

Northern Asia-Pacific Division



NEWS & VIEWS

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Mongolian "Steps to Christ"

- 145th translated language of the book

The book "Steps to Christ" has been translated, edited, printed in the Mongolian language and released to the public recently. According to William Fagal, director of Ellen G. White Estate Branch Office at the Andrews University, he found the "Steps to Christ" listed for 144 languages in the "Translation Report by Language -- Year 2000." Therefore, it is very sure that the Mongolian translation will be the 145th or more. In fact, if we include some languages translated from the simplified English translation of the book "Steps to Jesus," William Fagal says that the number of translated languages is above 150 today.

Adventist Frontier Missions chose this book for publication many years ago because of its basic appeal of leading a person to Christ and growing in that relationship. It was thought that it would be the best Ellen G. White book to do first. Our own workers Bold Batsukh and Enkhbayar Mishildorj began the translation process from English to Mongolian, but it was thought a professional should finish it, so Ts. Hasbaatar was chosen. While Hasbaatar did the initial translation, a team of Adventists led by MunkJargal have been working on the editing process to make sure it has not lost any of the meaning. The translation work began over 6 years ago and was sent to the Korean Publishing House (Adventist press) in 1996. Because of missing fonts the Korean Publishing House could not print the book and so it was sent back to Mongolia in 1999. Adventist Mongolia Mission Field Board then sent the book through another editing process and finalized a new format for publishing.

While the Adventist Mongolia Mission Field Board oversaw the process in recent years, the name "Jolly Press" was chosen for the entity publishing the book. Jolly Press is named in honor of Brad and Cathie Jolly. The Jolly's

came as Adventist Frontier Missionaries and were the first Seventh-day Adventist missionaries to Mongolia. They also started the publishing work in Mongolia. Brad Jolly died in 1998 from colon cancer. The Haan (King) Printing Company actually printed the first 3,000 copies of the "Steps to Christ" released in March of 2001 with additional copies to be released later.

The response of the people is fantastic. People love the book. Church members say that it is so easy to understand, and that it is a better translation and easier to understand than the Bible we have. Even children enjoy reading and can understand the book. We have sent copies to each of our church groups to sell to individuals in their areas. We also have a small book store here in the mission office for people to purchase the book. The book price at 1,200 tugricks, which is about \$1.10, is below even the printing cost. This price is not expensive for books of this quality, but outside of UlaanBaatar, capital of Mongolia, many people still cannot afford the expense. The fastest way to share the books is to give them as gifts to the people who are baptized and as "door prizes" at our evangelistic meetings. This gets the book into the hands of the people that are most interested.

One church member from Darkhan (Mongolia's second largest city) was so excited after reading the book that she came to UlaanBaatar to say how wonderful the book is and to purchase 20 copies that she could sell and give away to people that she meets. She has now sold all of those copies and has started on another 10 books.

Dale Tunnell, director of the Mongolia Mission Field, believes this book "Steps to Christ" will change lives. He says, "We need to get it in the hands of the people at a price they can afford. With the wage scale so low in Mongolia, this will be very difficult to do. It would be wonderful if we could just give the books away and spread them like the leaves of autumn." "Desire of Ages" will be the next Ellen G. White book to be published and should be off the press early in 2002. Another Ellen G. White book "Patriarchs and Prophets" as well as "Christ's Object Lessons" are in the translation stage.

Dale Tunnell, *Mongolia Mission Field Director*

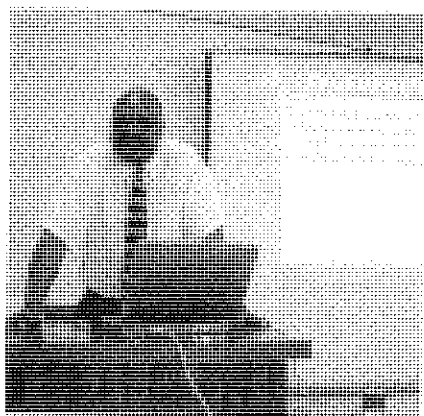
Youth Ministry Advisory

*- emphasis on salvation and
service*

The first Northern Asia-Pacific Division Youth Ministry Advisory for the new millennium was conducted from July 3 to 5, 2001, at the Division headquarters in Ilsan, a new city just outside of Seoul. All the union youth directors and their conference/mission counterparts from Japan, Korea, Hong Kong, and Taiwan, participated enthusiastically in the three-day event.

