

# News & Views

January 2005

## Korean Seventh-day Adventist Church Marks 100 Years of Mission, Growth

On November 6, 2004, the Seventh-day Adventist Church celebrated its centennial in Korea. The celebration which brought more than 15,000 members to the Olympic stadium, was broadcasted live through both satellite and internet. Four of the top daily public newspapers in Korea featured the event, introducing the Adventist church and contribution to Korean society.



Among the ten thousand participants, there were incumbent lawmakers, former ministers of government, and many Adventist members from countries around the world including America, Japan, Hong Kong, and Taiwan.

Dr. Michael L. Ryan, vice president of the worldwide Adventist Church delivered the sermon on Sabbath morning of the celebration, saying "It is my privilege and honor to be here to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Korea. After 100 years of mission, sacrifice and dedication, the Church in Korea is nearing 200,000 members. I want to give heart-felt respect to all the early pioneers of this country."



Dr. Michael L. Ryan, vice president of the General Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church

"I believe that we do not have another 100 years to finish this work. Sacrifice can finish our mission. I think the Korean Church is strong and full of passion for mission. It is not enough for the Korean Church to think about evangelism only in Korea. They have resources to go forward. The Korean Church must be partners in the worldwide mission of the Church," concluded Dr. Ryan while urging all of us to be faithful to the Lord who is coming soon.



Im Chang-yeol, grandson of Elder Im Ki Ban,

Im Chang-yeol, former governor of the Gyeonggi Province, and former minister of Finance and Economy and Deputy Prime Minister, attended the centennial ceremony. He is a grandson of Elder Im Ki Ban, pioneer missionary with whom Son Heung Cho, one of the first Adventists in Korea, shared the Gospel on board a ship in 1904.

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Golden Angels



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Dr. Jan Paulsen, president of the Adventist Worldwide Church, delivered a message of congratulations through a video because he was not able to participate. He said, "I wish I could be there for a special celebration of the 100 year life of our Church in Korea. Our church in Korea began in difficult times 100 years ago. Our pioneers made great sacrifices. I want to thank you because you are able to share resources in the life of the Church, even outside of Korea."

"I thank God for guiding the Church in Korea with His blessings for 100 years. Our church in Korea has become one of global mission leaders sending a lot of missionaries across the borders of the mission field outside of Korea as well as evangelizing inside Korea. As we face a new century the past 100 years of our Church is now history, it is time we should renew our resolution and dedication to finish our mission and hasten the second coming of Jesus Christ within this new century," said Dr. Jairyong Lee, president of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.



Dr. Jairyong Lee, president of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division



Pastor Chun Jung Kwon, president of the Adventist Church in Korea

Pastor Chun Jung Kwon, president of the Adventist Church in Korea, said, "All of our Adventist members thank, praise, and glorify the Lord, God of Ebenezer, for the celebration of 100 years of Mission"

The final program of the celebration, was a dedication ceremony for 15 Korean families of the Pioneer Mission Movement (PMM). They dedicated their lives to planting churches for next 6 years in other countries, including Japan, Taiwan, Mongolia and others. Since 2003, the Northern Asia-Pacific Division has sent 15 PMM missionaries to Japan and Taiwan.



Third Group Pioneer Mission Movement dedication

In 1904, Seventh-day Adventist Christianity began with two pioneers, Son Heung Cho and Lee Eung Hyun who were baptized at the Kobe, Japan Seventh-day Adventist Church. Son returned to Korea to spread the Adventist message to his neighbors, and was joined by Im Ki Ban with whom he had shared the message on board ship. Now, there are 889 congregations in Korea. Annually 6,000 new souls join the church in Korea. There are also nearly 140 Korean-speaking congregations worldwide.



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## News & Views

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# Appeal to Church Members for Emergency Funds the Recent Asian Earthquake, Tsunami

The Northern Asia-Pacific Division sends the urgent message to the Adventist churches in its territory, appealing to church members to help those victimized by the December 26 earthquake, tsunami in Asia.

