

Dear Friends of the Philippines:

I am writing this letter to those of you who have travelled with Roger Pohl or been involved in other ways in his work with the Philippines. As you may or may not know, our connection to the Philippines goes back to 1981 when our family (Roger and I and our children, then ages 5 and 9) spent a semester at Southern Christian College (SCC) in Midsayap on the southern island of Mindanao. Roger and I both taught at the university and engaged with the community through health care (Joanne) and addressing issues of corporate responsibility for agricultural workers. We witnessed SCC's strong record of capacity building in the Philippines and commitment to educating diverse populations including Muslims and other local minority groups, which lives on today. That experience turned out to be one of the most transformative for both of us over our lifetime. Go to the SCC website to get a sense of their work and commitment. <http://scclibrarysystem.blogspot.com/>

In Roger's last year of life, we had many discussions about our legacy, and agreed that after he died I would make a monetary gift of \$10,000 to SCC on behalf of both of us. Rev. Joe Malayang, who worked with the Michigan Conference and Covenant Association on the Philippine Partnership in its later years, and Rev. Campbell Lovett, Michigan's Conference Minister, suggested inviting matching funds from individuals and institutions familiar with Roger and his work in the Philippines through SCC, so that this gift could have a greater impact.

And that is the reason for this letter - We want to offer you the opportunity to contribute toward a matching gift that will help build and equip one classroom on the rapidly expanding SCC campus in Midsayap. Our goal is to raise an additional \$12,000 to make this possible. Your donation is tax deductible and would go to the Michigan Conference who will then send it on to the United Church of Christ World Board and finally to Southern Christian College.

Some of you will remember the year, 1981-82 when Dr. Ely Mapanao and his wife Portia worked in the Grand Rapids area for a year through the Michigan Conference. Ely Mapanao was the President of SCC at that time and a very strong leader. Ely and Portia and our time at SCC had a profound impact on us for the rest of our lives and we want to give back.

So there are Michigan connections with SCC, and connections for some of you to the Philippines through Roger's leadership.

I hope you might consider a gift towards the capacity building of education in the Philippines at SCC. If you want to donate— please choose one of the following options:

- To pay by check, please make the check out to: Michigan Conference UCC Mail to: Michigan Conference UCC – P.O. Box 1006, East Lansing 48826-1006
- To make a donation online, please [click HERE](#)

With deep gratitude,



Joanne M. Pohl