



NORTHERN ASIA-PACIFIC DIVISION
THE MOST CHALLENGING FIELD

NEWS & VIEWS

www.nsdadventist.org

September/October 2015



The three NSD officers for the next five years were elected at the 60th General Conference Session: Jairyong Lee (center) – President; German Ariel Lust (left) – Treasurer; Yutaka Inada (right) – Executive Secretary



Unity: Indispensable for Mission

Jairyong Lee, President Northern Asia-Pacific Division

Jesus commanded His followers to “go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit” (Matt. 28:19). This special command was given along with Jesus’ promise of His Second Coming: “This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come” (Matt. 24:14).

The reason Jesus came to this world was to save sinners (Luke 19:10). In this way He gave His life as “a ransom for many” (Mark 10:45). Jesus died on the cross, was buried in a tomb, and was raised from the dead. He fully accomplished His mission on earth.

Jesus established the church as an agency of salvation. Jesus said, “Upon this rock I will build My church” (Matt. 16:18). Jesus built His church on Himself, and the church exists to complete God’s salvation for men and women. In other words, all church organizations and departments should place God’s mission as their top priority. When mission is neglected, the church entity loses the reason for its existence.

Jesus selected 12 young men and kept them close to Him, training them to be leaders of the church. They were trained by the greatest teacher that the world has ever seen. They witnessed the powerful and comprehensive ministry of Jesus. They learned evangelism skills, including effective ways to visit people, give Bible studies, preach sermons, and prepare people for baptism. They received spiritual training on how to pray and fast, how to deny themselves by trusting in God, and how to depend on the power of the Holy Spirit. They also learned passion for mission from Jesus. These intensive trainings continued for more than three years. The 12 young men learned a lot under the feet of the great Master. It seemed they were now

qualified and ready to take up the gospel work.

However, Jesus had a great concern about His disciples. He knew there was pride, jealousy, selfishness and a self-exalting spirit among them. They were not united. They argued with one another for higher positions. “And there arose also a dispute among them as to which one of them was regarded to be greatest” (Luke 22:24).

Jesus was sad to see that the disciples were not ready to take up the gospel work. If they were not united, but divisive, they would not be ready to receive the power of the Holy Spirit. They would never successfully carry out the gospel work. Jesus knew this very well, and He frequently instructed His disciples on the importance of unity among them. “But the one who is the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like the servant” (Luke 22:26).

Jesus repeatedly prayed for the unity of His disciples. “I am no longer in the world; and yet they themselves are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep them in Your name, the name which You have given Me, that they may be one even as We are” (John 17:11. See also 17:22).

Unity is indispensable for accomplishing our mission. Ellen White plainly wrote, “It should be understood that perfect unity among laborers is necessary to the successful accomplishment of the work of God” (9T, 196).

The disciples of Jesus were fully united in the upper room. With united hearts, they met together in one place (Act 2:1). As they repented of their sins and prayed for each other, the Holy Spirit came upon them with mighty power. Now, they were ready to go out to accomplish the gospel mission given by their Master.

May the Lord bless us with the spirit of unity among us!

NSD MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division of Seventh-day Adventists is to communicate to all people in its territory the everlasting gospel of God’s love in the context of the Three Angels’ Message of Revelation 14:6-12, and as revealed in the life, death, resurrection, and high priestly ministry of Jesus Christ, leading them to accept Jesus as their personal Saviour and Lord and to unite with His remnant church; and to nurture believers as disciples in preparation for His soon return, and to equip and empower them for service.

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Northern Asia-Pacific Division

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The 60th General Conference Session

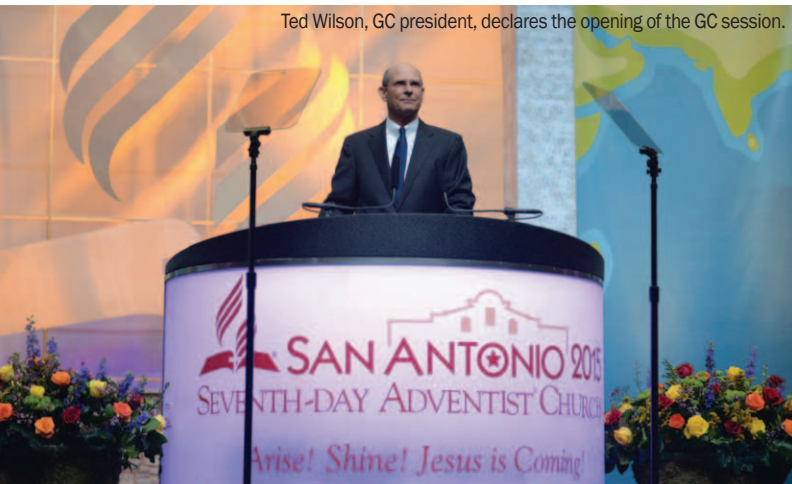
“Arise! Shine! Jesus Is Coming!”

By Han SukHee - NSD Communication Director, News & Views Editor



In July 2015, the 60th Session of the General Conference (GC) of the Seventh-day Adventist Church was held in San Antonio, Texas, USA. A total of 2,566 delegates from 168 countries arrived at this historic site of the Battle of the Alamo. They registered at the Henry B. Gonzalez Hall and started the 10-day stretch at the Alamodome Stadium. Here are some of the highlights of those 10 days.

Ted Wilson, GC president, declares the opening of the GC session.



1 Ted N. C. Wilson Welcomes Attendees

Ted N. C. Wilson, GC president, welcomed the attendees at the opening ceremony. “During a General Conference Session, not only do we have the joy of worshipping together as a worldwide family, we have the opportunity to clearly focus on the mission of the church, and how best to accomplish that mission. Elements of our overall mission theme of ‘Tell the World’ will continue until the Lord comes as we reach up to God, reach out to others, and reach across to nurture, retain, and involve everyone in the work of the church.”

He also encouraged people by saying, “Let us reaffirm the marvelous foundational truths of the Bible that make us who we are as Seventh-day Adventists—including our understanding of the sanctuary service as God’s work for His people at this time, and the wonderful guiding blessing that God has given the church through the gift of the Spirit of Prophecy. Let us lift up God’s work as central in all that we do.”



Delegates approve 35 new Union Conferences.

2 New Union Conferences Approved

At the first meeting on July 2, 2015, delegates approved 35 new Union Conferences. In 2010, the GC accepted 22 Union Conferences, but this time, 35 units were approved due to remarkable church growth in Central and South America and in Africa during the past five years.

G. T. Ng, GC executive secretary



Juan R. Prestol-Puesán, GC treasurer



Photo courtesy of Rohann Wellington

Ted N. C. Wilson and G. T. Ng Re-elected as GC President and Secretary; Juan R. Prestol-Puesán Elected as Treasurer

3

On the afternoon of July 2, the Divisions elected the Nominating Committee at Gonzalez Hall. After some discussion, the committee came back with the recommendation that Wilson remain at his post as GC president. The election was delayed because of some objections, but 90% of the delegates voted for Wilson’s re-election. The Nominating Committee also recommended that G. T. Ng and Myron A. Iseminger remain as GC executive secretary and undersecretary, and this was approved. Juan R. Prestol-Puesán was chosen as GC treasurer, replacing the retiring Robert E. Lemon.



4 The Number of GC Vice Presidents Reduced from Nine to Six

The 60th General Conference Session accepted the recommendation of the Nominating Committee for three new and three incumbent GC vice presidents. The number of vice presidents was reduced from nine to six, and Guillermo E. Biaggi, Thomas L. Lemon, and Abner De Los Santos became new officers, while Geoffrey G. Mbwana, Ella S. Simmons, and Artur A. Stele were reelected. Before the session, four vice presidents, including Lowell C. Cooper, Armando Miranda, Michael L. Ryan, and Benjamin D. Schoun, announced their plans to retire.



Church leaders pray for the growth and spiritual revival of the world church. (Jairyong Lee, NSD president, is the first from the left.)



Lowell C. Cooper, GC vice president (2nd from the left), hosts a business session.

Six Newcomers and Seven Incumbents Elected as Division Presidents 5

Division presidents are appointed for the next session. Jairyong Lee and his wife are the first from the left.



The GC session delegates elected 13 division presidents. Among them, six were newly appointed while seven presidents, including Jairyong Lee of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division, kept their position. The division presidents are also vice presidents of the General Conference.

The new division presidents are Leonardo R. Asoy (Southern Asia-Pacific Division), Ezras Lakra (Southern Asia Division), Mario Brito (Inter-European Division), Michael Kaminskiy (Euro-Asia Division), Glenn Townend (South Pacific Division), and Elie Weick-Dido (West-Central Africa Division). Ted N. C. Wilson remarked that officers at Adventist world church headquarters would work closely with division presidents to fulfill the church's mission of preparing people for Jesus' return.



New NSD officers: Jairyong Lee, NSD president (center), Yutaka Inada, NSD secretary (right), German Lust, NSD treasurer (left)

6 Jairyong Lee Remains the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) President; Yutaka Inada and German Ariel Lust Elected as New NSD Secretary and Treasurer

Jairyong Lee returns as NSD president for another five years. In an interview just after the election, Dr. Lee said that he will emphasize and promote mission even more so that many people in the NSD can be saved. He also said that during the next five years, there would be a focus on leadership training to train people in the NSD to be world church leaders.

In addition, Yutaka Inada was elected as the NSD executive secretary and German Ariel Lust as NSD treasurer. Akeri Suzuki and Ken Osborn, who served as secretary and treasurer of the NSD, retired from their service (See page 36 for more details).



Golden Angels sing a special song at the GC session.

7 Touching Music by the Golden Angels and an Impressive NSD Report

Attendees at the GC session were also moved by touching praise and mission reports from each division. The Golden Angels, NSD's singing missionaries, gave a profound impression to attendees through their music.

Moreover, NSD delegates from the different countries appeared on stage in their traditional clothes during the division report on July 7. Pastors' wives in *hanbok*, the Korean traditional clothes, performed a fan dance to applause and flashing cameras. NSD president Jairyong Lee gave a brief introduction to the NSD, followed by an 18-minute video report that showed great things God has done in the NSD. The report highlighted NSD's motto of "Mission First," as it included major mission activities of each Union, church, and institution of the NSD.

8 GC Session Turns Down Women's Ordination

On July 8, the 60th GC session voted no on the issue of allowing each division to decide whether to ordain women. The motion asked delegates, "Is it acceptable for division executive committees, as they may deem it appropriate in their territories, to make provision for the ordination of women to the gospel ministry?" The vote stood at 1,381 against and 977 in favor with 5 abstentions. During the six hours of discussion on the hottest issue of the session, delegates thoughtfully considered and discussed what option would best fit the church's gospel work and mission. A total of 40 delegates, including 20 who supported and 20 who opposed the motion, took the microphone to express their opinions. Due to the sensitivity of the issue, a secret ballot system was used that GC officers said offered the most fair and secure voting process possible. "We have tried to be transparent, honest and thoughtful, and to ensure the privacy of the vote to the best of our ability," remarked a GC officer.



Delegates stand in line to vote on women's ordination.

9 The Popular NSD Booth Draws Visitors

Among the many exhibition booths at the GC session, one of the most outstanding and crowded booths was the NSD booth. The NSD booth introduced the various mission work of each institution and organization in the territories and provided many goods and events. Next to the NSD booth, the Chinese Union Mission, Sahmyook Foods, 1000 Missionary Movement, BMW (Bicycle Mission to the World), Sahmyook Laver, and the Korean Publishing House set up their booths. There were a lot of emotional reunions of old friends at the booth. Thanks to *hanboks* worn by the wives of NSD officers and directors, the NSD booth was very popular.



