



THE BEREAN LIFE

CONFESSION OF FAITH

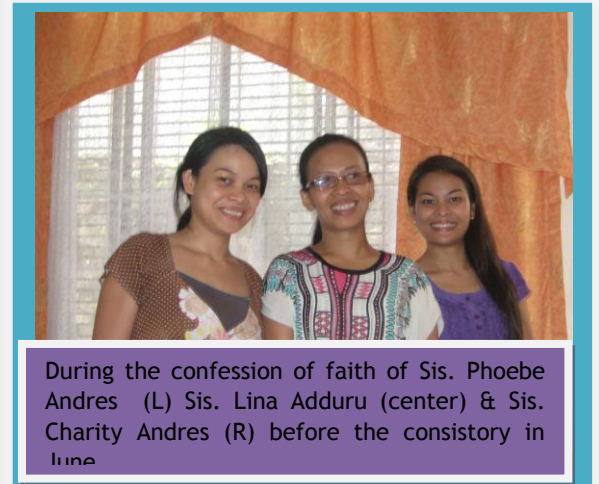
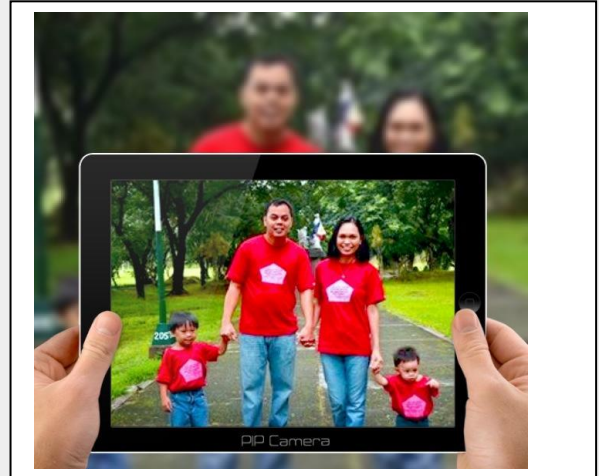
In the last four months since our last newsletter, we had 5 public confession of faith. Pastor Oseas Andres and his wife, Sis. Ligaya Fe made their public confession in May and in July, their daughters Phobe and Charity together with one of the ladies from their former congregation, Sis. Lina Adduru, made their public confession of faith as well. We rejoice in The Lord for adding to the church such as should be saved (Acts 2:47).

SOCIETIES

The men and women societies were established and our first meeting was in May. The groups have decided to meet once a month, that is every 3rd Saturday of the month. The women meet at 3-5pm then there's a joint supper at 5-6pm. Then the men meet from 6-8pm. Meetings are being held at our apartment. The ladies take turn to bring supper. The women society decided to study about the church order during the first hour and then Women of the Bible on the 2nd hour. The men society's current topic is about "authority," such as authority at home, at work, at church, etc. At present, Vernon leads the women's society but eventually their President will take over (D.V.).

VISITORS

In the month of July we had visitors from CERC in Singapore. There were 4 of them in the first week, one of whom is from Georgetown PRC who works in Malaysia and is attending CERC. The second batch came at the end of the month and there were 7 of them. The congregation, especially the YPS enjoyed the communion of the saints in the various activities they had with them.



During the confession of faith of Sis. Phoebe Andres (L) Sis. Lina Adduru (center) & Sis. Charity Andres (R) before the consistory in June

CONTENTS	
BEREAN LIFE	1
BEREAN LIFE CONTINUED	2
UPCOMING FEDERATION	2
MJ GOES TO SCHOOL	3
LJ TURNED 1	3



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BEREAN LIFE CONTINUED

OUTREACH

Sad to say, the All of Grace Protestant Reformed Fellowship (AGPRF) in Gabaldon is dwindling in number. For that reason, and with much sorrow, the BPRC consistory is thinking of closing the said group. In the meantime, Vernon preaches there every 3rd and 5th Sunday of every month. He also stays there overnight so he can hold Bible Study and conduct some family visitation. Pastor Andres, helps them fill the pulpit every 2nd Sunday since July with the supervision of an elder.

Last Sunday, August 25th, Vernon planned to hold an "Evangelistic Worship" Service. The members distributed tracks in the community and invited them to come for the evening Worship Service. We went as a family together with my Sister, Bing and her husband Dennis. The worship Service should have met at 7:00pm but at 7:15 only two invited neighbors came. There were eight people in all including us. Vernon read the Scripture and prayed. He planned to move the said Evangelistic Worship Service, the next time he'll be in the outreach.

