

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF THE PHILIPPINES  
INCORPERATED  
65, Rovira Road, Bantayan, 6200 Dumaguete City

**President's Report**  
May 2008 to April 2009

**Welcome and Greetings**

It gives me great pleasure as the President of the UU Church of the Philippines to welcome you and greet you all on the occasion of the 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Church Convention.

**Recognition**

I wish to recognize the presence of Rev. Dr. Fredric John Muir the Ambassador of the Unitarian Universalist Association of the United States of America to the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Philippines. I also recognize the Members of the Board of Directors, Delegates from Congregations to the Convention both Ministers and Lay Members, Guest and staff.

**State of the Nation and Society**

Our Nation is not spared from the effects of the Global economic crisis. Many are loosing employment. The basic commodities for human survival are priced high that has prevented many of us from having a decent meal a day. Many controversies related to graft and corruption connecting the Statesmen and Women of the country are revealed but no resolution found. The purchasing power in society is so low that trade is at very low levels resulting a low income for farmers for their products majority of our members experience. Bad weather conditions have made the situation worse. In midst of such an environment, the nature of our call to duty and service is measured by the conditions we face in our daily living. Therefore I invite you to understand the challenges, the struggles and accomplishments in this report as part of the life of the church of a brave and courageous religious movement.

**The State of affairs of the National Administration and Congregations**

The UUCP Church Administration on the National level needed few adjustments. The first was to establish an acceptable financial recording system and we were able to achieve that goal when Board of Directors hirid a financial secretary. Secondly, we had to reinstate the Status of the Church

with the Securities and Exchange Commission which we were able to do after pains taking work but for its completion at the cost of sixty Thousand pesos which is due by next month. We were able to fulfill the requirements for Licensee ministers. Finances have always been a difficulty in the church we had to cut our expenditure drastically in order to reach this month and year. I have found a solution to the existing financial problem and this will be seen in the proposed budget this year. UUCP staff had to go through a time of adjusting it was difficult. Given the limitations the Board of Directors struggled to find their place and commitment to responsibility. We need to introduce capacity and capability enhancement sessions for officers. I have worked hard to strengthen relations between the UUCP and all UUA agencies. Periodical reports have been made. After this convention we need to update the UUA directory information. I have written meditations and messages for the UUA which can be found on the UUA website. Upon the invitation of the UUA and the Partner Church Council I had the opportunity to attend the UUA general Assembly last June in Florida USA and there after to visit many congregations in the USA both who are partnered with our local congregations and are not yet. With these visits I was able to present the UUCP as a whole and bring awareness and gather support. As a result of my visit there have been many programs that have begun and are planned for the future. For the very first time the UUCP will be participating in voting for the UUA President next month. We have 45 votes. We are glad that Rev. Rebecca Quimada Sienes and Miss. Lenna Desuasido were invited to the ICUU Women Convocation in Houston Texas USA, in February this year. Rev. Sienes was one of the presenters at the Convocation and preacher at three congregations namely Texas, Annapolis Maryland and San Mateo California. Through her visit she was able to reaffirm relations and support for the UUCP. On behalf of the UUCP Rev. Rebecca Quimada Sienes has made two project proposals to the UU Funding program during the past year. One was for the Sabbatical program which was approved, and the other for the Nataban Income generating project. We hope for a positive response from the funding panel. As you will see at this convention church finances are meticulously worked out and are at your disposal by the dedicated work of Mr. Efren Piera our financial secretary. Rev. Ma. Elvira Peras Sienes, has produced a worship material which is in your packet, while she keeps minutes of meetings and church records intact. The Board of Directors hired Mrs. Grace F. Edrea as cashier who is responsible for daily financial transactions. She is honest at the same time adjusting to the heavy task. Mrs. Prscila Jumuad has been faithful to her task of keeping the place clean and

but not without her deteriorating health condition. My load of work was so heavy that I had to work from home at nights which I have done gladly.

I have traveled extensively and visited congregations These visits were work related to programs such as TGVB, Partnership, Income Generating, Youth and Student Scholarships as well as Strengthening Congregations. There are congregations that I have not visited due to lack of time and funds. Starting with the congregations who have established partnerships we have trained congregational treasurers and Auditors. Mr. Efren G. Piera has conducted these trainings very effectively. This will be an ongoing activity. Rev. Tirso V. Ponsica has extensively traveled to congregations and has kept the connection between the National and the Congregations. He has attended to communications to Ministers and Congregations while attending to TGVB and Partnership work. Rev. Ponsica has attended church Anniversaries on invitation.