Various Local Community Service 10

Ted N. C. Wilson, GC president appealed to church members to unite in the mission of the church after the vote. “Now is the time to unify under the bloodstained banner of Jesus Christ and His power, not our power. Now is the time to unify in our mission as Christ’s church,” said Elder Wilson. He also thanked delegates for the “careful and prayerful manner in which they carried themselves and addressed the subject” and appealed to all church members to acknowledge that decisions made by the General Conference in session carry the highest authority in the Adventist Church.

The local community as well as Adventist church members had lots of interest in the GC session. In April, 6,192 people received in excess of \$10 million USD in free Adventist healthcare at a San Antonio stadium. The clinic sought to introduce San Antonio residents to the Adventist Church ahead of the major church business meeting, the GC session. It drew significant local media coverage and an outpouring of warm words from the community.

During the session, there were congratulatory banners on streets around the venue. Nearby accommodations and restaurants provided special menus for Adventists. On July 5, the InStep for Life 5K run was held on Villita Street by the GC Health Ministries Department and the North American Division to raise awareness in order to help reduce childhood obesity. About 2,500 Adventists participated in this event to testify of Adventist healthy lifestyles.



The GC CHUM booth invites local people.

At the end of the 10-day event, the attendees felt sad saying goodbye, but they would have positive memories of this time together. On the last Sabbath worship on July 11, attendees, packed into the four-story Alamodome, sang in one voice, expressing their sorrow of parting and soon-coming joy of reunion, “Coming again, coming again, Jesus is coming again!”



It is finished. The General Conference Session “Arise! Shine! Jesus is Coming!” was held in San Antonio, Texas, USA. There were 2,566 delegates from 13 divisions around the world, including fifty delegates who had been invited from mainland China. During the meetings, which were based on a democratic representative system, delegates reported on the past five years, appointed new leaders, dealt with issues, and rededicated themselves for world mission for the next five years.

“Regular study of the Bible and the writings of Ellen G. White is key to developing a closer relationship with Jesus. Cross the Jordan. Don’t retreat. Press ahead in unity in proclaiming Jesus’ soon return,” declared Elder Ted N. C. Wilson, who was reelected as the GC president, in his Sabbath sermon at the close of the session.

Here is a summary of the GC Session 2015:

First, for the city of San Antonio, the venue of the session, this was the largest-scale event in its history. Two hundred community leaders

welcomed delegates from all over the world, and tens of thousands of Adventist delegates, their families, and members filled the city. San Antonio was able to promote its name to the whole world, and the economic effect of the session would reach \$4.1 million USD. The citizens could become aware of the Adventist Church and its vegetarian food based on the health message of the church.

Second, the General Conference’s preparation for the event helped everything to run smoothly. Also, 1,700 Adventist volunteers provided

Reflecting on the 60th General Conference Session



free medical clinic service for three days so that the church's mission identity and social contribution were revealed in the community.

Third, the session showed delegates that this is the highest decision-making administration of the Adventist Church. It proved that the Adventist Church is organized on a democratic representative system through orderliness in representative management, composition of an organizing committee, a nominating committee, and a steering committee, leadership election, departmental reports, and dealing with agenda items.

Fourth, delegates who stood by women's ordination, which was the primary concern in the session, showed a mature attitude, respecting the authority of the General Conference, although the item was voted down. Especially, the leaders of

the North American Division, who advocated the item, were deeply disappointed, but they conceded the result for unity and mission of the world church.

Fifth, the Seventh-day Adventist Church's 28 Fundamental Beliefs was updated since its last revision in 1980. However, none of the revisions changed any of the Fundamental Beliefs, and many simply updated and tightened the text in order to make them more understandable. For example, "God, who is love" was added to number 2 on the Trinity; number 6 on Creation confirmed the statement approved by the 2004 Annual Council that emphasizes six literal days of creation to avoid evolutionary theism; "The Nature of Man" was changed to "The Nature of Humanity" (No. 7); "Resurrection" became "bodily resurrection" (No. 9); No. 11 on Growing in Christ added a new statement of faith on Christian social responsibility; No. 18 on the

Gift of Prophecy was changed to avoid giving the impression that Ellen G. White and the Bible are equivalent sources of truth; the term "partners" was changed to "a man and a woman" (No. 23 on Marriage and Family); "Christ's coming is imminent" became "Christ's coming is near" (No. 25).

Sixth, respecting professionalism of leadership, every possible officer and departmental director remained in office. The number of general vice presidents was reduced from nine to six in order to improve efficiency of mission work.

Truly, the Adventist Church values the order of the Bible and the church, and the Adventist Church is a protagonist in this movement of destiny, dynamically carrying out Christ's Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20).





1. The 60th GC Session was held at the Alamodome Stadium and Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center in San Antonio, Texas, United States. This is the entrance of the Alamodome Stadium.
2. Seventh-day Adventist world church president Ted N. C. Wilson and his wife Nancy Wilson
3. NSD delegates' seats
4. Registration booth for delegates
5. NSD delegates test electronic voting devices.
6. NSD president Jaiyong Lee and his wife wearing *hanbok*, traditional Korean clothing
7. The Chinese choir sings at the GC.





1. NSD pastors' wives welcome visitors wearing their traditional costumes.
2. Various booth exhibitions
3. Pastor Mark Finley emphasizes mission spirit throughout his sermon.
4. Booth visitors participate in activities at the booth exhibition.
5. NSD delegates sing praises to God.
6. Group picture of NSD delegates



The first North Korea Mission Forum in the United States was held at the Garden Grove Korean-American Adventist Church in Los Angeles, California, by the Korean-American Seventh-day Adventist Church Association (KASDA) under the supervision of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD). About 400 attendees were present at the meetings, which took place from June 26 to 27, 2015.

In order to preach the gospel in North Korea, it is important to comprehend reality and to develop mission strategies. The forum was devised to report the true state of North Korea and to think of possible strategies. It included a revival meeting on June 26 and a mission report, direction guidance and forum for North Korean mission on June 27.

The first meeting began with a special song by the Golden Angels. Pastor Kim DongJun, president of the Committee on North Korean Mission, welcomed all attendees, and Mr. Kim YangIl, consultant of the UN, reported on the current situation and trends of North Korea. Based on his experiences of visiting the country a dozen times, he said that there is a radical change taking place within society, following the Chinese model of reform. During the North Korean famine in the 1990s, the people needed to supply food for themselves, and

markets were opened. Then someday, the North Korean government will respect private property, more or less like China. If so, it will also permit religious activity within the Juche (self-reliance) ideology. He concluded that it is very crucial to prepare the seed of the gospel now.

Subsequently, Ms. Lee Ok, a North Korean defector who had been a staff sergeant in the North Korean army, testified about her life in North Korea and her experience of meeting God as she escaped. When she was in the army during the famine, she heard that her parents had starved to death. She went to her home for the funeral, and then she decided to escape with her brother. As they crossed the Tumen River, the powerful current swept her brother away from her. After she arrived in China, she heard of God for the first time from a South Korean missionary team, but she could not believe because she had been brainwashed with the Juche ideology. Then she was taught about prayer, and she prayed to God asking to meet her brother again if he were alive. Surprisingly, her prayer was answered unexpectedly when she visited a protective custody office for young North Korean refugees. She knelt down before God and decided to trust in Him. Together with her brother, she went to South Korea, and she is determined to spend the rest of her life for the glory of God and evangelization of North Korea.

THE FIRST NORTH KOREA MISSION FORUM IN THE USA



Church leaders and Golden Angels at the first North Korea Mission Forum

After the testimony, there was a video presentation on North Korean mission. Then Pastor Jairyong Lee, NSD president, preached a message titled “North Korea Will Soon Open.”

The second-day meeting began with welcome remarks by Pastor Jairyong Lee; Pastor Kwon OhYoung, KASDA president; and Mr. Kwon SeokDae, president of the Orange San Diego Municipal Chapter of the National Unification Advisory Council. The next program included activity reports of North Korean relief and mission groups, such as the Korean American Adventist Relief Agency (KAARA), which helps orphans in North Korea; the K-Project, which provides medical equipment and technical support to Kim ManYoo Hospital in Pyongyang; the American Sahmyook International Medical Association (ASIMA), which helps the North Korean Federation for the Care of the Aged and supports dental service; and the “We Are the One,” which does

1. The Golden Angels' special song
2. Special song by Garden Grove Church Choir
3. Ms. Lee Ok, North Korea defector, gives her testimony.
4. Attendees fill the church.



1. Jairyong Lee, NSD president, preaches the opening sermon.
2. Kim SiYoung, NSD North Korea Mission coordinator
3. Advisers on North Korea mission work

relief activities headed by second generation Korean-Americans. The NSD presented appreciation plaques to the KAARA and the ASIMA for their many years of service and dedication for relief and mission in North Korea.

After the report, Pastor Hong DooPyo, chairman of the North Korean Mission Committee, presented direction and suggestions for North Korean mission. He suggested cooperation and joint activity among North Korean mission groups in the USA for more effective and efficient work. Pastor Kim SiYoung, coordinator of the NSD North Korean Mission, also supported this suggestion because it will bear more missionary fruits.

The last presentation was a report on the religious situation and underground churches in North Korea by a representative of Corner Stone Mission, which actively works in China. The meeting ended with a sketch of reunification of Korea by Mr. Kwon SeokDae. All attendees signed a sheet of resolution to confirm their dedication and support for North Korea.

The remarkable achievement through the meeting was unification among mission groups and cooperation between KASDA and NSD. We hope the Three Angels' Messages will brighten the northern land soon.

Kim SiYoung
NSD PARL Director, PMM Coordinator



This year marks the twentieth year of women's ministries as an official department of the General Conference. From 1995 to 2015, women around the world have rallied under the banner of women's ministries and used their gifts to bless those around them.

In actual fact, women's ministries began a long time ago—way back in the days of Ellen White. In 1899, Mrs. Sarepta Henry promoted women's ministries with the encouragement of Mrs. White, who was in Australia at the time. She received these words from Mrs. White: "I have thought, with your experience, under the supervision of God, you could exert your influence to set in operation lines of work where women could unite together to work for the Lord. . . . Believing the teachings of Christ, that through you, the human agency, he communicated his light, his truth, you are the frail instrument through whom the hidden power of God does work, that his strength may be perfected and made glorious in your weakness."¹

Using the leadership skills learned from instituting the women's Christian Temperance Union, Sarepta Henry worked with a consecrated group of educated

women with Christian characters. They were tireless, energetic, enthusiastic and hardworking.

Every week in 1899, the *Review* gave Mrs. Henry a page, boldly headed "Woman's Gospel Work," which she filled with Bible studies, poetry, letters, and practical advice. That year, she traveled 9,000 miles (no mean feat considering that the mode of transportation was a horse and buggy) and spoke 214 times, encouraging women to use their spiritual gifts to serve God. Unfortunately, in 1900, Mrs. Henry died suddenly of pneumonia brought on by overwork.

A nine-member committee continued her work for a short while and then disbanded. By June 1901 the women's column disappeared from the *Review and Herald*. The committee became discouraged without their strong leader, and women's ministries ceased as a department of the church although individual women continued to work for God in many ways. The organized work of women's ministries came to a standstill.

At the General Conference Session at Dallas in 1980, led by the Holy Spirit to recognize that the majority of the Seventh-day Adventist Church is female, President Neal Wilson called for the Church to unleash the potential represented by the God-given talents of women. This appeal set in motion a number of actions that resurrected women's ministries from its 80-year slumber.