"I want to appeal to all our church members in our Division Territory to rapidly respond to the disasters by giving donations to provide relief assistance to the families of victims who are suffering from the Earthquake, Tsunami in Asia," said Pastor Stanley Ng, executive secretary of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division of the Seventh-day Adventists.

\* If you want to donate to the victims, contact your local churches or ADRA offices in your area.

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## Golden Angels Celebration

On December 19, 2004, the Golden Angels held their One-Year Anniversary Music Concert entitled, "Champion Of Love," in Sahmyook University Auditorium, Seoul, Korea. On Sunday evening, the special event inspired more than 2,000 people, including church members who participated, to celebrate and support the great mission of the music group.

The two-hour concert was provided by the first and second groups of the Golden Angels who sang beautiful songs and played instruments. Also, special musics featured Ye-Ah-Chan (Kid Choir of Jesus) known as "Little Angels," Professor Shin Hye Suh (violin), and Sumi and Yukio Ichihara (Guitar and Harp) from Japan. (Mrs. Sumi Ichihara was awarded the second place at the Arpa Guitar Concours (competition) of Japan in 1999. She and her husband are attending the Matsumoto Church in Japan where PMM Pastor Park, Jong Soo is pastoring.)



Second Group of Golden Angels



First Group of Golden Angels

Dr. Jairyong Lee, president of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, said, "I congratulate on the One Year Anniversary Music Concert of the Golden Angels, and thank for their whole year dedication touching ten thousands of people with heavenly music in Korea, Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and etc.... The most inspiring thing is that the Golden Angels is not an ordinary singing group, and the members have accomplished their great mission and dedicated for the Lord for the whole year."



Sumi and Yukio Ichihara

Since the Golden Angels was organized in 2003, sponsored by the Northern Asia-Pacific Division to support the Pioneer Mission Movement (PMM) and various evangelistic meetings, the first group has delivered the Gospel. It has been an encouragement and a help to the PMM missionaries in planning church services and spreading the Gospel in Japan and Taiwan.

## The Korean Union Conference Holds the 32nd Session

The 32nd Korean Union Conference Session opened with the theme, "Preach the Gospel in the Regions Beyond You," on December 13 in the Adventist Hospital Church in Seoul, Korea. Following the November 6 centennial celebration of the Adventist Church in Korea, the session with 530 delegates brought church members' attention to a new challenge to step forward into another century of mission work.



Participants in the KUC session included 530 delegates from the five local conferences and officers from the NSD

At the opening devotional, Dr. Jairyong Lee, president of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD), said, "This session is very important because it will set up a new stepping stone for new coming century of the mission in Korea." He emphasized that the session should be conducted according to God's will and in the presence of the Holy Spirit.

At the opening address, Pastor Chun, Jung Kwon, president of the Adventist Church in Korea, urged members to "Share and Serve" saying, "The Adventist Church should be born again with the mission of Jesus Christ to share with and serve our neighbors as we welcome a new century of the mission."

During the four day event focused on expanding the border of evangelism, church leaders from the five local conference areas and officials from the NSD reviewed, studied and discussed the past mission emphasis, the spiritual growth and identity, and strategic methods for evangelism and church growth.

Also, they elected new church leaders to serve during 2005-2009.



Hong, Myung Kwan, President, left;



Choi, Young Tae, Secretary, center;



Son, Ki Won, Treasurer, right

## The JUC Holds 2004 Annual Council

The Japan Union Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church opened the annual council on Sunday, November 28, 2004, in Yokohama, Japan. During the devotional to open the JUC session, Dr. Jairyong Lee, president of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division, reminded those in attendance that where there are great challenges there are also great opportunities. The message was translated by Dr. Takashi Shiraishi, president of the Adventist Church in Japan.



Dr. Jairyong Lee (right) is delivering the devotional on the day of opening session. Pr. Takashi Shiraishi (left) is translating.

