

GMAIL

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF UPON THIS ROCK FUNDAMENTAL BAPTIST CHURCH - YP

FOOD FOR BODY AND SOUL

■ MARJORIE GRACE TABAY

URFBC desires to give hope to children as a part of church ministry by giving them nourishment for the soul. But on (date of the feeding program), we also enjoined a feeding program for them, they are not just satisfied by the Word of God only, but also in their physical body. Lives are being saved by a simple meal and changed by the love of God.

Our impact goes beyond the lives of the kids, as well as the parents who also came to accompany their children. Because of the compassionate outreachers with some of the AXEIA employees, many of them, and we hope all of them, accept Christ as their Savior. We also looking forward that they are encouraged to attend church ev-



ery Sundays or on a simple outreach every Saturdays.

We are so blessed that we are part of a church like this, that has a burden in God's ministry. We know it is our obligation, and yet a great privilege to step in and provide nourishing meals and evangelistic program.

We have been able to establish over 3 feeding sites. (Carmona, Alta Tierra, and FVR) in just only one day. We fed more than 900 children, including some of parents. Praise God for this number and the manpower He provided, to make this program successful. We also thanking the womisso who prepared the delicious lugaw. We appreciate each other's part and we are looking forward for the next feeding program to satisfy physical and the spiritual well-being of this people."

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Happy Birthday

to the following YP october & Novemebr celebrants!

OCTOBER

- 4 - Noemi Umengan
- 7 - Zeedy Raya
- 20 - John Francis Gabilo
- 21 - Aaliyah Vera Raya
- 27 - Minard Paul Burbos

NOVEMBER

- 1 - Mark Jericho Umengan
- 17 - Aaron Paul Martinez
- 26 - Pastor Ronnie Eusebio
- 30 - JV Didiquin

"KEEP YOUR LAMP!" CONCERT

■ MARIA FLORIZA MAE ADRIAS

It is such an overflowing joy for a mother church to witness her daughter church become independent enough to raise itself in the grace and glory of God. It's indeed amazing how the Lord works together with His people in building His concrete home.

Last 27th of November 2016, the Upon This Rock Fundamental Baptist Church in General Trias, Cavite (URFBC-GTC) organized an event entitled "Keep Your Lamp!" – a fundraising concert for church building project of URFBC-GTC. Few weeks back, the said church had already been selling tickets that cost only P100.00 each—a price not that high yet totally worth it! The featured performers of the night were the melodious choir of The BBSI Herald Ladies. The event was held at A1MW Gym Mangggahan, Gen. Trias, in Cavite where the people from different churches gathered to support and enjoy the fundraising concert.

When everyone and everything was ready, the invocation was led by Bro. Jojo Puenteblanca, followed by the singing of the National Anthem led by the Herald Ladies. Everyone joined the congregational singing

led by Rev. Romualdo C. Dioso, Jr., the senior pastor of URFBC- GTC.

Finally, the heart-pounding yet angelic voices filled the entire place. The Herald Ladies never missed a note in singing the hymns that made everyone feel God's presence through the harmonious music. Classical sounds also fled the ears and hearts of everyone when The Herald Orchestra of URFBC-GMA performed some pieces. The message was given by Rev. Richard David Sariga, the senior pastor of URFBC-GMA. He emphasized that we must all keep igniting our fire of faith in God because it is what will bring us to Him in life's darkness.

Truly, these exceptional talents are God-given and these are for the purpose of glorifying Him. The fundraising concert was a great success and each of us believers felt blessed that we did not only enjoy the performance but we also got to help in building the URFBC-GTC's church. We all are hopeful that soon, we will finally see the product of the

faith and hard work of everyone who made this possible. All glory and thanks be to God!



PHOTO CREDIT: Jeffrey Domenden

Train YOUR THOUGHTS

■ AALIYAH VERA RAYA

It was a great way to spend the first day of December with 55 URCA high schoolers attending their third youth hour.

The theme was "Train Your Thoughts," derived from the timeless reminder found in Philippians 4:8. The program began by having the students memorize and recite the theme verse. Then, an enthusiastic song was taught by the emcees. It was followed by a game that tested the students' knowledge about the Bible. The most important part of the program, the message, was delivered by Ma'am Rona Escala. It enabled the attendees to be informed and be reminded on how we could do our part in renewing our minds. She also encouraged everyone to "T.H.I.N.K"--Test every thought, Helmet our heads with Christ's salvation, Imagine great thoughts on God's promises, Nourish a godly mind, and, Keep on learning.