Much work was done between 1980 and 1985 when the Annual Council of the General Conference established a women's ministries advisory committee. Betty Holbrook was its first chairperson. In 1988, Karen Flowers took over and formulated a mission statement for women's ministries, the one currently in use by the women's ministries department. In 1990, the Annual Council of the General Conference elected Rose Otis to be the director of the office of women's ministries, followed by the granting of full departmental status at the General Conference session in Utrecht in 1995.

In 1991, seven Divisions started up the work of women's ministries. The Northern Asia-Pacific Division (formerly known as the Far Eastern Division, then Asia Pacific Division) was among the first to initiate the work of women's ministries. They elected Dr. Nancy Bassham, a Thai educator, as its first director. Dr. Linda Koh, an educator from Singapore, succeeded her in 1994 and served until 1997 when the Asia Pacific Division was divided into the Northern and Southern Asia-Pacific Divisions. Dr. Mary Wong, another educator from Singapore, took over as director when the Division office moved to Korea. She served until 2003, and Mrs. Young-Ja Nam, a dedicated leader from Korea, was elected as director. She served until 2005 and was followed by another educator from Singapore, Dr. Sally Lam-Phoon, who is currently finishing up her second term.

Although women's ministries has had a history of more than twenty



Happy

20th Birthday
to Women's Ministries!



Mongolia Mission had a worship service to celebrate the 10th anniversary of their women's ministries.

years, we are proud to celebrate the twentieth birthday of women's ministries as a full department.

Mongolia Mission Celebrates in March 2015

Mongolia Mission's women's ministries department celebrated its 10th anniversary as a department on March 7, 2015, on the International Day of Prayer for Women.

Their theme for the event was "Each One Reach One," and more than 250 church members around the Ulaanbaatar area attended the meeting. The program included a special praise to God from each church in Ulaanbaatar, testimonies and an encouraging sermon.

Cleidi Kuhn, the first women's ministries director of Mongolia Mission, reminded the audience of God's faithfulness during the past 10 years. She said, "God has led us, blessed us, and shown us His unfailing love, and ever challenged us to maturity, always providing us with the means and possibilities to grow for God's kingdom. For this we are assured that God is with us in our ministry. The way we do this is to 'Touch a heart; tell the world.'"

Everyone at the meeting received a book entitled *A Ministry for Every Woman* along with a bookmark. They celebrated with cake and especially thanked the pastors' spouses for their outstanding work in ministry.



Mrs. Purevdulam and Mrs. Cleidi Kuhn, the present and the former director of MM women's ministries

Ms. Purevdulam Judgerjav, the current director, remarked, "All through the years, I can see God's leading. Women's ministries has helped our Mongolian women to grow and be empowered to work for the Lord. Some leaders have shared that the training from our department has been very effective as they apply it in their ministries for the local church and community. They have been invited by other organizations to conduct seminars and training events for them. God is surely using us in His great work, and I am so happy to be His instrument."

Korean Union Conference Celebrates in May 2015

In May, the Northern Asia-Pacific Division was blessed with a visit from the General Conference associate women's ministries director, Mrs. Raquel Arrais, who first went on a tour of China



KUC held a special meeting to commemorate the 20th anniversary of women's ministry in Korea.

and then touched down in Korea. The Korean Adventist Women's Association (KAWA), under the leadership of Mrs. Nam YoungJa, organized a celebration for the 20th birthday of women's ministries on May 20, 2015. More than a hundred women as well as several men packed into the auditorium of the Korean Union Conference to listen to Mrs. Arrais' inspiring message. She called on all to stay faithful to God's call to them to serve Him, always remembering how God has led us in the past. They chose to celebrate with a healthy rice cake that is enjoyed by Koreans as a dessert.

Mrs. Nam, KAWA president, commented: "I thank the Lord that He has awakened and raised women and founded the department of women's ministries in the Korean Union. I find that women can do everything in the Lord. Women have opened their eyes and broadened their vision through participation in ministries to women in need. I believe it is God's will that women work hand-in-hand with men to fulfill His mission to the world."

(From left) Shizuko Ikemasu, Okinawa women's ministries director, Dr. Sally Phoon, and Raquel Arrais, associate director for General Conference women's ministries



HKMC women's ministries leaders went on a retreat and had a celebration of the 20th anniversary of women's ministries.



Leaders of Okinawa Women's ministries

Okinawa Mission Celebrates in May 2015

From Korea, Raquel Arrais and Sally Lam-Phoon flew to Okinawa for another exciting weekend of celebrations with the women and men who chose to join them. Mrs. Shizuko Ikemasu, women's ministries director for Okinawa Mission, arranged for both leaders to preach at different churches and then gathered the women for seminars on Sabbath and Sunday. Again they celebrated the 20th anniversary with a sumptuous cake.

Arrais spoke with passion, encouraging the women to keep up with their witness of our Lord and Savior. A commitment ceremony completed the weekend of celebrations with a special prayer offered for Sally Lam-Phoon, who

will be retiring from the Northern Asia-Pacific Division at the end of August after two terms as the women's ministries director.

Hong Kong Macao Conference Celebrates in June 2015

At the beginning of June, Dr. Sally Lam-Phoon, was invited to speak at a women's ministries leadership camp in Hong Kong. The group of 23 leaders also celebrated the 20th anniversary of women's ministries. They chose to celebrate with fruit Jell-O, which they enjoyed in the simmering summer heat.

At the camp, the Hong Kong Macao Conference women's ministries director, Serene Chong-Yau, organized many activities that emphasized team spirit. The highlight was the formation of two

teams that constructed rafts from eight barrels and bamboo poles and then tested them out on the sea. They had a friendly paddling competition and proved their effectiveness in putting the raft together as it held up intact on the water. We believe that the many lessons learned during the debriefing sessions will strengthen the group as they carry out the plans laid out for outreach during the camp.

Indeed, women's ministries departments all over the world are changing people's mindsets and moving hearts to join in the exciting work of sharing the good news and making disciples of all we meet. Twenty years of organized service has made this possible. We pray that God will continue to bless women's ministries as women join hands with the men to expand God's Kingdom until Christ comes to take us home.

¹ "An Introduction to Women's Ministries," Women's Ministries Leadership Certification Program, Level 1

Sally Lam Phoon
NSD Women's Ministries Director





Pastor Yoon HanSu, Dr. Kim NaMi, and Pastor Lynn Ripley in the studio of recording the Pastoral Spouses' Mental Fitness Video Series

NSD Pastoral Spouses' Mental Fitness Video Series

The Pastoral Spouses' Mental Fitness Video Series by the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) was recorded at the KUC studio on the Sahmyook University campus from June 16 to 18, 2015. Though often unrecognized, pastoral spouses do great work for the church, providing support for the church and for their spouses. The Mental Fitness Program for Pastoral Spouses is to help pastors' spouses achieve a life that is healthy, happy, and filled with grace. First and foremost, pastoral spouses need to remember that they are recharged with heavenly grace every day. Through that loving grace, they can realize how valuable and precious they are. This knowledge will lead them to appreciate the value of the cross and feel good about themselves. Then, they will be able to value others and treat them with respect. Those who are treated with respect will eventually come to join a positive cycle of being able to serve and devote themselves to their family, church, and nation.

The purpose of this program is to help pastoral spouses become

“Positive Me,” “Respecting You,” and “Together Us.” They will gladly play the role of light and salt, becoming a living letter from God to give off heavenly fragrance in this world. Our goal is to provide each NSD Shepherdess International coordinator with a master DVD and materials that can be translated into the language of their pastoral spouses.

For this program, pastoral spouses will gather once a week and spend time together using the DVD and the small group workbook to help heal their wounded hearts and to share stories and mentoring. This time of fellowship will be a great catalyst for making the ministry of pastoral spouses healthier and more joyful. The series includes 10 video presentations.

1. Pastors' Spouses: Our Need
2. Beginning Change: God's Grace
3. Positive Me: Joyfulness
4. Positive Me: Thankfulness
5. Respecting You: Love
6. Respecting You: Forgiveness
7. Respecting You: Kindness
8. Together Us: Devotion

9. Together Us: Meaningful Life

10. Together Us: A Life Vision

This 10-part video series is presented by the NSD ministerial department. Our speaker, Kim NaMi, PhD, is an assistant professor of psychology and pedagogy at Sahmyook University, Seoul, Korea. She is the head of the “Between Us Interpersonal Relationship Institute” and has developed various ministry programs that focus on counseling, healing, and nurturing families. She has been serving the Adventist Church for 15 years as a pastor's wife to Yoon HanSu at the Korea SDA Language Institute, and she is the mother of two children, Sang Hyun (16) and Hanna (10). It was God's blessing that she would share this valuable, encouraging material with us. Her courage to present the lectures in English will make it possible for us to dub the videos into the languages of the NSD mission countries and of our world church.

This precious ministry resource for pastoral spouses was made possible by a shared effort of the General Conference Shepherdess International coordinator, Janet Page; Korean Union Conference, Dr. Kang SoonKi; and the NSD ministerial department. We thank them for their support. We also want to express our appreciation to the AMC Studio team under the leadership of Pastor Ku JiHyun and producer Kim DoSung. Our translator, Surina Yoon, was also a blessing. We were able to develop the participant materials through Kim SeMi's kind ministry skill. We also thank Pastor SJ Byun for his guidance and wise advice for how to develop the DVD. For more information, please email Lynn Ripley at lripley@nsdadventist.org.

Lynn Ripley

NSD Assistant Ministerial Secretary



A recently published survey by a Pew Research Center (August 27, 2014) revealed that half of all Christians live in just 11 countries around the world. According to this survey, 50% of people who call themselves Christians are residents of 11 countries, including Brazil, the United States, Mexico and Nigeria. Therefore, the Seventh-day Adventist Church has come up with strategies to increase its presence in other countries that are considered “closed” to Christianity.

“Here we are, send us!”

Paraphrasing the prophet Isaiah, six South American missionary families accepted the divine call to proclaim the Word of God in “the most challenging field,” the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD). They are a part of a bold project called “Missionaries to the World,” which include 25 South American families that were selected and commissioned by the church to minister in regions with the lowest Christian presence worldwide. It is not the first time that South American Adventist missionaries have been set apart to work overseas, but sending such a large number of them at once is unprecedented. In most of the countries where they have been sent, Christians represent less than 1% of the population.

Of the six families commissioned in 2015 to work in our territory, four are in the Chinese Union and the other two are serving in Mongolia Mission. They will spend at least five years spreading the everlasting gospel in these places. So far, the missionaries have been devoted primarily to studying the local language and mingling with the people as Christ did in order to build “bridges of hope” that rise above cross-cultural barriers. Yure Gramacho, a Brazilian missionary pastor who arrived with his family in Ulaanbaatar, the capital of Mongolia, nearly two months ago, believes that “it is essential



NSD Receives Six Missionary Families From South America

By Yure Gramacho - MM Communication Director

to learn not just *about* the local people, but learn *from* and *with* them. Understanding in order to be understood is the key of every meaningful testimony.”

Rodrigo Assi, a pastor who also belongs to the group that is currently working in the NSD territory, has mission in his blood. When asked what motivated him to be part of this project, he replied firmly: “Placing myself entirely in God’s hands and letting Him guide my steps, that’s what motivated me to leave my country to serve Him in such a challenging place. Jesus will not return to this world until the Gospel has been proclaimed to every nation, tribe, tongue and people, and my greatest wish is for Christ to come back soon. Getting ready myself and being an instrument in preparing others are the purpose of my life.”

