

mission360

The official mission magazine of the Seventh-day Adventist® Church VOLUME 6 • NUMBER 2

4 The Bookrack
of My Dreams

6 (Not) Looking
for Love

12 Unseen Battles

16 105 & Counting

30 **PLUS**
Student Filmmakers
Tackle Mission

Download the Free App at Mission360Mag.org

EDITORIAL

I recently visited a Global Mission project in a Middle Eastern country. A young man there named Altan* told his story of becoming a Seventh-day Adventist. He had grown up in the dominant religion of that area and later became a Protestant Christian, but he continued to feel that something was missing in his spiritual life. He moved to London, and while there, he began to have a recurring dream in which he saw a doorway in his home city with a bookrack just inside. Dreams are important in Altan's culture, so when the content of the dream kept him awake night after night, he decided to return to his city to learn what it meant.

Altan says that when he arrived, a light showed him the way to the doorway he had seen in his dream. He didn't know it yet, but he had been led to a Global Mission project. In Altan's country, it is illegal to approach people to speak of matters of faith. They must come to you and ask. This is why the bookrack stays in the doorway, silently inviting people to take one of the books and ask questions. The light that led him to this place, said Altan, shone on a particular book about the great controversy between Christ and Satan. He took it and read it in three days. Impressed with what he learned, he wished to find more

books by the same author. Finding the address of a local church inside the front cover, Altan visited the next Sabbath and met a pastor who gave him more books. The pastor learned that Altan would be returning to London, so he connected him with an Adventist pastor there.

Altan studied the Bible with the pastor in London and became a Seventh-day Adventist. He later returned to his home city, and today, Altan spends a lot of time beside the same bookrack where he picked up his first book, talking to anyone who steps into the doorway like he did.

The good news of the gospel continues to spread, even in places where active evangelism is prohibited. Your participation through prayer and your financial gifts are part of the reason stories like Altan's take place. And they happen far more often than you or I even realize. Thank you for the part you play!

You'll find Altan's story on page four of this magazine.

* Name has been changed.

Jeff Scoggins
Office of Adventist
Mission planning
director



C O N T E N T S

- 4 **The Bookrack of My Dreams**
- 6 **(Not) Looking for Love**
- 9 **Perfect Timing**
- 10 **Life Change Pro Bono**
- 12 **Unseen Battles**
- 14 **If I Had Power**
- 16 **105 & Counting**
- 20 **Life Interrupted**
- 22 **Let's Do It**
- 24 **Global Neighborhood**
- 26 **Doing Church the Templeway**
- 28 **"I Thought It Was Impossible"**
- 30 **Student Filmmakers Tackle Mission**

ABOUT OUR COVER PHOTO . . .

Photo by Ricky Oliveras

After hours of driving up winding mountain roads, crossing rivers, and continuing deep into the Malaysian jungle, I finally reached a small village nestled in a beautiful valley. But what was even more beautiful were the smiles that greeted me. This girl was part of the villagers' welcoming crew. They invited me to spend time with them in their homes and were eager to show me how God had blessed them through the work of a Global Mission pioneer named Alvin. This little girl accompanied me wherever I went. Even though we didn't speak the same language, I felt like we had become friends. If you would like to know more about Alvin's ministry, watch the video "Deep in the Valley" at m360.tv/s1739.



The official mission magazine
of the Seventh-day Adventist® Church

Chairman: G. T. Ng

Editor in Chief: Gary Krause

Editor: Laurie Falvo

Contributing Editors: Cheryl Doss, Kayla Ewert, Karen Glassford, Myron Iseminger, Rick Kajjura, Nancy Kyte, Andrew McChesney, Rick McEdward, Hensley Mooroooven, Teen Nielsen, Ricky Oliveras, Delbert Pearman, Karen J. Porter, Claude Richli, Jeff Scoggins, Gerson Santos, Earley Simon, Karen Suvankham, John Thomas, Homer Trecartin, David Trim, Doug Venn, Gina Wahlen

Editorial Assistant: Chelsy Tyler

Editorial Advisors: Petras Bahadur, Paolo Benini, Edison Choque, Jose Cortes Jr., Daniel Duda, Richard Elofer, Kleber Gonçalves, Graeme Humble, MinHo Joo, Zakari Kassoule, Wayne Krause, Samuel Lumwe, Silas Muabsa, Paul Muasya, Umesh Nag, Shekar Phillips, Denis Sands, Clifmond Shameerudeen, Wesley Szamko, Samuel Telemaque, Amy Whitsett, Gregory Whitsett, Dmitry Zubkov

Design: 316 Creative

Production and Digital Media: Donna Rodill

Mission 360 is a quarterly magazine produced and copyrighted ©2018 by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists®. All rights reserved. The contents may not be reproduced in whole or in part without written permission from the publisher.

12501 Old Columbia Pike

Silver Spring, MD 20904-6601, USA

Telephone: (301) 680-6005

Questions? Comments? Email us at
M36omag@adventistmission.org.

VOLUME 6, NUMBER 2

Adventist® and Seventh-day Adventist® are the registered trademarks of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists®.

Unless otherwise noted, Bible verses are quoted from the King James Version.



The Middle East and North Africa Union Mission

Altan volunteers in the Middle East at an Urban Center of Influence. He plans to become a Global Mission pioneer and share the gospel with as many people as he can.

The Bookrack of My Dreams

Who is this man? I wondered as I watched the festivities celebrating the life of John Wesley. My family and I had recently moved from the Middle East to England where we'd opened a fish and chips shop in the town of Wesley's birth. I'd never heard of this cofounder of the Methodist church. In fact, I knew almost nothing about Christianity. As I researched Wesley on the Internet, I felt my heart open a little to the Christian faith.

Three years later, my family sold the shop, and I got a job at a supermarket. One day, I noticed my coworker Yusuf* bowing his head before eating his meal.

"What are you doing?" I asked.

"I'm thanking Jesus for my food," he replied. "Do you know Jesus, Altan?"

"Only that he was a prophet," I said.

"Would you like to know more?"

"Sure, why not?" I responded.

A couple of days later, Yusuf's pastor came to visit me at the market. He greeted me warmly, and then, to my surprise, handed me a present.

I thanked him for his thoughtfulness and unwrapped a New Testament Bible.

"What is a Bible?" I asked. "And what is a New Testament?"

"You'll have to read it to understand," he replied, a little mischievously.

I couldn't sleep that night because I kept thinking about the Bible. *What is it about?* I wondered. *Why did the pastor give it to me?* Unfortunately, I couldn't find out because I'd left the Bible at work.

The next day, Yusuf invited me to begin reading the Bible with him.

We finished Matthew within a few days and then read Mark and Luke.

"Something's happening inside

me," I confided to Yusuf one day at work.

"What is it?" he probed.

"I'm not sure how to explain it, but I feel something stirring my heart since we've started reading the Bible."

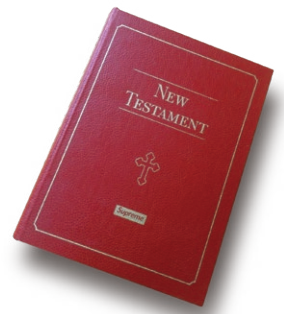
"Go to the storage room," he said, "lock the door, and try to say the word *repent*."

In the storage room, I repeated the word *repent* several times and then suddenly began to cry. For half an hour, I poured out my heart to God, asking Him to forgive my sins, until I heard a soft knock on the door.

"Altan," Yusuf said, laying his hand on my shoulder, "Jesus has given you His Holy Spirit. That's why you've been able to repent of your sins."

I surrendered my heart to Jesus that day and committed my life to serving Him.

Yusuf and I went to church together the following Sunday.



The congregation welcomed me with open arms, and after the service, I told the pastor that I wanted to be baptized. He studied the Bible with me, and several months later, I was baptized in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. It was the happiest day of my life!

I loved my church family and was eagerly involved in evangelism, but after three years, I found myself feeling dissatisfied with the church services. We spent most of our time singing and very little time studying God's Word. "Lord," I prayed, "I want to grow stronger in my relationship with You. Please help me to do so."

Soon I began having an unusual dream. In it, I saw a building in the city of my homeland. In the doorway was a bookrack filled with free books. I heard a voice tell me to go there.

The next day, I tried to put the dream out of my mind, but it was useless. The Holy Spirit kept pushing me to buy a plane ticket, and I couldn't sleep at night. Finally, I prayed, "OK, Lord, I will do as you say."