As the Bible says, training our thoughts means imparting on our minds WHATEVER is true, honorable, right, pure, lovely, admirable. To sum these up--think on anything excellent and praiseworthy. Now, thought check: "What's on your mind?"

CARTOON



MARIA FLORIZA MAE ADRIAS

HISTORY in me

JAHN RACHEL MONG

I accepted Jesus Christ already and tried to comply what He commands. But every time I draw near to Him, there were challenges that is hardly to surmount and struggles that's not yet overcome. Sin and temptations are always there. I wonder how many sins will I commit just in one day and how the loving God forgives and neglects those uncounted wrongdoings. To love your enemy is the most difficult thing to do. To suffer or sacrifice your life for the people's deliverance can be hard for us but Jesus Christ Himself did that for us. We are being saved by Jesus Christ, who was sent by God the Father and that's a good news for us. That salvation was offered by the Most High. Sometimes, I think about it and try to understand the Lord did this. the reason why



The time came when I realized how filthy I was that's why I'm ashamed and hesitated to call on God for help. I have lost my daily devotion and my consistency in prayer life. I felt being hopeless and helpless. But the Lord showed His stubborn love for me. His word reminded me of His unfathomable love, His love that stays forever. He showed and reminded me about Him, being a faithful God.

I still don't understand how long He stayed and kept being faithful and loving; and how His eagerness to intervene in my life goes on. One thing I've learned in this life that the Lord still loves us and forgives us even wwww. When we sin. Many times in our life we had our attentions to earthly things and made them more important than God. God has His own ways and perfect timing. He will teach you to love Him by His word. He will reveal Himself to you through prayers and struggles and trials in your life. He will do everything just to guide and direct you into the right path. He wants us to love Him and keep the fire burning. That's what we called God's stubborn love.

LITERARY

MARIA FLORIZA MAE ADRIAS

HERE I AM,
AN EMPTY SOUL,
WHO GETS LOST,
AND ALWAYS FALL.
DO THY DIRECT ME,
TO WHERE I SHOULD BE,
AND WHO I WILL BE.

COME MY LORD,
CALM MY HEART
HEAL ME FROM THE THINGS,
THAT TEAR ME APART.
COME MY LORD,
CALM MY SOUL
EMBRACE ME TO YOUR ARMS,
AND MAKE ME WHOLE

YOU WERE THERE,
EVEN FOR THE TIMES
I PUSH YOU OUT OF MY SIGHT.
YOU WERE REACHING
AND EVEN DIED FOR ME,
JUST TO GIVE ME THIS LIFE.
ONLY TO YOU DO I BELONG.
LORD, I AM YOURS.

COME MY LORD,
YOU ARE MY HEART
WITH YOU,
I WON'T BE TORN APART.
COME MY LORD,
YOU SAVED MY SOUL
BY YOUR GRACE AND MERCY
I AM FINALLY WHOLE.

SAVERS RETREAT:

First Lap!

RONA PAMELA ESCALA

The first ever 3-day SAVERS retreat came into realization on November 9-11, 2016. There were 81 participants in total, consisting of 32 students and 8 teacher from Aquino School Foundation (Cavite), Inc., 27 students from Upon This Rock Christian Academy, 10 retreat coordinators, and 4 kitchen staff members.

"SAVERS," the name of the organizing team, stands for Serving Advocates of Values through Educational Retreats for Students—the pioneering team founded by Rev. Domingo Ranay. We praise the Lord for giving him the vision of establishing a team that would serve the purpose of having, as he named it, "MOLDS for Christ"—Ministry Opportunity to Lead and Disciple Students for Christ. The team envisions sharing God's truths to students and teachers of different neighboring private schools by organizing fun, creative retreats annually.

The focus of the first retreat is about "Knowing, Trusting, Serving GOD." This theme was reinforced in three different sessions by Pastor Christian Lauron, Bro. Reynaldo "Dong" Plamiano, and Pastor Domingo Ranay, respectively. The messages highlighted the truth that knowing Jesus, i.e., having true relationship with Him, is the most undeserved yet the best gift we could get by trusting Jesus. And without the saving knowledge of our Lord Jesus, we cannot sincerely trust Him, thus, we cannot passionately serve Him, too. What a joy it is to witness a number of students and facilitators profess to believe Jesus as their Lord during the consecration night!