Along with the establishment of Centers of Christian Influence in large cities, other evangelistic strategies will be used, such as working with university students, Adventist education, medical work, discipleship programs and training efforts to prepare a solid local leadership in order to continue the work when the missionaries return to their homelands.

“For many years, the world church looked to South America just as a missionary field. But in recent years, that has changed,” said Gary Krause, director of the Office of Adventist Mission at the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. The South American Division (SAD) will donate \$13 million for five-year terms, and “this amount includes the maintenance of the 25 families and the missionary

Left: (From left) Pastor Rodrigo Assi, MM president Elbert Kuhn, Pastor Yure Gramacho with his son Kauai, Pastor Gramacho's wife Laís, Gabriela Assi, and Cleidi Kuhn

Below: Pastor Yure Gramacho's family with a Mongolian flag



projects that will be developed there," said Pastor Herbert Boger, general coordinator of the project.

For Pastor Erton Köhler, SAD president, the Missionaries to the World project is a way to pay a "debt" for the missionary commitment of those who arrived in South America decades ago. "The work begun here by the effort of pioneers that came from other countries made all the difference. In addition, we believe that we are a worldwide family and that institutions exist to unite and not to divide. Therefore, we have also invested in sending missionaries," stated Köhler.

"We praise the Lord for the arrival of these dear fellow workers in our mission field. Certainly, they will be a great blessing for our church and nation," concluded Elbert Kuhn, Mongolia Mission president.

The South American missionaries came to join forces with our well-known missionary projects, such as the 1000MM (1000 Missionary Movement), PMM (Pioneer Mission Movement), GA (Golden Angels), and HHMM (HisHands Mission Movement), among other effective actions of Global Mission in the NSD.

Please pray for them!

MM

Comprehensive Health Ministry *The Second Medical Missionary Training in Mongolia*

The first Comprehensive Health Ministry and the second Medical Missionary Training in Mongolia were held at Mongolia Mission (MM) from May 27 to 29, 2015. Dr. Barbara Choi, health ministry director of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD), served as a trainer, and Enkhbayar Mishigdorj, MM health coordinator, worked with her as a translator.

"Every church a community health center; every member a health minister" is the goal of comprehensive health ministry. The Medical Missionary Training certification program is divided into three stages:

- 1) The Basic Medical Missionary Training Certificate is designed for lay people who are interested in serving their community as medical missionaries by acquiring basic Bible and health knowledge and skills to relieve simple aches and pains and bring people to Jesus, the great physician for holistic healing. The duration of the training is three days or twenty hours. There were 40 participants at this level.
- 2) The Intermediate Medical Missionary Training Certificate includes detailed Bible study training, emotional health awareness, cooking school, exercise program, weight management, stress management, and proposal writing skills.
- 3) The Advanced Medical Missionary Training Certificate requires CPR and a First-Aid certificate from a local health organization. Participants are commissioned to plan and implement a community service project. When the projects are successfully carried out and evaluated by the local pastor and health ministries director from the Mission, the participant who has finished the previous two levels will receive the Medical Missionary Community Service teacher certificate from the NSD.

Comprehensive Health Ministry and Medical Missionary Training are modeled after Jesus' example. They are about alleviating people's pain and suffering in this sin-sick world and bringing people to Jesus. "Christ's method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Savior mingled with men as one who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He bade them, 'follow Me'" (*Ministry of Healing* 143).

Barbara Choi

NSD Health Ministries Director



Mongolia Mission held the first Comprehensive Health Ministry and the second Medical Missionary Training with Dr. Barbara Choi.

MM

No Tobacco Day in Mongolia Mission

By Barbara Choi - NSD Health Ministries Director

Tobacco consumption kills almost 6 million people each year, and it is expected that by 2030, tobacco consumption will kill 8 million per year if the current global trend of increasing tobacco consumption remains unaddressed. Of these deaths, 600,000 are attributable to second-hand smoke only. Most of these deaths occur in low- and middle-income countries where more than 80% of the world's one billion smokers reside.

In Mongolia, in 2010, 46.3% of males and 6.8% of females were smokers. This practice was especially dominant among men and urban dwellers and, more so, among the middle-aged (45-54) while also displaying a high prevalence among Mongolian youth (15.5%).

In 2009, 48% of males aged 15 or more in Mongolia consumed tobacco, placing Mongolia among the countries with the highest prevalence of male smokers in the world. Tobacco use is one of the four major risk factors contributing to the global burden of non-communicable disease—the leading cause of mortality in Mongolia.

The Mongolia Mission health department planned several activities for World Health Day. They tried to bring to the community the message that tobacco kills. A 3-kilometer run



Above: "No-Tobacco Day Parade" in the neighborhood of SDA Central Church
Below: Participants of a 3K run event hold its promotion banner.

was planned for the morning. In the afternoon, the health department with the school Pathfinders staged a "No-Tobacco Day Parade," which started out from the SDA Central Church, complete with a marching band and a senior citizens' exercise group.

CHUM

HKMC Holds RETENTION & GROWTH Seminar



Attendees of HKMC's Retention and Growth Seminar

On March 14, 2015, the Sabbath School and Personal Evangelism Department of Hong Kong-Macao Conference (HKMC) organized a Retention and Growth Seminar. The purpose of the seminar was to train church leaders on how to retain members by maintaining the spiritual growth of all members. The main speakers were Elder Johnny Wong and Sister Tina Wang from the Gateway Adventist Centre in Melbourne, Australia. More than 150 people attended the seminar.

Many churches face the big challenge of keeping their members in the church. Adventist churches worldwide face the same issue. According to a recent study, 40% of members leave the church within five years after baptism. The statistics are alarming. Many times it is even more difficult to bring back the "lost sheep" than to baptize new believers.

Many evangelists, pastors and lay members work tirelessly to fish for Christ, but their efforts become greatly discounted when a large percentage of the fish escape through holes in the net. It is imperative for churches to learn how to mend the broken nets.

Elder Wong and Sister Wang used discipleship training material from FAST Missions. The training focus on lay members in the church by equipping them to grow spiritually and to witness for Christ through personal Bible studies. It has been proven that only when lay members are mobilized to give Bible studies and to witness actively will churches grow exponentially.

The HKMC leadership is determined to use their resources to train their members to grow God's Kingdom.



Ella Simmons, GC general vice president, Chek Yat Phoon, and Ben Schoun, former GC general vice president

Dr. Chek Yat Phoon Receives GC Award of Excellence

By David Ripley - NSD Ministerial Association Director

Dr. Chek Yat Phoon is planning to retire this year after 43 years of service to the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Recently the education department of the General Conference recognized his service with the Award of Excellence.

This prestigious award is given sparingly and only awarded after careful examination of the candidate's record. It is the greatest honor one of our educators can receive in the Adventist Church.

The requirements for consideration are as follows:

1. The candidate must have given at least 20 years of service, including at least 15 years to Adventist education as a teacher, administrator or educational leader.
2. The positive impact of this service must have been clearly felt in at least two Unions or two educational institutions within a Division.

CHUM HKMC Awards Volunteers

The Community Services Department of Hong Kong-Macao Conference (HKMC) held its 15th awards ceremony for its volunteers on May 17, 2015, in Shatin. The theme of the event was "Faith, Hope, Love," which was taken from 1 Corinthians 13:13. The three words accurately describe what is needed in community service. Faith is the foundation for who we are and what we do. Hope is our attitude as we wait for the Second Coming. Love is the motivation for our services.

A total of 163 volunteers from four Adventist community service institutions received awards. They represented different age groups and nationalities. Three outstanding elderly volunteers each worked more than 300 hours in the past year. The oldest one was 95 years old and had been in volunteer services for 25 years. There were also many volunteer families in which husband and wife or parents and children worked side by side.

3. The candidate must have earned the respect of his/her students and colleagues, and be someone who has integrated professional excellence with dynamic Christian faith.
 4. The contribution of this candidate must have made an enduring contribution to Adventist education, such as establishing new institutions, implementing new programs, or developing new educational tools.
- Since he began ministry in 1972, Dr. Phoon has served as a pastor and as an educator. In his early years of denominational work, Dr. Phoon served as a teacher at Sunny Hill College in Sarawak, Malaysia, and later as an instructor, professor, and president at the Southeast Asia Union College/Seminary, Singapore. He served as professor and dean of theology at Hong Kong Adventist College and later as vice-president for institutional affairs for a newly established union—Chinese Union Mission. He also served as a visiting professor at the main campus of Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies (AIAS) and at the extension campus of Universitas Advent Indonesia (UNAI). Dr. Phoon also served as a visiting scholar at Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, California, and at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee.

Dr. Chek Yat Phoon has served as the Northern Asia-Pacific Division director of education since 2006. In this capacity, his leadership and influence have been clearly felt in each of the Unions of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division, Southern Asia-Pacific Division and beyond.

We are honored to have had Dr. Phoon serve here in our field, and we will surely miss him as he retires.

Volunteer award recipients have medals around their necks.



The ceremony was full of loving scenes. Young people brought various forms of entertainment for the elderly. Some community services staff offered massage to the elderly volunteers on site to thank them for their tireless work. Everyone present was blessed by this harmonious event.

Pastor Chiloe Fan, president of HKMC, along with his leadership team and invited government officials presided over the ceremony.

Photo courtesy of adventist.or.kr



KUC Korean Union Conference Opens Children and Youth Vision Center

On April 28, 2015, the Korean Union Conference (KUC) held a thanksgiving worship service to the Lord to celebrate the opening of the Children and Youth Vision Center, which is one of the key initiatives of KUC's "SaeHim 2015." Approximately 150 people, including guests and local church members, attended the celebration.

Pastor Kim DaeSung, KUC president, gave a sermon at the thanksgiving service. "Through this center, the growth of children/youth ministries in Korea will be accelerated, and it will soon lead to the overall growth of the Korean Adventist Church." Citing

Isaiah 40:31, "But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint," he expressed his hope that this center will serve as a place where Korean Adventists will renew their strength to work for God.

At the opening ceremony, Pastor Lee SinYeon, KUC treasurer, presented a report on the construction process and delivered appreciation plaques to those who were particularly interested in the SaeHim project and contributed to building the center.

The construction of KUC's Children and Youth Vision Center started last August and cost \$3 million USD to complete. It has five floors above ground and two floors below ground. The first basement floor is for the SaeHim Art Hall, which is designed for concerts, shows, and lectures. On the first floor, there are seminar halls, meeting rooms, and a book café. The second floor consists of offices for the children's department, youth department, Korean Adventist Women's Association, and other research institutions for mission work. There is space for cooking classes, performance practice, and counseling on the third floor. On the fourth and fifth floors, there are training centers for children/youth leaders and campus missionaries.

NSD Health Program Collaboration with the Government of China

By Barbara Choi - NSD Health Ministries Director

On March 5 and 6, 2015, a team comprised of health leaders from the General Conference, Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) and Adventist Health Hong Kong (AHHK), held two days of health activities for the people of Huizhou, China. This panel of international health experts shared the most up-to-date health information from the International Commission for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Dependency (ICPA)/Non-Communicable Disease (NCD) in Huizhou, China.

In the mornings, the team visited the Huizhou Health Bureau, Huizhou Traditional Hospital, Huizhou Hospital, and Huizhou Central Hospital. At the Health Bureau, the three directors and the health leaders from the city of Huizhou met to share the four concerns that the Chinese healthcare system faces: a) smoking/drinking, b) accident prevention for children, c) sleep deprivation, and d) facing death.

In the afternoons, 300 health professionals and educators attended the conference with 35 attendees from the National Hospital Health Promotion Academic Committee who came from different parts of China.