When I arrived in my home city, I prayed, "Lord, what should I do now?" Suddenly, I saw a soft light, and I heard the Holy Spirit say, "Follow the light straight ahead and then turn right." I followed the light until I came upon a small building. In the doorway was the bookrack that I had seen in my dream! Then the light rested on one of the books. "This is the book I sent you to get," the Holy Spirit said. "Take it."

I took the book and read it in three days. Written by Ellen White, it was about the great controversy between Christ and Satan. "Lord," I cried, as I pored over its pages, "thank you so much. This is what I've been looking for!"

I researched Ellen White on the Internet, and as I learned about her books, ministry, and cofounding of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, I thought, *Wow,*

Every day, people in this teeming city take more than **100 New Testaments** off the bookrack at the Urban Center of Influence!

these are the books I want to read, and this is the church I want to join.

There was an address for a local Adventist church in the front cover of the book, and, prompted by the Holy Spirit, I visited the next Sabbath. The pastor gave me more books by Ellen White, and when I told him that I'd be leaving for London soon, he also gave me the name and number of an Adventist pastor there. When I returned to London, I studied with this pastor and eventually became a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Several months ago, I returned to my city in the Middle East. Imagine my surprise when on a ferry, I again met the pastor who had given me the books by Ellen White. He explained that the bookrack was part of a Global Mission project called an Urban Center of Influence (UCI) and introduced me to the Global Mission pioneer who worked there. Then he invited me to work with the pioneer in my spare time.

In my country, it's illegal to approach people to talk about your faith. They must come to you and ask. That's why the bookrack is in the doorway, inviting people to take books and Bibles. Never did I imagine when I saw the bookrack in my dreams that soon I would be standing beside it, talking and praying with people and answering their questions about God!

Together, the pioneer and I have planted a new group of believers. For now, God has given me a new dream to win more hearts for Him in this city and start many more churches here. But He has given me an even bigger

dream for the future. I want to plant thousands of churches for Jesus throughout the Middle East. Please pray that the Lord will use me to make this dream come true.

The author's name has been changed and his photograph blurred to protect his identity.



GLOBAL MISSION

Global Mission supports thousands of local people, called pioneers, in starting new groups of believers among people groups where there is no Adventist presence.

Ways to Give

- ▶ **Online**
Visit Global-Mission.org/giving to make a secure donation quickly.
- ▶ **Phone**
Call 800-648-5824.
- ▶ **Mail**
In the United States:
Global Mission, General Conference
12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring, MD 20904-6601

In Canada:
Global Mission
SDA Church in Canada
1148 King Street East
Oshawa, ON L1H 1H8



(NOT) LOOKING FOR LOVE

2



1

The young man's photo caught Luisa's attention. He was handsome, yes, but that wasn't what struck her most. It was a conviction: *This is who I want for you*, she felt God say. She glanced at the name beside the photo: "Victor." Even though she had never met Victor, she believed what God was impressing on her heart.

For Michael, Jessica was just a friend. They enjoyed getting to know each other as they served as student missionaries, but there was no special attraction between them. However, on a trip where they saw each other for who they truly were, Michael began to see Jessica as more than a friend.

Andrew went through the spoken exercises again. Soonim was not impressed. Frustrated, she repeated the sentences, demonstrating correct Korean pronunciation. Admittedly, Andrew focused less on the exercises and more on how much he was starting to like Soonim.

Missionaries don't tend to go into the field looking for love; rather, they go to spread God's love. But as they work to share the gospel, some missionaries have unexpectedly found their

special someone who had as much a heart to serve the Lord as they. For Victor Hulbert, Communication and Media director of the Trans-European Division, love wasn't on his mind when he left his home in England to volunteer with Adventist World Radio in Portugal. In fact, he let everyone know that wasn't a priority. "When I was leaving England," Victor says, "I told everyone that I was not interested in finding a girlfriend in Portugal. I told the same thing to my boss."

But then he met Luisa, one of the local young people who attended the Portuguese church Victor started going to. "I confess: I was immediately attracted to her," he admits. "She was outgoing and vivacious, joyful, and the center of any party." Luisa, on the other hand, was attracted to Victor even

sooner. Victor explains, “If you hear her side of the story, she will say that she felt impressed that I was the one God intended for her before she ever met me. She just saw a photograph that I had sent in order to get my bus pass.”

He and Luisa gradually grew closer together. Soon, love blossomed, and they married in Portugal on August 23, 1981. Since then, mission work has formed the foundation of a life of ministry together. “Volunteering had a profound impact on my life,” Victor asserts. “It built my trust and dependence on God, it developed my self-confidence, and as it turned out, it set me on a career path that balanced media and ministry. Finding Luisa was also a major part of the story for which I am very grateful.” After 37 years of marriage, they continue sharing the love of God with others.

Jessica Beans, director of Public Relations and Marketing at Kettering College, was also more focused on serving the Lord in mission work than on finding a husband. As she was raised hearing stories of her father growing up as a missionary kid overseas, Jessica resolved to serve somewhere as well. When the opportunity arose to teach at Nile Union Academy in Cairo, Egypt, she jumped at the chance. “I didn’t go into that year looking for someone,” Jessica explains. “I went in with the mindset of making great friends and making a difference. With that attitude, it took all the pressure off from expecting to meet someone and just allowed me to serve from my heart and to grow personally.”

Jessica directed the school’s choir alongside a fellow student missionary named Michael. Constantly working with each other, they became good friends, but their relationship was no different from the friendships they made with other student missionaries serving at the school.

That was, until they all went on a final trip together touring Upper



3



4



5

Egypt. Spending 10 to 15 hours at a time together on a bus or train, they bonded even more, and Michael began to realize that he liked Jessica as more than a friend. “He knew that our personalities fit well, and we had seen each other at our worst for sure,” Jessica explains. “He ended up telling me he liked me two weeks later, to which I answered, ‘I’m OK with that.’”

They started dating when they returned to the United States. Then on August 30, 2012, they married in Michigan. Since their experience as student missionaries, Jessica and Michael have continued serving together in

their local church, community, and abroad. “Service is what brought us together,” Jessica says. “Creating a sense of community in the relationships that we build with people on a daily basis is what really keeps us excited about the future.”

As a child, Andrew Layland, professor at Sahmyook University in Seoul, South Korea, dreamed of sharing Jesus with others overseas. He recounts, “I always enjoyed listening to the missionary stories as a child in church during Sabbath School and hoped that one day I too could travel to faraway countries and tell people who have never heard of Jesus about the gospel.” However, that dream was postponed as Andrew grew up and began working in the finance sector. He soon felt that this field wasn’t where he wanted to be. As he heard exciting stories from his friends who served as missionaries abroad, Andrew’s childhood dream was revived. Inspired, he left his banking job and became a full-time missionary.

When Andrew taught English and Bible classes at an Adventist missionary school in Seoul, he met Soonim, a fellow missionary who also taught there. He wanted to learn Korean, so he asked Soonim to teach him in the evenings. “Unfortunately, I was not a very good student,” Andrew admits. “And she got very frustrated with my slow progress. However, I think she knew my real motivation for why I asked her to teach me Korean!”

Andrew and Soonim got to know each other more and began dating. Moved by each other’s dedication to serve God, they soon decided to take their relationship to the next level. Andrew relates, “We were both missionaries, both committed to the church

and its mission, and knew that Jesus would be the center of our marriage.” On August 29, 2004, they married in Seoul.

At first, their marriage was a cross-cultural challenge because Soonim’s family wasn’t Adventist or familiar with Andrew’s culture. But he and Soonim kept patiently witnessing to them. Andrew says, “Now, 13 years later, we have, through the Holy Spirit, led my wife’s mother, sister, and brother into the Adventist faith.”

Andrew and Soonim continue to keep evangelism at the forefront of their lives. After their last year of missionary work, they returned to England for full-time pastoral ministry. Then in 2017, they felt God call them back to the mission field in South Korea. “I have always tried to keep a very strong mission approach to my ministry and the churches I pastored,” Andrew explains. “My wife has also kept the mission flame burning and is my greatest support and help in my ministry.”

None of these missionaries were expecting to find love as they served God overseas. Their focus was first and foremost to spread the gospel. But as they worked for the Lord, He united their lives with people who were equally passionate about service. Now, these couples continue the legacy of mission work that brought them together in the first place. “Once you have the mission spirit in you,” Andrew declares, “it is very difficult to shake it off!”

Chelsy Tyler, Office of Adventist Mission.