Dr. Jairyong Lee, president of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division, reminded those in attendance that where there are great challenges there are also great opportunities. The message was translated by Dr. Takashi Shiraishi, president of the Adventist Church in Japan.

One highlight of the reports given to the council was the introduction of seven new ministerial interns. This is a new day for Japan. Two of these interns have law degrees, but felt the call to ministry, so returned to study Theology.

Another year now opens its fair unwritten pages before you. The recording angel stands ready to write. Your course of action will determine what shall be traced by him. You may make your future life good or evil; and this will determine for you whether the year upon which you have just entered will be to you a happy new year. It is in your power to make it such for yourself and for those around you. {ML 5.2}

## Taiwan Conference

The first Taiwan Conference Session was held from December 21-23, 2004, in Taiwan. At the session, the new church leaders of Taiwan Conference were elected as follows:

President-Pastor John Ash III

Secretary-Pastor Clark Ke

Treasurer-Mr. Dan Liu



The First Taiwan Conference members with first Conference President, John AshIII, front row, third from left.

# Taiwan Mission Celebrates Conference Status

Sabbath morning, December 11, 2004, bus loads of Seventh-day Adventists and friends began the celebration of achieving Conference status. This milestone was reached after 52 years of hard work. Dr. Robert S. Folkenberg, Jr., President, presided over the celebrations.

The Seventh-day Adventist work began in April 1948 in Taiwan. Through the years growth has been slow. However, the vision has never been lost that the Taiwanese wanted to not only be self-sustaining, but to be able to contribute to the world work, Dr. Jairyong Lee, Northern Asia-Pacific Division President remarked when presenting a plaque to commemorate the occasion.

During the past several years, there has been special emphasis given toward accomplishing this goal. The leadership of Dr. Folkenberg, Jr. has encouraged the leaders and members to make the final push toward this high day.



Recognition given to the PMM Pastors

Also the focus of the Chinese Union Mission - Healthy Church - has helped members and leaders alike to commit to a lifestyle that promotes church growth in all its aspects.

Dr. Folkenberg presented the Pioneer Mission Movement Pastors and wives to the congregation during the session. The PMM's are Korean pastors who spend a year in language study prior to spending five years in the field raising up new churches.

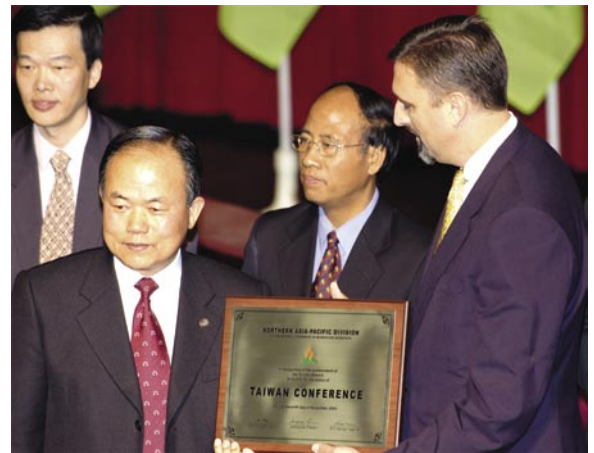
Because of the distance, some church members arrived Friday evening so they would not be late for this celebration. All nine districts were well represented.

During the Sabbath School time, John Huang chaired an exciting time during which the different departments of the church gave reports of the growth in their respective areas.

The worship hour had several memorable events. John Huang presented a brief history of the Taiwan Mission with pictures of different highlights. Dr. Jairyong Lee presented the plaque to Dr. Folkenberg, Jr., to mark the growth of the Taiwan church from mission to Conference. Dr. Lee presented the morning sermon, reminding the congregation that even though there seemed to be giants in the land, the Lord was their strength.

After lunch, each church district gave a report of the work in its area and included one or more musical selections. Some districts featured their youth who wore T-shirts with the Adventist Logo to identify them, while others dressed in the traditional costume of their area.

There was electricity in the air as these reports were given. Much rejoicing took place that day.