The Conference topics included:

- ICPA: Global Prevention, Partnerships, and Programs



The General Conference Health Ministry team with NSD and Adventist Health Hong Kong to run a program for Huizhou, China.

- Global Non-Communicable Disease (NCD): A Call to Action
- The Indispensable Role of Nutrition in the Curbing of NCDs
- The ICPA and Health Promotion: Reaching Communities Worldwide
- The Relentless Impact of Smoking on Health
- Breathe-Free 2.0: A Breath of Fresh Air

The energy and enthusiasm of the attendees were evident. Some shared their strategic health promotion plans and initiatives for their region as well as nationwide.



Cleidi Kuhn, MM education ministries director, gives a diploma to a graduate.



A group photo of graduates and teachers at Tusgal Adventist School.

MM Adventist Education in MONGOLIA is Moving Forward

By Cleidi Kuhn, MM Education Director
and Yure Gramacho, MM Communication Director

The Mongolian word “тусгал” (translit. tusgal) literally means reflection. It describes the main wish we have for our students, to be a “reflection of Christ” on this earth.

On May 28, 2015, a very special graduation ceremony took place at Tusgal Adventist School (TAS). Nine precious students from 9th grade received their degrees. Many officials, teachers and church members

as well as non-Adventist friends, parents and relatives joined us to praise the Lord for this memorable moment.

“It’s a big step for our school, especially for having students who started coming when the school opened their doors about six years ago. Even though the school is small and still a ‘baby,’ we feel and really believe that we are already making a difference in the lives of our students and in the surrounding community,” said Cleidi Kuhn, education ministries director in Mongolia Mission.

TAS finished this school year with 85 students from 1st grade to 10th grade. The school is opening a new grade every year as it grows. Right now the school is already full in its capacity; without even advertising, the enrollment process is almost finished. Many parents want to enroll their children, but we have no space. For example, there is a waiting list to open a second class for first grade. We are praying that with the blessings of the 13th Sabbath offering we will be able to expand our facilities and perhaps buy land to build our own schoolhouse. This is our goal!

As the first Adventist school in a Buddhist country with very few Christian organizations, we have worked hard to be respected and recognized as an Adventist education system before the local government. With God’s grace, hard work, supportive donors and personal commitment of our faith community, we can say that we are on “A Journey to Excellence.”

Our aim is to have a school where administrators, teachers, staff, parents and church can unite together to promote true Christian development in the lives of our pupils. In this way, students will learn values for life, and after graduating, they will be “sunbeams,” making the world a better place, no matter where they go. Education without salvation only manufactures “smart sinners.” We aim to prepare our students not only for this earth, but most importantly, for eternity.

CHUM HKMC Pathfinders Meet at Annual Gathering

On March 15, 2015, Pathfinders from five Adventist churches in Hong Kong proudly marched across the soccer field at Lai Chi Kok Park, an urban recreational area in west Sham Shui Po. The event was the 2015 annual marching exercise for the Hong Kong Pathfinders.

Pastor Heywood Cham, executive secretary of Hong Kong-Macao Conference, was invited to be the guest of honor. He gave an encouraging speech to the high-spirited Pathfinders, urging them to grow in Christ and to use their talents to serve their communities.

The event was also a time to recognize outstanding leaders of the ministry. Seven Master Guides were given awards for their faithful service which had lasted ten or more years. These awards were issued by the



Pathfinder get promoted to Master Guide.

Northern Asia-Pacific Division during the 2014 International Camporee. Several Pathfinders were given awards for their outstanding performances and contributions to the club.

This year, one sister leader was promoted to Master Guide. Another was issued the Advanced Pathfinder Leadership Award.

May God watch over these victorious youth as they march forward!



Above: Children in the Adventurers Club have a painting class.
Below: The Adventurers Club carry out a street-cleaning activity.

MM

The First Adventurers Club in Mongolia

By Estela Silva, Volunteer Missionary
and Yure Gramacho, MM Communication Director

The Pathfinders Club has existed for some time in Mongolia, but the church felt the need to start a club that could provide activities and skills training for younger children, ages 6 to 9.

Last April, the first “Adventurers Club” in Mongolia was started at the Central Church of Ulaanbaatar. Around

10 children have been attending the club regularly. The club is held three times a month on Saturdays and Sundays and is based on four learning classes by age group. These classes involve physical, mental and spiritual activities, encouraging balanced growth.

In one of its first meetings, the Adventurers Club conducted a community service activity of cleaning the banks of Tuul River in the city of Ulaanbaatar. Beyond the obvious benefits to the community and the environment, with this simple community service, the children saw the impact of their work immediately, giving them a sense of accomplishment and stewardship. The participants are also starting to develop many different awards in areas of crafts, nature, recreation, spiritual development and home arts.

“Being involved with children in their developmental years is a great opportunity to share values for their future lives. However, this is just the beginning of a great ‘chain of influence’ because the children who come to know the Word of God through the Adventurers Club will reflect this knowledge to all those with whom they come in contact. This is nothing else than a ‘chain of light’ that will certainly contribute to shortening the second coming of Jesus,” said Gabriela Assi, a Brazilian missionary who has been supporting this club.

Working with these lovely little ones is both a wonderful privilege and a great responsibility. Our club in Mongolia is still very small and may seem like an insignificant seed. However, if we love this little “seed” and take care of it, certainly we will soon harvest eternal fruits of salvation. Please pray that other children will join the Adventurers Club in Mongolia and, through it, will grow in love, faith, trust, and obedience to Jesus Christ, our Leader.

MM

SHUC’s Third Nationwide Vocal Ensemble Festival

Sahmyook Health University College (SHUC) held their third nationwide vocal ensemble contest on May 31, 2015, at SHUC auditorium. Twenty-two singing teams participated as competitors. The participants were varied, from school children to the elderly. The most heated competition was among the middle school and high school students. More than a hundred middle school and high school students brought entertainment and joy to those in attendance.

This year, SHUC decided to call this event a festival instead of a contest, focusing more on bringing people together through music rather than the competition among teams. It was a wonderful festival that allowed the participants, regardless of whether they won or lost, to have a chance to share their talents and harmony as well as to enjoy well-prepared performances by others.



TWC Taiwan Adventist Hospital Acquires JCI (Joint Commission International) Accreditation

By Huang Hui-ting - President of Taiwan Adventist Hospital

JCI (Joint Commission International) is the highest standard for worldwide healthcare services. It emphasizes quality care and patient safety, which is the current trend for hospital development. For the past year, Taiwan Adventist Hospital (TAH) has strived for the second JCI accreditation. It was a difficult job for all staff to go through, and we used many resources to prepare for the event. Finally, in July 2015, we completed the second accreditation with very high scores. Now we toast our success and give the glory to God.

For the on-site survey, three surveyors stayed in the hospital for five days. They seemed to be moving heaven and earth to discover any criteria not met. However, only 11 out of 1,300 measurable elements needed to be rectified. We believe it's great that we could achieve this honor, and we are thankful to our Lord for leading us in this matter, just as we are saved not because of anything we have done, but because of His purpose and grace.

TAH is the only JCI-accredited hospital in the Northern Asia-Pacific Division territory. We are proud that our hospital has fulfilled the criteria along with American hospitals. Our hospital is capable of safeguarding the facilities and ensuring the safety of our clientele. We also learned a lot from the JCI accreditation: 1) Put patients first. 2) Quality is never ending. 3) Quality must be planned and deliberated. 4) It's all about teamwork.

JCI-accreditation will benefit our international health services, and more world-class insurance companies will collaborate with us. JCI approval not only entitles us to attract more foreign clients but also to enhance our competitiveness within Taiwan. In the overall scheme of things, JCI will facilitate hospital reform and move



Above: Huang Hui-ting, president of Taiwan Adventist Hospital
Below: Taiwan Adventist Hospital staff with JIC surveyors

TAH to the next level from a broader perspective. We are taking great strides with a delicate footprint. As we celebrate our 60th anniversary this year, JCI accreditation is the best birthday gift to us, but we know the best is yet to come.



TWC Signs of the Times Publishing Association Enters Christian Book Exhibition in Malaysia

By Tony Chou - Manager of the Signs of the Times Publishing Association



The local newspaper reported STPA's publications and activities in the book exhibitions.

The Taiwan Chinese Church Literature Association, consisting of 20 Christian publishing associations, invited for the first time the Signs of the Times Publishing Association (STPA) of the Adventist Church to participate in the ninth Christian Book Exhibition in Eastern Malaysia. This is the first time STPA was invited to a book exhibition in the southern Asia-Pacific region. In addition to encouraging local Adventist Church members to purchase the latest spiritual books in Chinese, the book exhibition expands the literature ministry exchange platform with various local Christian churches. This activity is especially meaningful to the STPA, which celebrates its 110th anniversary this year.

Interact with the World: Raise the Curtain of Change

After the church organization in Taiwan was reformed in 2013, the STPA has not only been managed directly by the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD), but it is also the only official Chinese publishing association of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Since 2006, the STPA has participated in and held more than 60 book exhibitions. In

2014, the STPA began to increase international connections. From June 8 to 15, 2015, the STPA participated in book exhibitions in Kuching and Miri in Eastern Malaysia. The book exhibitions are major annual events for Christians in Malaysia. Nearly 10,000 people participated in the book exhibitions this year. This year, the STPA was invited to the book exhibition for the first time. Because of the divergent dogmas, other Christians initially rejected the STPA. However, by God's guidance, some miraculous changes have happened.

Grasp the Chance to "Sow Beside All Waters"

The Christian Wesley Methodist Church is active in Eastern Malaysia. Local Adventist Church members are few. The STPA participated in the book exhibition on behalf of the NSD and displayed Adventist publications in Chinese. The creative booth design and arrangement attracted and received high praise from the local people. People bought books at the STPA booth and exchanged and shared information with our staff. The STPA sold 70% of the books displayed. In particular, Ellen G. White's writings

and books related to health and pastoral care sold out. We fully grasped the chance to "sow beside all waters."

Integrate a New Trend of Evangelization

This book exhibition in Malaysia initiated the cooperation of literature ministry between the STPA and nonprofit copywriters in Southern Asia. The four health evangelization sessions held by Manager Tony Chou at the book exhibition were referred to by the local Wesley Methodist Church and Catholic Church as an SDA blue-ocean evangelization strategy. During the book exhibition, the STPA introduced Taiwan Adventist Hospital and Hope TV to visitors in order to increase the audience of Malaysian Christians. Local media reported the activity of the STPA in the book exhibitions and recommended Adventist books for two consecutive days. The integrated marketing concept was adopted to maximize the synergy of the evangelization activity and perfectly concluded the STPA activity at the book exhibition.



The readership of Adventist Church's publications was expanded through the international Christian Book Exhibition.



1. The graduates with TAC faculty and Dr. Phoon, NSD education director
 2. Dr. Alice Chen turns the graduate tassel to indicate he has graduated.
 3. Dr. Phoon gives the commencement address.

TWC Taiwan Adventist College's 61st Graduation

From June 12 to 14, 2015, Taiwan Adventist College held its 61st graduation at the college Art's Center and the main church building. This graduation saw the largest number of graduates being presented with bachelor's degrees and the Master of Ministry degree in collaboration with Griggs University, Andrews University, Michigan, USA.

There were 27 graduates from the main campus. Eleven of them were graduating with the Master of Ministry degree from Griggs University. There were eight graduates from China, one from Malaysia, and one from Korea, and the rest were from Taiwan. The

breakdown of the degrees awarded is as follows:

- 11 Master of Ministry
- 11 Bachelor of Arts in Theology
- 2 Bachelor of Arts in Religion
- Bachelor of Arts in Church Administration
- Bachelor of Arts in Health Promotion
- Bachelor of Arts in Bilingual Business

The Korean graduate was a past Golden Angels member and the son of Pastor Kim NakHyung, Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) youth ministries director as well as Golden Angels director.