I am glad that with what we were able do in congregations conditions are improving. There is much to be done and we are beginning to work on them step by step. In some congregations it is the partnership program that is awakening the congregation and giving direction. For others it is the Income generating program that is bringing the enthusiasm. Still for some other congregations it is the Micro finance and student scholarship programs that bring them alive. As it is so we see that there are diverse needs in congregations our task is to address them systematically with good planning and a program thrust. Therefore the UUCP embarked on a strategic plan.

### **UUCP 5 YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN**

In the month of June last years we held a two day workshop participated by Leaders from congregations who joined with the members of the UUCP Board and Staff. The workshop was facilitated by Rev. Joseph Santos Lyons. We identified five major areas of concerns.

### **EXTERNAL CHURCH**

1. Develop an Internship Program in relation to UUCP congregations.
2. UU leads in facilitating interfaith activities
3. A UU student group that meets regularly at least once in every two weeks in a major community.
4. Regular presence in mass-media in the form of regular guest on high-rating TV/Radio shows.

5. To designate a roving minister in order to organize outreaches in Manila especially Youth and Young Adults.
6. All UU Congregations will have partners, UU Churches with UUPCC.
7. To be widely recognized in the LGPT community as a denomination that is welcoming to gays and lesbians.

#### BRINGING IN THE MONEY

1. 50% financially supportive to the congregation.
2. In five years time the Toribio Quimada Center (dormitory) will be constructed and generating profit.
3. Purchase a land for sugarcane farming
4. 10 congregations- self sustaining financially

#### INTERNAL CHURCH

1. 30 % congregations- trained Religious Education teachers
2. Will have supported 200 UU College Graduates
3. 50% of UUCP churches will have a proper financial recording system
4. Youth and Young Adult- will have Annual Assembly
5. Produce localized R.E. materials (Cebuano, hiligaynon, Tagalog) etc. children, youth, young adult and general public
6. By five years time all churches made of wood will be changed into concrete.
7. Youth and Young Adults in 10 congregations can offer message through song or dance at least once a month during Sunday Worship.

#### RAISING PASTORS LAY AND PROFESSIONALS

1. 80 % of ministers will be competent in leading worship and bible study
2. An Annual retreat/training course (3-5 days) for lay ministers
3. Will have enrolled and assisted 10 theological students
4. A new standard for lay and professional ministers training is established and enforced.

##### A. Theological Writing

1. Writing and delivering messages but on the principles and belief of UU
2. At the end of five years 20 % of the local minister had publish their written sermon every Sunday

#### CHURCH TEACHINGS

1. UU is widely recognized as a liberating and socially responsive faith (with 10 % annual growth in membership)

2. UUCP will organize a Theological Conference every 2 years
3. UUCP will publish annual collection of sermons
4. After five years, UUCP will have a monthly publication

## **Programs of the UUCP**

### **1. Sabbatical Program**

The program is designed to receive UU ministers recommended by the UUA to develop skills and capabilities of staff and leaders of congregations of the UUCP in order that they may engaged in ministry effectively. It is an on going program and each year the focus will be on different areas of concerns laid down by the Strategic plan. This year's program thrust is on Religious Education development both Human resource and Religious Education materials. The four month program is expected to begin in July this year.

### **2. Partner Church Program**

**Honolulu Hawaii and Caican** congregation partnership is active relations are reaffirmed. The RE approach is revived and the Communications between the FIA and Honolulu church is strengthened. Caican and Honolulu RE connection has brought life to the partnership. Rev. Mike Young has offered mutual and financial help to renovate the Caican Chapel.

**San Diego California and Malingin** congregation partnership is producing very positive results. The FIA conducted monthly meetings and workshops to develop capability in the congregation to establish and maintain the partner relations. Five members of the First Unitarian Church of San Diego visited Malingin last year and there after a Livelihood project is been funded where the Congregation has been managing it well. At their visit a community consultation was done. A decision wa made to work on a electrification project. The local electric company offered to counterpart the project and the San Diego Congregation offered to raise funds in the USA and they have done it through the involvement of the Rotary Club. The funds will be sent over to the Philippines by the end of this year and the project will be completed in the first quarter of Year 2010.