AVS volunteers are not permitted to date nationals or other volunteers during their first year.



6

- 1 Victor and Luisa with their children (from left) Timothy, Steven, and Amy in 1989.
- 2 Four generations of the Hulbert family come together (from back left): daughter Amy, Luisa’s sister Nela, Luisa’s mother Manula, Luisa, granddaughter Ava, Victor, granddaughter Erin, and son-in-law John.
- 3 Jessica (second from left) and Michael (second from right) sing with fellow student missionaries during Nile Union Academy’s week of prayer in 2011.
- 4 The entire group of student missionaries who served together in Cairo, Egypt, reunite for a photo at Michael and Jessica’s wedding in 2012.
- 5 In 2004, Soonim translates while Andrew preaches at the Adventist Mission School in Seoul, South Korea.
- 6 After pastoring in England from 2011 to 2016, Andrew and Soonim returned to Seoul in 2017 as missionaries with their daughters Rebekah (left) and Olivia.



Watch volunteers from around the world share their stories at m360.tv/avs.



Kim with some of her students at a welcome party at Palau Mission Academy.



Perfect Timing



Originally from the United States, **Kimberly Ford** serves as a volunteer teacher at Palau Mission Academy in the Republic of Palau. She earned a degree in global policy and service studies from Southern Adventist University in 2017.

Many people think that being a missionary on an island is all “rainbows and butterflies” because it’s paradise. It may be true that the scenery is breathtaking, but that doesn’t mean discouragement and struggles don’t exist.

One particular week, I was feeling slightly more discouraged and homesick than previous weeks. Monday began, and I was able to focus on my classes and the work I needed to accomplish. But when evening came, I could no longer restrain my tears. They began to tumble from my eyes and down my cheeks like an overflowing rain gutter. I didn’t feel like I was making a difference or doing anything extraordinary. *Anyone can be an English teacher*, I thought, *so why am I here?*

Tuesday morning, I wasn’t feeling up to teaching, but I went to school anyway. My principal noticed that things were a little

off with me, so he and his wife prayed with me. He asked God to send someone my way so that I would see that I was making even the smallest impact. For the next couple of days, nothing happened.

I forgot about the prayer until Thursday night when several of my students came to ask me a question about an assignment. “Miss,” they began, “what does it mean to love your enemies?” Instantly, I remembered the prayer of my principal and his wife.

Feeling God’s love and peace wash over me, I began to explain to my students how Jesus had decided to leave a place more beautiful than we could ever imagine just to come down and die for our sins. I tried my best to describe how much Jesus loves all of us, even those who hate Him. After I finished explaining as best as I knew how, I asked them whether they had ever heard the story about how Jesus died on the cross. These kids had never heard it! I asked whether they wanted to go over the story in class the next day, and they seemed excited by the idea.

After they left, tears filled my eyes as I tried to grasp the fact that God had just used *me*. I was only an English teacher, but He had given me the opportunity to

realize that I’m in a position to help change lives.

The following day, I told the story of Jesus’ death. Never before have I been so passionate about God. It felt amazing! As I reached the part in the story where Mary and John were standing at the foot of the cross, I began to cry. My students were completely silent, taking in every word. As I told the heartbreaking story, some students were also moved to tears.

The following week, I gave a test, and, for extra credit, I asked the students to write about what they had learned in my class and their favorite thing about my class. To my amazement, some of the students said that they had grown closer to God because of my class. Others shared that they loved our worship and that I made learning fun.

God’s timing is always perfect. He always knows what we need to hear and when we need to hear it. Just knowing that He used me to make a difference in at least one student’s life makes this whole missionary experience worth it.

 See what volunteers in Palau are doing at m360.tv/palau.

 If you’re interested in being a volunteer, please visit AdventistVolunteers.org.



UNITED STATES

In Seattle, Washington, community advocate Carolyn Harper-Brown knows all about sandwich making, homeless feeding, and community networking.

"After 14 years of feeding the homeless downtown, I've learned a lot from sitting and talking with people," Carolyn says in her matter-of-fact way. "They appreciate the sandwiches, socks, and gloves. But what they wanted more was to be able to buy their own. Small legal issues kept them from working, getting a place to live, or going

to school. They couldn't afford an attorney."

So the woman who is already impacting Seattle started finding more avenues of change. She remembers, "Six years ago I prayed, 'God, I just want to be more relevant to my community. I want to do something that will change lives.'"

Carolyn began knocking on lawyers' and judges' doors. Those doors closed, but she persisted in her God-inspired calling. She formed a prayer team and

attended ministry training sessions. She didn't know how to start a legal clinic, but she knew God knew the right people.

After many disappointments, Carolyn went to the next legal office. She was tired of uncooperative clerks who wouldn't give her the time of day. Her frustration drew the attention of the law practice owner, who invited her into his office.

"Are you in trouble?" he asked.

"No, but people in this city are!" she responded. Carolyn explained the situation and need for a free legal clinic for Seattle's homeless and ended her appeal with, "And you are just the person to help me!"

The lawyer shook his head in disbelief of Carolyn's tenacity and ended up advising her and her team of volunteers.

The details started coming together: office space in a

Life Change PRO BONO

Maranatha Adventist Church leaders like Louis Brown, Carolyn Harper-Brown, and Jefferson Butler are seeking ways to better serve their ever-changing community.



converted Sabbath School room at Maranatha Seventh-day Adventist Church, office furniture at bargain rates, a network of legal volunteers willing to help for a couple hours a month, and a marketing company's services at a discounted rate that matched their financial picture.

It's been a faith journey all the way through. Carolyn and her team often found themselves short on resources, whether volunteers, equipment, or finances. She also had many unexpected admissions into the hospital, but instead of canceling scheduled planning meetings, she and her team would hold them in her hospital room. With weekly challenges, she often threatened to quit, but God kept bringing her back.

Now if you drive through the Rainier Valley neighborhood in Seattle, you will see yard signs for politicians, professional services, various causes, and Maranatha Adventist Church's free legal clinic.

Church members posted the yard signs two hours before the dedication service in September 2017. Not long after, the phone started ringing with appointment requests, and the first scheduled evening of legal aid was immediately booked.

Even with the initial flood of calls, Carolyn and her team expected their first legal clinic to have a small turnout. She recalls thinking, "OK, we won't have a lot of clients because we're new. We'll probably have about five to six clients who will actually show up, so we'll just hold the clinic for two hours." But to their surprise, 12 clients came in, and they stayed open for more than four hours just trying to serve everyone.

Carolyn and team have held seven clinics since their opening day and have seen firsthand the impact their ministry is making. They've assisted clients with lemon cars to get their vehicles repaired. They've guided clients with substantial debts to receive partial debt forgiveness

and payment plans for the remainder. They've helped many people overcome their legal issues and finally have a chance to get a job, rent an apartment, or go to school. Seeing lives change through these legal clinics reinforced the reason why Carolyn and her team named their service Life Change Ministries.

Each story of victory has blessed Carolyn and the volunteers of Life Change Ministries as much as they've blessed their clients. "Hearing these results helps us remember why God has led us in this direction," Carolyn says. "Seeing clients come in burdened with a problem and leaving with the satisfaction of seeing a solution is all that we need to keep us encouraged."

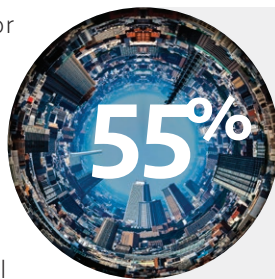
What's next for this ministry? Carolyn says more frequent legal clinics at Maranatha Adventist Church and maybe more legal clinics up and down the Interstate-5 corridor.

"If I can be a small part in changing someone's life, that's what I want to do," Carolyn says with conviction. "God changed me and gave me a second chance. More people need this help, too."

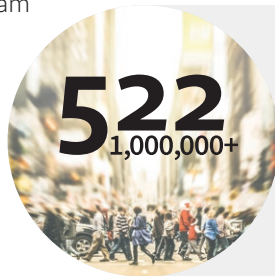
Photos courtesy of Heidi Baumgartner/NPUC Gleaner/GleanerNow.com.

Heidi Baumgartner is communication director for the Washington Conference of Seventh-day Adventists in Federal Way, Washington, United States.

This article was originally published by North Pacific Union Conference (NPUC) Gleaner/GleanerNow.com and is adapted and reprinted here with permission.



As of 2017, 55 percent of the world's population is urban.



There are 522 cities throughout the world with a population of 1 million or more.