From the external campuses, there were 55 graduates, and the following is the breakdown:

- 4 Bachelor of Arts in Religion
- 51 Bachelor of Ministry

The graduates from these external campuses were mature entrance students, and all of them were experienced pastoral workers or lay leaders of different churches stretching over a wide territory. The oldest graduate of this latter group was 72 years old, who has under his care more than 2,000 church members in quite a few congregations. They were won over to the Adventist church as a whole congregation.

The consecration speaker was Dr. Nam DaeGuk, retired professor and a past president of Sahmyook University, Korea. The commencement speaker was Dr. Chek Yat Phoon, NSD education director. During the three days of graduation ceremonies, the students provided special songs of praise, responded to the challenges offered by the speakers and gave their personal testimonies.

Many of the experienced pastoral workers and lay leaders expressed that they had never dreamt that this day would come when they first joined the program. They were ever grateful for the opportunity to learn and graduate. Each one of them recognized that this was not the end of their learning but merely the beginning of a new phase of their ministry. Taiwan Adventist College professors who had a part in teaching these church leaders were each given a poetic inscription in a unique calligraphy with their names embedded in the poem. It was, indeed, by the grace of God that this 61st graduation ceremony took place, the largest graduating class of Taiwan Adventist College.



Chek Yat Phoon
NSD Education Director

KUC

29th Foreign Missionaries Spiritual Retreat

The Korean Union Conference (KUC) Youth Department held the 29th Foreign Missionaries Spiritual Retreat at Anmyeon Island, Korea, from May 29 to 31, 2015. About 70 missionaries from various countries, including the United States, Canada, the Philippines, and South Africa, were spiritually revived and their mission spirit rekindled.

Pastor Shin DongHee, 1000 Missionary Movement director, shared with the attendees a vision of world mission and emphasized the significance of their work. He said, "If we truly desire the second coming of Jesus, we should go back to His Word and our mission."

The message of Pastor Choi HoYoung, KUC youth director, reminded the missionaries about the main purpose of being sent to Korea. In his welcome remark, he said, "You are not simply teachers but missionaries who were dispatched by God, so be enthusiastic about delivering the three angels' messages."



About 70 missionaries gathered at the 29th Foreign Missionaries Spiritual Retreat.

As of May 2015, there were 77 foreign missionaries in Korea. Many of them work as English teachers in Adventist institutes and local churches.

JUC

Prayer Network Grown by Phone

was focused on prayer, including "personal prayer" and "communion and prayer."

This revival prayer meeting was planned and run primarily by "Pray Together Network." The network consists of about seventy pastors and lay persons who regularly have prayer meeting on the telephone once a month. The biggest and most urgent agenda in their prayers is "Japan15" and "Winning 500 Souls."

Elder Kim, head of the network, says, "We carry a big responsibility on our shoulders to spread His gospel. Our earnest prayer and trust in Him will be able to revive our faith and reform our lives."

We pray that the following three plans may help us accomplish our task.

1) Expanding this network and helping it grow. This will strengthen solidarity among church members and help foster mature, personal relationships with God.

2) Introducing and encouraging the use of a prayer book and a book of testimonies about prayer life.

3) Establishing a house of prayer. Anybody who wants to join this "Pray Together Network" is welcome to do so. Through this network, you can listen to messages and testimonies of the members as well as a powerful message by Elder B. Black, Chaplain of the U.S. Senate, every month.



Attendees of a revival prayer meeting in Izu, Japan

A revival prayer meeting was held at Amagi Lodge in Izu, Japan, from March 20 to 22, 2015, with about 120 church members. The main speaker was Pastor Hong KwangEui, director of Mission Training Center of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD). He urged the attendees to pray earnestly and to seek true revival to save souls.

Our brothers and sisters in the Lord attended the meeting from Korea and shared their testimonies which touched the hearts of attendees. Masumi Shimada, president of Japan Union Conference (JUC), Norihiko Hanada, JUC mission department director, and Shinsaku Meichi, president of East Japan Conference, also shared God's word. The entire meeting

JUC

All-Japan Tour for AWR Recording



By Tadaomi Shinmyo - Retired Minister in Japan

On July 28, 2015, Pastor Masaru Kawagoe, a retired minister, dropped in at my house in Imabari City, Ehime Prefecture of Shikoku Island, Japan. He was travelling all around Japan in his small car doing recordings for Adventist World Radio (AWR).

For this trip, Pastor Kawagoe started from his house in Tokyo on June 29 and drove, first of all, to the northern part of Japan. He used a ferry boat to cross the ocean from

drive from Shikoku Island to Honshu Island and Kyushu Island and would preach at Yaizu in Shizuoka Prefecture before completing his tour in Tokyo on August 13. It would take 46 days for him to accomplish his scheduled tour.

I was astonished to learn that his small car was being used for the all-Japan tour. It seemed to be too small. My second surprise was that Pastor Kawagoe studied, worked, ate and even slept in his car. When I looked inside the car, I saw that he

had carefully reformed his car

for all these purposes. All the necessary equipment for recording was well prepared in a box and placed beside the driver seat. In the back seat area, there was a small table he had made for studying, working and eating. A small bed was also set up on the other side of the back seat. This means that he doesn't need to eat at restaurants nor lodge at hotels. Since he is doing this project voluntarily, he tries his best to save money.

Pastor Kawagoe's daily schedule is quite tight. First of all, he drives on his own according to his scheduled plan. Second, he stops to rest and eat at free parking lots. At the same time, he washes his clothes and hangs them to dry inside of his car. Third, he writes articles each day about his findings, experiences and interviews with pastors and others. Fourth, he

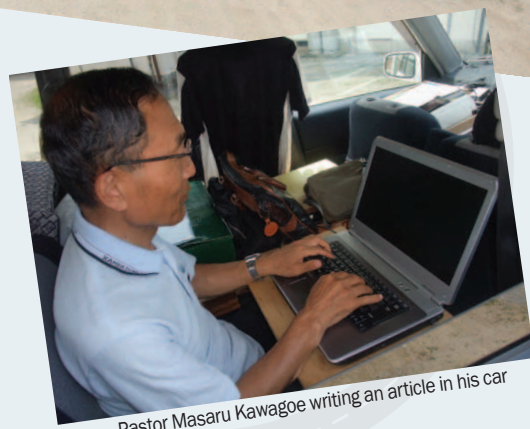
records himself reading the articles using a portable microphone. Finally, he sends photos and the recorded files to AWR Japan through the internet. To me, doing all this seems to be a very tough assignment for a 71-year-old man, but Pastor Kawagoe is now doing this hard work after his retirement, namely after 44 years of pastoral ministry.

Five years ago, Pastor Kawagoe made an all-Japan bike tour in order to do recordings for AWR. It took 73 days, and he produced a series of 57 recordings for AWR based on that trip. Additionally, last year, he made a bike tour for 35 days in the eastern part of Japan. Pastor Kawagoe is familiar with doing such tours, and he seems to find them enjoyable and rewarding despite the challenges and difficulties.

You can see and listen to Pastor Kawagoe's reports of his "All-Japan AWR Recording Tour" on the following websites.

<http://www.awrjapan.net>

<http://syacyuhaku.exblog.jp>



Pastor Masaru Kawagoe writing an article in his car

Pastor Tadaomi Shinmyo and Pastor Masaru Kawagoe



Honshu Island to Hokkaido Island and continued to drive until the most northern part of Hokkaido, Soya Cape. Then he began the return trip back to the south. To welcome the Sabbath, he dropped in nearby Seventh-day Adventist churches and preached for the worship service at Sapporo, Aomori Minami, Akita and Kyoto Churches. He said that he would

During the summer of 2013, our Hiroshima Saniku Gakuin campus was in the middle of excavating a well. Located at an elevation of 450 meters, we get our water supply from eight onsite wells. The campus water is very delicious, for it comes from the well-conserved natural ground water system of Japan. However, the amount of water available from the well has been decreasing over the past years. We speculated that we would not have enough water for the upcoming quarter and decided to drill another well. Two different places were drilled in hopes of finding a good water vein. However, the results did not meet our needs. Finally, at the end of the summer vacation, we bore another well at a completely different area and found a good water vein that yielded enough to accommodate our school. However, it was certain that the water would not be available for use at the start of the quarter, for we still needed to go through legal procedures and water quality examinations. Every day we prayed to God to guide and protect our water supply.

As students enthusiastically returned to campus, we began our second quarter. On September 4, it was a cloudy morning with sounds

of thunder in the distance. It was 10:55 a.m. In five minutes, students would be outdoors on their break, transferring to their next classes. In the principal's office, I was working with my back turned against the window. Suddenly, there was a sound of an explosion. I quickly turned to the window to see what had happened. There was yellow and white smoke coming out from behind the gym, and I knew that lightning had struck. "Did it strike the gym?" I quickly called the gym and was relieved to hear that everyone there was safe. There was power failure everywhere, and an emergency all-call was made for the students to stay indoors and continue on with their morning classes. Shortly after the lightning strike, we found out that it had not struck the gym but the mobile phone antenna by the tennis court. We found pieces of concrete debris from the top portion of the antenna which had burst off because of the strike.

Our academy is an all boarding school with faculty and staff also living on the same campus. Damage was reported from both school buildings and faculty houses. Fortunately, the electrical power returned in the afternoon, but as



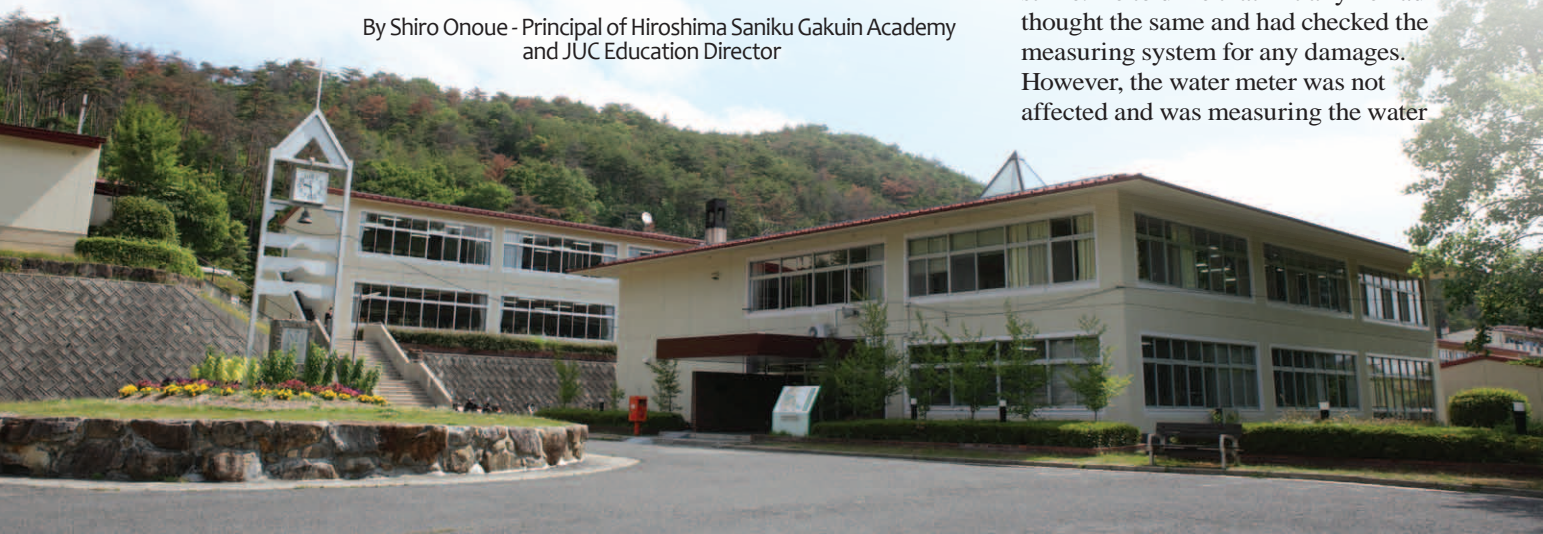
days passed we found more and more malfunctions. Water pumps, extension phone systems, external street lights, campus emergency broadcasting systems, and boiler systems in faculty housing had all been affected and damaged by the lightning. It was a great headache to even think about the cost of restoring all the damage on our campus.