**San Mateo California and Cabiguhan** Congregation partnership is thriving with a lot of energy. The FIA has begun to train and develop

skills among members and Officers of the congregation in order that they be able to handle responsibilities related to the affairs of the congregation and the partnership. The training is an on going activity. Seven members from San Mateo visited Cabiguhan in January this year. At my visit to San Mateo a collection plate raised one thousand five dollars. The funds are used to extend the chapel and help the RE and Feeding program. San Mateo has sent six boxes of clothing food and RE material there are three more in a shipment. San Mateo is supporting two students with scholarship at elementary and college levels. UUSM is planning to fund raise for many program of the UUCP and community assessment for Village development in Cabiguhan.

**Monte Vista California and Calapayan** Congregation partnership is another very successful partnership. In Calapayan the FIA has started the training program for congregation officers. Calapayan received lots of books, clothing, shoes, RE material, decorative, and food items. One of the concerns in Calapayan is to have a pathway from the foot of the mountain to the Chapel. Members of Monte Vista UU Congregation raised fund for the pathway. Members of Calapayan have provided free labor and are working on Saturdays to construct the pathway, a distance of about one and a half kilometers. With the funds provided by Monte Vista food is provided to the working group. The work is on its second phase and will be completed with culverts placed, a bridge built and stone terraces cemented, by the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2010. Monte Vista is planning to make a group trip to Calapayan in July 2010. UU Monte Vista has also raised funds for the BUILD Phil. Project.

**Castine Unitarian Universalist Congregation and Aquino Cansayan** Congregation partnership. Rev. Mark Worth who visited the Philippines in 2008 brought back the message of partnership to his Congregation in Castine, Maine, USA. At my visit to Castine I was able to hold talks with the committee that approved a sum of money for the Learning School get on its feet with its legal identity. The Castine Congregation therefore sent over funds for that purpose. In January this the Congregation in Castine voted to become partners with Aquino, Cansayan. The FIA will begin the training activity in Aquino in the month of May. To begin with Castine Congregation will help with the needs of the Aquino/ Cansayan congregation RE

work, renovation work of the Chapel in Cansayan and help for ministerial services.

**UU White Plains, New York and Doldol** Congregation partnership  
Kathleen Judd from White Plains visited the Philippines on the March 2008 tour. I had the opportunity to visit White Plains in July last year. In White Plains the idea of partnership is been discussed and a committee has been formed to plan for next steps. On the request of Rev. Carol Huston, Arman Pedro in Doldol has been identified as the contact person for the communications. We hope to hear from White Plains soon about the progress made related to Partnership.

### **3. Student Scholarship Program**

The partner Church Council has introduced the Student Scholarship Program for India, Transylvania and the Philippines. This year we have five scholarships offered. The program is advertised in the USA and is getting lot of attention. As the months pass by we are hopeful of support for many students. Scholarship support is coming for all levels starting Elementary, High School and College.

### **4. Ted Guild Village Bank program**

The Ted Guild Village Bank Program is continuing to receive support from its donors. During the last year the FIA concentrated on collecting the loans than releasing new loans. This decision was made as a result of the Audit report from the External Auditors who saw the slow repayments made by the Recipients. This year the FIA will hold seminars in congregations to bring awareness to members of the importance of repayments of loans, to inform the privileges the program is offering and introduce group dynamics where members can be supportive in the congregations. Statistics of the program is displayed for your viewing during the convention and financial statements are in your packet.

### **5. Micro Finance Program**

A new program is developed to elevate poverty through Micro Financing. The Partner Church Council has also introduced this program and has advertised. The program seeks to help families in congregations through providing sufficient funds for farming and thereby eliminating the practice of borrowing from local money lenders who charge high interest. We want to help member farmers decide market price of their products and earn a

higher income. Fund Raising for this program is going by a congregation in the USA.

### **5. Capacity Building Program**

The Partner Church Council is also supporting the Capacity Building and has advertised the program. Dr. Richard Ford and Ms. Eileen Higgins visited the UUCP last November 2008. Workshops were held for the FIA and the Congregations of Malingin and Doldol. The Dr. Ford and Ms. Higgins with some of us visited Nagbinlod to meet with the Barangay Council to get feed backs on the water project and future plans. The group also met with the Municipal officials and discussed future plans for expansion work related to water. Rev. Henry S. Legaje is assigned to do the follow up work in the Santa Catalina area. Mr. Arman Pedro is assigned to organize the two communities in Doldol and Malingin for future plans in engaging in Community development work.