NEW CONTACT

Bro. Edwin Fulgencio and his wife, Melody, have been attending regularly at the BPRC since May. He came out of a Pentecostal/Evangelical church. He came to know about the Reformed faith by series of searches he did via the internet. That's when he came across with the teachings of John McArthur and John Piper. And to make the long story short, Edwin by the grace of God left his former church and began to search for a Reformed church that teaches faithfully what he calls "reformed." He first attended one of the churches of the Bastion of Truth Reformed Church (Vernon's former colleagues in the Pentecostal church before they joined Reformed Baptist Church and eventually organized their own denomination). For some reason he was not able to continue his attendance there.

After a long while, and in God's providence, he learned about our church through the church's website. His first visit to our church was sometime in March of 2013. Now, Edwin and his wife are regular attendees in our church.

He's very eager to learn more of the Reformed Faith that he asked Vernon if he can conduct a Bible Study at home so he can invite his friends as well. The BPRC consistory approved his request and so Bible Study at their home started last August 3. They meet every 1st & 4th Saturday of the month. They are studying about TULIP. There were 11 in attendance during the first meeting and 14 on the second meeting.

We thank God for His wondrous work in His bride, the church.

"Thus saith the LORD, Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches: But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the LORD which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the LORD" (Jer. 9:23-24).



UPCOMING FEDERATION

The consistories of the Berean PRC & First Reformed Church in Bulacan met last August 26, 2013 regarding its federation. They have adopted the "Declaration of Agreement" as the basis of the said federation of Reformed churches in the Philippines. Both churches will present it in their respective Congregational meetings on September 8 and thus the approval of the union of churches which will be on the 31st of October this year, the Lord willing.

What a gracious and glorious work of God indeed to His people in these Reformed churches!

We are excited with this another milestone in the history of the Reformed Church here in the Philippines.

Soli Deo Gloria!

Ibe Family

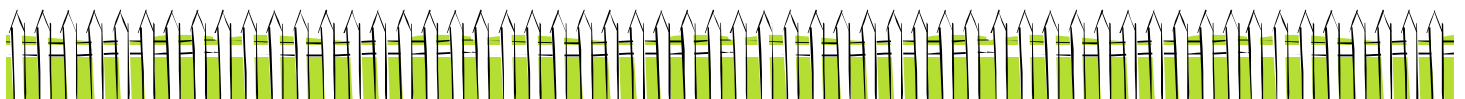
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MJ'S 4th birthday at Little Learners

We'll see what God has in store for him. As of now, we devote our time and energy in training him up in the fear of The Lord. Reminding him always that whatever he does, he should ask himself if it pleases God. Pray that God will bless this humble endeavor of his parents as sinful as we are. Pray also that God in His perfect time will establish a Reformed Christian School in the Philippines. It may seem impossible to some, but with God it is possible. May He bless the desire of every parent in the Berean that their children may have a good Christian School that will teach God's truth without compromise.

MJ GOES TO SCHOOL

MJ turned 4 in August and started Pre-school in June. School year in the Philippines starts in June and ends in March or early April. He goes to Little Learners, a preschool run by Bethany Baptist Church, just two blocks from our place. He walks everyday and recites his memory verses until he reaches school. He's in kinder 1 and loving it. The 1st month, mommy had to stay with him inside the classroom since he doesn't want mom to be out of sight. That was hard especially when Vernon has a meeting or something needs to be done, since I have to take LJ along. The teacher, or should I say the Preschool staff were very understanding of it and they even encouraged parents to be there until the child is ready to be by himself. The second month, Vernon dropped MJ off to school and without any bargaining, he stayed in his classroom and waited for daddy to pick him up again. That was the start of his little independence! His school starts at 9am until 12 noon. The very least things he wanted to do are coloring and writing. So I have to work on that and now, he's enjoying coloring and painting with water colors. His writing has improved as well. He has learned his alphabet, numbers, and shapes before so it's just a review for him. The teacher saw a leader in him so she encouraged him to lead in prayer and other activities and he just loves it that even at home he'll tell daddy that he will lead the prayer. :) He told his teacher and classmates that he wants to be a pastor when he grows up. So he's the little pastor of the class. :)



MJ & LJ loves to play with the neighbor's toy car ☺

LJ TURNED ONE

LJ turned one in May 3. Our baby is now a toddler. We thank God for sustaining him in his first year of life. He was sustained in his big move from the US to the Philippines as well as the four moves we had since we arrived. God is pleased also to afflict him with Atopic Dermatitis but we are thankful that his skin has improved a lot although it is still very sensitive to dust and heat. His vocabulary includes mama, mom, dada, dad, am for amen, AA for Uncle Alex his favorite uncle and of course nana & papa. He can follow simple instructions already and can identify a lot of objects including some parts of his body. He loves to be outdoors playing with "Kuya" (big brother).

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