Aside from the morning and evening sessions where the participants learned new songs and enjoyed interactive icebreakers, the students also get to experience more fun and physical activities like sports, parlor games, and group race. The students were divided into three (3) groups with the names "Team Knowing," "Team Trusting," and "Team Serving." Each group was led by its chosen student leader, and guided by the facilitators—Sis. Josie Pagdato from URBC Kawit and the eight teachers from Aquino School Foundation. They also had the chance to listen to a lecture on Hydroponics Farming given by Regine Escala.

The first SAVERS team included Pastor Ding R., Pastor Christian L., Bro. Dong P., Rona E., Cheska U., Regine E., Jing M., Johnver D., Minard B., and Elijah G. The kitchen staff—who did not fail to satisfy our hunger more than needed—were Bro. Mike and Elvie Arroza, together with her mother and their daughter Yonah. The team looks forward to having another set of churchmates to join the next team. Please pray with them as they aim to conduct more retreat to a larger audience next time.

(You may want check out our retreat photos at "SAVERS Retreat" official Facebook page.)

URFBC AT HER 26TH...

THANKS BE TO God!

RIA RICA FRANCISCO

A day of full of thanksgiving, praises and worship happened on Nov. 19, 2016 as the church celebrated its 26th anniversary. Together with the daughter, sister, and some of our dearest guest churches, we commemorated God's goodness and faithfulness to Upon this Rock Fundamental Baptist Church for all the years that had passed and will be coming. And by God's grace, we put our trust in Him to continue showering us with blessings for years to come. And only by His grace, we pray to expand the church and continue to minister to people in obedience to the will of God. We could not forget that everything this church has accomplished is all His work. Through trials and pain, our God has become our comforter, provider, refuge and saviour. And we couldn't be more thankful to our gracious Father for all His love. So, for this year's anniversary theme, it was entitled "Thanks Be to God".

The anniversary was filled with special song offerings to God. Guest churches also offered songs of praise and everyone in the auditorium was so blessed by the special numbers. Our church also offered songs like

"You are Good" and "Upon This Rock", and the children also bless the Lord with their moving presentation. Pastors and brothers from guest churches were asked to speak their greetings and prayers for this church. We thank God for their prayers and by God's grace, may it all be happen in accordance to His will. The story of God's faithfulness in our church for 26 years was presented by Sis. Ethel Corpin. It was a brief history of everything God has done and every blessing we've received through the years. Again, we were reminded of the importance of thanking God through His Word that our Senior Pastor, Rev. David Richard Sariga, delivered. The anniversary ended with food prepared by the members who have worked hard together for God's glory.

Thanks be to God! He deserved all the glory and praises. For all His unwavering love, sufficient grace, never-ending mercy and efflowing blessings we don't deserve, we are compelled to love and obey Him. Thanking Him for every single detail in our lives can make a big difference. With humble heart, we offer our thanks to our God who has always been faithful to us.

I DREAMED A DREAM

NOEMI UMENGAN

The Lord sent us to serve according to His wonderful plan for us. The generation nowadays has to face another chapter of their lives, and as the days go on we had to ask for the Lord's guidance to direct us to the right path that He had set for each of us. God use Bro. Julius and other officers of Young People to set the fellowship "I dreamed a Dream". This fellowship has planned to be a stepping stone for most of the YP who would choose their respective specializations someday.

The said fellowship helped the young people to --- especially those YP who have not yet reached tertiary education --- to determine which profession they belong; in accordance of their given talents and abilities from the Lord. Bro. Julius Manila (YP president) was the speaker of the said fellowship. He focused the promises of the Lord that was mentioned in the Bible about His

wonderful plan for those who trust and obey to His will and God Himself. Bro. Julius provides hand-outs that content different kind of abilities that would be appropriately marked to determine individuals' professions. Furthermore, the fellowship also helped each one of us to set goals for both short and long-terms through SWOT or TWOS (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) analysis.

And up to now, we are still aiming for the goals we have committed for the Lord. October 28, 2016, we claimed the promises of the Lord through His Word and through the fellowship that was led by YP leaders. On that day, God also set our hearts to different professions and callings. ANYONE could help young people to reach their respective dreams; through our hopeful intertwined fingers and humbly bowed knees, the Lord would be please to answer our prayers.