Setting the stage for the Advisory, Pastor David Wong, Director of the Youth Department, made a presentation on "The Future of Seventh-day Adventist Youth Ministry." He called upon the participants to pause at the threshold of the new millennium and ponder on the history of Adventist Youth Ministry-- its rise and development and its impact on the development of the Church-- in order to justify the continuation for its existence and to determine the direction to take in meeting the challenges of youth ministry in a new era.

Dr. Baraka Muganda, the Youth Director of the General Conference, in support and further emphasis on the future of Adventist Youth Ministry, appealed to the delegates to examine the foundational concepts of Adventist Youth Ministry; namely, salvation and service. In his two



Dr. Baraka Muganda

"The sole purpose of youth ministry is to lead the youth to a saving and living relationship with Christ and then nurture, train, equip, and empower them for His service." In harmony with these duo emphases on salvation and service, he brought to the attention of the delegates the

presentations on youth ministry and its challenges, he emphatically urged his fellow youth leaders to strengthen the youth organizations for nurture and evangelism at the grassroots level. He said,

following yearly youth ministry emphasis, built on the concepts of revival, reformation, compassion, and commitment, for youth ministry during this quinquennium:

- 2001 Year of Renewal: "Experiencing God's Love"
- 2002 Year of Reformation: "Accepting God's Love"
- 2003 Year of Compassion: "Showing God's Love"
- 2004 Year of Witnessing: "Communicating God's Love"
- 2005 Year of Commitment: "Trusting God's Love"

One of the highlights of the Advisory was the sharing of youth ministry experiences by the union youth directors. In the area of youth involvement in the mission of the church, it was encouraging to know that more than two hundred teams, involving hundreds of young people, engaged in short-term mission projects and evangelistic meetings each year.



*Youth director from the GC & Youth Directors
from the Unions*

For the "Discussion and Planning" periods, the youth directors were divided into three groups according to their union affiliation and for the convenience of communication and relevance in project planning. From these sessions many outstanding and relevant recommendations were formulated on such issues as youth ministry training for local church pastors and elders, systematic leadership training for lay leaders at the local church levels, establishment of youth church, youth and contemporary music, and inner city and urban ministry. It is important to note that great emphasis has been placed on prayer and the study of the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy writings. It was the common consensus that in all youth activities and events, sufficient time be allotted for intensive Bible study and special seasons of prayer be scheduled to pray for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

At the closing moments of the Advisory, the delegates were challenged to envision and be committed to the kind of youth ministry that can make an impact on the life and work of the church in motivating and mobilizing the youth to finish God's work in their generation.

David S F Wong, *Youth/Adventist Chaplaincy Director*

SS/PM Advisory

- decisions made by the attendance

Decisions We Made in NSD SS/PM Advisory (Laity Training Center in KUC) July 6, 2001 are as follows:

1. The first NSD Festival of Laity will be held in the 3rd week of August, 2002 at Jeju island, with a faith goal of 800 SS Action Unit leaders in attendance.

2. The ASI convention for both Northern and Southern Asia Pacific Division will begin August 22, 2001. Dynamic speakers from the General Conference and AIIAS will inspire around 150 business men and women at a beautiful Bali resort. There is still time to apply. Cost including food, lodging, tourist attractions, and materials is \$265.00 for 5 days, August 22 - 27. Call Paul K. Cho at the NSD office for more information.

