Ridgefield, WA. 98642, **RETURN SERVICE** 

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International Ministries

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"Zoé" is the Greek word for overflowing and abundant life in Christ Jesus. John 10:10 "I have come to give Life (Zoé), and life abundantly."







But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you <u>good news</u> that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is the Messiah, the Lord...Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom His favor rests." Luke 2:10, 13-14

This has been a very trying year for most of the world. I have Good News, our Savior has come! He is available to all who will call upon His name. Our hope can be anchored outside of this world and all its chaos and fear. Heaven and earth will pass away but His words and His Kingdom is forever. Trusting in Jesus, being thankful, and listening to Him can adjust our inner thoughts and emotions and bring peace and hope to our lives.

The LORD is leading us on a journey back to the Philippines. Although the journey so far, might look like a maze, we know God is in control and has a plan. There are many unknowns and many things that we do not understand. The good news is, we don't have to understand. The journey started with selling our stuff and packing, saying good-bye to friends and family in the North West. Then we traveled to Minnesota to visit one of our dear friends who worked with us for a year in the Philippines, and spent time with her family and friends. We then flew to Texas to take care of many, time consuming business things. While here, we have visited friends and have enjoyed the rekindling of friendships. We had tickets to fly out of Texas but our special visa did not come through in time due to COVID. We are currently in east Texas preparing "to go" which could happen any day. Until then, we are preparing, gathering used computers for students, working on new bible studies, and creating a new website just for the Philippines.

We would love to re-connect with you. See the different ways to contact us listed above (call, text, email, zoom, etc). We will serve and love wherever we are, just as God loves us wherever we are.

We pray that your Christmas season would be filled with the thrill of His Hope, that your weary soul will be refreshed as your heart prepares Him room, and that His presence would be the greatest present to you and your family this season and always.

Love you & Merry Christmas! & Patti Marko & Patti

## JOY IN THE JOURNEY



Volunteered with our local church and Salvation Army with food distribution for COVID and fire relief



Marko broke his wrist and had surgery then packed and moved





Blessed by her amazing friends on Patti's last day of work at Options







Helped by faithful friends from PIP with our huge rummage sale in Albany



Visited with precious friends and family at birthdays, weddings, and Zoom gatherings before departure



Helped build a club house for the girls in the basement, getting ready for the Minnesota winter



Built a club house with our amazing Texas host family (kids too) with teachable moments and tons of memories

Shared God's Word, God stories, and our heart and mission at an outdoor gathering



Worked on designing, creating, and building the club house and school area

Fellowshipped with faithful friends and supporters who blessed the Philippines with computers, shoes, and clothes





Read stories and spent time with Rachel and Aaron's girls



Visited old friends no matter the social distance or place, friendship is cherished