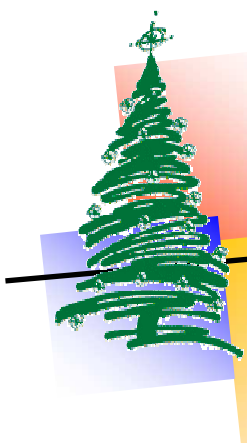


*From the fullness of His grace we have all received one blessing after another. For the law was given through Moses, grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.*

John 1:16-17



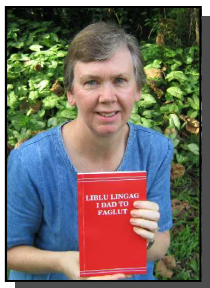
# Winter Philippine Report

## Christmas 2006

### Thanksgiving For Results God Gave Us This Year

It is not uncommon for folks to take a backward look as the year draws to a close. For us, the activity of God has been strikingly evident in this year's review. It's a matter of joy that He has allowed us to be an active part of His plan. Though space won't allow inclusion of them all, follow along with us as we point out some of this year's highlights.

#### The printing of the Blaan Hymnal



Due to the high demand, the worship services of hundreds of congregations are now enhanced through use of the fresh reprint of a long out-of-print Blaan hymnal with 180 hymns and choruses.

#### Electric Power for Cuma & Lydia

Rev. Saya is the pastor who does the distribution of the Koronadal Blaan New Testament, and now the Blaan hymnal. We prayed that God would allow us to help them. Many on our team gave generously and "there was light."



#### Church and State



The vice-governor of one of the Mindanao provinces where Blaan-speaking people live, bought 1,000 copies of the Koronadal Blaan New Testament. She is distributing

these to residents to encourage moral excellence.

#### Branch Conference

In June we had our biennial Branch Conference. What a grand



time we all had in the Lord—discussing business, electing officers, and listening to reports on the Lord's doings

#### Barbara's Visit

The word "surprised" does not fully cover my (Leon) reaction to



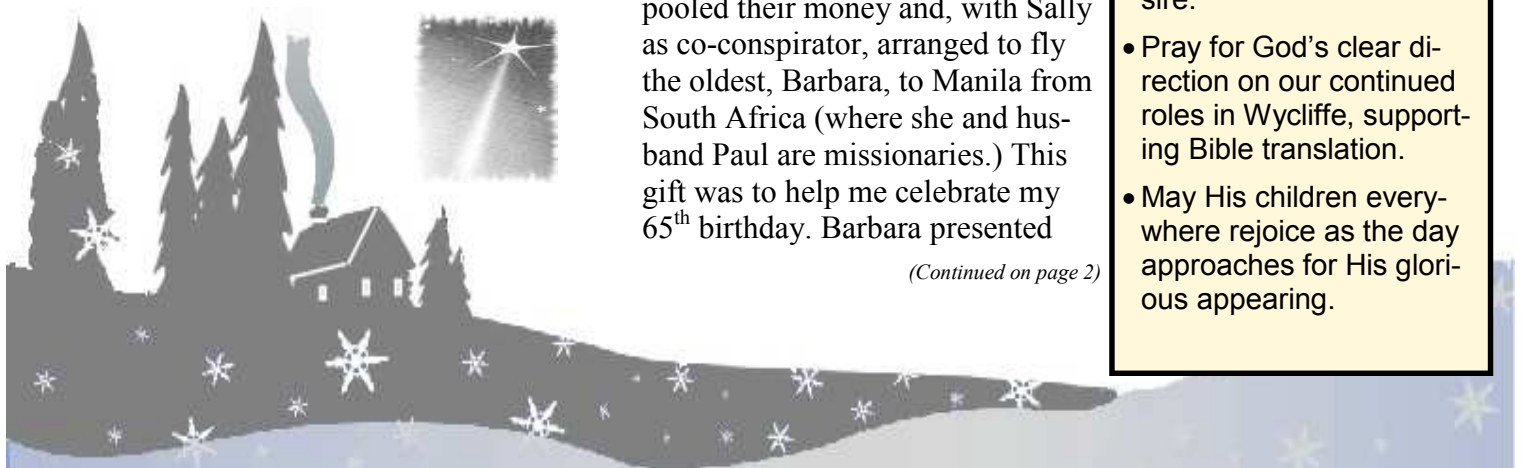
this blessing. In July, my children pooled their money and, with Sally as co-conspirator, arranged to fly the oldest, Barbara, to Manila from South Africa (where she and husband Paul are missionaries.) This gift was to help me celebrate my 65<sup>th</sup> birthday. Barbara presented

