

9/15/2018

Several have asked for information about our members in the area of **Philippines** that in the path of Typhoon Mangkut. Apostle Rick Maupin shares this information: *“Over the past 18 hours or so I have not been able to have any contact with our staff in the Philippines. The last communication which was shortly after the typhoon made landfall was people were experiencing heavy rain and strong winds. I have seen pictures on various media outlets of some towns in the areas where we have members and church buildings. The pictures are showing considerable damage to buildings. One of our congregation in the far north, Baggao, was in the direct path of the eye of the typhoon. Even though that area is not heavily populated, in many cases, the structures are not very substantial. Certainly injuries and the possibility of fatalities are of the highest concern. Another major concern is the destruction which might occur to the crops. The area which has taken the major brunt of the storm is known as the bread basket of the Philippines, primarily rice and corn.*

I will keep you informed with any new I receive. “ rmaupin@cofchrist.org

Let us remember our brothers and sisters in Christ who are experiencing this typhoon and resulting damage, as well as those in the United States who are experiencing similar destruction from Hurricane Florence.

9/16/2018

From Apostle **Rick Maupin**: *“I was just on the phone (Saturday night USA) with two staff members in the **Philippines**. They have not yet been able to do a complete survey of the damage from the recent typhoon. They have had contact with many of our members and there has not been any reports of personal injuries. Our northern most congregation, Baggao, was in the direct path of the typhoon’s eye. Communication has been difficult in and out of that area, but we did hear all members of the Baggao congregation are physically OK. However, we are getting reports there is significant damage to many structures and all crops. Currently some roads and bridges are closed in that area. Some of our staff we will be traveling to Baggao as soon as it is safe to do so. Our members in the Philippines have expressed their thanks for the prayers from our community around the around the world.”*

May we continue to uphold our brothers and sisters in the Philippines as well as in the US whose lives are impacted by typhoons, hurricanes, and floods.

9/17/2018

Astroval Aquino, President, Philippine Mission Center, has reported that he and two other ministers were able to have personal conversations with the church members in the area impacted by the typhoon. They witnessed and heard how much the entire community was impacted by this recent storm, with damage to crops, properties and homes. *“According to pastor Fernando Venus, just within the community where our church building is situated, 25% homes were full blown and 75% were partially damage as estimated...members are waiting for calamity response from the provincial government.”*

We are thankful no lives were lost, and grateful for the generosity of members who tithe to provide oblation funds which bring help and hope to members such as these.

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