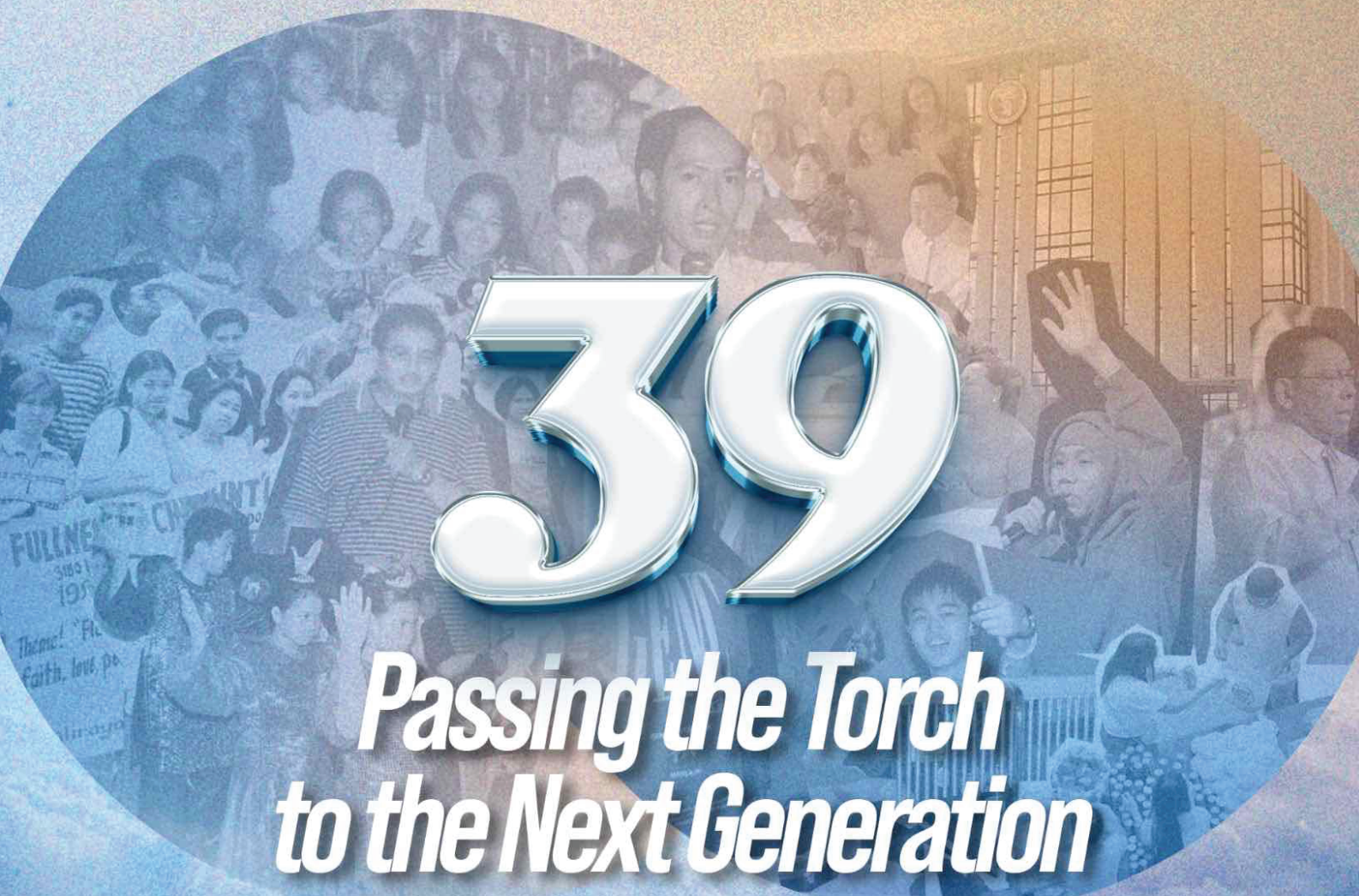
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FULLNESS OF CHRIST
INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES
Attaining His Fullness, Transforming the Nations



39

Passing the Torch to the Next Generation

FOCIM CELEBRATES 39 YEARS OF GOD'S FAITHFULNESS











FOCIM OVER THE YEARS:

A LAMPSTAND TO THE CITY, A LAMPSTAND TO THE NATION



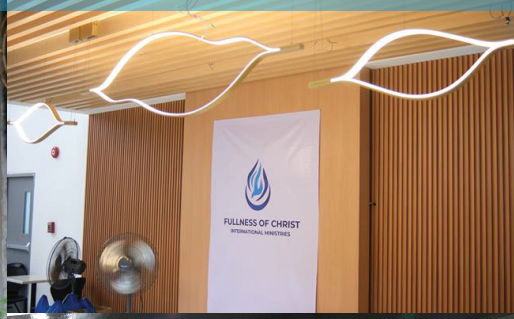








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FOCIM Over The Years: A Lampstand to the City, A Lampstand to the Nation

By Rev. Diwa C. Guinigundo

The Roots

FOCIM's history is a narrative of challenges and victory through the Church's complete dependence on God.