### **7. Chapel Construction Program**

During the past year we have been able to support Congregations in Mabinay, Samoyaw and Cansourro. We provided funds for the renovations to the Chapel building in Bugnay Mabinay. We are expecting the congregation to donate the land before further developments can be offered. A cemented step way to the chapel and chapel renovations have been done in Samoyao. A twelve by twenty four floor are concreted chapel building is constructed in Cansourro. Next month we will construct a chapel in Bagongsilang, in Bunga, and lay the cement flooring for the Punong chapel in Bayawan.

### **8. The Income Generating Projects**

#### **a. Sugar Cane**

I have identified the **Gamao** area not suitable for Sugar cane enterprise because of Bad road conditions and isolation from people where there is no labor force found. Though the rent has been paid two years ago for this four hectares only .8 hectares has been planted with Sugar Cane. I have decided not to cultivate the over grown land. The income at the first harvest from the .8 hectares was good enough to defray the expenses at harvest.

The three and a half hectares of land in **Minaba** at its first harvest brought only sixty tons of Sugar Cane. The low yield can possibly be due to not applying fertilizer last year. This year we have applied fertilizer in time and in good proportion. The application was done in March last month the second dose is scheduled in June this year and so, we are expecting a high



yield this December. The plantation in Minaba is located strategically the roads are good and the work force can easily be found.

#### **b. Guest Room**

The Guest Room at the National Office Building has brought good income last year. It is now rebuilt and well furnished for to be used for the Minister on Sabbatical to the Philippines. When the program is done by October the guest room will be rented out for the months till the next Minister on Sabbatical use it. We are looking forward to a good income form this facility.

#### **c. Mango Plantation**

The Mango Plantation in Nagbinlod project had no funds to maintain the plantation. It was over growing. I came up with the proposal to get the congregations both in Nagbinlod and Nataban engage in caring for the plantations and at the same time making use of the land for farming. I introduced the Congregational project concept which the two congregations have willing accepted. We organized the congregation members and in Nagbinlod, through the help of the Department of Agriculture we organized a seminar on caring for Mango in December last year. Upon recommendations we have decided to make use of organic fertilizer. The land is maintained be the congregation in Nagbinlod. The Income Generating program provided the congregation with fertilizer for their corn farm which the congregation will pay back at harvest. Our next meeting with the DA is scheduled for May 7, next month where we will plan for applying organic solutions to treat the Mango plants and Spraying for flowers. I invite you to extend your appreciation to the Nagbinlod and Nataban Congregations for their voluntarism.

#### **d. Energy Tree and Coconut**

The Energy Plantation Project as well had no funds to maintain the plantation where there was overgrowing of wild plants. Same as in Nagbinlod I organized the members. After long deliberations of meetings over months the members were able to commit them selves to take care of the seventeen hectares of land in Nataban. The IGP will provide the congregation fertilizer for their farming. The congregation has volunteered to keep the land clean and make use of the land for farming. I have agreed to provide the Congregation meals at work on Saturdays. The funds from the IGP are allocated for this purpose.

For long period of time the UUCP has not been able settle issues related to the Nataban Land and plan for making the land productive. Therefore I proposed to the Board of Directors that we make a project proposal for funds

to address the issues and develop the land. The Board approved the proposal. Rev. Rebecca Quimada Sienes made a project Proposal. The proposal is sent to the funding program. We hope the proposal will be approved. We have planned in the proposal to plant a rain forest in order to help the environment. Four hectares will be set apart for this purpose.

We want to plant ten hectares of coconuts which is a promising income earning avenue. The San Carlos City Agriculturist Mr. Edgar Dela Cruz is willing to provide us with all the necessary technical support. We have many plans for Nataban. We want to convert the land in to a demo farm. Establish an agricultural center in Nataban. Produce fertilizer out of worms which is organic. We will commence work on the nursery for the coconuts next month.

#### **e. Toribio Quimada Center**

The Vision for the Toribio Quimada Center is to have an income generating component through the dormitory. The other components are to have daily income generating through accepting guest. The center will be also used for ecumenical and inter faith programs. Our vision is to have a theological education program offered in the Philippines for local aspirants as well as for those in the Asian region.

