



Precious Jewels Ministry

**"Like the jewels of a crown,
they shall shine upon His land."
ZECHARIAH 9:16**

CHRISTMAS 2009

What Child is This?
*"There are a thousand ways to respond to the news
that a Savior has been born. But the fact remains that
until a child was born, this world was cloaked in utter
darkness, abandoned, hopeless and lost.
But for unto us a Child is born, a Son is given. There
is only one response: Worship and joyous praise!"*
Joni Eareckson Tada

Dear Friends

We bring greetings from the Precious Jewels family as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ – Emmanuel God-With-Us.

The lights and tinsel are noticeably subdued this year as people are still recovering from the devastation of the last two typhoons. We are thankful to share what God has given us –

HOPE in the midst of despair and
LIGHT in these days of uncertainty.

Christmas Celebrations

Thank you for helping us bring joy to so many this season. We were thrilled to share toys, clothing and food for over 600 children and their families. Many of these gifts came just "on time" right before the parties. We are rejoicing with our families, who say "Christmas parties are different at PJM – you don't just give gifts... you really celebrate Christ's birth!"

Yes, Jesus is the REASON we celebrate!



Puppet Show at Christmas Celebration

Respite Care

Recently, a doctor referred to our children as "God's miracles"! We agree as we witness these precious little ones gaining confidence in every area of life.

They are such bearers of hope to other families who have HIV+ children. The children are so healthy that we often forget they are living with HIV!

Our 'baby' is now four years old and is like a supervisor at PJM. The other day she asked Lorrie, "Why are you late?" The six year old boys have unlocked letters and enjoy reading out loud every word they see! Our older girls love playing 'family' and have discovered make-up and jewelry.

Ah yes, all normal development for healthy children!

**Antiretroviral treatment combined with tons of love,
soaking prayer and good nutrition make a dynamic
prescription for healing and wellness!**



Shower in the faucet after
shower in the rain



Marshmallow Barbecue Party

Extended Child Care Center

We have expanded the daily visits to the pediatric infectious disease ward and the activities in the childcare center “Sentrong Musmos” to include one afternoon a week. We are grateful for our volunteer Harriet, a member of Union Church who faithfully comes every Thursday to help in the ward. What a blessing to us AND the sick children.

At the beginning of December, we celebrated World AIDS Week. We had the privilege of participating in several events with children and adults—Filipinos living with HIV, patients in the end-stages of life and children orphaned by the AIDS; doctors, nurses, relatives and friends.

Over and again, we heard in their words and saw in their eyes an intense longing for healing, acceptance and love.

O come Emmanuel this Christmas season into the midst of their darkness and weariness.

We had a wonderful Christmas celebration in the Pediatric Wards! We went to 12 different rooms, full of sick children hooked up to IV's and feeling very sad. As we sang Christmas carols and told a Children's story “The Most Precious Gift”, smiles appeared; parents cried. “We haven't been forgotten!”

We are so grateful for our friends and volunteers who gave so generously for this party; each child received a handmade draw string cloth bag full of goodies—fruit, cookies, candies, a knitted teddy bear, face towel, soap, toothbrush and toothpaste!

What a joy to see precious little ones clapping their hands and singing along!



Lunch fellowship at
ECCC Family Day



Capulong Community
Kid's Day Camp

Ang Tulay to the Nations

We returned from Uganda in November after five months of walking and working with people from East Africa; people who have been coping with crisis after crisis for far too long. We saw lives traumatized by decades of war and violence and crushed by poverty and AIDS.

But, we also saw something else – HOPE. Strong, resilient, gutsy HOPE rising out of the ashes! God is healing lives and restoring communities.

During our last session, one of the leaders, a woman who cares for hundreds of children living with AIDS, asked us, “When will you return? We have not yet finished walking with our children. **They still have far to go on their safari!**”

We are planning to return in June 2010 to continue the in-depth training with Ang Tulay as we extend God’s healing touch throughout the region of East Africa.

Please join us in prayer on Thursdays as we gather together to pray for the growth of Ang Tulay in Uganda and the Philippines.

**Please pray with us for our next trip to Uganda
in June 2010.**



Irene Kisolo Ang Tulay Coordinator for Uganda



Joyce, Shiomar, Lorrie, Barb and Doris in Uganda



Joke sharing during Ang Tulay Evaluation



Ang Tulay Team Uganda and Philippines

Youth Leaders (YL)

The Youth Leaders are growing as they share their lives and what they have learned with other young people; teenagers who are vulnerable and living in extremely difficult situations.

Last August, 12 of our youth leaders presented an evening of dance and drama called "Rescued" at Union Church of Manila for 150 disadvantaged and vulnerable youth. Tanya, a gifted dancer and college student worked with the YL for weeks on their presentations.

What a powerful testimony of God's love in Jesus Christ who rescues us from darkness and into His glorious light!



Youth Leaders Fellowship

Staff Update

We have been praying for years that our PJM staff team, who faithfully serve the Lord, would be able to own their homes.

We praise the Lord that recently six of them were invited to apply for housing with Habitat for Humanity!

Please pray with us as this process unfolds in the New Year.



PJM Staff Retreat in Morong

On A More Personal Note

Hope and Light. As we look back on this past year, we are keenly aware of these two "Kingdom Hand-prints" on Precious Jewels Ministry.

Some days can be pretty overwhelming: long hours, sick children and endless weeks. How can we keep going when our hands are empty and our hearts so heavy? Hope emerges out of our despair as God shows us His way, and Light dispels our fear and the path becomes clear. This Christmas, clear and simple: Jesus - Only Jesus. He is The Way - The Truth - The Life. He is more than enough!

As we look forward to 2010, we ask you to pray with us as our partners in ministry and friends. May we stay focused on Jesus, who began this good work and will be faithful to complete it.

May you and your loved ones have a joyous Christmas and an adventurous New Year!

*With Jesus on the Journey,
Lorrie and Joke
For the PJM family*



**Please mark your calendar
Sunday February 7, 2010**

Precious Jewels Ministry
invites you to a service of Worship
Thanksgiving, Celebration and
Update on Ang Tulay Uganda.

**When: Sunday February 7, 2010
Where: Union Church of Manila, Makati
Time: 2:30-5:30 PM**

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A note from the PJM Board of Directors:

"Please help us to use all gifts for Precious Jewels as God and you intend by stating your wishes on a separate note and NOT on the cheque. Gifts without a note will always be used directly for work to help children and their families. Such notes are essential with gifts intended for

- Joke, Lorrie or other staff _____ (Name)
- Special Needs _____

Doing this also shows team members God's provision and blessing on their individual lives and ministries."