It traces its beginning to Roosevelt Memorial Church (RMC), founded in 1946 in Tondo, Manila, by Bishop Matias Cuadra. Once a Muslim, Bishop Cuadra came to Christ through American missionaries and went on to plant over 30 churches across Southern Luzon, moving in signs and wonders. RMC organized the annual Balintawak Conference as a plenary Church congregation to discuss the broad direction and progress of pursuing the Great Commission.

But after his passing, the church suffered a decline. In 1986, due to doctrinal differences, a faithful group of elders decided to leave RMC and decided to put up a new congregation in the garage of the Guerrero family on Limay Street. There, a new chapter began—marked by a renewed commitment to Spirit-led worship, sound doctrine and full reliance on the love and power of God.

By 1987, the church formally adopted the name Gospel Faith Christian Church (GFCC). Leadership transitioned through Pastor Bonifacio Ormeo, Pastor Jess Peñoso, and eventually Pastor Bong Guerrero, with Bro. Diwa Guinigundo serving as administrative pastor. In 2003, Bro. Diwa was ordained as Senior Pastor and Primary Apostle by FOCIM's spiritual father, Dr Dexter Low.

Spiritual Growth

From the start, GFCC had emphasized both Word and its transformative manifestation in terms of compassion and charity. Outreaches were established in Karuhatan, Gen. T. de Leon, and Mandaluyong. Medical missions reached Tondo, Valenzuela, and Quezon City.

Between 1989 and 1992, the church became a growing presence in the larger body of Christ. Bro. Diwa served as Secretary General of the Philippines for Jesus Movement and later ministered in Malaysia, where he was associate pastor of JIL Fellowship and SS2 Methodist Church between 1992-94.

Partnerships with like-minded churches helped deepen the church's prophetic flow and sharpened its worship life. The baptism of the Holy Spirit among the elders was a major milestone.

Special Blessings

Obeying the call to "come out of Egypt," the church stayed at the Guerrero garage for 18 years, rent free. By 1999, the space was transformed into a fully functional sanctuary—built through unity, prayer, and generosity.

In 2004, following a prophetic word during the church's 18th anniversary, the church relocated to Eastgate Building in Mandaluyong. Four years later, they moved again—this time to the third floor of the PBJ Building along Shaw Boulevard, which served as FOCIM's sanctuary for over a decade.

In each move, a clear pattern emerged: relocate, build, and expand.

The Prophetic & Apostolic Move of God

In 1993, the church embraced a deeper prophetic calling and adopted its current name—Fullness of Christ International Ministries (FOCIM). From 1999 to 2003, equipping seminars in cities like Tagaytay, Baguio, and Quezon City led to the formation of an apostolic ministry team. In 2003, when Bro Diwa was ordained as senior pastor of FOCIM, Dr Dexter and Dr Lily Low of Malaysia's Latter Rain Church prophesied that FOCIM would become a lampstand to the nation. Bro. Diwa Guinigundo and Sis. Apple Guinigundo were also commissioned as primary apostles; Bro. Bing and Sis. Sophie Guerrero as secondary apostles.

In 2005, FOCIM and Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Christian Fellowship (BSPCF) launched *Touching Heaven, Changing Earth*—a national prophetic and apostolic initiative for nation transformation. After its PICC debut, over 50 conferences followed across the country and in places like Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Singapore until today.

In 2021, FOCIM was invited to join the Elders of the Nation, a spiritual council of apostles, prophets, and thought leaders where Bro. Diwa now serves. Bro Diwa also represents the Intercessors for the Philippines in 1Sambayan, a coalition of various social forces committed to advance the cause of nation transformation, righteousness and justice in the Philippines. In the city, Bro Bing Guerrero represents FOCIM in Mandaluyong Christian Churches Association where he serves as vice-chairman.

Passing the Torch to the Next Generation

The new FOCIM Sanctuary is more than a building—it's a legacy of faith across generations. Over 20 years ago, God gave the word through Sis. Lily Low: *relocate, build, and expand*. That word became reality through years of obedience, prayer, and sacrifice.

The first relocation was from Manila to Eastgate Building, then to PBJ Building along Shaw Boulevard. In 2018, with less than two million pesos in hand, FOCIM purchased land worth over 25 times that amount. Delays turned into divine provision—legal settlements, a title damaged by termites, and time to raise funds.

Construction began in 2020, during the height of the pandemic. With only five to six workers allowed on-site, there was no accident and no sickness affected the construction. Simultaneously, the church conducted *Love Pantry*—distributing goods to neighbors for over six weeks at the height of the pandemic.