Dr. Lee presenting a plaque from the NSD to the Taiwan Conference being accepted by Dr. Folkenberg



Dr. Lee presenting a plaque to Dr. and Mrs. Folkenberg for their years of dedicated service while Dr. James Wu translates.

# The Evangelistic Meetings in Tokyo Have Great Impact.

**T**he 10-night evangelistic series brought more than 500 people, including 200 non-Adventists, to the Amanuma Adventist church in Tokyo, Japan. From November 5 to 13 the series of evangelistic seminars was held by Dr. Dwight K. Nelson.

Dr. Nelson's sermons entitled, "How to Cope with Fear and Unrest," and subtitle, "10 Bible Values", included two Sabbath meetings. Since Japan has been attacked by many strong typhoons in the past months and a severe earthquake in October, the grand title was timely for the general public.



The opening night on Friday, November 5, brought 230 people including a few children to hear the message. On Sabbath morning, November 6, there was a Voice of Prophecy Bible Correspondence School (VOPBCS) graduation ceremony during the Ten Minutes Promotional Time. Forty six graduates who finished different courses this year were present. Pastor Masumi Shimada, VOPBCS Director, presented certificates to each individual, assisted by Miss Tamiko Arai, associate pastor of the Amanuma Church. Then Nelson preached powerfully from the Bible to 519 people, including children. He showed many pictures and words on two



screens, one in Japanese and the other in English. His evangelistic sermons were all translated by Dr. Tadaomi Shinmyo, senior pastor of the church.

The nightly attendance averaged about 230. On the other hand, two Sabbath morning services attracted over 500 people respectively. From the fourth meeting onward, Dr. Nelson appealed to the congregation to make a decision for the Lord. The decision card was called "HOPE CARD," and there were 10 items to mark according to their hope. One of them was to accept Jesus Christ as their personal Savior and another one was to request baptism. Amazingly, 32 individuals decided to accept Jesus Christ as their personal Savior and 10 wanted to be baptized.



After the 10 meetings, there were 203 names recorded on the attendance notes as non-Adventists. On the last Sabbath, four people were baptized at the end of the church service. This series greatly impacted the non-Adventist people as well as the Adventists, according to the responses and comments from the participants. It was also a significant event because this series of the meetings was viewed live through Internet with the help of the VOP Japan. The Lord has richly answered our prayers which began from the beginning of this year.

*Reported by Tadaomi Shinmyo, Senior Pastor of Amanuma Church.*

## NSD Annual Council 2004

**N**ovember 2-7, 2004, the Annual Council of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists was held in Ilsan, Korea, with the theme, "United in the Witness of Truth." The Seventh-day Adventist Church leaders from around the NSD territory, and also Dr. Michael L. Ryan, vice president of the General Conference and Dr. Don C. Schneider, president of the North American Division, came together for their annual council. At the morning devotional, Dr. Jairyong Lee said, "All of us are vessels in the House of the Lord. Vessels in the house of the Lord should be used for His work." He emphasized on what kind of vessels Church leaders and Christians should be.

During the meeting sessions, they reviewed the work accomplished in 2004 and voted the plans and activities for the year 2005. On November 4, the Advisory Council on Evangelism and Witness was held in connection with the Annual Council. Dr. Michael Ryan, vice president of the worldwide Adventist Church, was invited to be the main speaker at the advisory council, prepared by the NSD Global Mission Coordinator, Kwon JohnHaeng. All of the NSD Executive members of the Annual Council from Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Taiwan and Mongolia, were presented with Global Mission Reports from each region, and the 1000 Missionary Movement report. Additionally, "A successful model of Church growth" was featured by Kang Sun Koo, Pastor of the Busan SooYoung Church

# ADRA Provides 9.9 Million Rolls to School Children in North Korea

“ADRA News Release” Date: November 23, 2004

Silver Spring, Maryland—The Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) bakery school feeding program in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) has produced and distributed 9.9 million calcium-enriched bread rolls in its second year of operation. The bread rolls were supplied to nearly 21,000 children in 396 kindergartens as part of ADRA’s Kindergarten Nutrition Project. Each child received a daily ration of two bread rolls.

