

The Body of Christ

Under the Leadership of GPI Jalan Suci (The Evangelical Church of the Holy Way)

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The Trip Here

Every moment in our lives is a journey of faith. We are so thank full that God led us to Tionesta a township of 404 people (including us). Tionesta is the county seat of North West, Pennsylvania. It is a town rich in natural resources like Hardwoods, such as Cherry, Maple as well as an abundance of Pine woods. The home we stayed in has a fire place and three bedrooms to help us get through the at times frigid winter. It is also rich in hunting in the forest as well as fishing on the Allegheny River. Grandmothers, boys and of course the men hunt for bear, deer as well as wild turkey. It is also rich in mining of oil and natural gas. We find the wealth does not end there but it is also rich with not only world class Christian Education Pre K to 12, but also the friendliest of Christian Church. Our Home church was the local Christian & Missionary Alliance. We opportune to see a local Missionary who had served for over 20 years together with his s of two daughters and a son in the of Tokyo in Japan. Also we enjoyed the sounds of not only a Peruvian Harp, the sounds of local Easter time coral at the Presbyterian Church and Sunday Schools production of "Happy Birthday Jesus." We also were benefactors of so many kindnesses such as the help of the Luther's as well as the Maury family in putting furniture in storage. Having never been to Pittsburgh since we moved to Tionesta it was so nice to fly out of the airport surrounded by a beautifully landscaped golf course. One Pastor Evelsizor would enjoy for days. So nice to see Oom, Uncle Willy and Tante, Aunt Christine together with a niece visiting from Jorje who was in the process of writing her architectural thesis. After a 13 hour flight where Jecklin had to give up her Pantene shampoo to get on in Tokyo we watched part of the French-Nigerian soccer game. In Jakarta it was somewhat odd Jecklin had exchanged currencies friends and family had t given, but I gotten mixed up between the red 10,000 and 100,000 piece, A very happy porter went home to his family with twenty dollars. We enjoyed FM7 a great value transit hotel that although it was priced like the Tionesta Hotel, offered a buffet breakfast like the Sakura in Clarion. Also there was a swimming pool Judah and Fania enjoyed as well as Jecklin. The downside is that they charge for the extra child 11 less than an extra room at Tionesta hotel.

Being charged a one hundred dollar surcharge for attempting to buy airline tickets from the Hotel through Business Office and finding with the local Christian travel agency that we would have to wire the money through the Peoples Bank we dashed for the airport, like the Leapers in the famished city in the Old Testament. We rented a small Suzuki Swift taxi that charge thirty dollars to shuttle us to the other terminal because the discount airline only had 7pm tickets and we guessed the family would not be very happy to wait after a 3 hour drive for us to come in late. So the choice was right we got to fly out using Garuda, the full price carrier arriving just in time to find the two cars, one with family and friends and the other for us to ride in. Everyone was so happy that night stopping midway at the food court to enjoy Tempeh Penyet for me, Rawon and Soto for others. Pretending to buy onde-onde, some round flower bolls, surrounding a sweet mung been core and birdseed exterior. Our room at the house was in the upstairs, the only room with air conditioning and a shower. Jecklin's brother comes up to shower and get his clothes daily.

Presbyter

Each year the ministers of the many branches of the Evangelical Church of the Holy Way (GPI Jalan Suci) travel to the headquarters. Leadership for this denomination at present is still centralized in this cold climate of Lawang located in front of the Triangular Field on Selamat Riadi Street located approximately one mile above the town's public market and shopping district. By foot the closest approach from the market is by cutting straight through the Muslim district, Kauman. Although very religious displaying the worshipful sarong, white prayer hat, and people are still very sociable I often still used a Barokah tailor (blessing).

Arriving unannounced knowing the date of the meeting was graced by the presence of three friends very dear to my heart Horman (leader from Northern Sulawesi) diocese along with Jul Sollosa, leader of the Sorong Papua Diocese (of course with plurality among another at least 9 leaders), and finally Tiurlyn wife of Darto (30 year leaders of the entire organization.)

Soon what I thought was a room became available for me to shower ready for the meeting. Turns out



the upper room where Andrew Hermon Parlindungan begun his family was very artistically made with natural stone in the bathroom. Although a little older the bed was a large king size with another smaller bed nearby. Down a flight of stairs was a living room with a very high ceiling. I could remember countless hours he had spent cheering for the winning soccer team together with other next generation leaders. Mixing my own coffee I read my daily scripture reading, now in Ezekiel and Revelation.