The sanctuary, clearly, was not built by human effort alone—but by God's love and mercy.

Much like David's desire to build a house for the Lord, FOCIM's obedience resulted in blessings that extended into the personal lives of its members—new homes, new jobs, and divine breakthroughs.

This sanctuary is a prophetic declaration of God's desire to dwell with His people—a memorial of His faithfulness and a launchpad for the next generation. FOCIM has also pledged that the Sanctuary will be shared with the Body of Christ, especially to smaller churches with no place of their own for their special occasions. It will also be hosting THCE and MCCA.

Alongside its efforts to build the physical sanctuary, FOCIM has shifted to higher gear in evangelism and discipleship through a systematic pursuit by institutionalizing them into manuals and workbooks. Members are exposed to these manuals for a more even grounding in Christian doctrine and teaching down to the level of home churches all over Metropolitan Manila.

In line with Malachi 4:5–6, FOCIM is raising a Joshua generation. Young men and women now preach, teach, lead worship, and intercede. The heart of the old is turning toward the young, and the young are responding in faith and boldness.

This moment is both a culmination and a beginning. The sanctuary anchors FOCIM's mission to serve as a lampstand—to the city, to the nation, and to the generations to come.

Truly, God is good.

BEING BLESSED WHILE BLESSING THE MINISTRY OF THE LORD

By Bro. Woodrow Wilson C. Young

I vividly recall my first visit in FOCIM way back in 2011, at the time the Church was still holding services on the third floor of the PBJ Building along Shaw Boulevard. To say the least, I was impressed by its venue – clean carpet across the entire floor, air-conditioned room, and even nice modern music equipment. Given my Catholic background and being used to attending mass in Catholic churches, FOCIM was very new and different for me and I almost felt some sort of a culture shock.

But it was the kind of culture shock that was more positive than disappointing. It was memorable and in many ways, life changing, experience for me. Through the warm reception of the people in FOCIM, I immediately felt God's love. Each and every person in the Church knew each other, it was more than a congregation – it was a family. It was the first time I experienced this kind of warmth in a church, and I immediately felt that sense of belonging not just in a family of men but in a family of God. And yes, it was my girlfriend, now my wife and mother of my two children, Sis. Pamela, who invited me to join FOCIM. She was then, and continues to be, one of FOCIM's Worship leaders. There is no better partner in Christ for me than the one who showed me the way towards Christ. And for that I am truly grateful for my wife Sis. Pamela.

After a few months of attending FOCIM's Worship services, I began to notice that more and more people were added to the Church number. Obviously, the Church's evangelism and discipleship programs were producing good results. As nice as the church venue in PBJ building was, it became increasingly apparent that it was small as to accommodate the expanding membership.

As if addressing my observation, one of the FOCIM leaders announced that FOCIM had decided to launch a fund-raising project to build a bigger sanctuary. I also learned that this was consistent with the prophetic word that was given to FOCIM through Sis. Lily Low: to relocate, build, and expand. Without hesitation, as I felt that this was the will of God to a Church that is serious in preaching the Word and discipling people, I started giving to the church regularly.



It was in my heart's desire to help the church expand as I also wanted more people to be able to join FOCIM and be blessed as I was, and to find comfort and warmth within a spiritual family of God as I did. As I gave my weekly contributions for the project Sanctuary, the Lord never failed to bless me even beyond my expectations.

I was promoted for two consecutive years during my corporate years. A year later when I decided to resign due to health and personal reasons, the Lord guided me towards working for our family business just as it was growing. I gave my pledge to the church for the building of the sanctuary.

Upon completion of my pledge, the Lord blessed me back as I won two business class round trip tickets to the USA from a major raffle. The timing was perfect because it was the year I got married and the round-trip tickets we won took care of our honeymoon expense. The following year the Lord enable me to complete another pledge. However, our family car began showing signs of breaking down. A few months later, the Lord gifted our family with a brand new car from winning another major raffle. Indeed, we can never outgive the Lord.



A year after I made another pledge for the Sanctuary, I was a bit struggling to complete the said pledge as I already had a newborn son. But my wife and I prayed and persisted and the Lord again answered our prayer. When going through our documents. I found a bank passbook with a significant amount and it was almost dormant. It turned out that I had a savings account that I missed but the Lord allowed me to find it. A significant portion of that account was used to complete my pledge to the Sanctuary for the year. Even my wife Sis. Pam was granted promotion and a significant increase in bonuses which also allowed her to complete her pledge to the Sanctuary. Before all of this I was inspired to give to the Lord, but then I felt empowered to give as the Lord gave us favor after favor even beyond our expectations.

