



The Waddell Family

Who? Michael and Melanie Waddell and their 4 children, Kyla (12), Sean (10), Carter (10), and Allie (7) presently live in Midland, New Brunswick. Most recently, Michael served as the Executive Director of Camp Tulakadik, a Baptist camp near Norton, NB. As well, he is serving as Interim Pastor at Midland Baptist Church. Michael is working on his Master of Arts in Practical Theology at Acadia Divinity College.

Melanie recently completed a Master's Degree in Counselling at Acadia University and has experience working with at-risk youth in group home settings, in the public school system and at a local pregnancy care centre. The Waddells owned and operated a family business until 2014.

Where? They will be based in Manila, the capital city of the Philippines, ministering there and throughout Southeast Asia. Manila is a city with a population of over 1.5 million.

When? Michael & Melanie are trusting the Lord's provision for the needed financial support in order to follow God's calling and they hope to leave at the end of June, 2016. They would like to have the children settled into their new environment before the beginning of the school year in August.

What? Michael and Melanie will make use of their varied experiences to initiate Marketplace Ministry, helping people connect with God's Word and ministering to others from their workplace. Melanie will work using her family counselling with children who are entering a new school setting and encountering problems that arise from being in a country different from their own. The Waddells are open to be used of God in whatever opportunities he puts before them.

Why? In 2009, Michael went on a Short-Term Mission trip to Kenya and Uganda with Canadian Baptist

Ministries and then both he and Melanie visited Kenya in 2013. After their last trip, they began the discernment process about where God was leading them to serve as a couple. Michael says, "We are really excited to begin this new phase of our life and ministry together as a family. As we look back over the past year we can really see how God has used people and experiences in our lives to affirm our call to serve Him internationally as Global Field Staff with Canadian Baptist Ministries."

Melanie recalls, "When we first told our children about our move to the Philippines, our eldest daughter was not sure she wanted to live in a different country. She would miss her school, her friends and extended family. She said she would go if she could have an owl suitcase. I am wondering where we would ever find an owl suitcase. Not long after this conversation we were in the mall. While we were walking along, Kyla said, "Mommy, look!" There on display in front of us were owl suitcases!"

How marvelous that our God would reassure this young girl not only that he wanted her to live in a different country but he would give her visible confirmation that he was calling her as well as her family.



Kyla Waddell

The Waddell family will depart for the Philippines after a time of vision-sharing and raising support. Pray for the Waddells that they will be able to raise the needed support and as they adjust to their new environment when they arrive in the Philippines. (CBM November 2015 Prayerline and personal interview)

Helen Hopper

Corresponding Secretary for UBWMU/ABW

Sources: CBM Prayer line November 2015, wikipedia and personal interview