*(Continued on page 2)*



### Praise 'n Prayer

- Praise to the Lord for having a plan for our lives and guiding us in it.
- Praise the Lord for His provision in each of His works. We joyfully list some here, but there are so many more.
- We give thanks for the Lord's working in our family and for the blessing of Barbara's visit. We praise Him for her travel safety.
- In recent weeks two typhoons headed right toward us. We thank God that both of them veered off and spared us serious damage. One went north and one went south!
- We are asking God for wisdom and energy to finish this field term and our jobs well.
- Pray for God's guidance in planning our furlough. There are always many unforeseen things to sidetrack us. The mercy of the Lord is what we desire.
- Pray for God's clear direction on our continued roles in Wycliffe, supporting Bible translation.
- May His children everywhere rejoice as the day approaches for His glorious appearing.



me with a lovely set of pictures of all seven grandchildren. All the sweeter was helping Barbara celebrate her 40<sup>th</sup> —also in July. Together we shared lots of family memories and the goodness of the Lord.

*Like arrows in the hands of a warrior are sons [and daughters] born in one's youth. Blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them.* Psalm 127:4-5a. At this stage of life, I wholeheartedly agree!

### Fun with Sally's 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Class



Recently Sally was concerned that the boys in her class were not being careful about checking their work before turning it in. So she decided to try something that had worked with another class some years back. She created a class contest with a reward. The contest was for the class to accumulate 100 perfect papers. This created quite a stir and each boy started to really apply himself to turning in better quality work. They reached their goal in 4 ½ weeks and were rewarded with a pizza lunch at our house. We enjoyed our meal with these four young gentlemen. (Now they are working on their next goal of 150 perfect papers.)

### The Lord's care in health issues

This year we both needed biopsies done at the hospital. Sally had a mass in her left kidney, and Leon learned



he has an ulcer and heart muscle sequencing problems. We are getting older and can expect more things to pop up medically. We praise the Lord for how smoothly it all went. Both biopsies were negative, though requiring a run of medication following. Sally has to have regular blood pressure checks, and Leon will remain on low-level heart medicine. We covet your prayers for continued good health.

### Looking Ahead

We realize as we plan for the coming year that all our plans hinge on the will of God. As we look ahead we try never to run ahead of God's plans.

At the end of this school year, in May, we plan to head to the US for furlough. We expect to be in Cali-

fornia for the first few months and then begin our trek across the US. We look forward to seeing as many of you as we can. Then we will spend the winter months in the Northeast, visiting family and friends there. We ask you to pray with us as we prepare for this year. We want to be obedient to the Lord's plan for us.

These are some of the things we need to do before we leave for furlough in early June:

- Sort through our possessions to make our lives simpler and to simplify travel and shipping.
- Get the house ready to hand over to a new family working in the Aviation department.
- Orient others to do our jobs. A teacher is coming to teach Grade 3 and 4. An interim principal who is learning the ropes this year.
- A new webmaster is needed to take over from Leon. Another of Leon's jobs is Publications: someone will need to be trained in this role, too.
- Make a trip to Mindanao to visit Blaan friends and check with Pastor Cuma on distribution.

And these are some of the things we will be doing during our furlough year in the US:

- Since Leon is now 65, he needs to get Social Security and Medicare issues ironed out. (By the way, we are not retiring. Leon says he'll think about it when he's 70. *Maybe.*)
- Sally will upgrade both of her teaching credentials.
- We're seeking the Lord regarding what roles He would have us do next in support of Bible translation, as we continue working through Wycliffe.
- We'll spend time with our families.
- We'll report to those who stand with us spiritually and materially.

Last Christmas we asked, "What will the Lord have for us in the year ahead?" It's exciting to look at the items gathered in this letter and realize the Lord had quite a plan laid out for us. Each of you is also an indispensable part of God's plan—we could not go forth without you. We thank you for your faithful participation.

*With Christmas joy,*

*Leon Sally*

Leon & Sally



See the color version of our letter by going to:  
[www.trinitynh.org/mis-winter.htm](http://www.trinitynh.org/mis-winter.htm)

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#### Support for our ministry to:

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**Make your check to WBT and add a note: "For the ministry of Leon & Sally Winter." Thank you.**