I am truly grateful to FOCIM and its leaders for allowing me to be a part of its journey of building and completing the Sanctuary. For I have been challenged by the Lord to serve him in various ways. In our own little way, I have served with one of the elders in talking charge of the annual awards for those brethren and partners in the work of the ministry who have served Him in various ministries and Church activities. I started editing FOCIM's The Menorah, our Church newsletter. A few years ago, Sis Pam and I were commissioned as part of the new generation of leaders who would be entrusted to ensure the continuity of God's legacy in FOCIM. Most recently, I have been designated as the leader of one FOCIM's home churches. This is most challenging because I would now be in charge of establishing the weekly program and prayer for the home church. It truly gives me unexplainable joy that in serving Him, we have never been in wanting, or wishing to be somewhere else.

Without my involvement I wouldn't have experienced all the blessings that came with loving and serving the Lord. The year resigned from my corporate work there was fear that I might not be able to provide for my family the way I intended to. But the Lord allowed our family business to grow and gave us bountiful blessings that allowed us to send my children to the best possible schools and travel as a family to discover new places and experience more of God's beautiful creations. In line with FOCIM's 39th Anniversary theme "Passing the Torch to the next generation", I have always envisioned my children growing in FOCIM - preaching, teaching, leading the worship and interceding within the walls of our new beautiful Sanctuary. And I am truly grateful to the Lord for empowering me to give and be a part of FOCIM's journey of building the Sanctuary and expanding the kingdom of God.

For clarity and connection: FOCIM rewords mission and vision to emphasize mandate and calling

By Bro. Daniel Alberto G. Guinigundo

Just as the book of Proverbs reminds us to bind the Lord's commandments to our heart and neck, so must the people of FOCIM be closely reminded of its vision, mission, core values, and beliefs. While FOCIM had already established these foundational principles, the Ministry Team, during the pandemic in 2021, reworded its mission, vision, core values, and beliefs, in an effort to better connect with both the congregation and the wider community. The Ministry Team believed that the rewording was both timely and necessary to ensure that every person—from members to visitors—could easily grasp the church's purpose for existence.

Indeed, the previous statements were not only biblically sound but also reflective of the church's journey and calling to be at the forefront of nation transformation. After much reflection, however, the Ministry Team observed that its previous vision and mission used complex, church-centric language that would be unfamiliar to people without prior background in Christian or Biblical terms. Thus, the reworded statements, spearheaded by Bro. Milton Amayun, Ptr. Marie Demafelis, and Ptr. Daniel Alberto Guinigundo, and the short tagline, "Attaining His fullness, transforming the nations," maintain the same thought, but using more comprehensible language and simpler, more inclusive language. More importantly, this rewording is sought to encourage persons to be more engaged and to feel a sense of belonging and purpose to the FOCIM community.

The reworded statements are now as follows:

FOCIM tagline

Attaining His Fullness, Transforming the Nations

Who Are We?

We are a church composed of followers of Christ, committed to preaching the Gospel, discipling men and women to attain Christ-likeness, able and equipped to transform and unite lives, communities, and nations, through the work and leading of the Holy Spirit.

Vision

To be fully mature, Christ-led followers of God, equipped with spiritual gifts, able to transform and unite lives, communities, and nations.

Mission

To preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ, to disciple men and women, to unite and transform the nations, and to equip others for kingdom building.

Core Values

The Fullness of Christ International Ministries (FOCIM) has the following set of core values that serve as guiding principles that are essential in carrying out its mandate in building His Kingdom.

Authority of God's Word. The Scripture, being breathed by God and profitable for teaching, reproof, correction and training, guides us in our decisions and actions on issues of doctrine and practice.

Love for God and Country. As a church, we exist to serve God, His ordained authorities, and His people. In honoring God and country, FOCIM strives to transform the nation by seeking to help improve the lives of Filipino families and communities.

Servant Leadership. We intentionally equip leaders who humbly serve God's purpose and calling, and to encourage and disciple others through our lives and ministry as living testimonies for His Kingdom.

Fellowship and Unity. We are dedicated to create a culture of love, community, authenticity, integrity and trust, where people have a safe space to enable them to deal with various issues in life and to walk wholeheartedly in the path of Jesus Christ.

Excellence in All Aspects of Life. We honor God with our very best by holding ourselves to the highest standard in words, thoughts, and actions, whether in our families, church ministry or in the marketplace, striving to be most effective witnesses for Christ in the Philippines and in the nations of the world.

FOCIM TRIVIA

By Bro. Daniel Alberto G. Guinigundo

In line with the celebration of FOCIM's 39th Anniversary, here are some of fun facts about our church that you may not be aware of:

FOCIM traces its beginning to Roosevelt Memorial Church (RMC), founded in 1946 in Tondo, Manila, by Bishop Matias Cuadra, a former Muslim who came to Christ through American missionaries.

FOCIM previously had two locations in Mandaluyong before finally settling on Mayon St.— Eastgate Bldg. along Edsa, and PBJ Bldg. along Shaw Blvd.!