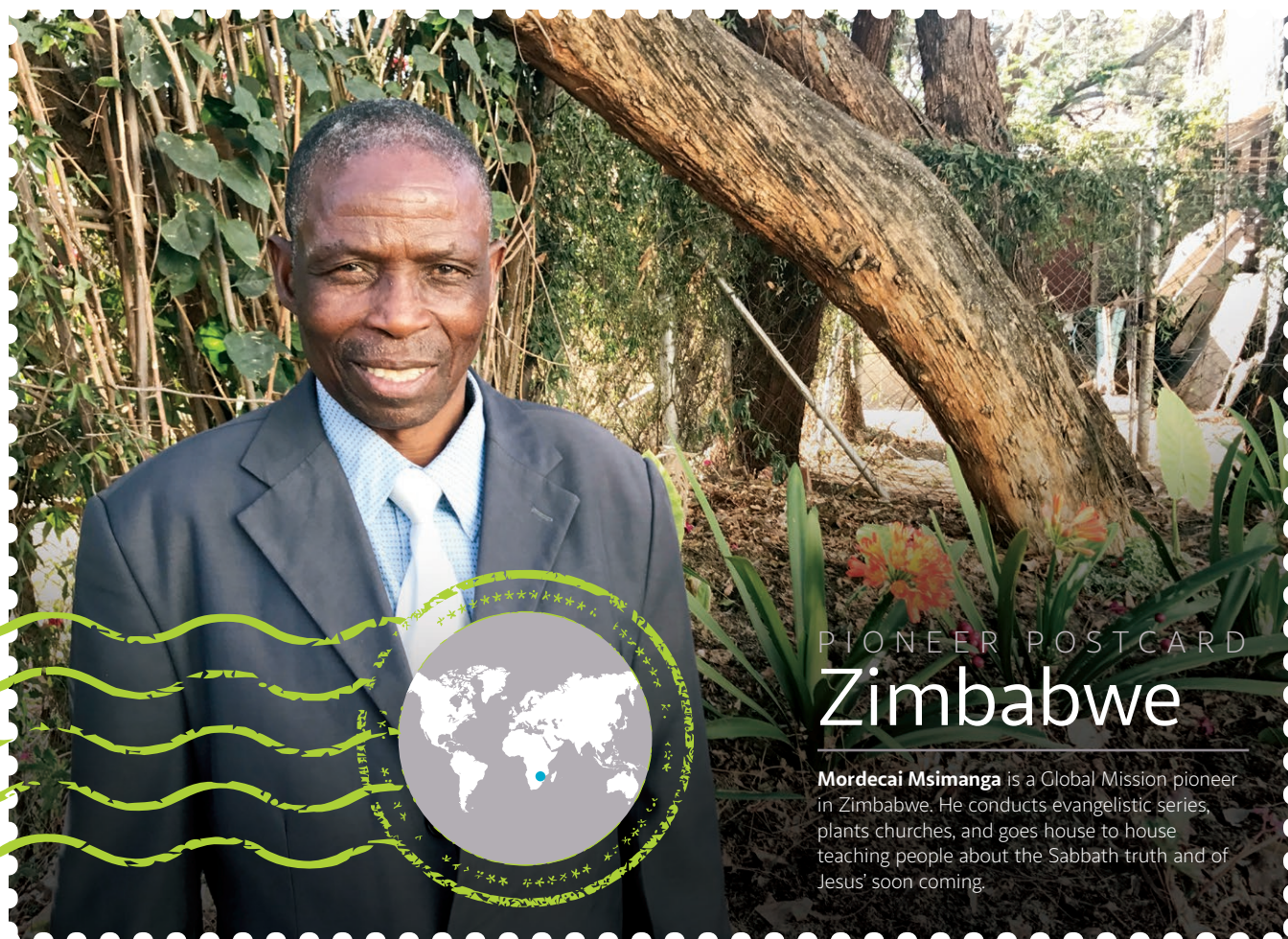
57 percent of these cities are less than 50 percent Christian.

Source: Todd Johnson and Gina Zurko, eds., *World Christian Database* (Leiden/Boston: Brill, accessed December 2017), worldchristiandatabase.org.

MISSION to the CITIES

Carolyn Harper-Brown saw a need to provide legal help for the homeless in Seattle, so she used an out-of-the-box approach to meet that need. This is the core of Mission to the Cities. This world initiative seeks to plant new congregations in every city with a population greater than 1 million. This challenges "the way we've always done it," calling for church planters to take unconventional routes to reach urban areas while still building on Christ's method of ministry. It's time to reach the cities. How will you be a part?

Explore Mission to the Cities projects around the world at MissionToTheCities.org.



PIONEER POSTCARD
Zimbabwe

Mordecai Msimanga is a Global Mission pioneer in Zimbabwe. He conducts evangelistic series, plants churches, and goes house to house teaching people about the Sabbath truth and of Jesus' soon coming.

Unseen Battles

A 35-year-old single mother approached me with an unusual dilemma. Every morning, she woke up without any clothing, and she was scared. "Why is that?" I asked.

"I don't know," the woman replied anxiously.

I had a hunch about the strange occurrence. I had heard similar stories, and all involved evil spirits. I knew what to do. "Do you accept Christ as your Savior?" I asked. "If you do, we can pray, and He will help you."

The woman said she accepted Christ into her life, so I gathered church members to pray. We

prayed for three days, and on the third day, I asked her for an update. "I've been fine for the past three days," she said. The woman was later baptized, and she has never been disturbed by evil spirits since.

Evil spirits are prevalent in Zimbabwe, where many people are superstitious and practice traditional beliefs. As a Global Mission pioneer who works in areas without any Adventist presence, I have had several experiences with those spirits.

At my current posting, I was invited to speak at a Sunday church where a woman with a knee problem asked for prayer.

When I mentioned the name of Jesus in my prayer, she abruptly fell to the ground. When this happens, it means a demon has departed. I prayed for her and helped her stand up. Today, she is a member of the Adventist Church because of what she experienced.

Sometime after that, I had a direct encounter with eight evil spirits while leading an evangelistic series at a school. As I displayed a picture of the crucified Christ on the screen, a 48-year-old woman leaped to her feet and ran from the room.

After the meeting, I found the woman lying in the schoolyard.

She was motionless and appeared to be dead. Several people carried her back into the school and placed her on the floor.

I gathered 10 church members around the woman and led them in singing and praying. As we spoke the name of Jesus, she suddenly sat up, shook violently, and collapsed back onto the floor. Her actions indicated that an evil spirit had fled her body. Now I wanted to know whether she was free.

“Will you pray to Christ?” I asked her. The woman remained motionless on the floor, a sign that she was still possessed.

We sang and prayed again. Hearing the name of Jesus, she again sat up, shook, and collapsed onto the floor. Another demon had left.

“Will you pray to Christ?” I asked again. The woman didn’t move.

The scenario repeated itself over and over. We sang and prayed from nine o’clock at night to three o’clock in the morning. Finally, after the eighth time, the woman responded to my invitation to pray. She sat up and, with a clear voice, prayed, “Dear Jesus, thank you for releasing me from the demons. I ask you to come to my assistance so I may become a church member and be as strong as the others in this room.” The woman is now a Seventh-day Adventist and serves as a deaconess.

God is good all the time.

By **Mordecai Msimanga**, as told to **Andrew McChesney**, Office of Adventist Mission.



GLOBAL MISSION PIONEERS

plant churches in areas or among people groups where there is no Adventist presence

share the gospel through wholistic ministry such as

- providing medical care
- teaching agricultural skills
- offering literacy programs
- holding evangelistic meetings
- giving Bible studies

In the past five years, pioneers have supported more than 5,000 church planting projects in 104 countries and have helped lead thousands of people to Jesus. Their ministry wouldn’t be possible without your donations and prayers. Thank you for your support!

To donate, visit Global-Mission.org/giving



Check out m360.tv/pioneers for more pioneer stories.



KENYA

Thwank! Nadira's* shovel clattered to the ground when she dropped it. She caught her breath and wiped the sweat from her brow. She looked around, finding only dry, cracked earth as far as her eyes could see.

Nadira, 40, is the sole supporter of her six children since her husband left two years ago. "As long as my children get to eat, that's what matters," she said as she picked up her shovel to dig for good earth.

Kenya has experienced severe drought since 2011. With so little rain over a long period of time, violence has escalated, businesses have shut down, and villagers haven't been able to farm. Almost all livestock

have died, and many families have lost parents and children.

