# G O D'S MAIL THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF URFBC YOUTHRIVE

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

### JUNE

- 4 NHIKKA DICDIQUIN 5 - NEAH DICDIQUIN
- 25 SHAINE GUMBA

### **JULY**

17 - JULIE ANNE LISING 28 - CIA CIA PLAMIANO

### **AUGUST**

- 4 ELIJAH GABILO
- 10 JEZREEL MALAYANG
- 12 CHRISTIAN LAURON
- 4 ANGELO DE GUZMAN
- 24 MARYJANE DE VERA
- 25 RENZ CEDRIC ADRIAS
- 28 JEREMIAH SALDANA

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2015 - 2017

# Renewed Identity!

RONA PAMELA ESCALA

re are delighted to officially announce that the former URFBC YP has embraced its new name, URFBC YouThrive, since last June 25.

As written in the Organzation's newly launched Constitution, "The name YouThrive takes inspiration from God's call to believers to thrive (flourish, abound, excel) in Christian

acter in keeping with the biblical goal of spiritual maturity and greater love for the Lord (Ecc. 9:10; Phil. 1:9-10; 2 Cor. 8:7; 1 Thes. 3:10, 1 Thes. 4:1, 10; 1 Cor. 10:31.)

The new name was chosen by the votes of YP members and this change also extends to the official seal of the organization (as seen above) and to our social media account names. This new clothing

aims to help the members own, and the non-members to understand better,

MARK the identity and vision of this youth ministry, which is "To see young people—within and outside local church—truly loving Jesus above all" (Mark 12:30). It is a great reminder that every Christian is called to thrive, not just to survive, in his service to the Lord and other people. To God be the glory!

# NEW START, IMPROVED STRATEGY, SAME GOAL

URFBC

**JULIUS ANDREW MANILA & AALIYAH VERA** 

God's been good! We've evidently witnessed His goodness and sovereignty throughout the years. And now, another ministry year (M.Y.) is approaching, but His orchestration from the old leaders in the Bible up to those He has appointed and established today is still unfathomable. He carefully planned everything.

Last August 20, two weeks after the election of the officers, the preceding youth council prepared a ceremonial event to inaugurate the newly elected officers of URFBC YouvThrive for the M.Y. 2017-2019, namely: Elijah Gabilo (President); Jericho Umengan (Vice President); Angel Adrias (Corresponding Secretary); Nhikka Dicdiquin (Recording Secretary); Jang Malong (Treasurer); Ria Rica Francisco (Auditor); Chelley Manzano (Business Manager); Patricia Umengan and Maeca Camus (PlOs). Before they were elected, everyone was praying to God to put willing leaders to lead the young people to grow together in Christ. The elected officers and appointed ministry leaders are all willing to serve and even prayed about it before accepting to proceed to the election. God really worked in everyone before the voting day arrived.

Before the program proper started, the YP gave their big surprise to the newly appointed youth pastor, Ptr. Christian Lauron, who just turned 23 that month. Their hard work paid off because he appreciated the birthday gift. To continue the program, there were songs sang to give praise to God and each of the former officers were given a token of love and appreciation. The inauguration was truly a memorable event for the former and incumbent officers as well as the whole youth organization as they oath to the Lord, not unto men, their lives to be used solely for His greater glory in whatever means.

Afterwards, the ceremony wasn't finished yet, it was followed by the launching of constitution and bylaws presented by Ptr. Christian Lauron, Rona Escala, and Julius Manila (the authors of the written constitution and bylaws together with Ptr. Ronnie Eusebio), followed by a prayer for the current officers led by Ptr. Dave Sariga. It took a lot of time to explain everything. The event ended with the new officers' statements and thanksgiving, which were presented during the afternoon service.

Indeed! The youth group shall benefit from the established written constitution as it sets down the belief of the organization and reinforce the purpose and function along with the general principles that govern and help the organization, together with the bylaws that delineates the specific principles of each procedure. Both documents provide guidance when making decisions that impact the organization. As it is written in 1 Corinthians 14:40, "Let all things be done decently and in order."



# RESTRENGTHENING

#### JAHN RACHEL MALONG

he former ministry leaders of URFBC YouThrive had their meeting on a Sunday night, July 30, 2017 to discuss about the upcoming events and activities such as the Initiation fellowship-- for welcoming the new YPs and for sending off of some young people to Young Adults department, baptism, election for the new officers, inauguration of the next officers, launching of constitution and bylaws, and other important matters. In the middle of discussion, some conflict arise due to different opinions and suggestions but the Lord spoke through one of the officers to start a prayer for peace.

After the prayer, they became open to each other. They have shared their testimonies, the blessings, how they've been blessed with the lives of their co-officers and how they have been encouraged and inspired to serve the Lord through their lives. They also gave their encouragements to each other and pray for each other. Through these instances, they have learned something more about God and realized how He worked and orchestrated things and emotions on that day. The conflict didn't become the reason of parting ways but strengthening their relationship with each other.