FOCIM once had a pastor who ministered to fishermen in Cavite, Bishop Dilag. Despite not having any formal or seminary education, he memorized the entire Bible, specifically Ezekiel!

FOCIM spent 18 years holding services in the garage of the Guerrero family on Limay St., Tondo, Manila, before transferring to Mandaluyong, following a prophetic word to relocate, build and expand!

FOCIM's ministries are divided into three pillars— WWW (not world wide web!)— WORD, ministries focused on spiritual growth; WORLD, ministries focused on numerical growth; and WELL, ministries focused on financial growth!

In 2009, FOCIM held its first international praise and worship concert in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia!

In 2023, FOCIM changed its logo to embody its calling to transform the nation through the anointing of the Holy Spirit. Can you spot the letters F O C I M in the logo?





FOCIM Creative: From Lockdown Experiment to Lasting Ministry

By Bro. Dan Abraham G. Guinigundo

When the Philippines went into lockdown in March 2020, most of life came to a halt. Streets emptied, offices shut, and churches closed their doors. For FOCIM, the suspension of worship services posed a spiritual challenge: how could a congregation remain connected when it could no longer gather?

The answer came in the form of a fledgling media ministry that did not yet exist. Out of necessity, *FOCIM Creative* was born.

Improvised Beginnings

The early days looked nothing like a polished media outfit. Worship songs were filmed from scattered homes, sometimes in borrowed church halls, with members wearing masks and face shields. Sermons and prayers were recorded on an iPhone.

Each week, fragments of video and audio had to be patched together into a single service for YouTube.

The heavy lifting fell largely on Bro. Aaron Serafica, who stitched the pieces together, and Bro. Nico Capalongan, who edited and mixed the worship recordings. Deadlines were relentless: every Sunday, without fail, the church expected a complete service online.

"The most fulfilling thing is when the tasks are done, you get to grow as an editor and you get to serve God with your talents and it feels accomplishing. The challenge is that this is still a small team, there are a lot of 'filling in roles,' but that honestly gives us the opportunity to learn more." – Bro. Nico Capalongan

What began as a desperate improvisation soon became a lifeline. Families tuned in from their homes, some with weak internet connections, others gathered around phones. The production might have been patchy, but it was worship—and it held the congregation together.

A Ministry Takes Shape

From those fragile beginnings grew a more structured ministry. FOCIM Creative eventually divided its mandate into three workstreams:

- Publication, which creates slides, posters, and captions;
- Production, which manages photography, videography, and livestreaming;
- Preservation, which maintains the church's social media presence and digital archives.

On paper, the structure looks neat. In reality, manpower has always been thin. Volunteers often double up on roles, racing against deadlines while teaching themselves new skills along the way.

That lack of professional training became part of the ministry's DNA. Anyone could join. Anyone could learn. The only real requirement was a willingness to serve.

Leadership Across Borders

FOCIM Creative is currently led by Bro. Abe Guinigundo, assisted by Sis. Angelica Dionisio. But leadership has not always been straightforward.

Between 2023 and 2025, Bro. Abe was based in London. Meetings had to be held online, often late at night in Manila. Time differences stretched communication, and sometimes decisions had to be made on the fly.

Sis. Angelica stepped up, carrying much of the responsibility in those years. She coordinated teams, ensured deadlines were met, and kept the ministry moving.

"The most fulfilling thing about serving in FOCIM Creative is when we see some good results in what we have done as a team for the church. All the time, efforts and hard work are all worth it. The team is also able to help the church reach out to more people not only locally but also internationally." – Sis. Angelica Dionisio

It was an unusual experiment in long-distance leadership, but it worked. The ministry not only survived—it thrived, and it grew.



Recent Milestones

FOCIM Creative has since left its mark on church life. Among its milestones:

- Launching a new FOCIM logo, which refreshed the church's visual identity.
- Designing the GenC youth ministry logo, capturing the energy of the next generation.
- Maintaining a steady online presence through Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube.
- Helping establish the FOCIM Tech Team, which now works hand-in-hand with FOCIM Creative to produce Sunday worship services.

Each of these achievements may seem small compared to professional outfits. Yet for a team built from scratch during a pandemic, they are significant. They mark a steady progression from survival mode to ministry with vision.

The Struggles Few See

The work behind the scenes remains demanding. Deadlines are constant, especially with the expectation of weekly livestreams. Volunteers often juggle school, work, and family responsibilities. Technical mishaps are common, and solutions are rarely straightforward.

Perhaps the biggest challenge has always been the shortage of hands. For much of its life, FOCIM Creative has relied on just a handful of volunteers. "There were times when one person had to learn an entirely new skill because no one else could do it," recalls one member. "We just had to figure it out."

Ironically, this struggle has made the ministry more accessible. Because so few came in as experts, the barrier to entry is low. New volunteers, especially from the youth, quickly realize that they, too, can learn and contribute.