The fund Raising committee composed of UU ministers and Lay from the USA with Rev. Rebecca Q. Sienes and My self in the Philippines, have held many meetings over the SKYPE. A new study of the Feasibility of the project is arranged and is scheduled for the first week of May. The UUCP is very grateful to Rev. Dr. Fredric John Muir for organizing his congregation to work to get a pack sent to seven hundred and fifty North American Congregations. In the pack there was a Brochure on the Project. A letter request for support and Rev. Fred Muir's book written about the UUCP "Maglipay Universalist" We are very grateful to the Committee members Len Pellittieri, Mary Rose, Rev. Eric Cherry, Lee Boeke Burke, Houston UU Church, Rev. Richard Boeke and Monte Vista Congregation for making contributions towards this project. I want to make mention of the contribution Mr. Roberto (Bob) Guerrero made to the project by way of re-doing the Project Brochure at his own expense. The committee members who live in United States of America scattered in three different time zones In spite of this fact they gave their best to in support of the project. Thank you so much.

#### **f. Trucking Services**

Trucking services project was never a success story from the beginning of its operations due to the type of Truck UUCP owned. Last December when hauling operations began we monitored the trucking services and found that this particular unit was a loss to the income generating project. The Board of Directors had earlier decided to sell the truck but first, wanted to monitor the trucking services. In December last year the driver brought the truck in collision with another truck causing damage to its front area. The Insurance Company offered only seventy thousand pesos where as the estimated budget for the repairs had reached One hundred and fifteen thousand pesos. As the UUCP financial situation was critical and as funds were lacking to repair the truck, the Board of Directors decided to sell the truck without repairs. The truck was sold for the amount One Hundred and Eighty thousand pesos.

## **9. Conferences**

I am glad that in December 2008 both the **Youth and Young Adults** were able to hold their Conferences in Banaybanay and at the National Head Quarters in Dumaguete. I am very grateful to the Banaybanay Congregation for making all the arrangements and providing for the Youth conference. This is another example of helping out in ways expressing voluntarism. The officers, ministers and members all worked very hard to make the conference a success and extended a very warm welcome and provide hospitality to all who were there. There was a gathering of 23 Youth and many guests. Thank you so much

**The Young Adults** who met in Dumaguete for the conference was facilitated by Mrs. Rosela Piera and helped by the UUCP staff. Nine Young Adults participated in the one day program. They decided to meet during the days here at the convention to elect a set of officers to carry on the work of the Network.

## **10. UU Learning School**

The UU Learning School has been in existence for the last two years. During the first year Rev. Rebecca Quimada Seines was able to find funds from her friends abroad. In the second year the Castine Congregation helped with the school's identity being recognized by Government agencies. It is now registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission. This year the members of the Board of the School are soliciting funds for its operations and school opening expenses starting June 2009.

## **Plans for the Future**

In order to keep a balance in our income and expenditure with administration and programs of the UUCP I have introduced a system where the existing organizations and associations may have funds available for its operations, activities and programs. Therefore The Youth, Young Adults, Men and Women organizations Ministers and Faith healers associations are provided with a budget in the 2009 FY UUCP annual budget.

I want to request partner Congregations in North America to consider supporting the UUCP administration by way of allocating 10% percent of the funds they will raise for congregational support of their respective partners. This is necessary as it is the National Body that facilitate all programs of the UUCP and its existence depend on the availability of funds to hire and keep Staff who does the leg work for all the programs of the UUCP. I hope this proposal will be well received by all partner Congregations in the United States of America. I am assured of support for this endeavor by Rev. Mark Worth of Canstine. I have introduced a system to have staff work part time due to financial restrains and place some of the staff under different programs for their stipend. I plan to write to partner congregations to consider support for the Ministerial services that the UU Ministers offer to their respective services. Our ministers are not paid if funds are available they are given an honorarium of two thousand pesos once a year.

## **Board of Directors Meetings and decisions**

The Members of the Board needed to obtain the Tax Identification Numbers from the Bureau of Internal Revenue therefore majority of them had to come to Dumagueute on two occasions. At those times the members discussed concerns related to the Administration. The regular meetings were held in September 2008 and in March 2009.

