



Dear Friends,

November 28, 2017 is UMC #Giving Tuesday!

Last year, thanks to the great generosity of supporters, GBGM raised just short of \$854,000 on UMC #GivingTuesday. These gifts allowed missionaries and programs to reach people around the world who need Christ.

UMC #GivingTuesday is part of an international movement to extend the spirit of giving thanks into the Advent season. It offers an opportunity to begin the holiday season with your generous giving instead of receiving. By your supporting of programs and organizations that connect our passions with God's mission everyone is twice blessed.

As you know, 100 percent of all gifts which are made through the Advance number is used directly to support the missionary community.

I pray and hope you will join UMC #GivingTuesday campaign by:

- Organizing a team to join you in supporting vital mission work.
- Posting a web banner on your website or Facebook page.
- Asking that Christmas gifts be made as a donation in your name to support my work here in the Philippines with an early holiday gift on Nov. 28.

More resources are available at <http://www.umcmision.org/giving-tuesday>.

Thank you in advance for all that you do to bring about true change in countless lives!

Blessings,

Rev. Jae Hyung (Jay) Choi

GBGM Missionary (#13973Z)

UGAT (Land Justice) Center/Union Theological Seminary, Philippines

SOS

(Save Our Schools)



“Save Our School” is an advocacy for education and land for Lumads. The Lumads are indigenous people who are living in Mindanao, the second largest island in the Philippines. Last July, about a hundred Lumad students came to Manila following their parents who had organized a march to the capital city, Manila, to appeal their conditions. Due to militarization, the students were forced to stop attending school while their parents were also forced to stop their farming activities on their land. The schools were either bombed or have become a base camp for soldiers. Threats and terror continues to pervade their communities. There are many committed teachers and self-assertive students who are labeled as communists; while others have become victims of extra-judicial killing. There are now large-scale mining activities which are over-powering and dominating their ancestral domains.

We visited one of their temporary sanctuaries which is provided for some of them by the University of the Philippines in Quezon City, Metro Manila. George, a young volunteer teacher/organizer of the SOS campaign, and other students welcomed us and shared some of their dreams and their stories.



“I want to study law to defend the powerless.” “I want to become a doctor to help the sick.” “I want to become a teacher to educate Lumad children.” We were overwhelmed while listening to their firm answers to our question, “what is your dream?” Although their schools are “thatched shacks” in the remote mountains, they are beacons of hope to the Lumad students. These are some of the reasons why they joined the march in Manila. It has been six months since they have lost their abodes. Nevertheless, Lumad teachers and students will continue to tell people about their stories and struggles, hoping to return to their land, schools and normal way of living.



There are many ways in which you can be of help by choosing one of the following ways mentioned below

- **DONATE** for FOOD (Advance No: Jae Hyoung Choi #13973Z)

- ⇒ Go to **umcmmission.org**
- ⇒ Click **Give to Mission** tab
- ⇒ Click **Search for Projects** tab
- ⇒ Enter "**Choi**" at Project Name, Number or Keyword
- ⇒ Click **Choi, Jae Hyoung**
- ⇒ Click red "**GIVE NOW**" button on the right
- ⇒ **Fill** the information to donate and **submit**
- ⇒ **100 %** of your donation will **go for SOS** (Save Our Schools)

- **WRITE** letters of petition for them and SEND to us @

**For Save Our Schools (c/o Rev. Jay Choi)
Union Theological Seminary
191 Pala Pala Road, Sampaloc 1, Dasmariñas, 4114
Cavite, Philippines**

- **PRAY** for these people so that they can return to their land and become reunited with their families, loved ones and neighbors.

We pray that you will continually keep these people, God's children, lifted up in your prayers in addition with your generous financial support.

Maraming Salamat Po (Thank you very much)

*Just as blood in the body must flow to all parts of the body for health to be maintained,
money is useful when it is moving and flowing, contributed and shared,
directed and invested in that which is life affirming.*

- Lynne Twist -