Why It Matters

FOCIM Creative's work cannot be measured by likes or views alone. Its significance lies in the way it has allowed worship to continue, uninterrupted, through crisis and beyond.

During the pandemic, the ministry gave members a way to remain spiritually connected despite everyone's isolation. Today, livestreams reach those abroad or unable to attend in person. Social media extends the church's presence to seekers who might never step into a sanctuary. Archives preserve the sermons and events for generations to come.

In short, FOCIM Creative has helped ensure that the ministry of the church is not confined to a physical space.

Looking Ahead

The road forward brings both challenges and promise. Deadlines will remain tight, and manpower will always be stretched. But there is hope in the growing involvement of the youth.

Younger volunteers bring fresh ideas, sharper skills, and new energy. Their contributions are already reshaping the ministry, making it more dynamic and forward-looking. The task now is to nurture them—not only in technical ability but also in the deeper purpose of service.

A Ministry That Endures

From iPhones balanced on tables to livestreams broadcast around the world, FOCIM Creative has come a long way. It has endured because volunteers stepped forward, learned on the job, and gave their time and creativity to God's work.

What began as an improvised response to a pandemic has become a vital ministry. And as it grows, it continues to embody a simple truth: God does not call the already qualified. He qualifies those who are willing to serve.

Vertical Youth Service Relaunch: Helping Raise a Joshua Generation

By Bro. Keith Isaac Santos

Vertical has always been more than just a monthly gathering. It is a movement of young people seeking to grow upward in their relationship with God and outward in community with one another. The overall goal of Vertical is simple yet powerful: to create a space where the next generation can encounter Christ, be equipped for real-life challenges, and build friendships rooted in faith.

When and Who Can Join?

Vectical Youth Service is tentively held ***every last Saturday of the month*** making it a consistent touchpoint for young people to recharge spiritually and socially. It welcomes participants aged ***13 to 15***--from high school students to college youth, and even young professionals who are searching for purpose and belonging.





The Program Flow

The service follows a vibrant and engaging format designed to resonate with today's youth. Programs typically begin with ***high-energy praise and worship*** followed by ***interactive icebreakers*** that set a welcoming tone. The heart of every Verctical is the ***main message or talk***, usually delivered by a guest speaker or youth pastor, tackling topics relevant to the realities of young people--identity, purpose, mental health, relationships, and faith.

After the talk, participants break out into ***small group discussions*** to reflect, share insights, and apply the message to their personal lives. The night often ends with prayer, music, and time for fellowship--reminding everyone that Vertical is not just an event, but a family.

Past Highlights and Speakers



Vertical has hosted a variety of inspiring speakers, from seasoned pastors to passionate young leaders. each bringing fresh perspectives that connect deeply with youth. Over the years, it has also featured ***special activities*** like creative performances, testimony nights, and outreach initiatives--making each gathering unique and memorable.

Looking Forward

As Vertical Youth Service relaunches, the team envisions more than just monthly services. Plans include workshops and leadership training, youth camps and retreats, and greater opportunities for community service projects that allow young people to live out their faith in action. The dream is to see a generation of leaders--grounded in Christ, confident in their identity, and courageous enough to make an impact.





A Call to the Next Generation

The relaunch of Vertical marks not just a continuation, but a new chapter. It is an invitation for young people to rise higher, grow deeper, and stand stronger together. Whether you're a first-timer or a long-time attendance, this is your chance to be part of a movement that believes in you, prays for you, and walks with you in your journey with God.

Vertical Youth Service is Back--and the best is yet to come.

SERVING THE LORD: WHY WE SHOULD JOIN A MINISTRY IN FOCIM

By Sis. Mariela R. Moises







As Christians, we are called to serve the Lord and live out our faith in practical ways. One of the best ways to do this is by joining a ministry in the church. Ministry involvement provides an opportunity to use our gifts, talents, and abilities to serve others, grow in our faith, and fulfill our purpose as followers of Christ.

There are five (5) reasons why everyone should join in a specific ministry:

1 Overcoming fears and excuses.
2 Discovering and using our gifts.
3 Growing in faith and service.
4 Building relationships and community.
5 Making a difference in the lives of others.

Some may be hesitant to join a ministry in the church due to some fears or excuses. They may feel inadequate, unsure of their gifts, or worried about commitment. However, it's essential to remember that ministry involvement is not about perfection; it's about serving others and glorifying God. God indeed calls people who are not ezactly qualified. It's God who qualifies them for the ministry. We can start small, explore different areas of service, and trust that God will guide us as we seek to serve Him.

Another benefit of joining a ministry in the church is the opportunity to discover and use our gifts. Each of us has unique talents, skills, and abilities that can be used to serve others and glorify God.

When we join a ministry, we can explore different areas of service and discover where our gifts are best used. This can lead to a sense of purpose and fulfillment, as we use our gifts to make a positive impact in the lives of the family of God.