## **Decisions:**

1. Write letters to persons who have outstanding accounts with the UUCP.
2. Hire staff for the UUCP
3. Support the UUA Association Sunday each year
4. Approve the Sabbatical Program
5. Approve the sale of the Truck
6. Approve the Strategic Planning Program

7. Approve the BUILD Phil. Local fund Drive
8. Approve internal unit outstanding accounts receivable and payable.
9. Approve the nominations of the ICUU delegate
10. Approve Proposal for Nataban land development
11. Approve the proposal for part time staff proposal
12. Approve the 2009 Fiscal Year Budget
13. Approve the Convention program
14. Approve the Plenary agenda for the Convention

### **Thanks**

I owe my thanks to many who have helped me in the work of the UUCP. Rev. Eric Cherry of the International Office of the UUA for inviting me for the GA last June and providing me with Travel and hospitality, being a good friend ready to offer help as well as connecting me to many programs of the UUA.

I thank Mrs Lee Boeke Burke for arranging my visit to different North American Congregations in July last year and schedules with congregations providing me with hospitality and accompanying me to Starr King Divinity School in San Francisco, Meadville Lombard Divinity School in Chicago and San Mateo Congregation.

I thank her for her untiring work as the coordinator for Partnership for the Philippines. Thank you for organizing tours to the Philippines which opens the door for many connections.

I want to thank Mrs. Cathy Cordes who have been a long time supporter for the work of the Faith in Action department and have created programs to help congregations around the world that the church in the Philippines as apart benefits. Thank you for all the support and encouragement given for the Partnerships Capacity building, Student Scholarship and Micro finance programs. Thank you so much for receiving me and providing hospitality during my visit to the USA.

I thank Rev. Fredric John Muir the Ambassador of the UUA to the UUCP who has given me advice and counsel at times I have approached him. As a good friend of the UUCP Rev. Muir has represented the UUCP at the Advisory council of the UUA and helped the UUA establish a good working relationship with the UUCP. Thank you so much. Rev. Muir has gone out of

his way to help the UUCP. It was his vision to write about the UUCP that paved the way for the UU world community come to know the UUCP. In many ways Rev. Fred Muir we consider a good friend have tried his best to introduce us to events programs and gatherings. We are very much privileged have Rev. Muir with us for this years' convention and we are thankful for this opportunity we have to learn and seek council from him.

I thank the ICUU for inviting me as delegate to the council meeting in Rumania in September this year. I have had the opportunity to communicate at many occasions with the President Rev. Brian Kiely and the Executive Secretary Rev. John Clifford. I thank them both for encouraging me and for providing me with information related to the UUCP ICUU relations.

I want to Thank Dr. Richard Ford for his dedicated service rendered to the UUCP in training to staff and community leaders since 2003 and specially last November. His vision to raise capacities to develop communities has added a new dimension to the work of the UUCP. Ms. Eileen Higgins who joined Dr. Ford in the November trip to the UUCP helped us with group organizational dynamics. Her contribution to support a staff in the capacity building program was a great help. Both Dr. For and Ms. Higgins have donated laptops to the UUCP these and other financial assistance are gratefully acknowledged. Thank you so much.

I want to thank Mr. Michael Looft who visited the UUCP and introduce the micro Finance concept his concept is now studied by the Partner Church Council for creating programs for countries where partnerships are established. Thank you so much for sharing your expertise with the UUCP and being a supporter for future program activities of the UUCP.

My thanks goes to San Diego, Annapolis Maryland, Fairfax Virginia, White Plains new York, Castine Maine, Fox valley Fellowship Appleton, Lombard Chicago and Starr king Divinity Schools, San Mateo, Monte Vista congregations for receiving me and giving me the opportunity to speak and present the UUCP. I thank for the wonderful receptions and hospitality. I thank for the contributions raised to facilitate my travel.

I thank Mr. Len Pellittieri and Mary Rose for treating me so well taking good care of me.

Mrs. Christine Nielsen and Mr. Keith Raney for warm welcome and hospitality. I thank Rev. Richard Mrs. Sharon Van Duizend of Washington DC for being wonderful host and providing me with great hospitality. Thank you Dr. and Mrs. Richard Ford of New York who kept good company with me and extended warm hospitality. I thank Mr. and Mrs. Warren Rose of White Plains for treating me so nice and making my stay very comfortable. Thank you so much Rev. Polly Guild for receiving me so warmly and making my stay an enjoyable one in Massachusetts. I thank Rev. Eric Cherry for driving me to many places in the Boston area and giving me a tour of the Boston office. Thank you for being a good friend. I thank Rev. and Mrs. Harold Babcock of Newburyport Massachusetts for giving me a great time and for being so hospitable. I thank for taking me to the Universalist church that made the first connection with Rev. Toribio Quimada.

