

PHILIPPINES

THE STEDMAN FAMILY

Greetings Pastors, Churches, Friends, and Family

August-September 2021

“We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair.” 2 Cor 4:8

Thank you all for your continued faithfulness to the Lord and your prayers and support during these troubling and perplexing times. I am thankful for the certainty of the Words of truth (Pro 22:21) to strengthen and help us to remain steadfast in the ministry that the Lord has allowed us to be part of.

In so many Churches I have been encouraged by the words. “We have been praying for you.” More often than naught by Christians I have not met before. A verse that comes to mind each time is **1 Samuel 12:23**, Moreover as for me, God forbid that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you. That I need to be fervent in prayer for others and the idea that I am actually sinning against the Lord when I am negligent in prayer is sobering.

RECAP AND UPDATE: In early March I was diagnosed with stage 3 rectal cancer. I started 5 weeks of radiation therapy and oral chemotherapy along with some healthy eating and other supplements to combat the cancer. On June 24th the MRI and blood work showed the tumor to have shrunk and the cancer was not spreading which put me at stage 2, Praise the Lord. In July and August, I had 3 doses of Chemo intravenously about 3 weeks apart. Each time the chemo hit me hard for 5 or 6 days and then I would get up and start exercising. Anna’s help is a big part of being able to focus on the battle. We do have Christian Health Ministries for Insurance which will cover some of our expenses. The job of keeping track, copying, and submitting the needed paperwork falls on her and I covet your continued prayers in this matter and the strength she needs in this part of the battle.

A road trip with my son Drew to Pensacola was a huge blessing in so many ways. The opportunity to preach on the street Saturday night with a good group young and old was an added benefit.

Upon visiting a church on a Wednesday night I was asked to give an update on my health. One of our prayer requests is to avoid major surgery that would make it so I would have to have a permanent colostomy bag. Unbeknownst to me, a young lad in the congregation has had to have this medical procedure. I was told later that he leaned over to his mother and said, “I think I could be an encouragement to him.” Wow is all I can say. The ensample of this lad is a testament to our Lord and Saviour and his grace in time of need.

I was able to complete a sprint triathlon on September 11th. I finished 2nd in my age group, overall 90 out of 92. It took me 2 hours and 12 minutes. I accomplished what I set out to do, finish, not be last, and not get hurt, (Umm, there were only 2 in my age group. Haha)

Anna and I were able to go to the Blow out at Bible Baptist Church in Pensacola FL and were blessed exceedingly abundantly above all we could ask or think by the preaching, fellowship, and their love for missions. “And the oil stayed”, came to mind as I witnessed the work that has continued in the face of adversity.

We then hit the road from Idaho and had meetings in Montana, Michigan, New Hampshire, and back from September 24th to October 30. The Lord blessed us with encouragement from the Churches and by putting the occasional Filipino in our path to witness to. In Sheridan WY over half the staff at one hotel was Filipino as well as some guests. It is always a blessing to be able to speak some of the language of your mission field while here in the USA. While at a rest area out in the wilderness of Wyoming I saw this license plate, CEBU-PH. I walked over and said, “Maayong Udtu.” The wife said, “What?” and the husband said, “He said, ‘hello.’” The Filipina wife was pleasantly surprised and said, “Amen” when I quoted Acts 16:31 in Cebuano.



Prayer Requests: 1. For Greg’s upcoming Dr appt/MRI on December 27. 2. Travels Nov8-Dec14 in CA and WA, 3. salvation for Greg A. 4. Open doors for a new ministry in Claveria and Philippines immigration.

With Sincere Thanks, Greg & Anna Stedman

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