When we join a ministry in FOCIM, we are given the opportunity to serve others and grow in our faith. As we serve, we learn new skills, develop our talents, and deepen our understanding of God's Word. In 1 Peter 4:10-11, the apostle Peter writes, "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ." This verse highlights the importance of using our gifts to serve others and praise God.

In FOCIM, we are blessed to explore various ministries under three (3) different pillars: Word, World and Well. The Word Pillar consists of the Intercessors Ministry, LEAD Discipleship ministry (Connect, Lead Groups and Home churches), Pastoral Ministry, Praise and Worship Ministry, Prophetic Ministry, Sunday School Ministry (Adult & Children). The World Pillar is composed of the Blithe Ushering Ministry, Creative Ministry, Externals Ministry (Elders of the Nation, God's Agenda Philippines, Intercessors for the Philippines, Mandaluyong Christian Churches Association, Touching Heaven Changing Earth), Family Ministry, Generation for Christ Youth Ministry, Tentmakers Ministry (ACTS Ministry), The Menorah Ministry. The Well Pillar includes the Brighter Hope Ministry, Fund Raising Ministry and Kingdom Circle Ministry. If you find yourself with a heart for administrative service, you can explore the Secretariat, Treasury, Ethics Committee or Resource Management.

Ministry involvement also provides an opportunity to build relationships and connect with others in the church. When we serve together, we form strong bonds and develop a sense of community and belonging. This is essential for Christian growth and development, as we are called to be part of the body of believers who sup-

port and encourage one another. In Galations 6:2, the apostle Paul writes, "Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." By joining a ministry in church, we can fulfill this command and build meaningful relationships with others.

Ministry involvement also provides an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of others. When we serve others, we demonstrate the love of Christ and show them the impact of His teachings. This can be a powerful witness to those around us, and it can lead to opportunities for evangelism and discipleship. By joining a ministry in church, we can be part of a larger effort to serve others and share the Gospel.

Joining a ministry in church is an essential part of Christian growth and development. It provides an opportunity to serve others, grow in our faith, and fulfill our purpose as followers of Christ. By using our gifts, building relationships, and making a difference in the lives of others, we can glorify God and live out our faith in practical ways. Whether you're a seasoned Christian or just starting out, consider joining a ministry in church and discover the joy of serving others and fulfilling God's plan for your life.

What's the point of being a Lampstand if we're not willing to be used for God's glory? So, what's holding you back? Join a ministry and serve the Lord

BUILT BY GOD TO BUILD: A JOURNEY OF FAITH AND MILESTONES

By Bro Edward Matthew D. Unite

Most engineers dream of building skyscrapers, bridges, or city landmarks. But God gave me a different vision: to build His sanctuary. It has been the greatest privilege and honor of my life, and also the hardest project I have ever handled. It demanded not just construction project management skills, but also unwavering faith, perseverance, patience, and complete dependence on God.

Looking back, I see that the sanctuary and my own journey became parallel milestone of His grace.

I still remember the night in 2012, when I was preparing for the civil engineering board exams. While praying and worshipping before starting my review routine, God gave me a vision of a church building. In that vision, I saw myself not just passing the exams and becoming an engineer, but being chosen by God to build His sanctuary.

At the time, I didn't know how or when it would happen. But I carried that vision with deep conviction. It became the anchor of my prayers and the motivation behind my perseverance and hard work. Years later, that vision began to take shape when Fullness of Christ International Ministries decided to relocate and build its own sanctuary. When I was called to serve as part of the Project Management Team, I knew in my heart--this was the moment I had been prepared for. I obeyed and answered without hesitation.

In September 2019, we held the groundbreaking ceremony. From the very beginning, the project faced many challenges. The funds raised were not even enough to cover half of the estimated required budget, and much of it had already gone to purchase the land. Even that was already a miracle: God had provided, and the church was able to pay in full under favorable terms.

With limited resources, we weighed options--turning the existing apartments in rentals, converting the lot into a pay-parking area, or building only a two-storey structure with foundations ready for future expansion. But the mandate was clear: relocate and build now. Despite the odds, we followed God's word.

The planning stages were already difficult. The actual construction was a challenge far greater than what I could manage as a young engineer. Managing limited resources alongside all the required work was overwhelming. But by God's grace, we moved forward and executed the project phase by phase: purchasing materials directly to cut costs, negotiating extended terms with contractors, and working only as funds became available. It was not conventional project management--it was faith-based project management.

At the same time, my own career as an engineer was shifting. In 2018, I started working at UERM Medical Center as a Project Engineer. By early 2020, I was transferred and promoted to Head of the General Services Department, entrusted with the administrative roles in the Medical Center. As the church project began, God was also laying new foundations in my life.

Then came the COVID-19 pandemic. Everything stopped. Construction was delayed, and lockdown forced us to pause the construction for months. When works resumed, progress was painfully slow, and the structural phase stretched until 2022 due to limited logistics and access to construction materials. But it wasn't just construction delays--it was a season of testing and endurance.