However, we later began to discover many good things. That summer, we had just installed brand new computers in our computer lab, purchased with the funds that Pastor Kwon JeongHaeng from the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) had gathered for our academy. Amazingly, not a single computer had been affected. The boiler systems in the faculty housing that had been damaged were only the old boilers that had not been replaced.

One of our maintenance staff came and reported that something was happening to the water. I asked if the water supply had stopped. He replied, saying, "No, the water-well that was not producing water is now beginning to yield more than double the amount than before!" I could not believe his response. I asked him if the water meter had been damaged from the strike. He told me that initially he had thought the same and had checked the measuring system for any damages. However, the water meter was not affected and was measuring the water

JUC The Lightning: An Amazing Story from Hiroshima Saniku Gakuin Academy

By Shiro Onoue - Principal of Hiroshima Saniku Gakuin Academy
and JUC Education Director



1. The entrance of the Saniku Gakuin Academy campus in Hiroshima, Japan
2. Students of Saniku Gakuin Academy
3. Students have a welcome party for freshmen at the central courtyard of Saniku Gakuin Academy.



level accurately. I doubted my ears. The water in our well had begun to flow immediately after the lightning strike. Hallelujah! I knew that God had helped us. It has now been a year after the incident, and we have not had any trouble with the water level. The newly drilled well is now ready for use. The grand total of damages received on campus from this incident was equivalent to more than 5 million US dollars, but it turned out that the insurance company covered the entire cost of the damages.

In the beginning, this all appeared to be nothing but a terrible disaster. However, this one-time energy from the lightning allowed us to renew all the old systems to new ones, and the situation became a blessing. Being able to experience the miraculous work of God firsthand, in which He allowed lightning to strike the water vein to provide enough water for our campus, has become the most grateful experience of all.

Through this experience, we were once again assured that Hiroshima Saniku Gakuin is, indeed, a school God has intentionally built. "Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord" (1 Corinthians 15:58).

KUC

Ellen White Symposium at Sahmyook University, Korea



From May 20 to 23, 2015, an Ellen White symposium was held at Sahmyook University, Korea, to commemorate the centennial year of her death. The symposium was co-hosted by the Ellen White Research Center at Sahmyook University and the Spirit of Prophecy Department of Korean Union Conference. They invited five Adventist theologians from abroad and six Korean scholars.

Alberto Timm, associate director of the Ellen G. White Estate, stated that since the beginning of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, the Church has continually emphasized the Protestant Christian principle of "Sola Scriptura," which means that the Bible is the only authority for Christianity. He pointed out the inaccuracy of the criticism that the Adventist Church has two equal sources of authority, the Bible and Ellen White.

Theodore Levterov, director of the Ellen G. White Estate Branch Office at Loma Linda University, showed the process through which the early Adventists came to accept Ellen White as a true prophet. He also stated that the belief in Ellen White's gift is not only based on evidence but also on personal experience with her writings. He concluded that Adventists need to read Ellen White's writings and see what God is telling us through her.

Clinton Wahlen, associate director of the Biblical Research Institute of the General Conference, dealt with how Ellen White used the Bible. He also urged the attendees to utilize Ellen White in preaching, teaching and writing in a responsible way.

Lee GukHeon, church history professor at Sahmyook University, pointed out that in the Adventist Church there is a dearth of participation in dealing with social issues and other problems. On the contrary, Ellen White and the early Adventists were actively involved in social reform movements based on prophetic guidance.

Ahn GumYoung, the first director of the Ellen White Research Center at Sahmyook University, insisted that the Adventist Church should focus on Ellen White's prophetic ministry as much as it does on her pastoral ministry.

The presentations in this symposium helped people to understand Ellen White and her writings. It also emphasized the Adventist Church's position on some issues relating to her, such as her prophetic gift.

Recently I had the sobering experience of participating in a field trip visiting the coastal area of Japan where on March 11, 2011, the largest recorded earthquake to impact Japan took place as the “Great East Japan Earthquake.” As a result of the 9.0-magnitude earthquake with its ensuing tsunami, more than 18,000 lives were lost and 229,000 citizens of the beautiful eastern seashore of Japan became homeless.

Four years have passed since that fateful day. A lot of work has gone into restoring the lives of those impacted by the disaster, and even today major restoration efforts are in progress to try to recover from the devastation wreaked on the land as well as on the lives of innocent victims.

The Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) based in Korea together with the Southern Asia-Pacific Division (SSD) based in the Philippines and the Southern Asia Division (SUD) based in India share the coordination of the church’s outreach at times of disaster through the church’s Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA). The ADRA Asia Regional Office located in Bangkok, Thailand, effectively and economically coordinates the work of ADRA for the three Asian world divisions of the church.

Leaders from the three divisions gathered together in Japan to not only see firsthand the work of ADRA after the earthquake of 2011, but to also consider the role the church

can play through this important ministry for disasters, which continue to occur.

Traveling from Tokyo by “bullet train,” our group arrived in Sendai where we were met and taken by bus to Yamamoto, one of the hardest hit communities. We met with the mayor of the town in “City Hall,” which today consists of prefabricated modular units but with plans to have a permanent structure constructed within two years. With customary hospitality, our group was offered not only drink but also fresh, delicious strawberries. Before the tsunami wave wiped out its farms, the area was famous for its strawberries. Today hot houses are being constructed to renew this form of agriculture.

Mayor Saito expressed gratitude for the work done by ADRA in assisting with disaster relief in the immediate aftermath of the disaster. He shared that at a time when the community was still reeling from the impact of the disaster, ADRA represented a helping hand bringing a sense of hope and courage that recovery would be possible. Jonathan Duffy, president and executive director for ADRA

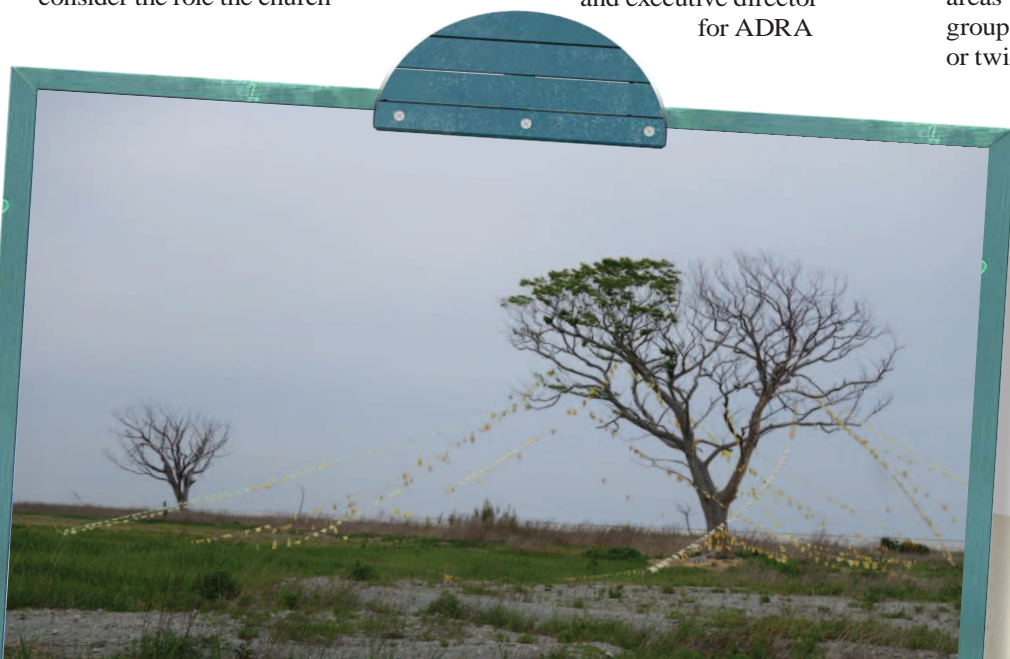
International based at the General Conference in Silver Spring, Maryland, expressed in sensitive terms the desire of the Adventist Church to minister to people in need. I was reminded that our greatest sermon in places, such as Japan, where less than one per cent of the population is Christian, may be in what we do more than in what we say.

From City Hall, we traveled to the seashore area, where today one sees open land with little indication of destruction. The cleanup effort has been massive leaving little evidence of what took place. A new elevated railway line is being constructed whereas before the tracks were on the ground. For more than 100 kilometers, a new seawall has been constructed, not to fully block a tsunami from reaching inland but to slow its progress, lessening damage and providing more time for those in its path to escape to higher ground should an earthquake take place in the future.

We visited the “Orange House,” a mobile prefab structure on wheels which ADRA provided to serve as a community center in one of the areas where few homes still stand. A group of elderly women meet once or twice a week to socialize and to share their experience as they continue to live in an area where many lives were lost and where the younger generation have moved away to find futures in other communities. A poignant Japanese folk song titled “Hometown” was shared, which mentions returning to one’s hometown. A woman who visits areas affected by the tsunami to provide musical

A large tree with a few branches left has banners and messages from the people of Japan expressing their feelings for the victims of the disaster.

Reflections on a Visit Yamamoto,



to Japan

therapy mentioned that there are some communities where she is not allowed to use this well-known song because the individuals know that they will never return to their hometown. It's too painful to sing for a past which will never occur again. I'm reminded that we sing with hope for our hometown, which is being prepared in heaven today.

The Nakahama Elementary School stands alone with no other buildings in sight as a memorial to the power of the earthquake and the resulting tsunami but also serving as a reminder that even in times of destruction one can still find survival and hope.

Mayor Saito met our group at the school telling us that before the disaster his personal home was located in a community surrounding the school on what today is open land. He took us into the building which has been largely left alone demonstrating nature's power. Destruction can be seen everywhere, including full trees that became lodged inside the first floor. He described how the water level reached the ceiling of the second floor, more than 10 meters. From the second floor, he led us up a narrow flight of stairs to the roof of the school where 90 individuals including 52 elementary students were saved from a rooftop storage area.

When the alert was sent that there would be a tsunami following the earthquake they had experienced, the principal of the school ordered his students to go to the roof rather than attempting to escape to higher ground. Had they not followed his instructions more lives would have been lost. Teachers and people from surrounding homes joined the elementary students, who were not allowed to watch the destruction



1 2



taking place around their refuge on the roof. After the second wave reached the ceiling of the second floor, the principal watched as a third wave higher than the previous waves moved toward the school. He was convinced that he and those with him on the roof would lose their lives; however, as the third wave came over the shoreline, the second wave receded from the land. The effect of the two waves colliding resulted in weakening the third wave.

Those who had escaped the tsunami had no idea that the group on the roof of the school had been spared until military helicopters spotted them the following day. I could only imagine how the parents must have felt, thinking their children were lost only to find out a day later that they had survived.