The hospitality at Lawang is reminiscent of Calvary Church of the Valley in Phoenix Arizona that Agus Endarsa and I had visited years before. Conveniences

such as Jelly, Tea, Sugar, and Coffee are left in each room.

Arriving in the worship center a new room encompassing the entire physical house we used to live in removing all of the walls by building a structural support system, the praise team was just moving from a warm up of praise into song. Surprise not only Philipus but Loisa (the couple running our work in Greater Sangir Island were there (later on he confided in me that he had an understanding with his sisters, not to take land as an inheritance but that they in turn would support his ministry when needed. This trip was one like that, and God had prospered his sisters enough to give).

Cornelius Darto took the opportunity to entertain the many students using my Javanese language skills. Later I wished I had been more thorough in translating for those from the outlying areas. It was fun God was good and later as Horman spoke, I interpreted for the Australian and American team.

Lunch was served out in the open air courtyard covered with a tent. Surrounding the courtyard was lined with two story buildings with rooms, kitchen, dining area, classrooms.

The guest had built on for somewhere between seven thousand guest rooms with a central baptismal pool (great for swimming as long as you are not wearing jeans). They had expanded Hermon's house for another 23 thousand Australian dollars which included that pool

Up the street from there was a house for sale for only three hundred fifty Australian dollars which had 9 bedrooms. The LBTC over the years had by faith purchased one by one the surrounding houses. One neighbor active in the fellowship had requested that they specifically not pray for his house.

Opportunities in Ministries heard at the Presbyter meeting

Invitations to visit have come in from:

- Ambon, Talaud, Jakarta, Jayapura, Poso, Palu and Medan as well as Palangkaraya.
- Jul Solossa had said she would pass on Sorong for this year to establish loyalty of the leaders for a heart bound to the ordained leaders at the Lawang Bible Training Center
- Palu and Papua are on the lists of places to be visited only with an official government clearance perhaps due to religious or freedom fighter conflicts. However as the Apostle Paul had taught us it is best to respect government rules.

Kediri

Unlike our first trip which was heavily concentrated out of my Father's work in Lawang, East Java, due partially to the early homecoming of Fransina Tannkere, Jecklin's late mother as well as the division of funding for the trip, funded primarily by tax returns or family funds and small gifts from people of our local church in Tionesta, we had chose to focus verily much on being available to the family during their time of grief.

One of our first visits was to the freshly filled grave. As a background in Java due to the limited availability for public cemeteries, families are encouraged to bury their loved ones the natural way, ideally with no casket, just wrapped in a batik cloth, lowered into the hole, preferably the same day of death, with only a headstone marker in the resembling a lotus leaf for Javanese with the correct Javanese dating, like Sweet Friday (Jemua Legi, Kliwon, Paeng); In the cemetery though you are so happy to see many crosses as well. The earth is a fresh mound with her cross and her name. As the grandchildren remove flowers from the reef to place on the grave, Stacy Stube, visiting from Bali invites the group to share an old Stube Thanksgiving tradition of holding hands and remembering what they are great full for in the person's life.



Christian Memorial Service

A gathering of 30-40 friends from the three to four churches she has been active in. Liturgy lead by the Stoll wearing pastor and deacon of the Nearby Dutch built red brick church, followed by sharing both with the Pentecostal pastors where she was a prayer warrior. The visitation pastor shares how he enjoyed so much the Regional Counsel that the Holy Way Evangelical pastor and his family had put together in Raha, Southwest Celebes. He was so in

awed at their commitment in church planting without the benefit of a large pre-gathered group often selling refill water to live. The Pentecostal pastors share of their need, ministering in a predominantly Muslim area for monetary support for pastors living as well as a church structure.

Neighborhood Memorial Service

30 Neighbors again on Saturday gathered some with their own mats to feel the coldness of the tile during the hot day. Mamie Ann prepared vegetable soup chicken. We have fun meeting and greeting our neighbors. Evangelism is often about simply greeting all the villagers as one opportune to walk towards the store. It is at times tedious but important in a crowded island of Java. It is also great also if greetings can be performed in Javanese, the local dialect. Is

News from Sangir Island

Interisland flight begins with a 2 am pick up at the house with a 9 passenger Van for the 2 – 3 hour trip to the Juanda airport in Surabaya. Traveling throughout the wee morning hours the van stops at Kediri's High School 5 to pick up yet more passengers, a girl slated for a visit to her grandmother's in Ternate on the Maluku islands.