"My husband left me because we were always hungry," Nadira shared. "I found shelter in the abandoned house of my parents who had passed away. My brother had been living there, but he'd gone to the city during the drought. When he learned I was staying in the house, he told me to leave because he'd be moving back."

Nadira decided to build her own house on her parents' land. Though weak with hunger, her children pitched in to help.

When what little food the family had was gone, Nadira went around the village, begging. "Sometimes I want to steal just so my children can eat," she confided. "I feel ashamed that such thoughts cross my mind."

Nadira's children had to drop out of school in order to try to find food. Her eldest daughter, Akeyo, ran away to the city, hoping to find work. "Her choice was to either stay and die or escape and survive," Nadira said.

While in the city, Akeyo washed people's clothes but got little

money in return. It wasn't enough to survive. "A man approached me one day and offered to marry me," Akeyo recalled. "He promised to take care of me, and since I had nothing to eat, I agreed."

After several years, Akeyo bore two children but still had no job to depend on. Her new family was poor and often overcame by hunger. "Life was miserable," she said sadly. "Eventually, I packed up my children and returned to my mother."

Nadira welcomed her daughter home. But the addition of two grandchildren in the house had taken its toll. "I don't see any future," Nadira said. "If I had power, I would make sure that it would rain so that people could farm and harvest again. I must go on because of my children. Otherwise, life is meaningless."

Just when things were at their worst, hope found Nadira through the intervention of the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) Kenya.

For four months, ADRA delivered provisions of nutritious, life-saving food. Every month,

- 1 Nadira worked alone all day to find food for her family.
- 2 The drought has torn families apart, yet Nadira (second from right) remains steadfast as caretaker of her children and grandchildren.
- 3 Nadira's youngest children are five-year-old twin boys.



IF I HAD **POWER**



2

Nadira received 100 pounds of maize, 55 pounds of beans, and five quarts of vegetable oil, as well as salt and other vital staples. With this food, her children and grandchildren went from eating one meal a day, if they were lucky, to eating three meals a day!

The initial four-month emergency response was followed by a cash assistance program that allows Nadira and other families to purchase food from the local markets. This kind of intervention gives Nadira the independence to choose what's best for her family going forward, and it's also an investment that will help her local community move toward stability.

It was painful for the chief of Nadira's village to watch his people suffer. "For us to achieve anything in this powerless situation, we need stakeholders to help with food but also help improve our livelihood," he said. "I appreciate ADRA Kenya for the support they've given my people."

*Names were changed.

Kimi-Roux James is a communications specialist for ADRA International.



3



The Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) is the global humanitarian organization of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. ADRA is fighting poverty and developing communities in more than 130 countries around the world. They represent the unconditional love of Jesus to children, women, and men through a broad spectrum of development and emergency relief programs. To learn more about ADRA or to get involved, please visit adra.org.

Thank you for supporting ADRA through your mission offerings and World Mission Budget Offerings!



Missionary Irene Wakeham Lee shares wisdom, wit, and warm-hearted stories

105 & Counting

From the moment I learned about Irene Wakeham Lee, I wanted to meet her. She was born in 1912, the year the RMS *Titanic* sunk, was in Hawaii when Pearl Harbor was bombed, and had dedicated most of her life to serving others overseas. At 105, she is walking history, her life rich with stories.

When I visited Irene at her country home, I found her editing a book. She was tall and lean, with pale blue eyes that radiated intelligence, strength, and kindness. Her handshake was firm, her mind sharp, and her wit delightful.

I sat down beside her and listened intently as she shared memories of serving the Lord she loves, memories that I'd like to share with you.

Laurie: When did you decide that you wanted to be a missionary?

Irene: I wanted to be a missionary for as long as I can remember. Mission work was a tradition in my family. My father had served in Egypt, my mother in England, and my two older sisters in Africa and Brazil.

I spent my childhood on the Michigan campus of Emmanuel

Missionary College (EMC), now Andrews University, surrounded by missionaries on furlough. I listened to their stories with great interest and read as many mission books as I could. In those days, the common conception was that if you were really consecrated and wanted to serve the Lord, you'd go overseas to be a missionary. That's what I wanted to do!

Laurie: What was life like for you as a child?

Irene: We didn't have indoor plumbing in our house, and we used an outhouse. I can remember when we got electricity. When we visited my grandmother in Wisconsin, we went to church in a horse and buggy, and when it got dark, they lit kerosene lamps. I was around 13 the first time I used a telephone.

Laurie: Where did you serve?

Irene: When I was in my late 20s, I sailed to Hawaii from my home in California to teach at Hawaiian Mission Academy. It's hard to imagine now, but Hawaii was considered a mission field in those days. Most of my students were non-Adventists, so the academy was a real mission school. While there, I witnessed the attack on Pearl Harbor and continued to teach throughout the war. [See Irene's story, "Life Interrupted," on page 20].

In 1946, I learned that faculty were urgently needed to rehabilitate Philippine Union College (PUC) after the war, so I volunteered to go. I wanted the pioneering life! Later, I taught at Mountain View College, which is also in the Philippines. I also taught at Oakwood College and Antillian College in the United States.

Laurie: Did you see anyone's life significantly change while you were a missionary?

Irene: Yes, the life of a young man named Filmo, a former student

of mine in the Philippines. Filmo came from a family with a long military tradition. His family became Adventists when he was young, and Filmo chose to be baptized. He loved Jesus, but when he went to live with non-Adventist relatives in order to attend high school, he became careless about his conversion.

After he graduated, Filmo was conscripted for military service. He was captured and forced to participate in the infamous death march and serve as a prisoner of war. In prison, he met a soldier who had a Bible. Filmo asked to borrow it, but the man refused because he used a page or two a day for toilet paper. When the soldier died shortly after, Filmo read the Bible and became closer to God than he'd ever been. But it didn't last.

Eventually, Filmo was released with the stipulation that as soon as he recovered his strength, he'd be put in the Japanese army. He narrowly escaped, finding passage aboard a ship going to his home island. Just before the ship reached land, there was a terrible typhoon. Filmo pled for God's protection and safely reached home where he joined the guerrilla forces.

It was during one of his encounters with the Japanese invaders that he met an Adventist family. They inspired Filmo to continue his education at PUC after the war ended. His ambition was still along military lines. He was initially selected by the government to be sent to the United States for further training, but he was disqualified on one point: he needed at least 60 hours of college credit. So Filmo came to PUC.

At PUC, Filmo was treated kindly by the faculty and students, and he renewed his commitment to God. What the Lord in His mercy tried to do but

could not on the battlefield, in the prison camp, or on a stormy sea, He accomplished through the steady, day-by-day influence of a Christian college. This helped me realize that we were really making a difference in many of our students' lives.

Laurie: Were there times when you experienced God's protection?

Irene: His protection was evident all the time. Many times, our vehicles broke down, and God rescued us. One time, just as I had gotten out of a jeep without looking carefully enough, a car came whizzing along. If it had had another coat of paint, it would have hit me!

Once, when I was teaching at Mountain View College, a swarm of locusts was about to descend on our cornfield ripe for harvest. The students had asked me to join the faculty in praying that our food would be spared. While I walked to the chapel to join them, I heard the buzz of a plane. It was a government plane coming to spray the locusts. The pilot told me later that it was his day off, but he had been impressed to do everything he could to save our crop. The Lord had started to solve our problem before we even prayed!

Then there was the time I was robbed. I

had just made a purchase from a street vendor in Manila when a man grabbed my wallet and ran. I chased him, and then a van filled with young people who had seen what happened picked me up, and we followed him. When we reached the thief, the police had already caught him. They gave me my wallet back, and the next day, the man's family begged me not to press charges. I forgave him. He must have been an amateur.

Laurie: How did you meet your husband?

Irene: Mountain View College urgently needed someone to upgrade its ministerial training program from a two-year to a four-year degree, and James Lee was hired for the job. He and his wife, Marguerite, moved from South Korea, where James had been born and served as a missionary for years. I was the registrar as well as an English teacher, so I worked with James to create the curriculum.



3



2



4

5



On Sabbath afternoons, James and Marguerite hiked with the ministerial students to nearby villages, where the men would preach, and the women would teach the children songs and tell them stories. I often accompanied them on these excursions, and we became good friends. Eventually, we were able to start quite a few churches this way.

Later, the Lees and I returned to California to care for our aging parents. During this time, Marguerite passed away, and I received several requests from the General Conference to return to mission service. After my mother's death, I reported that I was ready to serve, but James had other plans.