3. "Go 1 Million" is a new initiative conceived by Jan Paulson, General Conference president, for the world church to prepare 1 million members who actively lead their friends and neighbors to Christ. It is hoped that at least 100,000 members from China, Taiwan, Mongolia, Japan, North and South Korea can be trained and receive resource materials in the form of a missionary kit.

4. Would you like to prepare yourself diligently for mission and receive college credit for only \$10 per unit? Ask your Conference Sabbath School /Personal Ministries leader for more information about how to register at Griggs University.

5. BibleInfo.Com is a dynamic internet service produced by Seventh-day Adventists which provides Bible answers to hundreds of questions. It has just been translated into Korean, Japanese, and classical Chinese. Very soon it will be available to anyone having access to the web. Needed are volunteers who will answer e-mail questions. Your SS / Personal Ministries leader is coordinating this project.

John McGhee, *SS/PM/Health/ASI Director*

A Kaleidoscope of Programs and Activities

Japan Union Conference

The first year of the new quinquennium saw a variety of programs and activities designed to strengthen the areas of Family and Women's Ministries, and Shepherdess International in the Japan Union Conference. To date, under the capable leadership of the director, Mrs. Nobuko Kitabayashi, programs conducted in various settings, with a good turnout from the targeted groups, included the following: The Shepherdess International and Family Ministries Seminars in Okinawa (April 20-22), the All-Nippon Women's Congress in Biwako (June 8-10), the Shepherdess International Seminar at the National Women's Educational Center on the suburbs of Tokyo (August 1 & 2), and the Family Ministries Seminar at the Tokyo Central Church (August 4).

Family Ministries and Shepherdess Seminars in Okinawa:

On the weekend of April 13th and 14th, a FM Seminar was conducted in two different churches in Okinawa: the International Church on Friday evening and the Kitanaka Saniku Church on Sabbath afternoon. More than a hundred members from different churches in Okinawa packed the Kitanaka Saniku Church and the mother's room for the seminar entitled "Strengthening the Family Bond."

On Sunday (April 15th), about 12 ministers' wives in the Okinawa area spent a profitable day at a seminar in which the speaker reviewed with them the problems commonly confronting the minister's wife and the strategies for overcoming these problems for them to enjoy the role of a shepherdess. The seminar concluded with lunch and a sharing session in which the participants compared their experiences in the parsonage. The session provided a great deal of helpful suggestions and encouragement for the ministers' wives, especially the new ones.

All-Nippon Women's Congress:



The Participants of the Second All-Nippon Women's Congress

On June 8-10, 2001, the second All Nippon Women's Congress (the first was held in Okinawa in 1997) was conducted by the Women's Ministries Department at the Shiga Kosei Nenkin Kyuka Center at Biwako, Japan. More than a hundred women in Japan from Hokkaido to the Okinawa Prefecture came together at Biwako for a weekend of inspiring and meaningful meetings and seminars. On Sabbath the attendance swelled to more than 150 people. Seminars and talks consistent with the theme of the congress "To Love the Lord, Live Cheerfully, and to Volunteer with Joy" enabled the participants to realize their potentials and worth as women and to explore avenues for ministries in the church, as well as in outreach programs.



Women's Congress at Biwako - a musical presentation

The weekend program also included special musical items presented by women from different churches, moving testimonies, and sharing of experiences in women's ministries activities. The interest groups planned for the Sabbath afternoon not only allowed the women with the same interest to get together but also provided additional training in such skills as Bible Study, singing, arts and crafts. Ladies in attendance were overwhelming in their expression of appreciation for the opportunity to be inspired and empowered to expand the scope of their ministry among women.

Shepherdess & Family Ministries Seminar in Tokyo:

On August 1, 2, thirty-seven ministers' wives met at the beautiful setting of the National Women's Educational Center for a series of training sessions in Shepherdess. The conference buildings set in the midst of a park-like environment provided a refreshing and conducive atmosphere for the ministers' wives as they learned how deal with the challenges of being a pastor's wife through the seminars presented by Mrs. Sharon Cress, GC director for Shepherdess International, and other devotional speakers. The ladies, ranging from those who would retire in a couple of months to those who have been married to a pastor for only a few months, in general commented on the therapeutic value of the seminars and talks in that they helped them to identify

problems common to the pastors' wives and showed them how to heal their inner wounds.