I thank Rev. Mark Worth for driving with me for hours spending time in places giving me a memorable time in Castine Maine. I thank Mr. John Burke and Lee for making me feel at home and arranging the trip for me accompanying me to places and for treating me so well. I thank Carol Cook and Susan Grieger for the wonderful hospitality care and providing for me. I thank Rev. Dr. Rahman Qiyamah of Lombard Divinity School for arranging for a presentation and providing hospitality. I thank Mr. Thomas Smith for arranging a wonderful gathering at Starr king Divinity School and for providing warm hospitality. I thank Mrs. Jacquelyn Albay Yenney and Mr. Dave Yenney for the warm welcome and hospitality. I thank Rev. Joseph and Mrs. Aimee Santos Lyons for having me with them and taking me places and providing me with hospitality.

In all these places there were many more persons involved that took great interest in the UUCP and came to meet and listen to the story of the UUCP. To them all and to those who are working hard in support of the work of the UUCP that you so much. The contact persons and ministers of congregations partnered with the Philippines church thank you so much. I thank Mr. Michael Lim for his contribution to the work of the UUCP both moral support and financial assistance.

I thank leaders and ministers of our congregations for making effort to responsibly lead and direct the ministry and work of the congregations. I thank those who have been very hospitable to me at my visits it has been spiritually uplifting to be in congregations and to listen to the stories both sad and joyful. I want to make mention and thank Rev. Borremeo Cayab Sr. for his dedication to the ministry and commitment to four congregations

namely Nataban, Benejiwan, Bagongsilang and to Cabiguhan. Thank you so much.

I thank all the leaders in different congregations who have provided leadership to congregations Mr. David Rago in Nataban and Mr Pestaneas in Nagbinlod. Mr. Arman Pedro in Doldol and Mrs. Telma Lopez in Ulay. I thank those ministers, who have ministered congregations faithfully and would like to mention Rev. Miguelito Castaneda, Rev. Ludem Esquida, Rev. Rafel Vibar, Rev. Marcelino Jimenez, Rev. Jeremias Bacaling, Rev. Marcelino Delos Santos. Rev. Severo Faburada. I appreciate the work of the ministers who serve under difficult living conditions. I thank Reverends Anastacio Lumiran, Samuel Gino, Cesar Faburada, Ernesto Rebyle, Jovanie Espanola, Henry Legaje, Remundo Cotez, Everisto Diginion, Henry Qimada William Quimada, Vergelio Belimac, Elinio Balinmac, Elecio Supita Arnil Supita, Rodolfo Engano, Bobby Erames,

Hospecio Condez Sr. Rogelio Lopez, Constancio Torres and Rev. Carlos Angana. It is very encouraging to note the work in Bicutan and Quezon City. I thank Mr. Roberto (Bob) Guerrero for his leadership and his team of leaders who are engaged in urban ministry and gathering many interested in Unitarian Universalism. Bob has always been very hospitable to me at my visits to Manila it is a joy to be with all of them and work in the ministry. Thank you so much for spreading the UU message in the metropolis. I have dedicated three pages out of thirteen to thank you. You may wonder why it is so. I have only thanked some and not all yet. I want to tell you that thanking is one of the virtues. At an anniversary there is nothing else fitting than to giving thanks.

Let me bring my report to a close by making special mention of my staff who has given one hundred percent of their skills time and energy to the work and to this convention. I thank them all for the spirit of voluntarism. Rev. Rebecca Quimada Sienes a great leader of our time in the UUCP has selflessly given her time to the work of the UUCP to international work and to community at large. With her connection here and abroad she has been able to represent the UUCP well. Thank you so much. All other staff in their respective area of work have done their best thereby help the work of the UUCP. They have worked well in keeping books in managing finances, record, Congregational visits and connections and maintenance of the National Head quarters. Thank you so much.



Finally, I want to thank my family for their patience with me for the understanding love  
And care. They are always an inspiration to me. The support I receive from my wife is immeasurable. Thank you so much. I thank my two sons for being of good sports for their ways of helpfulness in my work. Thank you so much.