He invited me to the wild animal park in San Diego to see the creatures in their natural habitats. I would say to James, "Look at that lion with its big paws," or "Look at the giraffe with its long neck." He turned to me and said sweetly, "I have found a deer." That's when it started. That was our first date. We were married when we were both 70 years old and enjoyed 30 happy years together.

Laurie: What were some of your rewarding experiences?

Irene: There are many. One was seeing the first graduation of the four-year ministerial students. I felt that we were really supplying the field with something that was badly needed.

It was my privilege to leave the Philippines having trained half a dozen English teachers with master's degrees. They then taught at new colleges that started after I returned to the States.

Another precious experience was when, after a year of hard work on the part of students and teachers at PUC, 19 Japanese prisoners of war were baptized at the school baptistry. The men started the Sabbath day by joining us for Sabbath School and church accompanied by their armed guards. They were served dinner in the college cafeteria and then listened to another sermon before the baptismal ceremony.

Hundreds of spectators had gathered about the outdoor baptismal font and watched quietly as the candidates took their places. In spite of the bitterness against the Japanese that most Filipinos still felt, there was a spirit of sincere Christian fellowship during the ceremony. Fourteen of the prisoners were under sentence

6



7



A Tribute to a Faithful Teacher

"Few missionaries who have served in the Far Eastern Division [now Southern Asia-Pacific Division] have made a greater contribution or have touched more lives than has Dr. Irene Wakeham. For more than 24 years, she was a teacher, counselor of students and friend to many students and faculty at Mountain View College and Philippine Union College. . . .

"The contribution she has made is more, however, than merely teaching young people how to express themselves in the English language. She did this well. . . . But far greater has been her spiritual influence upon hundreds of Filipino young people. As they sat in her classes and saw a teacher who reflected the Master Teacher, their lives were changed. They loved her. They enjoyed being with her. They would come to her home or go on trips with her, for it was fun and comfortable to be with Dr. Wakeham" (B. E. Olson, "A Tribute to a Faithful Teacher," *Far Eastern Division Outlook*, March 1971, p. 14).



8



9

of death. Although some of the men had known a little about Christianity before the war, not one had ever become a member of any Christian church.

After their baptism, the men climbed into their truck, the guards took their places, and, as the audience sang “Blest Be the Tie That Binds” and “God Be With You Till We Meet Again,” they returned to the prison to await the execution of their sentences.

Laurie: Why do you think you’ve lived such a long, healthy life?

Irene: I get asked that question a lot! I attribute my longevity to good genes and the good fortune of being born into a Seventh-day Adventist family who taught me the principles of a healthy lifestyle. I’ve also chosen to be reasonably conscientious about keeping healthy. And lastly, I’ve always had a warm relationship with God that has relieved me of so much stress. I’ve been able to roll my burdens on the Lord. He’s awake all night anyway. I might as well let Him take care of them!

- 1 Irene’s daily routine includes time with Jesus, exercise, fresh air, and helping her family with the responsibilities of everyday life.
- 2 Irene met these women from the Manobo tribe on a trip into a remote area of the Philippines for a school dedication.
- 3 Irene (front row, third from right) with Mountain View College faculty and students in 1954.
- 4 Irene became a centenarian in June 2012. Her husband, James, turned 100 in September, and they celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary a few days later.
- 5 Irene and James, both 70, were married September 26, 1982.
- 6 Japanese prisoners of war baptized at Philippine Union College.
- 7 On her 105th birthday, Irene attended her church’s Pathfinder Day, where she surprised everyone by wearing her handmade Pathfinder Master Guide dress and sash from 1932.
- 8 Irene spends hours editing and proofreading books written by her husband, James, and her stepson, David. So far, she has completed about 50 books and booklets.
- 9 Irene’s family in Tennessee: Veronica and Moises Miller and David and Anne Lee.

Irene Wakeham Lee will turn 106 on June 28! Brighten her day by sending her a birthday card or note to the address or email below, and we’ll make sure she gets them.

Irene Wakeham Lee
c/o Adventist Mission
12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring, MD 20904
Email:

M360Mag@adventistmission.org



By **Laurie Falvo**, Office of Adventist Mission.

Photos courtesy of Irene Wakeham Lee; the Office of Archives, Statistics, and Research; Mountain View College; and Philippine Union College.

Friday, December 5, 1941, was boat day in Honolulu, Hawaii.

A white Matson liner would round Koko Head, then Diamond Head, and then pull up to the dock in the morning with its load of vacationers. They would disembark at the Aloha Tower to the strains of “Aloha Oe” and the fragrant leis of tourist guides. I remember how the haunting melody, played on steel guitars, brought tears to my eyes when I first landed on the island of Oahu to teach at the local Adventist school.

Long before mail went by air, we needed to get our Christmas greetings on their way early. If we took them to the post office Friday morning, they would go out on the Matson liner Friday night when it returned to California, and they would reach our mainland friends before Christmas.

On Thursday evening, I, along with the three other single female teachers I lived with, wrote Christmas cards about how beautiful

and peaceful Honolulu was that balmy December. We knew, of course, about talks going on in Washington, DC, with Japanese envoys: the usual brinkmanship that nations play with one another. Someone would blink first, we reasoned. No one in their right mind wanted war. There was enough of that going on in Europe.

On Sabbath morning, December 6, I started to climb the rim of Punchbowl, a burned-out crater a mile or two from Hawaiian Mission Academy, to watch the sunrise. I decided to take a shortcut, scrambling through brush up the steep slope. Just before I reached the top, a soldier armed with a rifle ordered me to stop. “You can’t come up here!” he shouted.

“Can I come if I go around by the road?”

“No!” he insisted. “Off-limits to all civilians.”

Earlier in the week, I had seen sentries guarding a lot of the intersections. Something about a

military alert scheduled to end at midnight Saturday night.

After church, a few of us had a picnic lunch at the beach. We could hear the gentle lapping of the waves on the sandy shore and the rustling of the palm leaves in the trees. The slightly fishy smell of the ocean mingled with the aroma of our picnic food.

Taken by surprise

Sunday morning was the usual time for army maneuvers on Oahu. We were used to hearing military noises and thought nothing of the distant boom of artillery. While doing the breakfast dishes, one of my roommates remarked, “I wish they’d take their war farther away. They’re making too much noise.”

As I walked across the tiny park separating our home from the academy to grade papers in my classroom, I noticed a lot of black specks in the sky. I remember thinking, *They’re wasting an*



Irene Wakeham Lee is a retired writer and missionary schoolteacher who lives in Tennessee, United States.



LIFE INTERRUPTED



Discover the difference missionaries are making at m360.tv/missionary.

awful lot of ammunition in their games today.

I looked forward to seeing how my students had performed on a test I had given on Friday. They were a mixed group: the majority Japanese, some Chinese, a few Koreans, Filipinos, and Hawaiians. I was teaching both English and French, and for many of them, English was a foreign language.

Fresh from southern California, where automatic respect for the teacher wasn't so much a part of the culture, even in those long-ago days, I reveled in my relationship with the Asians. They were taught at home to prize the chance to learn, to honor the teacher, and to appreciate the privilege of an education. I looked forward to giving a lot of high marks on their papers.

Reaching the academy, I found the faculty men gathered to pray for protection. They told me to go home and stay inside. Unexploded shells, fired wildly in the excitement by United States (US) armed forces, were falling back on the city and killing people within three blocks of where we lived.

I raced home, turned on the radio, and heard that the rising-sun emblem had been spotted on the wings of the attacking planes. A little later, some of the faculty were working on a ditch for a sewer line just outside my window. Among them was our beloved teacher of special English, Richard Gima. We had many students born under the American flag but sent to Japan by their parents for a Japanese education. On their return, they had to learn English, and Richard taught them so well that they always scored high on standardized tests. He was born a few months before his parents immigrated

to Hawaii, so he grew up in the American culture of the islands but remained a Japanese citizen.

As he joined the group, I heard him ask, "What country is attacking us?" He must have had the wistful hope that some other country was responsible.

"Japan," Principal Frank Rice told him. From that moment on, Richard knew he would be considered an "enemy alien."

The actual blackout that went into effect that night was no darker than the figurative one that fouled relationships between ethnic Japanese, even those loyal to the United States, and many Americans on the mainland. Some forgot the longstanding friendship with Japan and turned against people who were as lovable as ever.

