



THE UCMPFI NEWSLETTER

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**To the faithful family of the
Union Church of Manila Philippine Foundation, Inc.**

*May the magic of Christmas bring you
happiness, joy, and hope, and the warmth
of Christmas grant you love.*



...the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

Luke 2:9-14





CENEP children's assessment



It is the fourth month of the school year, and the CENEP children are now used to their daily routine. Following the Department of Education calendar, the children had their first quarter academic assessment in October.

Overall, teachers and parents report notable progress in the children's development academically, spiritually, physically, and socially. In the first months of CENEP training, the children learn basic skills, such as holding and writing with their pencil, counting from 1 to 50, recognizing letters and their sounds, identifying colors and shapes, drawing, writing numbers and letters, and even singing.

They also develop Christian values through the Bible stories that the teachers share. By the example of the Bible characters in these stories, the children learn good habits and behavior, including praying before meals which the parents say is initiated by their children.



CENEP children are provided with nutritious meals daily, and their physical growth is carefully monitored. At mealtime, the children learn to eat properly and are taught what kinds of food they should eat and avoid.

At playtime, the children learn to relate with one another, appreciate the importance of sharing, and perform the tasks assigned to them.

The assessments showed significant changes in the children's cognitive, motor, and social skills, an outcome which promises to prepare them well when they enter the formal school system.



GEESE and TRACE scholars' Bible study, quarterly evaluation, and field trip

The monthly Bible study for GEESE and TRACE scholars was held on November 9, 2024, with Mrs. Lily Torrente as facilitator. In addition to enhancing the scholars' knowledge of and relationship with God, the Bible study sessions also serve to bring the scholars closer to each other. They become aware that they share similar life situations and experiences. The sharing motivates them to persevere in their studies so that they can, together, achieve their goal of attaining a brighter future for themselves and their families.



After the Bible study, the scholars had their interview for their first quarter monitoring and evaluation. Apart from the regular volunteer interviewers from Union Church, the Foundation welcomed the participation of three college scholar alumni.



On November 23, 2024, the scholars had a treat of watching Repertory Philippines' production of *Jepoy and the Magic Circle* at the Repertory Theater in Eastwood, Quezon City. Being their first time at Eastwood City, they were fascinated by the lavish decorations of the place. After a filling lunch, they proceeded to the show and were greatly impressed by the artists' performance, the world-class production, and the extraordinary plot that revolved around saving the environment.



2nd Medical and Dental mission for 2024

The Foundation conducted the second set of its two medical and dental missions for 2024 on November 15 at Barangay Highway Hills, Mandaluyong City; November 22 at Barangay Tumana, Marikina City; and November 29 at Barangay Sto. Domingo in Cainta, Rizal. The number of individuals served in the three areas were: 188 in Mandaluyong, 241 in Marikina, and 210 in Cainta.

The Foundation gratefully acknowledges the participation of doctors and other volunteers from Union Church of Manila, the Barangay Sto. Domingo health unit, the Cainta municipal health department, and KliniQ on Wheels of Congressman Quimbo of Marikina District 2.

These biannual missions are made possible through the involvement of the CENEP partners, Harvesters Christian Ministry in Mandaluyong City, Marikina Christian Fellowship, and Saved by God's Grace Christian Fellowship of Cainta, Rizal. They set up the sites and invite their community to the missions.

We also thank the pharmaceutical companies Prosel Pharma, The Cathay Drug Company, and Sydenham Laboratories for their donation of medicines, vitamins, and food supplements.

Mandaluyong



Marikina





Cainta



UCM volunteers



UCM and Cainta volunteers

Do visit our website www.ucmphilfoundation.org to know more about the Foundation's activities and to participate in continuing to provide a better life to these children and young people. For your inquiries, please call (63 2) 8812-6062 or 8812-5609 or email us at ucmpfi@gmail.com.