

# Tambuli NEWSLETTER

JULY 2018



A COMMUNITY OF DISCIPLES ON MISSION

## Community Conference 2018

### *Stewardship: Time, Talent and Treasure*

On June 23, 2018, the community gathered for the annual conference at St. Cecilia Church in Monmouth Junction, New Jersey.

The conference theme is about stewardship and was designed to remind members of the responsibility as stewards of God's resources namely, time, talent and treasure. There were two talks in the morning and one in the afternoon. Participants had the chance to share their insight during breakout sessions after every talk.

Cecil Penson delivered the first talk which touched on stewardship of talent. Kuya Cecil stated that as Christians, we are many parts but one body. We are blessed with a variety of gifts to complement each other and no service is too big or too small for anyone to take part of. At the end of the day, serving with a joyful heart is of utmost importance.

Eric de Jesus spoke about the importance of managing our time wisely. Eric discussed how to set up daily tasks into 4 categories, non-important, important, non-urgent and urgent. The categories dictated how we prioritize the tasks in our schedule. He gave emphasis that the best way to spell love is T-I-M-E.

Our Missionary Coordinator, Jeff Smith, delivered the third talk about tithing. Jeff declared that our God is a god who cannot be outdone in generosity and tithing is giving back what is rightfully His. He pointed out that tithing will empower and give us peace knowing that possessions and money have no control over us.

The conference ended with time for the speakers to answer questions. Truly a meaningful day in the life of a steward.

- Eric de Jesus

"As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God" (1 Pet. 4:10)

## Life in the Spirit Seminar 2018



This year we had six sessions of the LSS which started on April 13. We had multiple families hosting the event (Cabangon's, Rubio's, Beltran's, Castillo's and Alicante's). The culmination of the event was the LSS Baptism which occurred last May 18 at the Alicante and Rubio residence. Five participants were baptized at the Rubio's home (Kim, Christa, Chienli, Silvana and Fran). Three participants at the Alicante's (Karen, Clarence and Rudy).



*"In the same way, let your light shine upon others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven." -Matthew 5:16*

## Women's Tea Time—April 28



The first women's tea time for 2018 was held last April 28 at the Cabangon's residence. A hearty breakfast was served and the sisters enjoyed watching an inspiring and heartwarming movie called Wonder. We also celebrated the birthdays of our sisters Menchie and Tet. After the event, we had a surprise birthday party for Tet who is celebrating a milestone birthday this year!

## Mother's Day Honoring—May 6



Last May 6 during the Community Gathering, the Mothers had a special surprise from the men. To celebrate Mother's day in advance, the men gave the Mothers long stemmed red roses while singing to the song Perfect by Ed Sheeran. A slide show was prepared with pictures gathered by the men. All the Moms were pleasantly surprised by this honoring.

## Men's Activity—May 12



This quarter, the Men's activity was focused on fundraising for the Youth group. The activity started with feeding our souls with Fr Ed's Words of Wisdom. Lord's day and fellowship followed with a sumptuous mouth watering Argentinian style steaks paired with garlic roasted potatoes in truffle oil, roasted pepper and beets, melt on your mouth pork belly BBQ and quenching ice cold beer! Indeed, our body and soul was fed to satisfaction and at the same time, we were able to collect some money for the youth.

- Noel Beltran



# Women's Tea Time—June 9



Women's Tea Time is always a refreshing event where women gather one morning for encouragement, inspiration and sisterhood.

Last June 8, another Tea Time was held at the Beltran's Residence. 40 sisters were in attendance one sunny morning. The morning started with a yummy breakfast feast set up in the backyard. Sumptuous buffet of breakfast such as Pandesal, Cranberry Orange Scones, Avocado Toast, Egg Bites, Mini Franks, Naan Bread with Mozzarella and Pesto and Acai Cups were prepared by some of our sisters.

After we had our fill of the Lord's bountiful grace, we gathered inside the house for an uplifting praise and worship led by Tita. We then spent some time praying and lifting up all our intentions to God. It was indeed a good and refreshing day spent with sisters.

- Tet Guevarra



## COF Summer Overnight—June 29

On June 29, twelve children from COF ministry were excited to check in to our Annual summer overnight event. We were not only able to spend the night at the Beltran's household, but we also set up four tents at their backyard as our campsite. With God's grace and many prayers from children and parents, we had beautiful sunny weather for two days on the 29<sup>th</sup> and the 30<sup>th</sup>. This year was different from the past years because the youth and the post high school members got involved and were leading the games. Meeko and Angelica were leading the children on campfire singing and dancing on Friday night. They ended the night with s'more and outdoor movie. The children all enjoyed sleeping in the tents. The next day, six youth, Lyla, Chino, Toni, Danna, Phoebe and Isabella did a fantastic job leading the relay and water games throughout the day. The youth and children also played volleyball together and had so much fun. It was so nice to see them having such a wonderful time altogether with any age gap. The last activity was to create your own tie-dye shirt as a keepsake to remember this special event. Finally the COF children and ministry, together with the parents, wrapped up the event with the celebration of Lords Day. We wanted to thank Noel, Flors and Chesca for welcoming us like their families. We also wanted to thank all the parents, post high school and youth members for contributing their time and food to our COF children. Most of all, we wanted to thank God for giving his gracious gift of love and kindness to our community and a successful event this year.

- Evelyn Wan



## Kairos Youth Worker Summit

Last June 15-17, 2018, Kairos Youth Worker Summit was held in University of Saint Mary of the Lake, Mundelein, Illinois. It is a beautiful seminary in an expansive grounds with a breathtaking view of the lake inviting you to prayer and reflection of God's splendor and goodness.