Prayers for faith

At school, the Week of Prayer had just begun. That Sunday evening, in the gloom of the blackout, we carefully found our way across the little park to the principal's home. Using a flashlight in the darkened room, he read a selection from *The Advent Review and Sabbath Herald* [now *Adventist Review*]. On our lonely island, 2,000 miles from the mainland and wide open to enemy attack, we took courage from the assurance that God was still in charge. We were there doing His work for our students, many of them non-Christians.

Before another Sabbath, the beach we had picnicked on was crisscrossed with a maze of barbed wire. Instead of white Matson liners, we saw camouflaged warships of all kinds, rushed from the mainland to replace the sunken

wrecks lying at the bottom of Pearl Harbor.

Severe military discipline was meted out to the top US officers who should have been responsible for preventing a surprise attack, but nothing could bring back the thousands who had needlessly died.

The US military didn't believe it could happen, and it wasn't prepared.

My memories of that Sunday morning came back to me in a rush as I watched the reports of the terrorist attacks on a beautiful Tuesday morning in September 2001. The event reminded me

"We took courage from the assurance that God was still in charge."

that there are very few certainties in life. In a heartbeat, our lives can be changed irrevocably by circumstances far beyond our control.

We can be truly prepared for life-changing tragedies only when our characters are anchored to Christ by our faith in Him. When we are called to experience the unexpected, our faith will have to carry us. It's all we can hold on to.

Your weekly mission offerings and world budget offerings help support the ministry of more than 400 missionary families.



LET'S DO IT



Darcee Christensen

volunteers as an assistant girls' dean at Fletcher Academy in North Carolina, United States. She is earning a degree in social work at Southern Adventist University.

I want to go to a waterfall today," Loany said.

"Let's do it!" I happily agreed, looking forward to the adventure to come. Since most of the girls in the dorm were home for a break, I was able to take the few remaining ones on random escapades. I've found the times when I've been able to focus on just one or two girls to be some of the most meaningful and memorable.

After walking and talking together on a trail surrounded by brilliant fall foliage, we arrived at the powerful waterfall. Loany was enraptured as she took in God's amazing creation. Even though it was a cool October evening, we swam in the frigid water, which ended up being completely worthwhile to build my relationship with this student.

After our chilly swim, Loany said, "I want to go walk downtown."

And I said, "Let's do it."

Before getting out of the car, we grabbed a copy of *Steps to Christ* and prayed that Jesus would give us an opportunity to share His love with someone. I'm



1

in awe at how Jesus answered this prayer.

As we walked past shops and a variety of people, we saw a woman on a bench just a few feet ahead of us throw down her phone and burst into tears. She clearly looked like she could use some love. We listened to her vent her frustrations and empathized with her pain. Then we gave her the *Steps to Christ* and prayed with her. She was so touched and thankful, and so was I. Not only was this a bonding experience with my student, it also bolstered our faith in Jesus.

As we continued walking, Loany said, "I want to go watch the sunrise tomorrow."

And I said, "Let's do it."

Too early the next morning, Loany and a couple other girls loaded into my car for a drive to watch the sunrise together. After traveling for half an hour, my GPS told me that we had arrived even though we were in the middle of a neighborhood. I had accidentally keyed in the wrong destination. With very little time left before sunrise, Loany prayed for guidance.

After a few minutes, she mused, "Maybe we're supposed to feed the homeless today instead."

And I said, "Let's do it."

As we drove to the city, we prayed for God's protection and for divine appointments. I was amazed by how fearlessly Loany connected with strangers, offering them food and spiritual books.



Adventist Volunteer Service facilitates church members' volunteer missionary service around the world. Volunteers ages 18 to 80 may serve as pastors, teachers, medical professionals, computer technicians, orphanage workers, farmers, and more. To learn more, please visit AdventistVolunteers.org.



Hear from other volunteers at m360.tv/avs.

We especially connected with a small group of individuals who lived on the streets. We got to know them a little bit and then spent time talking about Jesus together. Friendships were formed, and one of them even gave us a CD featuring him singing Christian songs that he'd written. Loany and I prayed with them and left feeling totally blessed.

Loany felt so inspired by this experience that the following week, she worked with Fletcher Academy's chaplain to plan an outreach event for the school to feed the hungry.

And I said, "Let's do it."

On Sabbath afternoon, an entire busload of students headed downtown to participate in this outreach. After handing out sack lunches and praying with people, the students met back at the bus where I discovered a surprise. I was delighted to see two of the people whom we'd brought meals to the week before. We exchanged hellos and hugs. Loany was especially touched by the opportunity to reconnect and pray with them. All of the students began to sing to these two special people, and I watched amazed as tears rolled down their cheeks.

I have never before so fully realized the powerful potential of saying, "Let's do it." I love being in a position where I can empower students to bring their ideas into fruition. Reflecting on this makes me think of 1 Chronicles 28:10, where King David instructed his son Solomon to build the temple by saying, "Take heed now, for the Lord hath chosen thee to build an house for the sanctuary: be strong, and do it." Deciding to actually "do it" can make a bigger difference than ever anticipated. Whether it's building a glorious temple or sharing food with the hungry, doing it for Jesus is always worthwhile.

As I continue to serve at Fletcher Academy, I hope that I have countless more opportunities to say, "Let's do it."



2



3

- 1 Sharing adventures with my student Loany, right, helps us grow closer.
- 2 On a school outreach, Loany is touched to be reunited with two friends she had made while feeding the homeless.
- 3 The students offered lunches to and prayer for their new homeless friends in the community.



Carrot Cuisine: A Global Favorite

Carrots are one of the most important horticultural crops in the world. They are grown in nearly every country, thrive in most climates, and provide significant nutritional value. Carrots are a universal favorite for taste and versatility.

SRI LANKA

Carrot Peanut Salad

(Serves 4 to 6)

Here is a delightful salad that can be served with pride on almost any menu. It easily complements curries, soups, sandwiches, and main dishes.

INGREDIENTS

- 4 large carrots, grated
- 3/4 cup peanuts, salted, chopped, divided
- 3 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
- 2 teaspoons white sugar
- 1 jalapeño pepper (seeds and white membrane removed), chopped
- 3 tablespoons fresh cilantro, finely chopped

PREPARATION

1. In a medium bowl, toss together the carrots and all but 2 tablespoons of the peanuts.
2. In a small bowl, whisk together the lemon juice, sugar, jalapeño pepper, and cilantro. Pour over the carrots and stir gently until evenly combined.
3. Garnish with the remaining chopped peanuts.



CANADA

Maple Roasted Tricolor Carrots

(Serves 4 to 6)

Carrots come in many colors, such as yellow, white, purple, orange, and burgundy, but they are often referred to as "tricolor" when the colors are mixed. The maple syrup adds a subtle, sophisticated flavor to this beautiful dish.

INGREDIENTS

- 4 to 5 cups tricolor carrots, sliced lengthwise into 4-inch pieces, 1/2-inch thick
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 tablespoons pure maple syrup
- 1 teaspoon salt

PREPARATION

1. Preheat oven to 350 °F.
2. Arrange the carrots in a single layer in a large baking dish or roasting pan.
3. Drizzle with oil and maple syrup.
4. Add the salt and toss lightly to evenly coat the carrots.
5. Bake for 45 to 50 minutes until carrots are fork tender. If you prefer a caramelized texture, roast at 425 °F for 25 to 30 minutes.





Build your recipe repertoire at m360.tv/recipes.

CHINA

Gingered Carrot Fritters

(Serves 4 to 6)

China produces nearly one-third of the global production of carrots. Imagine sampling these tasty fritters straight from the wok during a visit to China. Fresh ingredients like ginger, cilantro, and spring onions add bright flavor.

INGREDIENTS

- 6 large carrots, grated
- 4 spring onions, finely chopped
- 1 teaspoon fresh ginger, finely grated
- 1 teaspoon ground coriander
- 1/2 cup fresh cilantro, chopped
- 1 teaspoon soy sauce
- 1 garlic clove, minced (optional)
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1/2 cup flour
- 2 to 4 tablespoons vegetable oil

PREPARATION

1. Place several layers of paper towels on a tray.
2. Place the carrots, spring onions, ginger, coriander, cilantro, garlic (if using), and soy sauce in a large bowl. Stir lightly with a fork to combine the ingredients.
3. Add the beaten eggs and flour to the bowl. Stir quickly and lightly until evenly combined.
4. Pour at least 2 tablespoons of oil into a large frying pan over medium high heat. Use a tablespoon to scoop the mixture and to drop it into the hot oil. Flatten with a spatula to create a disc shape. Cook on each side for 2 to 3 minutes or until golden.
5. Transfer the cooked fritters to the tray lined with paper towels. When all of the fritters are cooked, transfer them to an oven-proof platter or dish to warm in the oven.
6. The fritters may be made the day before serving.