# BAPTISM 2017: WELCOME TO THE FAMILY!

#### **ANGEL ADRIAS**

ast 6th of August 2017, 16 young people who surrendered their lives to God were finally baptized. The church welcomed the following as official members of URFBC: Arwen Amboy, Kyla & Klaress Escala, Sharmaine Tabay, Samantha Madenancil, Karylle Ramos, Samboy Berces, TJ Umengan, Chelley & Bernadeth Manzano, Lianah Arroza, Jethro & Noemi Umengan, Angel & Renz Adrias, and Lorienel Macabacyao. Baptism is a valuable event in a Christian believer's walk with Jesus as it is an obedience to what He says—to publicly declare our faith and iden-

tity with Him. In the past few weeks, baptismal classes were conducted for them to know about the meaning, purpose and importance of baptism as said in the Bible. Everyone in church was indeed blessed when these young people publicly confessed their faith through water immersion, officiated by Pastor Dave. Right after that was the commemoration of Christ's saving work through the Lord's Supper. We hope and pray that the lives of these newly baptized members have changed not only today but for their entire lives by God's amazing grace.

# GENESIS: REMINISCING GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

#### MARJORIE GRACE TABAY

n July 12, 2017, the Herald Chamber Orchestra (HCO) held its second concert titled "Genesis: Reminiscing God's Faithfulness," at 2F, Portal Mall, Congressional Road, GMA, Cavite. Unexpected number of audience participated as the Orchestra reminisce God's faithfulness to the group throughout the years.

God wants availability more than a person's ability. He wants to show people that He could give His faithfulness to the ones that are always available for Him, truly love Him, and are willing to sacrifice for Him. He does not want those who just have many talents but without willing hearts; after all, those who are seemingly untalented and incapable of such things will later be recognized by God if they serve for Him. In that moment, we can be a channel of blessings. That is how God's hand works. He will never forget what we have done for Him our of love. The HCO wanted to give all the glory to God for constructing this group. He brought the members together and helps them get closer to Himself. The Orchestra was so

much grateful for all the members of the church. It was indeed a blessing that God surrounds His children people that would shower love, support and care. Thank you for all who were involved from the practices, preparation of the venue, ticket selling, expenses, food preparation, and those who actively participated and actively listened from the start of the concert until the end.

God blessed the Orchestra with leaders to become organized. He put Julius Manila to lead the vast event as the conductor of the group. Pastor Christian Lauron also accompanied him, and every member was of great help. May God bless you for your faithfulness to Him. Also, the Orchestra will never forget those who became a part of the group. May God return to you His favor in your ministries to Him. Thank you and God bless you.

God is always faithful. He made the Orchestra's first concert successful, also the second, and will expect that the following concerts and events are going to be successful, too. All the glory to God alone!

# HIStory in Me TRAIN UP A CHILD

#### by John Richard Malong

don't have any idea if this "HIStory in Me" would have an impact to most of you because most of the previous young people in the church who shared their "HIStory in Me" came from a non-Christian family and they told you how to deal and how they won life's struggles as they finally knew and accepted Christ as their personal Savior and Lord. On the contrary, I grew up from a Christian family. But I thank God for giving me this opportunity to be one of the sharers of life stories of how God did work on us. And I believe God will use this paper to inspire the readers although I had some little information and story about me. But remember, little is much when God is in it.

So here it goes. I came from a Christian family. I grew up going in Sunday Schools and attending church services without having an idea that I was worshipping God in my early age. I saw myself that it was on a routine basis, including attending on Wednesdays and Friday for prayer meetings. And because of that, I treated the family system traditional, and my parents disciplinarians. I grew up abiding in rules and conforming etiquette because these how they ran the family system. And due to the fact of fear of breaking the rules, I became a liar although my personality as a child was remolded into innocence and pleasing behavior; but these did not guarantee that God's salvation was on me. And I tell you that growing and coming from a Christian family does not grant eternal life. Being a Christian is not a biological inheritance; it is a matter of choice. And that choice is to accept and believe the Lord Jesus Christ as my personal Savior and Lord.

As I mature physically and spiritually, I totally realized that I was truly saved because having the presence of Christ in our hearts is not a feeling; it's faith, so we work on our faith and God will continue this good work on us until the coming of Jesus Christ. That is an eternal security for us Christians.

And you know what, once you accepted Christ you gain more wisdom both intellectually and heavenly; like I was realizing that I survived engineering and, especially, God revealed to me the realization that my parents are really a precious gift to me because without them I would not have known Christ.

Although I grew up in a family rule system—most of you can see my mom and dad as full disciplinarians—but it's just what you see only on the outside (and that was also how I saw them before). They are also a friend of me and good adviser in the inside.

So, parents, it does not matter that much what system you are doing to train up the kids. The important is how you teach Christ to them because I was an example. There is a saying, "Parents teach your kids not to be rich, but to be happy," but it must rather say in a simple way, "Parent teach your kids about Christ" because with that, everything follows: happiness, contentment, wisdom, and riches, etc.

I may have a different story but this is how God worked in my life of past experiences about family. When I received Christ as my Savior and Lord, parents become my treasure, a once-in-a-lifetime treasure.