

CELEBRATING THE GOODNESS OF GOD

REV. LITO VILLORIA

“Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, 7 rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.” - Colossians 2:6-7

Today, we celebrate 25 years of God’s goodness in **GCF South Metro** (GCFSM). We can trace our roots to the missions work of the Conservative Baptist Mission (CBM) who sent the **Rev. David W. Yount** to the Philippines in the 1970s. In February 1978, Pastor Yount planted our mother church, **Greenhills Christian Fellowship** (GCF Main), in Ortigas Center, Pasig City.

When Pastor Yount returned to Chicago in 1993, the late **Dr. Luis Pantoja, Jr. (1946-2010)** was appointed as Senior Pastor of GCF Main. It was during the leadership of Pastor Luis that GCF Main planted satellite churches, with GCFSM being the first of many satellites that followed.

Around 1996, a handful of GCFers who lived in the south of Manila started a Growth Group in Parañaque City. They grew in number and gave birth to another Growth Group. These two Growth Groups eventually started GCF South Metro on January 19, 1997.

The first home of GCF South Metro was on the 4th floor, One Legacy Place, Alabang Hills, Muntinlupa City. A few months after its launching, **GCF Main** assigned Dr. Narry Santos as the Resident Pastor. After serving for 10 years, Pastor Narry was appointed to lead GCF Toronto in Canada.

Dr. Larry Pabiona, who was an Associate Pastor at GCF Main, then took over the pastoral leadership role at GCFSM. After three years, Pastor Larry was reassigned back and became the Senior Pastor of GCF Main. In February 2010, I was

transferred from GCF Main to be the Senior Pastor of GCFSM.

In April 2000, the Lord moved GCFSM to the former IIAP Building in Madrigal Business Park along Alabang-Zapote Road. It was our home until the Lord blessed us with our present 5,000 square meter property in March 2005. Our facility is also home to **GCF South Metro Christian School**, which is a ministry of our church.

As we remember God’s goodness today, it is good to be reminded of our church’s mission and vision. If you consider GCFSM as your home church, you must take these things to heart. You must not only know this in your head and take this to your heart. You need to live out these things in your life.

Our **MISSION** is **“to love God, to love people, and to make multiplying disciples.”**

Our **VISION** is **“for the glory of God, we shall be a disciplemaking church reaching people within our community to impact the Philippines and beyond.”**

You also need to be aware of the **FIVE (5) PILLARS** of our **VISION 2027**:

- **BEING**: Keep God’s Word as the Foundation of SPIRITUAL GROWTH—grow deep in God’s Word as we widen our influence for Christ.
- **DOING**: Keep the MOMENTUM of moving the MAIN PROCESS of DISCIPLESHIP in the church and in school.
- **MISSIONAL**: Keep a MISSIONAL PERSPECTIVE of DISCIPLING ALL PEOPLE GROUPS—within the immediate community and beyond.
- **LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**:

PURSUE INTENTIONAL leadership development and succession on all levels of the church.

- **PRAYER**: Cultivate a VIBRANT PRAYER LIFE individually and corporately.

These serve as guardrails to keep GCFSM on the right track as we strive to be **AUTHENTIC DISCIPLES** and **INTENTIONAL DISCIPLEMAKERS**.

Our five pillars are anchored in **WORD, DISCIPLESHIP**, and **PRAYER**, which serves as the **FOUNDATION** of our ministries.

The goal of our pursuit of discipleship and disciplemaking is spiritual maturity. Yesterday in our IDMC Conference, the Rev. Edmund Chan shared Colossians 2:6-7 and derived four evidences of spiritual maturity—our walk, our foundation, our gratitude, and our stability.

As we look forward to the next 25 years and beyond continuing our journey as an Intentional Disciplemaking Church, it is my prayer that God will empower us with the Holy Spirit to keep walking with Jesus, to get rooted in God’s Word, to have an attitude of gratitude, and to have stability in our faith.

Happy 25th anniversary to our beloved GCFSM family! ✨

Join our upcoming events. For inquiries, visit our FB page.

