

# The Bruce Rice Family IN THE PHILIPPINES



## Field Address

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## Sending Church

Higher Plain Baptist Church  
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## Mission Board

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Harrison, TN 37341  
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423-344-5050

**March 20, 2024**

## **Dear Friends:**

The last two months have rushed by as we transitioned back to the Philippines after eight months in the United States. It never gets any easier saying goodbye to our loved ones, even after doing it so many times over the last thirty-eight years. The trip home was forty-five hours long, from the time we boarded the plane in Indianapolis, Indiana, until we pulled in our driveway in Dipolog City on the evening of February 22. That was the longest trip we have ever had between the Philippines and the States.

All three of us were glad to be home, but there was no time for jetlag. Jeanne and I were up early the next morning with a full schedule of things to do ahead of us. We have not stopped since then. I have already been out of town seventeen of the twenty-six days we have been home, and I leave again tomorrow for another five day trip. This trip will take me to the center part of the island.

Some areas of Mindanao are not safe in which to have vehicle problems, even more so when travelling at night. A dependable vehicle is vital and the peace of mind it gives is invaluable. Almost two weeks ago, I was able to buy a nice pickup truck through the generous help of Pastor Ryan Marsh and Faith Baptist Church in Berne, Indiana, and Pastor Larry Harvey, from Greenwood, Indiana. We are very grateful for their concern and the great blessing they have been to us.

Please pray for the on-going building program at Salug Valley Baptist Church in Molave, Zamboanga del Sur. That is the second church we started. Even though I stepped down as missionary pastor in 2022, I am still committed to helping them in the construction of this church building. We did not realize when we bought the property for the church, and then began the initial building design, that we were in the proximity of two earthquake fault lines. Consequently,



the construction costs of the building have been much more than originally anticipated. If you would like to help with this project that would be greatly appreciated by this young and growing church.

May God continue to keep you by His grace and bless you for the love you have for world evangelism.

**Bruce, Jeanne, and Emily Rice**