During the pandemic, many struggled. I carried heavy responsibilities as Head of General Service--preparing the hospital facilities, supporting healtcare workers, and assisting friends and relatives in depe-rate need of access to health care facilities. I faced financial struggles in personal projects, battled physical and emotional exhaustion, and even fell sick with pneumonia while my mother and aunt suffered from COVID-19. There were times I questioned my strength, even my sanity. Yet in my weakness, God carried me through. His grace sustained me.

Even in that season, God planted seeds for the future. In 2021, He opened the door for me to establish my own company, Gozi Construction, which I formally registered as a corporation in 2023. What seemed like a season of limitation became a season of new beginnings.

My promotion at work and the opportunity to start a company shaped me both as an engineer and as a leader. It widened my influence and network. Through it, I was able to bring in trusted constractor, establish credit lines, and help the church source cheaper materials on stretched payment terms. I learned to nego-tiate scope, costs, and timelines in ways that directly supported the project.

By January 2023, we finally held our first face-to-face service at the 2nd floor multipurpose hall. It was a simple, but significant moment--the sanctuary was no longer just a dream; it was a reality taking concrete from. Six months later, we moved to the worship hall at the 4th floor and began holding regular services there. That same year, my wife and I re-established her family's pre-school business, Joyful Hands Kiddle Center, which had been forced to close during the pandemic. Breakthrough after breakthrough reminded me that while our resources were limited, God was limitless.

In June 2024, I married my wife--a personal blessing marking a new chapter of my life. Weeks later after my birthday, the full-swing construction of the 4th floor worship hall began. The timing was symbolic: as I built a new life with my wife, we were also building the house of God. That same month, I was promoted again, this time entrusted with managing two departments as overall facilities manager at UERM Medical Center. it was more than I thought I could handle, but it was exactly what God had prepared me for.

This year, 2025, the church aimed to complete the remaining floors, offices and other ministry rooms in time for its 39th anniversary. I committed to fulfilling my financial plege, despite struggling to balance other financial obligations. It was not easy. But when I took the step of obedience, God respond. Just when I thought I had reached the end, God opened a way--He awarded my company a major client. What I thought was dead end turned out to be a road He had prepared all along.

However, as the sanctuary was nearing completion, the trials intensified as if the enemy was desperate to gain a foothold on me. During this critical time, It already felt like the weight of all these years of building was suddenly stumbling immediately on ground level. In April 2025, my mother was diagnosed with fallopian tube cancer. Just months later, in September, my mother-in-law was diagnosed with breast cancer. My wife also had undergone some medical procedures. At the same time, I faced frustration at work, the stress of running a construction business, and the pressure of the sanctuary's final stretch. There were moments when I felt like I was pulling the church down and I'm on the brink of failure, moments when quitting seemed easier.

But God, in His mercy, intervened. Both my mother and mother-in-law experienced healing, my relationship with my wife has grown only stronger with every trial. And in my lowest points, he reminded me that I was never walking alone. At just the right time, the prayers and encouragement of the people He had surrounded me with gave me strength to rise again. What the enemy intended for destruction, God turned into testimony.

Today, when I look at the sanctuary, I don't just see a building. I see every struggle, every prayer, every act of faith that brought us here. I also see how God was building me along the way. The milestones of the sanctuary are also the milestones of my life.

When the foundation was laid, God was laying my core foundation as leader. When the structure rose, He was building my career. When we held milestone services, He was opening new doors for my ministry and career. When the church occupied its space, he was blessing me with marriage and family. Now, as the sanctuary stands complete and ready to expand, He is entrusting me with opportunities greater than I imagined and hoped for.

From the beginning, it was never just about the physical building--it was about the eternal building God was constructing in my heart.

This sanctuary is not just concrete and steel. It is living proof that God is faithful--not only to His church, but also to the lives of thos who obey Him.

When I had no direction, He opened doors. When I felt trapped, He built new paths. When I could not carry on, He lifted me up. When I felt alone, He covered me with His love.

Yes, as an engineer I was tasked to design, plan, and oversee construction. But in truth, it was God who was building all along--building the sanctuary, my career, my family, and my faith.

So when I stand inside the sanctuary of Fullness of Christ International Ministries, I remember not just the vision that started it all, but the journey that came with it. A journey of struggles, yes, but even more, a journey of blessings.

Truly, this sanctuary is not just a structure--it is a story of God's faithfulness. At my weakest, when I was ready to quit, He reminded me I was never fighting alone. His grace held me, and the prayers of His people gave me strength to endure until the end.

This is my story. A building already planned by God from the very beginning, Built not only of concrete and steel, but of faith, perseverance, and love. A building that declares His glory, His love, and His faithfulness.

A building built by God.

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