To produce the bread, the World Food Programme (WFP) supplied wheat flour, vegetable oil, dried skim milk, and sugar. ADRA Switzerland provided yeast and salt. The rolls were distributed to all kindergarten children in four counties within Pyongyang Province and the two districts within Pyongyang City with the lowest nutrition rates.

The local government organized transportation of the bread rolls every three days to the counties within Pyongyang Province through the local Flood Damage Rehabilitation Committee (FDRC). Two trucks were used to distribute the bread rolls within the districts of Pongyang City on a daily basis, six days per week. Each week, nearly 250,000 bread rolls were distributed.



“The second year of production at the ADRA bakery has been successful in achieving its goals and meeting its objectives. Feedback from the kindergarten directors and the FDRC has been positive,” stated Marcel Wagner, country director for ADRA in North Korea. “All involved look forward to the continuation of activities into the next program stage,” Wagner continued.

According to the United Nations World Food Programme, malnutrition in children in North Korea under the age of seven has improved over the years but is still high. In a 2002 survey, the growth of 40 percent of the children was stunted, 20 percent were underweight and 8 percent were wasted. This stunting rate is regarded as a severe public health problem (World Health Organization standards).



A nutrition survey conducted by the WFP and the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) at the end of 2002 indicated that children in Pyongyang central districts were much better nourished than the children in the outer districts. As such, the WFP and ADRA agreed to change the group they had targeted in the past. This year, the areas outside of central Pyongyang city were targeted. A final survey performed by the FDRC in all 396 kindergartens in June 2004 showed that the level of malnutrition at the end of the project was below 2 percent.

The bakery project also provides routine training to eight women who clean and maintain each bakery machine. Two technical engineers are also continuously trained in machinery repair and fitting of spare parts.



In 1995, ADRA started project activities in North Korea that included the distribution of food, medicine, and seeds. ADRA’s solar bathhouse project provided a sustainable source of water heating for community bathhouses to improve hygiene during winter. Another project rehabilitated and equipped surgical and maternal health facilities in county hospitals to reduce mortality, infections, and poor health. ADRA also brought aid to those affected by a train blast in Ryongchon last May and trialed the use of biogas plants to enable rural households to produce adequate energy for their essential requirements. ADRA has been operating its bakery since 2002.

## Pocket Tissue Distribution with the Bible Invitation Cards

The Adventist Church in Japan has introduced a new idea to prompt the Sow 1 Billion Initiative to reach the public. The Adventist members in Japan have distributed the Bible study invitation brochures with pocket tissues, on which the information to receive the Bible studies is printed.

The plastic covers of tissues advertise the website, <http://e-seisho.net> for internet Bible studies. Also, seals can be placed on the cover to advertise evangelistic seminars and Christmas events.



Bible Study Invitation on Pocket Tissues.

With a goal of 7,000 new bible study interests in 2005, 15,000 church members among a national population of 130 million have joined the Bible study invitation activities since 2003. As of October 2004, the total number of brochures distributed is 20,574,006, including the distribution of 18,500,000 newspaper advertisement.

# Happy New Year

## Hong Kong Macao Conference

Hong Kong Macao Conference held the 9th Session in Hong Kong from December 17 to 20, 2004. At the session, the floor voted for the new officers of the Hong Kong Macao Conference as follows:

President: Pastor Cheng Wing Kin (from the regional director of the CHUM)

Executive Secretary: Pastor Sanny Chiu (from Pastor in charge of Kowloon Church)

Treasurer: Mr. Richard Chu Tak Him (re-elected)



John Ash III, Terry Tsui, Sanny Chiu, Cheng Wing Kin, Howard Fung and James Wu

### Northern Asia-Pacific Division Officers

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Treasurer	R. Martin Moores
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SEVENTH-DAY  
ADVENTIST CHURCH