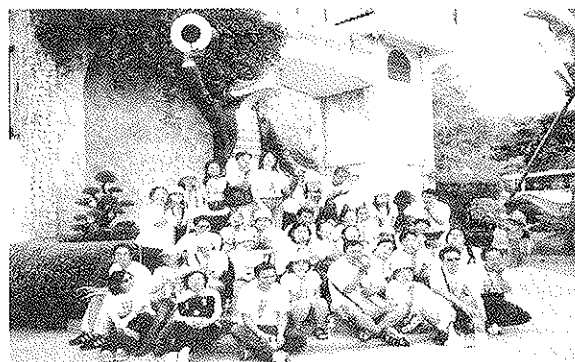


Shepherdesses attending the seminar at National Women's Educational Center

On the Sabbath afternoon of August 4th, members from four churches met in the Tokyo Central Church for the Family Ministries Seminar featuring the topic "Strengthening the Family Bond." All reacted positively and enthusiastically to the discussion of the common problems causing conflict and breakup of families and measures for counteracting such forces.

Chinese Union Mission

On June 25 to 28, a group of forty single professionals from Taiwan and Hong Kong were treated to a combined package of interesting tours, getting acquainted sessions, and seminars on love, courtship, and marriage, by the Youth Department of CHUM, in Bangkok, Thailand.



A Happy Encounter for Single Professionals from Hong Kong and Thailand Taiwan

Against the backdrop of sandy beaches awashed with pounding surfs and appetizing Thai cuisine, enhanced by aromatic tropical fruits such as durains, the young people met, got acquainted, and sought counsel on problems that they are encountering as young single professionals. Speakers of the seminars were the directors of the NSD Youth and

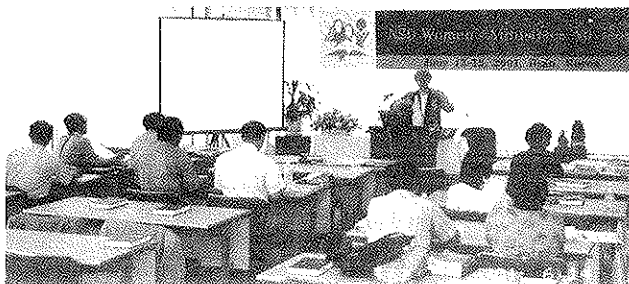
Family Ministries Departments. After four days of happy encounter, the young people returned home, encouraged to find the right mate and to implement the correct approach in establishing a strong relationship with prospective life partners.

Mary Wong, *Family/Children/Women Director*

NSD Advisories *for Women's, Family & Children's Ministries*

The month of June saw NSD hosting a series of advisories: Women's Ministries (June 13-15), Family Ministries (June 17-19), and Children's Ministries (June 20-22). For each advisory, leaders from all three unions, as well as conferences and local missions, met at the NSD office to be briefed on the directions and the goals and objectives of the ministries for the new quinquennium. In addition, seminars and discussion topics for the advisories were chosen to reflect specific needs in the field. Participants were also introduced to the rich resources (seminars, conventions, and books and materials) available in the areas of their ministries.

In the Women's Ministries Advisory, the leaders were challenged to more actively involve women in the ministries of the church, particularly in evangelistic outreach. Seminars topics presented by the GC Women's Ministries Director, Mrs. Ardis Stenbakken, "Reaching People" and "Balancing Home and Career" offered suggestions and methods for



Women's Ministries Advisory

outreach by women while taking care of the needs of their homes. During the strategic planning session, the women leaders of each union arose to the challenge by including in their plans at least one evangelistic effort to be conducted by them in the new quinquennium.