Arriving curbside I passed through security early stop by for an early cup of ginger coffee with some poached eggs on toast and then check in with Lion Air, the new carrier that had purchased 200 737-909 Boeings during President Osama's visit perhaps with a US Exim Bank loan planned long ahead of his presidency. Although it was nice traveling in new jets, the price of tickets had also increased ninety dollars to get there and 200 to come home, because of the Ramadan peak travel season. Men and women from Java who work and establish businesses on the more remote islands travel home to be with their family at IDUL FITRI.

Arriving at the Manado airport, am I surprised the pickup did not work out, was told by a surprised Luxy that he had asked me how many people were coming to arrange for a cargo van for luggage, For 15 dollars negotiated price, a 2 wheel drive Rav-4 like Avanza and the kind driver took me to Manado's old harbor to purchase tickets for ten dollars to Grand Sangir Island's Taruna port. Since it would not leave



until 5 or 7 pm, the taxi driver dropped me took me to the Manado Bible Training Center.

It was so nice to finally find the location although only knowing the district of Perkamil and a vague knowledge that it was located on the perimeter of a Government housing complex, we found later was the Mayoral complex.

Houses had risen here to be about Forty thousand, three available across from the Bible Training Center, desperately needed to service this growing Metropolitan and the surrounding towns and

islands. The Isuzu Panther, I had rode in with fumes and a front passenger seat slides back and forth with every time you accelerate or brake, in 2004 was still running, although I was told it leaks in the rain. For 20 thousand they had plans to replace it with a Daihatsu Luxe Van obtaining 3 thousand for trade in on a 20 year old vehicle.

The Manado Bible Training Center has been tied up in court for the last ten years. Although received as



a donation from a family healed by elderly person, since it was signed over to the Suherman family early members of the fellowship, they had offered it up for sale at an original amount of nine million rupiah. The fellowship at that time rotating between the Suherman's primary residence and that of Dr. Kaunang's donating gold rings could only come up with 3 million therefore purchasing only the bottom site of the present Auditorium, men's dormitory and three bathrooms, obtaining a receipt of sale and a letter signed by Shepherd Supit, than the President of the Holy Way Foundation which was later converted to Holy Way Church, responding to a government decree. At present Mrs. Suherman who in retirement in Bogor as a teacher needed the funds, has requested that the training center give up the site, so she could again sell it to an Australian ministry for 500 thousand dollars. Although it is Holy Way's founders policy to give up any property in dispute, some of the elders like Mrs. Thelda Langelo having sacrificed resources not only to purchase the site, but also to build the current center as well as staff housing currently used by Holy Way Foundation members, old friends like Jeffrey Anna Mamangke, Emil and his wife Evie Wonok as well as Mr. Simon would not give up without a dispute. At our main training center, we had returned to Mrs. Suherman's son in law an auditorium, Arauna that they had given with clear title, however there was no sacrifice to build or member donations for this.

After a very comfortable rest in the guest room at the MBTC, Luxy along with his son Gideon drove to the harbor for the interisland ferry. Turns out my ten dollars purchased a bunk bed along the rows of many others on the steel ship. They told me the shipbuilder was still the illiterate builder who used to build wooden ships. Although I had just begun conversation with a family from Bebalang bunk neighbors related to a man we had evangelized, Silangen, the ships machinist who was trying to visit with us asked that we meet in the salon where all the staff ate. Soon being introduced to the captain, we were put to

work; I prayed the departure prayer while pulling into Taruna harbor at 4 am I could hear the familiar kindred spirit of Luxy praying a prayer of thanks.

Carefully climbing the stairs to the plank leading to the Harbor, Horman, Philipus and Davidson were already waiting with an Avanza they had rented for \$25 per day for 2 days they ended up extending for three.

Arriving at the Training Center driving down the drive, that used to be empty other than one house, passing the Bougainville and a new house available for \$25,000 to \$15,000 needed for guest and to extend the campus, praises could be heard ringing out from friends who ministered in other towns on Sangir Besar, including Tamako, Mahumu and Bebalang as well as in Ulu and Kanan on Siau Island and from the Fledgling ministry in Molonguane (although we had introduced renewal to this island, most members had found their ways into denominations like Baitani, Bethel, and the Indonesian Charismatic Church.

