

# Paul & Ellen Byars

*Missionaries to the Philippines*

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January – March 2026

Dear Pastor, Church and Friends,

There are somethings you can count on. 24 hours still equal one day. The Sun still rises in the East and the harvest is still plenteous.

That harvest was on the hearts of our men when we returned from our annual Men's Retreat last January. Since basketball is the national sport here in the Philippines, they began organizing Basketball Evangelism events. With every subdivision and barangay having a covered court with hoops, the B.E. Team gathers the young people and men in the area and the game begins. There are prizes for all, some refreshments and a clear presentation of the gospel. The men host a basketball game once a month and we have seen many new men coming to church and several involving in Bible studies. It became a natural and effective way to connect with the community.

In February, it was time again for the Missionary Training Seminar 2026. Thirty-six new families had made application to use the Missions Service Center of ABC. These families were interviewed by the ABC Board members and they were all added to the ABC Family.



As a Sending Nation, the Philippines now has 321 family units serving in 66 countries around the world. As the Psalmist said 'this is the Lord's doing whereof we are glad.' Looking forward to 2027. There are many who are surrendering in the mission conferences around the islands. As of this writing I know of over 10 families that are preparing for next year's training.

In March we celebrated our Church Anniversary. Our people were busy inviting guest and the Lord blessed with 155 adult visitors. We had 680 in attendance that morning.

That afternoon our Young People had their own special service. There were over **200** young people who attended. They enjoyed a good lunch, some games and prizes, fellowship and a message from our guest speaker.

All in all there were **73** visitors and **63** made a profession of faith.

Ellen and I are so thankful for your prayer and financial support. It has been a great joy to see the blessings of the Lord. There were **114** who accepted Christ during the preaching services. **159** heard the gospel during our weekly soul winning ministry. We have seen **5** for baptism and **7** who have transferred into the church family.

We remain firmly planted in God's will and are excited to see what God will do in 2026. We covet your prayers for us and the expanding ministry.

Yours for Souls,

Paul and Ellen Byars