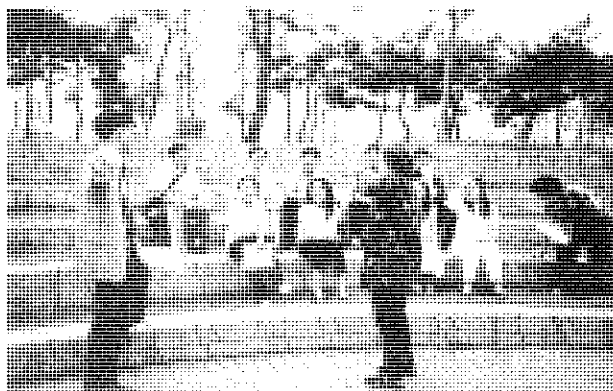
During the Family Ministries Advisory, in addressing the need to strengthen the relationship of families in our church, the GC Family Ministries Directors, Dr. and Mrs. Ron Flowers, clarified for the participants the stance of the



Family Ministries Advisory

church regarding the divorce and remarriage issue, as well as the problem of abuse and family violence, in the seminars they presented. To further reinforce plans for measures to counteract the forces threatening the family units within the church, recommendations were made to actively train our pastors to provide for premarital counseling for young couples preparing for marriage. As such action was taken to hold a division-wide training session in premarital counseling for pastors in the field early next year.

In Children's Ministries, the need for the retention of children in our church was stressed. Seminars on "Developing a Child Friendly Church" and "Teaching children about God through Nature," presented by Dr. Virginia Smith, GC Children's Ministries Director, as well as discussion sessions,



Children's Ministries Advisory

focused on the need to help our children establish a strong relationship with God. To further strengthen CM within the division territories plans are being laid for a division sponsored meeting on alternate years during which union and conference CM leaders meet together to share problems and challenges peculiar to the NSD territory and to exchange strategies for effective children ministries.

Mary Wong, *Family/Children/Women Director*

The First Camp Meeting in Mongolia

- 220 people gathered

History was made in Mongolia the week of August 1-6 by having the first ever Seventh-day Adventist Camp-meeting. With a baptized membership of 207 in Mongolia it was exciting to have 220 people representing 9 church groups from around Mongolia gathered at the Selenge Campground near Erdenet.

The theme for the Camp-Meeting was "United by God's Word." Elder Douglas Clayville, Associate Secretary of the General Conference, was the evening speaker. His focus was on the second coming, and preparing to meet our Lord Jesus Christ. Mongolia Mission Field Director, Dale Tunnell, was the morning worship speaker with a focus on how God's Word unites us. Each day was filled with seminars and worship services for the participants to attend. They enjoyed learning about prayer, children's ministries, friendship evangelism, health, contextualizing the gospel, how to study the Bible, the Sanctuary and more.

It was thrilling to see young and old alike all gathered together for great fellowship. At each meeting a different church group was responsible for leading the song service, having a special music, scripture reading, etc. It was exciting to see the talent from the various groups. The older people loved seeing older people from different places and realizing that they are not alone in their stand for God. Every day different church groups would have impromptu "get acquainted" sessions in order to know their brothers and sisters better.

Sabbath afternoon was another historical event with the first ordination of a Mongolian to the Gospel Ministry. Bold Batsukh was ordained into the Gospel Ministry. Elder Douglas Clayville gave the ordination message with Elder Dale Tunnell giving the challenge. The people were excited about witnessing their first pastoral ordination and having a Mongolian welcomed into the fellowship of the world-wide SDA ministerial team.

Sunday afternoon there was both sadness and excitement in the air. Sadness because we were separating into various church groups again and leaving new friends and family. Excitement because we had been challenged to continue the Lord's work in a greater way. The dream of medical ministry, education ministry, and missionary growth was shared. It is a goal to have 400 people come to the camp-meeting next year.

Dale Tunnell, *Mongolia Mission Field Director*

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