

*Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. John 14:12.*

## Literacy Ministry Moving Forward

This January, GTM Philippines officially launched a literacy development ministry so that each one of our group members ages 10 and up will be able to read. In the United States, most children have basic reading skills, but in the Philippines, literacy is a huge problem. The Covid-19 pandemic has exacerbated the situation even more as children have suffered without in-person education for two school years. As of right now, we have six children enrolled in the ministry and one more about to start.

We are experiencing some challenges with inconsistent attendance with a couple of the students in the program, mostly due to unstable home situations, and are working on resolving them. Please pray that both the students and the parents or guardians will realize how critical reading is to break the chains of poverty and provide a future for these precious youngsters.

In addition to the literacy classes, several children from Happy Kids initiated a mid-week study session by knocking on the door of Chris and Melda's home and asking for help with their weekly Bible assignments. Melda is now helping them improve their



reading skills, as many struggle with comprehension. We are very excited to see the children's enthusiasm to not only learn to read, but to know more about God through His Word!



## Happy Kids Eager to Learn the Bible



In the last newsletter, we talked about splitting the children's group into two groups, and we found that the transition went extremely well. Recently we had 23 of the young children, ages 3-9, and 17 of the older children, ages 10-13. This new model allows us to better engage the different ages and has improved discipleship and growth. As a result, we have 16 new regular attendees so far this year.

What is super exciting is that our new format for the older children incorporates one chapter of the Bible each week. For homework, the children read the chapter, pick a verse, and write down what they liked about it. We then read it together, discuss the topic(s) and play games revolving around the chapter.

## Basketball Ministry Exploding

We now have three groups for the Fishers of Men and may soon have to divide into more as the re-opening of basketball courts in the Philippines (post-COVID) has allowed us to resume our basketball evangelism with much success. Kelly has recorded 17 new salvations this year, and Arnel has recorded 14. The amazing part is that Kelly and Arnel do not have to go out looking for people to evangelize. The existing group members are passionate in inviting people and helping them know the Lord.



## 50 New Church Members



Though many individuals from our groups have accepted Jesus as their personal savior over the last few years, COVID has made it difficult to retain all of them in our ministries. Also, since our biggest ministry is with young men, many have become employed and struggle to attend regularly. Despite all these challenges, 24 young men are actively attending Sunday services! Twenty-six new Christians from the young women and family ministries are also actively attending Sunday services, for a total of 50. With the church just recently fully reopening, we expect that number to grow significantly this year.

First Quarter 2022	Year to Date 2022	Overall 2019-Present
Salvations: 39	Salvations: 39	Salvations: 411
Baptisms: 0	Baptisms: 0	Baptisms: 26
Healings: 1	Healings: 1	Healings: 8
Children Reached: 16	Children Reached: 16	Children Reached: 217

## Great Insight from FMI Training

Chris and Melda are now enrolled in training with Foursquare Missions International (FMI) so they can be officially added as Foursquare missionaries. FMI has missionaries in 147 countries and partners with over 100,000 churches worldwide. Under the leadership of Paul Vernon, the Southeast Asia missions coordinator, Chris and Melda have learned many valuable insights on how to improve the success of GTM Philippines. FMI teaches leadership, church development, and culturally relevant communication. During this process, through a newfound understanding of the culture, the GTM team has been able to develop new solutions and new strategies for church growth in Navotas, particularly in discipling new believers. Once Chris and Melda become Foursquare missionaries, it will be another tool for raising much needed funds.



## More than Just a Store



We at Greater Things Ministries New England would like to thank our community for their support over the last year and three months. It has been your patronage, donations, and sharing about us that has given us such success. Our store not only provides monetary support for our local and overseas ministries, but we are also able to offer low cost merchandise for our community and an opportunity for the community to donate gently used items and furniture.

As exciting as it is to see the success of the store and the Loving Hearts Sewing Ministry, our primary goal is to represent the love of Jesus to everyone who walks through our door. We are a para-church organization, which means we do not represent a single church but work with several churches and nonprofits in the community. We strive to provide friendly, compassionate, and helpful service to everyone we see, whether they are donating, purchasing, or just browsing.

We can accomplish this by listening, praying, and providing local resources to those who come into our store. We recently added a prayer box. Everyone is welcome to write their prayer needs on the paper provided and put them in the box. We will be sure to have our volunteer team pray. We are also working on compiling a list of resources and churches in the area.



**GTM Store hours: Thursdays and Friday 1-4:00 PM and selected Saturdays 10-2:00 PM. We are located on Route 11/12 in Claremont, next to Frank's Bargain Center.**

# Greater Things Ministries

Serving our missions in Navotas City, Philippines and beyond.

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**DONATE MONTHLY**

*If God leads you, we are asking for donors to sign up for recurring monthly donations. Even small amounts that come in each month help significantly. Please either use the form below or visit our website, [Greaterthingsministries.org](http://Greaterthingsministries.org). If you are unable to give financially, **please know we greatly appreciate your prayers**. Even if we had unlimited access to money, without prayer and the anointing of God, the ministry would be fruitless.*

## Monthly Donation Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

## Authorization Agreement for monthly ACH or Credit Card Debits

(ACH) Bank Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Routing # \_\_\_\_\_ Account # \_\_\_\_\_  
Monthly gift amount: \_\_\_\_\_ One time gift: \_\_\_\_\_ Process donation on the: 1st \_\_\_\_\_  
15th \_\_\_\_\_  
Checking \_\_\_\_\_ Savings \_\_\_\_\_ Name on Account \_\_\_\_\_  
Credit Card Type \_\_\_\_\_ Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ CVC# \_\_\_\_\_  
Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby authorize Greater Things Ministries to debit entries to my account as indicated above. This authority is to remain in full force and effect until Greater Things Ministries receives written notification from me of its termination in such time and manner as to afford Greater Things Ministries a reasonable opportunity to act on it.