Family of Faith delegates included Rex Poyaoan, Meeko Natural, Angelica Mowery, Gia Guevarra, Mara Cabangon, Peter Castillo, and me. It was also attended by Triumph of the Cross, Families for Christ, City on the Hill, to name a few.

The Summit sessions covered Kairos' Youth Work Principles, Gender and Sexuality Case Studies, Strategic Investment in Upper Classmen, SWOT Culture Evaluation, Vision and Worship, and Regional Programs and Evaluation.

The highlights that struck me the most as shared by Kairos North America Director, James Munk, and Mike Shaughnessy, Kairos International and Regional Director were -

1. The youth are the most underutilized resource. They are given so much but less is demanded of them.

The parents are one of our greatest ally in our youth work but could also be one of the greatest threat in preventing it as well. They have the power to raise our youth, not to be safe, but become radical lifelong disciples who will either be missionaries, saints or martyrs. Additionally, it is the coordinators's job to get the parents on board and realize their critical role.

2. A proposal on Kairos Youth Worker Training Curriculum which will be a series of recorded talks and made available online. It is very invaluable because our youth workers will be further equipped with their service and will approach guidelines that are identical and consistent with SOS communities.

The weekend was packed with a lot of learnings, and oftentimes, overwhelming because it was my first to attend a youth worker summit. I was overwhelmed with awe in how much prayer and work entailed KAIROS events like YES Retreat, GAP, etc. I was overwhelmed with gratitude to see countless young men and women exuberant in their service. Lastly, I was overwhelmed by God's love and faithfulness as His Spirit sets in motion all those seen and unseen ways in gathering all His children under His reign.

To God be the glory, forever and forever!!!

- Shiela Bugarin



## Young Professional Outreach Training



On July 21, 2018, the Sword of the Spirit hosted a Young Professional Outreach (YPO) Training at the Servants of the Word Brotherhood Center in Chelsea Michigan. A team of YPO workers from Family of Faith flew over to Michigan to participate. The team composed of Pam Farrales, Angelica Mowery, Meeko Natural and I were joined by about 30 other YPO workers from the Michigan area. I initially thought before deciding to participate that I might be too old for a YPO event.

True enough, upon reaching there, I was the 2<sup>nd</sup> oldest guy, next only to Mike Shaughnessy – the speaker. But I wouldn't have it any other way, because it means that the young professionals are stepping up to the plate to evangelize their age group. It was inspiring to witness the passion of these young evangelists and how serious they are in doing their part in building God's kingdom.

The workshop talked about the challenges and circumstances facing young professionals. We discussed the reality that adulthood or maturity comes much later nowadays as opposed to 40 years ago. In the 1970s, maturity happens from the age of 20-24. Nowadays, it's happening 22-28. It's not only getting delayed, it's also taking longer.

We talked about how young professionals are newly graduates and maybe in a new job and in a new state and how they might be looking to establish relationships. We talked about practical ways of evangelizing but specifically targeting the young professionals. One very successful program in another Sword of the Spirit community is the "Taco Tuesdays". It's a very popular event to meet other young adults, enjoy good food and build friendships. Once you have events that people show up to regularly, you will have opportunities to witness to them. We were likewise given tips on how to become intentional in our conversations, hopefully leading people to open up themselves by our genuine concern for them.

One important take-away for me participating in this training was the understanding that young adults have their own pace – different from somebody like me who is married with 3 children. They prefer spontaneity and don't like being boxed in. If we intend to capture young professions into our way of life, we need to understand their pace and understand what goes on in their head.

Lastly, it's worth mentioning that the workshop ended with a Lord's day celebration. We always talked about being a community of communities, and for me, it was amazing how we all shared the Lord's day table reciting the same ceremony. It felt like being with relatives even if I've only met them all for the first time. This is what it means to be part of the Sword of the Spirit with a common way of life. It makes me appreciate that we're not in this on our own. We are all partners here in building God's kingdom. Praise God!

- Vanni Yorobe



"TAMBULI" is a Filipino word for horn or trumpet.

## ABOUT US



The Family of Faith (FOF) is a Catholic Charismatic Community based in New Jersey, USA. We are a community of lay people (married couples, singles, youth and children) that seeks and actively participates in the Church's mission to the world. We stand and

work for: Conversion to Christ and Christian maturity, love and worship of God, Christian personal relationships and Community, daily life in Christian character, commitment to Evangelization, promotion of Christian unity, and defense of the Gospel. Through a life of prayer, worship, service and mutual support we seek to bring the light of Christ to the world.

FOF is a member community of Christ the King Association (Association of Catholic Communities) and Sword of the Spirit— [swordofthespirit.net](http://swordofthespirit.net) (Ecumenical Association of Christian Communities)

The Family of Faith is a registered 501 (c) (3) Non-Profit Organization.

To know more about us and our various activities, visit our website: <http://fofnj.org>

### Social Media connection:

 <http://facebook.com/fofnj>

 <http://twitter.com/fofnj>

For inquiries, email us at: [fofadmin@gmail.com](mailto:fofadmin@gmail.com)

"So then, while we have the opportunity, let us do good to all, but especially to those who belong to the family of the faith."

*Galatians 6:10*

It calls the people of God for an assembly and prayer.

Like the "tambuli", our newsletter calls us to gather around God who makes His message known.

## Family of Faith 2018 Theme

**I am your God.  
Fix your gaze on me  
and  
be transformed.**

### *Our Mission and Vision*

Our **mission** is to live a life of prayer and holiness, take on the ways of God and become witnesses of God's love to others. We are committed to love and serve one another and the greater Church.

Our **vision** is to be a Catholic Covenant Community with a common way of life that expresses God's truth and word in action.

### **Tambuli Newsletter Editorial Team:**

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