, with the insurance office downstairs. No one has lived here in the upstairs for about a decade, but it is nice and spacious and complete with refrigerator, stove, etc. Raquel will love this nice big kitchen. I also get to use their company car. Thanking the Lord for good and gracious friends. I'll be going back to the Twin Cities to join Jude and his parents for Thanksgiving. I get to hitch a ride to the Cities with yet other friends here in Eagle Bend. Raquel flies into the Twin Cities on

Dec 4. Our son Tim (who stays with his Aunt Marilyn in Oregon) flies in on mid Dec. and will stay with us until Jan 2. The reason why we will not be staying out on the farm (8 miles from Eagle Bend) is because we will not be in central Minnesota long enough to justify dewinterizing and winterizing again the mobile home - much more complicated here than moving in and out of a house in the Philippines. : )

Below you will find what we've been up to since our last update.

From July 26–Oct 4 - I was in Tacloban working with the Waray translators and being soccer coach in the late afternoons. Raquel was with me half the time. The other half of the time she was enjoying her new grandson in the Twin Cities, Minnesota (Aug 16-Sep 19).

Oct 11-25 - We were in San Jose, Mindoro, meeting with Bethany Fellowship concerning our upcoming school for 30 Mangyan kids next school year. Also met with the Taubuid teachers we've been training and overseeing.

Oct 25 – Nov 12 - We were in Calapan, Mindoro, working with the three Mangyan translation teams.

Plans:

December until first week of January: Be in Minnesota, sometimes in the Twin Cities with Jude and sometimes in the Clarissa/Eagle Bend area.

January through Feb: Plan to be at our SIL center in Dallas, TX.

March-April 25: Back to Minnesota.

[While we are in the above locations, Raquel will continue to work on the back translation of our Hiligaynon translation and I will continue to check our Waray and Mangyan translations and oversee our other various ministries in the Philippines. That is what is nice about computers and emails and Skype. One can continue ones ministries oversees from afar.]

April 25, 2016 - March 2017: Plan to be in San Jose, Mindoro overseeing a school for Mangyan kids. We'll send details of this in a

separate email.

Once again we thank you for your prayers and support and being our family and friends. The Lord continues to show us his graciousness to us daily.

Yours in His service and for His Word,

Kermit and Raquel Titrud

**Note our new phone #: [503-894-0745](tel:503-894-0745)**

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[With a separate note stating “Preference for the Wycliffe ministry #18655 of Kermit & Raquel Titrud]

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Read on if you are interested in more details (with pictures) of our time in Tacloban and on the island of Mindoro.

Below Jenny, Rebecca and Frances working as a committee going over books that were translated by their peers. For some reason I came out all white – maybe a prophetic picture since even though I won’t be with them for a number of months, my spirit is still with them and I get to communicate with them via Skype. They are almost done with the New Testament. Now for the most part they are working on the Old testament.



In this picture we also have Joel and Roy. Thanks for your prayers for this lovely team.





Our views looking southwest and north on the top floor of the missions building at the school compound where we were staying in Tacloban.



I enjoyed going to the pool in the middle of the above picture and especially appreciating the lilies in the pool. Another one of God's wonders.



Once again we had a great time with the translators on Tacloban and accomplished a lot. At 4 PM though I then put on my soccer hat and co-coached under 10, under 12, under 15 and head coached for under 18. It kept me very busy especially when the main coaches for under 10 and under 15 had to be gone for a period of time. I had fun scrimmaging with them as well. I thank the Lord that my body and feet still can handle playing soccer. But at 65 I can now feel that the recovery rate has slowed down considerably. I can't really play every day – more like every other day. Our under 18 team had the best overall record, but when we played the team with the next best record for the championship game, we lost 2 to 1. My guys were pretty down after the game, but I tried to reassure them that life is more than winning a game. Sure we did not get the cherry on the banana split but we still have the banana split. We still have our families and our team mates and we, your coaches, still love you, and most importantly we still have Christ. Maybe it was good we lost so I was able to share that with them.

Below: me on the left coaching the under 18, and below that the team picture – after we lost – so a number of the faces were not all that joyful.



Note: the second one on the right is Topher, who co-coached with me the under 15 year olds. Topher was one of my disciples from Nasuli days and besides coaching at this Christian private school, he also pastors in Tacloban and is presently working with Samaritan's Purse. (***Samaritan's Purse*** is a non-denominational evangelical Christian International Relief organization. [Founders: Franklin Graham](#) [son of Billy Graham] and [Robert Pierce](#).)



Once again we also had a great time with the Mangyan translators. I really appreciate the sacrifice of these translators coming down from the remote mountains traveling many hours to get to Calapan where we have our translation workshop and staying for up to three weeks away from family and living the most simple lifestyle. They continue to increase their ability in translating more naturally. I too am getting the handle of their language more and more. Taubuid is soooo different than the other Filipino languages I'm familiar with.



On our way to Calapan from Mindoro we stayed a couple nights at the family compound of Beth (our main Hanunuu translator). Below I had fun feeding the goats and ducks. The other time I was here I found out that goats love banana peelings. This time I was surprised that they also love mango peelings – including the ducks.



Below Raquel is enjoying the company of Beth and here family in their communal family home.



Below: enjoying family in San Jose during my 65<sup>th</sup> birthday party. Here is where Raquel and I stay when we are in San Jose, Mindoro. It is the home of one of her sisters. They though live mostly on Caluya, so Raquel and I usually have it all to ourselves. The young man on my right (with white shirt) is Jesson. He along with Topher was one of my soccer kids at Nasuli. He too we put through a seminary in Cebu and has been helping us for the past couple of years with our ministries among the Mangyans.



*Again*, yours in His service and for His Word,  
Kermit and Raquel Titrud