

# MentorLink Today

MentorLink—Philippines

Sept 2009

## Mentoring Training Schedules

Sept – Dec  
2009

**Sept 23-25**— Together We Grow—Spiritual Mentoring Retreat to follow up those who attended ACTION International Pastors' Seminar.

**Sept 29-Dec 1** – Mentoring for Life and Leadership Wenzhou City, China.

**Oct 10** – Mentoring the Small Group Leaders, with the Ikhtus Christian Centre in Bacolod City.

**Oct 11-12** – Mentoring for Life and Leadership with the International Care Ministries Pastors in Bacolod City

**Oct 31-Nov 1** – Mentoring in the Marketplace with the IVCF Professional Movement in the island of Mindanao.

**Nov 2-7** – Mentoring For Life and Leadership (SMR2) and Training the Mentor-Trainers in Bogor, Indonesia in partnership with Partnership International and Terang Nusa.

**Nov 25-27** – **Mentoring the Mentors**, a mentoring retreat for those who have been trained in mentoring and are active practioners.

**Dec 9-10**— MentorLink ExecutiveTeam Prayer and Planning Retreat.

As a result of global economic recession, many Christian organizations have slowed down if not folded up their ministries. But by the grace of God, MentorLink Phil continues to advance the mentoring movement with a very low budget.

What makes MentorLink unique is its being a movement more than an organization. It strategically operates with partners and network of friends who share the philosophy and practice of MentorLink Philippines.

It is quite overwhelming how God been raising up people and organizations who are paving the way for mentoring leadership development, not only in the Philippines but as far as in East Asia.

Just to name a few, God has given us the TOPIC-Phil, International Care Ministries, Campus Crusade for Christ, PCEC Churches, Phil. Christian Literature Inc., Action International, Christian Growth

Advancing the mentoring movement among the thousands of pastors scattered into the thousands of islands in the Philippines is an daunting task. But with the Trainers Of Pastors International Coalition (TOPIC), MentorLink's major training partner, the dream may become possible.

On Sept 10, 2009, 208 pastors graduated in the TOPIC Core Of Regional Equipppers (CORE 300) program. They are strategically placed in the 14 regions of the Philippines. They have been tasked to train and mentor the more than 40,000 pastors who have not received formal ministerial education.

MentorLink Philippines was born



Robert, Herman's mentoring partners

## MentorLink Advances with Network and Partners

Ministries, Ikhtus Christian Centre, Faith Fellowship, Association of Bible Communities of the Philippines, Fairview Christian Fellowship, Touch of Asia, Partnership International, Grace International Baptist Church, , Faith Baptist Church and All Saints Church.

It is indeed a great blessing to become part of the greater Body of Jesus Christ. By submitting to Jesus as our Lord and committing to extend the Kingdom alone, the cause of Christ keeps growing with the limited resources available.

We are also grateful for individual partners and friends who pray, share and serve gratis for God's glory.

## Mentoring with TOPIC-Phil CORE 300

through the invitation of TOPIC International. It started when Dr. Steve Breedlove, then serving with the MentorLink International, came to explore the possibility of initiating a mentoring movement in the Philippines in Oct 2001.

These CORE Equipppers have already received basic mentoring training. Mentoring can't be done by simply imparting knowledge, so TOPIC asked MentorLink Phil to come alongside these pastors and continue the mentoring process as integral of leadership development.

In the next phase, the decade of IMPACT, MentorLink Phil leads the process and practice of mentoring to guide and coach these equipppers to pursue Christlikeness and to become intentional in mentoring others in different part of the country.



## Mentor's Reflection

H.A. Moldez

### Coming Alongside

Teary-eyed, a pastor who just graduated from TOPIC's CORE 300, shared the time he was ready to quit. Unable to control his temper, he almost harmed his associate who disrespected him. Feeling shamed and losing his integrity, he could only think of quitting from his ministry. This decision was aborted only because of the mentors from TOPIC and MentorLink who came alongside to journey with him at a time of his failure and frustration.

Two years ago I journeyed with a Christian leader who lost his job and at the brink of losing his marriage as well because of another woman. Many times I felt we were going nowhere when he poured out his guilt, expressed his feeling of fear and seeing no glimmer of hope. Whenever he communicated, it was a litany of his failure and frustration, of depression and desperation about life. I did not know what to say but to just listen and to be with him in prayer and in pain.

In retrospect what truly helped was just my being present in his suffering and the perseverance to come alongside with him. By God's grace, he is now actively serving the Lord and slowly rebuilding his marriage.

The Apostle Paul expressed the pain of being alone in suffering. Facing trial before the Roman court, no one was there to support him. Expressing the deep wound of his heart, he said, "no one came to my support, but everyone deserted me" (2Tim4:16).

How many pastors and leaders are crying because they feel forsaken with no one there with whom they can freely and frankly open the deep struggles of their hearts? We pastors try our best to care and comfort those afflicted by suffering. But often times we don't have a safe place to open the pains of our lives.

Mentoring is a slow process of investing a life-on-life encounter with a few. It is a costly process of standing by the side of those who are feeling abandoned. Leaders feel isolated on the top. Pastors feel alone in their own problem and pain. They all need trusted friends and mentors who will come alongside to facilitate the presence of God's abiding love.

We leaders are alone only because we are not ready to be vulnerable. If we are to grow, we must dare to be ourselves with safe friends. We must embrace our own brokenness and share it with a mentor. While mentors are not easy to find, they may come to us by surprise. It only takes that we initiate to open up our lives.

## Prayer and Praise

- Praise God for all those who have been trained in mentoring for life and leadership. Pray for faithfulness to mentor others.
- Praise God for the 40 Cell Group leaders of Fairview Christian Fellowship who have been undergoing mentoring training sessions with Pastor Herman Moldez.
- Praise God for Pastor Herman Moldez' book: *Mentoring for Life and Leadership* which has been published and is being enthusiastically received. Pray that this will deepen the readers and practitioners' understanding of biblical mentoring.
- *Touch of Asia –Cross-Cultural Discipleship Training* is a new training centre set up in Medan, North Sumatra. It aims to train young graduate in cross-cultural mission to disciple the Ms in South East Asia, particularly in Indonesia, Malaysia, Brunei and the Philippines. Pastor Herman serves as a mentor-consultant and an international mentor-trainer.
- Praise God for *Steve Read*, a new member of the MentorLink's Executive Team. MentorLink partners with Action International, Steve's mission organization in mentoring pastors.
- Praise God for *Mike Harrison*, former member of the MLPhil Executive Team who is actively mentoring the Filipino pastors in Toronto, Canada. Pray for a potential partnership with Filipino International Network, to advance mentoring among the Filipinos in diaspora in the Middle East.
- Pray for *Pastor Johnny Pabia*, a member of MentorLink Phil's Executive Team is now full time in mentoring with his own denomination – Alliance of Bible Communities Of the Philippines. His responsibility extends to mentoring his network in Malaysia and Brunei as well mentoring the denomination's pastors in Europe.
- Pray for *Pastor Roli Manuel* as he continues to be involved in developing and mentoring in small groups. Praise God for his mentees who are mentoring others. One mentoring group has been instrumental in planting two church outreaches.
- Pray for *Ver Bernadino*, another member of Mentor-Link Phil Executive Team. He is now the Asia Coordinator of Timothy Leadership Training. He has integrated mentoring in training leaders in Indonesia, Nepal and the Philippines.
- Pray for God's provision to meet the needs for the remaining projects in 2009 . We are trusting for US \$1,000.00 to meet all MentorLink's needs.