

# Message from the President

As we move forward in the New Year, we reflect on all God's goodness over this past year and see His handprints everywhere. His mighty arms protected LCP and our communities through the pandemic and the worst typhoon in many years, leaving only eleven LCP homes damaged. Although we were unable to travel to speak, God used each of you to meet all the end of the year budgets. Praise the Lord! Thank you for being God's hands and feet. Without you, this year would not have been possible. Our hearts overflow with gratitude for a successful 2021.

**This year, 2022, is LCW's 35th Anniversary.** This is so exciting! There is no way to imagine how many lives have been changed through the help, hope, and love you have given over the years. Children, youth, and families have been lifted from the grips of poverty because you care and give. Your gifts have helped the sick be healed, the hungry be fed, the abused and neglected find safety, and the lost find Jesus. Thousands have graduated from high school and college, helping them become self-supporting citizens. The world is a better place because you continue to help LCW fulfill the mission God has called us to do. Your faithful support, encouragement, love, and prayers provide the means to change the world.

As LCW continues to grow and is able to help more children, we are upgrading our office equipment and programs. Change is always difficult so please be patient with us as we go through the learning process of implementing new and improved systems. Please read the article inside this issue regarding some upcoming changes. Thank you for helping us make this a smooth and worthwhile transition.

Happy New Year, Glenna



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Lending a Helping Hand 1987—2022

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### DOUBLE THE GOOD MATCHING FUNDS CAMPAIGN

Double the Good for the Endowment Fund! Your gifts will be matched by a generous donor up to \$15,000! But, we must raise the full \$15,000 in order to receive the match! Consider a gift to the Endowment Fund, today, to help us reach our goals and secure future for LCW!

**Total Campaign Goal:**  
**\$30,000**



# JERICHO STREET ECHOES

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## Bettie Elwood & Carmela Benosa: A Founder's Sponsorship Legacy

Dr. Bettie Elwood, known as Nanay ('mom' in Tagalog), is the last living founder of Little Children of the World / Little Children of the Philippines. Now 91, she has committed her life to making a difference in the lives of children in the Philippines. Her legacy continues even into her retirement years as LCW enters its 35th anniversary, this year!!!

Nanay was not only an LCW/LCP founder, she was also a sponsor, along with her late husband and LCW/LCP co-founder, Dr. Douglas Elwood.



They began sponsoring Carmela Benosa when Carmela was just in preschool and LCP was newly formed. The Elwoods continued to support Carmela through elementary and high school. After completing high school, she was eligible for a LCP scholarship to Silliman University, and the Elwoods supported her through college.

In 2012, Carmela graduated with a bachelor's degree in elementary education with a major in special education. After graduating, Carmela decided to work for Little Children of the Philippines in the sponsorship department because she wanted to give back to the organization that was so formative in her life. But, she never lost her desire to teach.

After working at LCP for 6 years, Carmela decided to pursue teaching again in 2018. She worked at a school where she was able to be a special education teacher and gained valuable training and experience in the classroom. In 2020, she was able to return to working for LCP, but this time, she was assigned to establish the Language Focus Classroom for children in the Handclasp program with speech delays.

In 2021, Carmela was given the opportunity of a lifetime—a teaching contract in the United States. In August of 2021, she packed her bags and moved across the world to central Illinois where she currently works for the public school system as a special education teacher. She would not be here in the USA if it weren't for her sponsor, Nanay!

During Christmas break, Carmela travelled to visit Nanay at her home in Tennessee after many years of not seeing each other in person. Carmela is forever grateful to Bettie for every opportunity she has been given because of the sacrifices she made. **Nanay and the other founders' legacies will live on for many years to come through successful beneficiaries like Carmela!**



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## A Merry Christmas at LCP



The most wonderful time of the year is just a little more wonderful at LCP. Thanks to you all, our generous sponsors and donors, Christmas time is a beautiful celebration of love and Jesus's birth through sharing gifts and enjoying time together.

The SPAM for Christmas initiative was a huge success, yet again, thanks to the hard work of Ann & Don Crittenden and all who gave cans of SPAM. Janae Crawford and CentriKid camp provided wonderful gifts of water bottles, backpacks, sunglasses, and more. Impact Ministry and Circle of Care provided boxes of nice clothes for gifts, as well. Thank you all!

Thank you to all our other board and advisory council members who led collections for other items like school supplies, umbrellas, balls, dolls, gloves, t-shirts, and more. We could not make Christmas so special without their initiative and your willingness to give.

We hope you had a nice holiday season! Happy New Year to you all, and we look forward to starting to collect for Christmas 2022, soon! **Thank you to all who gave for Christmas 2021!**

## Typhoon Odette Recovery



**Typhoon Odette devastated central Philippines in December.** The Island of Negros was hit hard by the eye of the storm. Thankfully, LCP and most of our members were safe from injury and had minimal damage to their homes. 11 members had severe damage to their homes, and through your help, we were able to provide them supplies to rebuild. Unfortunately, the rest of the island and the neighboring islands were far less fortunate, and they are continuing to rebuild from the devastation. Please continue to pray for the Central Visayas Region during the difficult time. Many people were killed and many more lost everything. Thank you to everyone who supported the Typhoon Relief Fund last year. Your generosity is especially impactful in times like these.

## Big Changes in 2022 that Affect Your Giving!

2022 is going to be a big year for LCW! We are celebrating our 35th anniversary of ministry and we have so much to be grateful for! With the new year, we are also implementing new systems. **All the changes will be implemented by the summer (tentatively June 1).** Here's what you need to know:

- **We will be changing our credit card and bank draft processor to Blackbaud Merchant Services (BBMS)** across all our platforms. Your credit card or bank statement will read, *"Little Children World"* once this change is implemented. This is different, but rest assured, it is still us. In the past, we have used Forte for all in-house transactions and SimpleGive for web transactions. This change will allow us to use the same processor for all transactions.
- **If you have a SimpleGive account online, you may have to create a new account with BBMS**, but we will contact you directly when the time comes. For other's of you who use recurring transactions, they should be able to be transferred into the new system. If not, we will contact you regarding your preferences.
- **As a fraud protection policy, we will no longer be able to run your card without re-entering your card's information for non-recurring gifts (i.e. special gifts requested over the phone). Scheduled payments will not be affected once they are in our new system.** We understand this may be less convenient, but your information's safety is of utmost importance to us, and we want to be fully compliant with all fraud-protection regulations.
- **Your gift receipts and sponsorship invoices will change in appearance.** With the shift to Blackbaud, we will no longer be using QuickBooks to process receipts and invoices, so the paperwork you receive from us will look slightly different. No need to worry! Its just another improvement we are making. We may ask you to update your receipting preferences to ensure our records are current.

We will continue to be fully transparent and update you with more information as the appropriate time comes. We are committed to being the best stewards of your donations and support, and we believe this transition is an important step in improving our stewardship. We are beyond grateful for the past 35 years and all you have given to this ministry, and we look forward with excitement to what is to come! Thank you for your understanding and patience as we make this transition.