

The BARAN Family

Missionaries to Cebu, Philippines

MARCH & APRIL 2012



Chris

Elizabeth

Abigail

Birthdays:

Chris~2/14/1985

Elizabeth~9/28/1988

Abigail~6/8/2011

Anniversary:

November 28, 2009

Contact Information:

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~ Our New Number ~

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Pastor Art Kohl

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"For God so loved the world..."
John 3:16

Dear Pastor & Church Family,

After two years of deputation the Lord has finally brought us to Cebu! We are thrilled to be here and excited to take part in the ministry at North Cebu Baptist Church. **Shortly after arriving we selected a target area where we began an outreach to the local people.** Every Saturday, my wife and I take a group from the church and go soul winning in that specific area. We've been able to talk to several adults and kids, inviting them to church and giving them the gospel. **So far we've had an average of six new visitors and one young mother has even made a profession of salvation!** What an encouragement for us as we begin our first term in Cebu!

Since our arrival one of our priorities has been to find a place to live. Being a dual citizen, I have the option to buy a house but after looking at a few homes we quickly realized that land in Cebu is expensive! We shifted our search to rental homes and it wasn't long before we found it...**our first home!** It's a cute little three bedroom house so there's room for you if you want to visit us! **We move in on June 1st, just a few days before Abigail's birthday!** I think Elizabeth is counting down the days! **Praise the Lord, for helping us find a place so quickly!**



A friend has already come to visit us! Miss Rebekah Kohl, our Pastor's daughter has traveled to the Philippines for several years now and wanted to come see us during her visit this year. Not being settled in yet we felt like terrible hosts but we were able to introduce her to the church and give her a little glimpse of Cebu City. **Miss Rebekah was a nice reminder of our home in the States and all the people that we know and love there!** We've already received several emails from our families and friends in the short time that we've been in the Philippines! Thanks to those who have written! **We love hearing from you and thank the Lord for the encouragement as we adjust to our new life!**

PRAYER & PRAISE:

• **In just a few short weeks the church will begin their very first year of Bible College.** Please pray that the young people at North Cebu Baptist Church would prayerfully consider enrolling. **Education is huge here and those who have been called into the ministry are often pressured to go into the secular field instead.** Right now we have about seven students who want to attend!

• **The Lord has already provided the opportunity for us to bring my mother to Cebu.** Her health and willingness to go made it clear that she was ready to move. She's already plugged into the ministry here at North Cebu Baptist Church and actively participates wherever she is needed. Once the college starts she will be the head cook for the Bible college students, daily providing their meals. The first time she saw Abigail was a truly special moment. I am so thankful for my mother. If she had never made that difficult decision to send me to the States as a twelve year old boy, I may never have heard the Gospel and been saved. Seeing little Abbie in mom's arms makes me think that perhaps the Lord is rewarding her for all her years of sacrifice.

We are His and He is Ours,

Chris Baran

Chris, Elizabeth, and Abigail Baran
(Psalm 28:7; Psalm 37:4-5)

"Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass." Psalm 37:4-5



Our Pastor's Daughter, Rebekah Kohl, and Our New Little Friends!