Today, from the roof of the school, about the only living thing one will see is a large tree with a few branches standing on the open ground. It has banners and messages from the people of Japan expressing their feelings for the victims of the disaster.

We then returned to our hotel in Tachikawa, where the Japan Union Conference maintains its office. On the morning following our visit to the tsunami zone, I was in my hotel reading the morning news on the web with stories of Nepal's second major earthquake. I suddenly had the sensation that the walls and the window curtains of the hotel were moving. It wasn't long before I learned that a 6.8-magnitude



1. A broken clock still remains at the schoolyard of Nakahama Elementary School.
2. The school stands alone in open land as a memorial of what took place.
3. "Orange House" serves as a community center where a group of women meet to socialize and share their experiences of living in an area with few people remaining after the tsunami.

earthquake had struck just off the coast of Japan near where we had been the previous afternoon.

While this time there was no damage reported nor was there a tsunami, nevertheless, I was reminded of how fragile this world is. I was also reminded of how each of us should be prepared to meet the unexpected at a moment's notice.

When disaster strikes, Seventh-day Adventist Christians have the privilege of being a part in bringing hope to those whose lives have been impacted, whether by natural disaster or by conflict in a sinful world. ADRA provides a means for the church to touch the lives of literally millions at times of uncertainty and great need. On a yearly basis (normally in May), church members throughout NSD are invited to give an offering in the name of "disaster and famine relief" to assist in the church's outreach, including the ADRA organization. Direct appeals to assist may also be made at the time disasters occur as the church attempts to make a difference in the lives of victims.

We have been called as Christians to always be ready to meet the realities of living in a sinful world, but also to be a people of hope reaching out to those in need. ADRA is one means of accomplishing this mission.



Ken Osborn
Former NSD Treasurer

NSD Newly Elected NSD Executive Secretary and NSD Treasurer

The 60th General Conference (GC) Session delegates elected a new executive secretary and a new treasurer for the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD). Pastor Yutaka Inada (Age: 52) was elected as NSD executive secretary, and Elder German Ariel Lust (49) was elected as NSD treasurer. Both of them come with rich experiences and solid academic backgrounds in their fields of service.

Pastor Inada started his pastoral ministry at Hiroshima Church in 1985 and continued to serve at several churches in West Japan Conference. He then finished his MPS course (currently called Master of Pastoral Theology). After serving as a conference youth director from 1992 to 1996, he studied at Andrews University for his M.A. degree majoring in church history.

Pastor Inada was the chaplain of Kobe Adventist Hospital from 2002 to 2007. From 2007 to 2009, he served as associate secretary of Japan Union Conference and from 2009 to 2015, as executive secretary of the Union. During the GC Session in San Antonio, he was elected as NSD executive secretary. Pastor Inada and his wife, Naomi, have three children.

Before being elected as NSD treasurer, Elder Lust was vice president of finance at Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies (AIAS) for five years. He also held the same position at UAP (River Plate Adventist University in Argentina) and at UNACH (Chile Adventist University). He holds a CPA degree, and he is in the writing stage to finish his MBA.

Elder Lust enjoyed working at AIAS and didn't expect big changes, so he was surprised by the call from the NSD



Above: Pastor Yutaka Inada and his family



Below: Elder German Lust and his family

to serve as Division treasurer, which is a big responsibility. He is praying that the Lord will give him wisdom for this position, and at the same time he is excited and happy to think that he will be a part of the huge mission challenges of sharing the gospel with so many millions of people who have never heard about Jesus. Elder Lust and his wife, Nilde, have been blessed with two children.

44th Batch of 1000MM Missionaries ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORT

By Lee EunSup - Associate Director of 1000MM

On June 23, 2014, the 44th batch missionaries started their training and, 12 weeks later, were sent off to their respective mission fields. On July 18, 2015, after 10 months of mission service both in the Philippines and abroad, they celebrated their homecoming and the following accomplishments.

- Number of backsliders contacted and reclaimed: 905
- Baptisms: 929

- Church building projects: 6
- Congregations established: 7
- Evangelistic meetings conducted: 56

Zechariah 4:6 states, "Then he answered and spoke unto me, saying, this is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, 'Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, says the LORD of hosts.'" To God be the glory!

Janggok Church Holds Healthy Cooking Seminar for Filipinos in South Korea

Janggok Church, located in Hongseong District, Korea, has taken advantage of what God has to offer for the community. On July 12, 2015, a group of 28 Filipinas and their husbands and children participated in the church's first healthy cooking demo. The program started with a health lecture, which was conducted by Emerson Buhia (1000MM 40th batch). Mrs. Lucia Lee demonstrated how to make healthy empanadas and vegetarian Korean rice rolls.

When the event was almost over, one of the Filipina mothers commented, "I've been looking for healthy foods that I could give to my children for school, and these are so perfect!" Another attendee remarked, "I was so happy to be with you. It seems like I found a new family of mine here in Janggok."

"God desires us to make use of every opportunity for securing a preparation for His work. He expects us to put all our energies



A group of Filipinas participate in a healthy cooking seminar.

into its performance and to keep our hearts alive to its sacredness and its fearful responsibilities" (*Ministry of Healing*, p. 498).



KAYAMM missionaries wave good-bye to people in their mission field.

20th Batch of KAYAMM in Mission with 1000MM

By Timothy Yun - 20th Batch of KAYAMM

In cooperation with the 1000 Missionary Movement, the 20th batch of KAYAMM (Korean-American Youth

Adventist Missionary Movement), comprised of 26 members from all around the United States and Canada, visited the Philippines from June 28 to July 24, 2015, with the mission of spreading the Word of God.

They were assigned to two mission fields: Lobo in Batangas and Tondo in Manila. In Lobo, they assisted Josiah Kwon and Benjie Barrientos (44th batch 1000MM missionaries) with church construction. They also conducted Vacation Bible School, evangelistic meetings, and house visitation for two weeks. After successfully completing their mission in Lobo, they went to Tondo, Manila, to assist Park ChanHo and Rodge Dymon (45th batch 1000MM missionaries) and also conducted Vacation Bible School and house visitation.

The team struggled with weather, health complications, and spiritual discouragement. Despite these obstacles, however, God provided them with the strength to overcome. They were blessed that they had the opportunity to visit a level of poverty that they had not witnessed before and to spread God's hope and truth to a country far from their comfort zone.



Golden Angels at Oklahoma Conference Camp Meeting

After the 60th General Conference Session in Texas, San Antonio, the Golden Angels together with Pastor Kim NakHyung, youth director of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD), and Pastor Park KunChun, the Golden Angels coordinator, joined the Oklahoma Conference Camp Meeting from July 16 to 19, 2015, at the invitation of the Oklahoma Conference youth director, Pastor Apple Park. The Golden Angels have been on many mission trips and participated in other camp meetings, but this time it felt especially different. It was amazing to see all the participants, especially the staff, trying to continue the tradition and culture of Seventh-day Adventists through the programs they had prepared and were participating in. The participants had different reasons for choosing to attend camp meeting, but they had the same ultimate purpose, which was to get closer to God.

The staff prepared a communion service to remind everyone about the focus of the meeting. During the service, the Golden Angels paired up and had time to pray for each other and the rest of the schedule they had in the United States, and especially for the camp meeting. Right after the service, there was a drama presentation based on the crucifixion of Jesus. Their performance was touching and reminded everyone of God's love for them.

About a thousand people attended camp meeting. The Golden Angels were asked to sing before the guest speaker spoke for the meetings and to give two concerts. They felt blessed and grateful for the opportunity to sing



Golden Angels had a good time in nature around Oklahoma after concerts.

praises to God in front of the participants.

On Saturday and Sunday, the Golden Angels had a concert for an hour each and had a great time with all the people who were there. The Golden Angels wore hanboks, Korean traditional clothes. The people not only liked the clothes, but they also remarked that they had been blessed by the songs of praises. When the Golden Angels sang the song "One Voice, One Mission" at the end of the concert, the people stood up and applauded.

After the concerts, the Golden Angels joined a festival with food from 50 different countries, and of course, there was different Asian cuisine, including Korean food. The Golden Angels paused at the Adventist bookstore, which was inside the camp, and saw people buying books that could lead to greater understanding of God's Word and His teachings. They felt the happiness of the church members who were sharing what they had with others.

After the Golden Angels experienced different cultures through different foods, they walked around the camp grounds and enjoyed the beauty of nature. Looking at the large field, the valleys, and the different animals, they, once again, paused in awe. All these things, they experienced in a very short time, but the Golden Angels felt that this camp meeting was a very important and influential experience as they felt the happiness that comes when we are in Christ.

Kim NakHyung
NSD Youth Director



Attendees of the Oklahoma Conference Camp Meeting were touched by God's grace through the songs of the Golden Angels.



HisHands Dedication at Sahmyook University Health College

Sahmyook University Health College (SHUC) had a HisHands Mission Movement dedication service on May 16, 2015. On this day, there was a pinning ceremony for the more than 30 SHUC students who decided to become a HisHands missionary.

Han JeongEun, a newly dedicated HisHands member and the daughter of Pastor Han SukHee, said, "I have watched my dad

working for this movement for a long time. I am so glad that I am now a HisHands missionary like my dad and now our family has become a missionary family. From now on, I will listen more carefully to what God says and live my life as He leads." Her father is serving at the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) as the HisHands Mission Movement coordinator.

Pastor Choi HoYoung, Korean Union Conference youth ministry director, gave a special sermon at the service. Citing the beginning of the book of 2 Kings, "Tuck your cloak into your belt, take this flask of oil with you and go to Ramoth Gilead," Pastor Choi urged the new HisHands missionaries to tuck their cloak into their belt of faith, take the oil of God's word, and go where God tells them to go.

East Central Korean Conference, the conference which SHUC belongs to, has shown a particular concern for the HisHands Mission Movement and has continually encouraged their church members to participate in the movement. The conference has sent out 14 batches of HisHands missionaries.

SDA Fair Mission Participates in the Incheon Baby & Kids Fair

SDA Fair Mission participated in the 2015 Incheon Baby & Kids Fair from May 7 to 10, 2015, under the auspices of the HisHands Movement Department of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division and the local mission counsel of Incheon district.

The fair visitors were easily attracted by the savory scent of healthy, brown-rice waffles, which were given as a sample at the SDA Fair Mission booth. The visitors were invited to the vegetarian cooking classes, which the mission hosted in collaboration with a vegetarian cooking expert.

"I am a mother, and I care about the health of my child and my husband. I am very interested in healthy food. I could not pass the mission's free sampling event. The brown-rice waffle seems quite simple to make but healthy and even delicious. I hope to learn these kinds of easy and healthy recipes," said one of the visitors. She also decided to subscribe to Home & Health, a Korean Adventist health magazine.

Pastor Kim InSang, who is in charge of the local mission counsel of Incheon district, remarked, "Incheon is a metropolitan city and the center of the west coast of South Korea. There are more than ten million people living around Incheon. It's a shame that the number of Adventists has been stagnant for years. To revive old churches, it is necessary to devise a new paradigm for mission; missionary work at fairs could be one of the new alternatives. We are not going to miss such an opportunity as national fairs, and we are planning a follow up for those who showed interest in what SDA Fair Mission exhibited at the fair."

During the duration of the fair, 310 visitors responded, expressing their desire to receive more information about the



Above: Visitors were highly interested in SDA Fair Mission's exhibits. Below: NSD president and directors visit SDA Fair Mission booth.

SDA Fair Mission's program. The Mission plans to hold another vegetarian cooking class and a detox seminar before long.

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DAY
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