

# Lifeline International

Bill & Susan Otten

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## From Sadness to Joy!



*Proclaiming Truth, Providing Help*



What began as an exhortation to our FaceBook friends, quickly turned into relief ministry this month. **Friday night before Easter, numerous requests for help were coming from our friends and partners in India, Pakistan, Philippines, Thailand, Africa and Brazil.** The churches needed help for their churches and

communities that were suffering. Our checking account was already low from providing funds, so my heart was sad that I had no more to send.

I shared my burden on FaceBook and exhorted my friends to remember that while our cupboards were full, there were less fortunate people around the world. **I encouraged the Christian community to support any relief ministries they know.** Little did I know what might develop.

In just 24 hours thousands of dollars began pouring in through Pal Pal and FaceBook and has continued all month. The response was sufficient to meet those needs and much more.



In just a few weeks, **we have been able to aid missionaries in the Amazon, care for orphan children in Uganda and help churches in India, Pakistan, Philippines and Thailand provide needed food to their communities.**

**In the Philippines** we have partnered with our friends to purchase **\$20 sacks of rice** to provide for a mountain community of 350 families. Church workers in all these nations have been distributing the food and praying with each family. I



**In Thailand,** we are helping thousand of Filipinos who have been stranded without work or flights back to Manila.

**In India,** we are providing groceries bags for homes containing rice, oil, lentils, eggs and other needful things. **\$10 a bag** is such a small price to pay.

**In Mindanao, 22 pastors** who were struggling to supply for their families and churches have received ample help.

Our sadness turned to joy over the the Easter holiday. **Thank you Lifeline supporters and ministry partners for the strong response to these requests!** If you would like to help, we have enclosed an envelope for that purpose.



### Please help our office

Connecting digitally has become more important than ever these days. We are finding that we are lacking complete and accurate information to call or send reports by email. **Would you take a minute and text us your contact information? Thank you. 478 290-7000**

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**Remember those sewing machines you purchased?**  
They may have saved lives!



*We were thrilled to receive these pictures from our friends in India. The sewing machines and materials we purchased for the women are now being utilized to sew masks for the community during the virus pandemic.*



## **DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY!!**

**The shutdown of personal travel and business interaction has left an open door for evangelism.**

Since all Americans are experiencing this virus crisis together, it has become the national conversation. Leaning over the fence to talk with neighbors that heretofore had nothing in common with you, now want to talk! Bored people are looking to have a conversation even if it is only to complain.

Inquiring about a person's well being and offering your assistance is now the norm. **Inviting others to a church online service is no great inconvenience or threat.** Anyone can attend a church service in their pajamas!

This moment has created an environment to develop and strengthen neighborhood relationships like the modern day has not. And when this crisis has passed, you will have established some new acquaintances to follow up on. **Don't miss the opportunities, they are all around you!**



We are still processing the results of our recent work in the Philippines. **The mission was filled with many unexpected ministry opportunities ranging from High School classrooms to Philippine army outposts!**

The youth conference was one of the most emotionally expressive that I can remember. **Dancing dominated the services and tears flowed so freely that puddles needed to be wiped from the floor.**

## **Strengthened the grace of God**

The leadership conference was such an uplifting one that the preachers did not want it to end. We ended the meetings with our faces to the floor having a fresh encounter with God. Many were filled with the Spirit and received their prayer language.

**Now these leaders are managing a big crisis.**

They are working to provide for their congregations and communities during the shutdown. It is fortunate that they had such a refreshing time before going back to work. Our team of 10 was also fortunate to leave the country before the airports closed.