Land donated here tied up by Mr. Alex was offered to half so that we could have a post in the county seat of Talaud, northernmost near the Phillipine boarder. Ministry had also expanded to three other areas. I am told that on Sangiang island in the Philippines there is no church ministry although there is a large Indonesian population by neighbors near the Training Center who made great hammocks out of Raffia. He also offered a pots and pan kitchen set for sale.



Mr. Parera is a very interesting individual with a daughter Ingrid, just graduated from the government college, working in county finance, he used to drink and be involved in fights. He had joined the fellow ship as a result of the ministry of Mr. Bulemei, a fellowship member working at the Agricultural office. On the last day of the car rental we enjoyed a great fellowship and prayer meeting at Mr. Parera's house, attended also by not only his daughter, but son Ivan as

well. His wife was still in Manado attending to his son Risa who was ill at his dormitory.

After one of the meetings I met with Iwan who worked at the County Employee Retiree Bank. He had been active at the Manado fellowship and joined the local fellowship as well. I was told that Ingrid and he had become engaged. While she was still looking for work since the Compassion project we run needed 4 tutors, she became one.

Sleeping at night the silence is broken with crashing waves behind the bible training center and water filling the bath tank the morning's shower. Praises wake you up at 4 am when all of the Bible Camp attendees are already occupied with worship. This must be a foretaste of the New Jerusalem and things to come.

During the ending day we pray over and send each team out, even America, me.

Blitar Church and Lawang Bible Training Center

This walk with Jesus has been a joyful one.

We just got back from ministering at Daniel Yohadi's church in Blitar an hour from here, thanks to the transport team from my dad's school. Felt a certain pride wearing the logo of the slanted cross and Holy Way Evangelical Church. The service ended with Holy Communion administered by the elders, and a brunch afterwards.

Debby Charisma, the Pastors daughter showed us the ornate ruins built during the Kadiri, Singosari, and Majapahit kingdoms. It is very ornate and detailed.

We spent a day visiting the orphanage, Christian Junior High, retreat center; a large gathering was going on. After meeting with friends and also visiting our own Rehab and restoration center now with 19 residents, our children and cousins had about two swims in the extended baptistery behind the director Darto and Andrew Hermon's homes.

We also spent one day being a guest to visit the seven families working for my or better put, our Dad's org. Some were teachers at the Bible Training Center, some prayer team, treasurer for the denomination. Six families live in apartments on a sight I was able to raise money for.

I also met with Andrew Hermon...my generation. He was so skeptical about serving The Lord for the memories he as well as we have...of days when funding did not come and we had a tough time even eating. However God got a hold of him once when Jeff Fazi, a friend was speaking and Hermon was interpreting. He fell to the floor and prayed those four hours. Since then God provided the center with a great septic system, kitchen and dining area compete with even granite dishwashing area. Each of the 30 students in the 3 month, six month, or program A and B does his or her own dishes. Three students take turns cooking. The center after the previous accident now has enough safe cars, a small bus (cannot ride in the back of the truck any more). The Darto and Hermon now also have cars they would share when students can't go to Tuesday morning soccer.

Soccer is at seven after worship for an hour at four am and one hour campus cleanup. After a day of visiting staff, we still have not met with those closer to The Shepherd Mount Rehab center. A friend also set up appointments for me to meet his unbelieving neighbors: Jack and Mr. S, I believe.

Over the windy 3 hour mountain pass we traveled, traffic jam in Jecklin's town of Kediri. The pastor, Willy was already waiting as we're some church members, Mrs. Rita and Sherly along with yellow curry rice, fried chicken; great aunt Ann had prepared together with Keren, Jecklin's sister.

After the meeting we dashed for the ATM to give toward the aunt's trip home. The dad is still having a tough time. He is trying to get Keren and Ferdy her husband to move here, unfortunately or fortunately as her savings and loan prospered, she purchased refrigerator and washing machine needed when you have three children.

Praying for a solution, the dad hates to leave an empty house each day. He is considering inviting another aunt, his sister Soem to help out, she is also a widow to help cook and light clean. She is a non believer or one of his old faiths.

The center wants to fly us to Medan to see the school we helped to inspire it goes pre k to fourth grade; it would be a seven day trip. Pray also for our work in Papua for the integrity of the book