

# Country Support

*your opportunity*  
to partner with national leaders  
and ministries

Philippines 2016 Ministry Need: \$40,000

Funding the **Philippines Church Planting & Development (CPD)** account will help resource the following people and strategic initiatives:

- Training, equipping and supporting a small army of church planters who continue the expansion of God's kingdom in the Philippines
- Training new pastors and church planters, as well as training to strengthen ministries of those who pastor existing churches



FREE METHODIST WORLD MISSIONS

770 N High School Rd, Indianapolis, IN 46214  
800-342-5531 • [www.fmwm.org](http://www.fmwm.org)



Connect with God's heart for the world.

# Philippines



## Philippines

### General Conference

- ◆ Population: 107,668,231
- ◆ Evangelical Christians: 12.3%
- ◆ FM Work Opened: 1949
- ◆ FM Churches: 258
- ◆ FM Membership: 29,267
- ◆ Ordained Elders: 171
- ◆ Conference Ministerial Candidates: 160
- ◆ Bishop: Alan Bacus
- ◆ Ecclesiastical Accountability: Free Methodist World Conference in partnership with FMWM through Asia Area Director Eric Spangler

## The Free Methodist Church in the Philippines

### Origins

In 1949 missionaries Walter and Gertrude Groesbeck and John and Ruby Schlosser transferred from China to the Philippines. They settled on the island of Mindanao. The first Free Methodist church was constructed at Bunawan. Other missionaries soon joined the two couples. A Bible school was begun in 1955.

### Present Ministries

In November 2003, the Philippines FMC became a full general conference, which now has five annual conferences, an urban missions district movement called Oceans of Life Ministries, and a church-in-formation among a tribal group. Established churches support and nurture new congregations. Leaders are trained at Light and Life Bible College (Butuan City), John Wesley Bible Institute (Manila) or Light and Life Graduate School of Theology (Bancasi). Schools and feeding programs provide outreach opportunities to children, about one thousand of whom are sponsored by International Child Care Ministries. Philippine Social Ministries was sanctioned in March 2007 to coordinate and supervise social service ministries. In addition, the Philippines FMC has become a key missions-sending church.

### Outreach to the World

The church in the Philippines has missionaries in Hong Kong, Cambodia, Australia, Pakistan and among tribal groups in the Philippines.