SWITZERLAND

Alpine Carrot Casserole

(Serves 4 to 6)

This creamy side dish easily falls into the comfort food category. Swiss cheese is called for, but you may substitute another kind if you wish.

INGREDIENTS

- 5 to 6 cups of sliced carrots, cut into 1/4-inch thick rounds, divided
- 6 slices of Swiss cheese, divided

SAUCE

- 4 tablespoons butter
- 4 tablespoons flour
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon chili powder
- 2 cups milk

TOPPING

- 1 cup soft bread crumbs
- 2 tablespoons butter, melted

PREPARATION

1. Preheat oven to 350 °F.
2. Boil the carrots until just tender but slightly firm. Drain in a colander and set aside.
3. In a medium pan, melt the butter, and then stir in the flour, salt, and chili powder. Add the milk all at once, whisking the sauce until smooth. Cook over medium high heat, stirring constantly until thickened.
4. Place half of the carrots in a baking dish, and then cover with Swiss cheese slices. Repeat with remaining carrots and Swiss cheese.
5. Pour the sauce over the carrots.
6. Combine the bread crumbs with the melted butter and sprinkle over the dish.
7. Bake for 25 minutes or until the sauce bubbles.



Now retired, **Nancy Kyte** served for 10 years as the marketing director of the Office of Adventist Mission.





DOING CHURCH THE TEMPLEWAY

I recently visited a church plant project just 15 minutes from London in a commuter town called Potters Bar. With a population of less than 22,000, Potters Bar has many amenities, including the red-brick Wylyotts Theatre. In the theater’s basement is a small room that serves as a daycare center during the week, but every other Sabbath, it becomes a little church plant called Templeway.

“I vowed I’d never come back to church . . .”

As I entered the room, my heart was warmed to see more than 30 men, women, and children of all races and creeds sitting together at a beautifully laid table, complete with bottles of sparkling grape juice. Delicious aromas of

seasonal fare emanated from the kitchen as Pastor Luke Whyte used common vernacular and a touch of humor to retell a Bible story. After singing a song, the volunteer kitchen crew served everyone a traditional British dinner with all the trimmings.

Templeway offers an informal, nontraditional setting. Attendees enjoy listening to Pastor Luke, who creatively communicates deep, meaningful life lessons in memorable ways.

The vision for Templeway began about five years ago when Pastor Luke and Pastor Joel Duntin were still seminary students at Newbold College. Joel and his wife, Sallee, approached Luke with the idea of creating a space where anyone could engage with Christianity and with God. They wanted people of all persuasions and cultures to feel that they could gather together for worship. This idea began to take shape as an

outreach ministry called Templeway.

Gatherings began as worship nights when a small group of young people met at the Duntins’ apartment in Newbold and then stayed in touch online throughout the week. This went on for about 18 months, but when Joel and Luke were about to graduate, they found a new physical location for Templeway. They initially thought they would stay near Newbold, but the South England Conference recognized the value of their ministry and asked them to run it from Potters Bar. Pastor Luke and his wife, Remona, already lived in nearby Edmonton, and the Duntins moved to the town in September 2014. By April 2015, the ministry team relaunched Templeway at the Wylyotts Theatre. Four months later, Joel and Sallee received a call to go to Canada, so the mantle of ministry passed to Luke and Remona.



2

- 1 Pastor Luke Whyte (third from left) with the leadership of Templeway.
- 2 Pastor Luke uses contemporary allusions and modern approaches in his preaching and teaching.
- 3 The Mendoza family: from back left, Jonan, Eden, Kelly, Sienna, and Elyse.



3

Jonan also had a unique journey that led him to Templeway. He grew up a staunch Adventist, but decisions he made along the way led him to marry young and then get a divorce. When Jonan left the church, he felt alienated from Adventism. "I vowed I'd never come back to church," he said. "But I always had God and the Adventist message in my heart, so I was looking for some way to get back into spirituality."

He spoke with a mutual acquaintance about Luke, whom Jonan had grown up in church with, and heard about Templeway. He decided to give it a try. "I came here with Kelly, and from that day, we've always come back," expressed Jonan.

Templeway has been the catalyst that helped Jonan and Kelly rediscover the Bible. "Templeway has brought me back to Scripture and helped me start doing spiritual things like reading the Bible with my family," Jonan said. "This church has really brought me back into the fold in a way that I never thought was possible. It's even brought in Kelly, who has never been in an Adventist church before."

Because of their experiences at Templeway, both Kelly and Jonan now desire to be a part of a church family. Kelly declared, "I'm here because I want to be here so for me, that's a win-win situation." Jonan felt the same way. "For the first time in my life, I come to church because this is what I want to do. If only there were more places like this; it's a wonderful, life-changing experience to come here."

Templeway appeals to both Adventists and non-Adventists. Approximately 15 percent of attendees are not Adventists, and those who prefer a community-based church with a more relaxed atmosphere. Jonan and Kelly Mendoza are one such family.

Jonan, Kelly, and their three children have been coming to Templeway since late summer in 2016. Kelly grew up as a cultural Christian

not knowing much about the Bible. In the few times she visited traditional Christian congregations, she found them to be too formal and didn't feel the level of warmth and welcome that she received at Templeway. "I'm comfortable here," she shared. "Templeway is very warm and friendly. It feels like family; I know everybody, and I've never been to a church where I felt like that really."



Thanks to your support, church plants are springing up across the globe, bringing thousands of people to Jesus. See what's happening at m360.tv/planting.

Sylva Keshishian
Office of Adventist Mission.





“I Thought It Was Impossible”

Sugandai achieved what she had only dared to dream. She was sick so often for so long, taking medications just to get by. Her ailments prevented her from doing many things she wished she could do. But with the help of the Life Hope Center in Trinidad, her life has changed for the better.

“I was feeling sick, but with exercise and diet control, I stopped my medications,” said Sugandai. “And things I couldn’t do before, I am doing now. You know, at the age of 55, I thought it was impossible.”

The Life Hope Center is an Urban Center of Influence (UCI) in the Brickfield community on

the island of Trinidad. One of the largest Hindu temples in the country stands just a few blocks away. As visitors on the street pass by the Life Hope Center, they are attracted to the colorful sign offering a variety of services to meet the community’s needs.

Christine Mathura, manager of the Life Hope Center, conducted a needs assessment of the community before this UCI even opened its doors. “We found that the children in this community are not good readers,” Christine explained. “So we targeted the children and also targeted the parents because the children will come with them.”

The Life Hope Center began to offer math and literacy classes

for children ages 6 to 15 and a preschool program for younger children. Through this UCI, children in the community have the opportunity to develop proficiency in foundational skills.

For adults, this UCI offers fitness and healthy living classes that teach the community how to ward off disease and improve their quality of life. Such was the case for Sugandai, a Life Hope Center regular. Her health has vastly improved thanks to what she learned from the health classes, and she has developed a more positive outlook on life. “I have learned to become a nicer person too,” Sugandai affirmed. “I have a lot more patience than I did before.”

The Life Hope Center’s holistic approach has led many people to receive academic and physical training as well as to find hope in Jesus. The staff regularly receives requests for spiritual counseling, Bible lessons, and prayer. “We have been able to plant a church because of the center,” Christine said, “and we now have 25 people attending.”

Through Christ’s method of ministry, the Life Hope Center continues to shine rays of hope in Trinidad.



1

Flavio Ferraz, Jr., TV producer for Novo Tempo in Brazil



- 1 The Life Hope Center in Trinidad offers homework tutoring, computer literacy classes, health and fitness seminars, and more to the surrounding community.
- 2 Attendee Sugandai Singh experienced changes she didn't think possible.
- 3 Manager Christine Mathura leads the Life Hope Center team in meeting the community's needs.
- 4 Children can learn to read, write, and solve math problems in this Urban Center of Influence.
- 5 Members of the community learn about healthy living, and some even learn about Jesus.



2



3

Urban Centers of Influence

Adventist Mission supports wholistic mission to the cities. This includes a rapidly growing number of Urban Centers of Influence that serve as platforms for putting Christ's method of ministry into practice and as ideal opportunities for Total Member Involvement in outreach that suits each person's spiritual gifts and passions.

To learn more about Urban Centers of Influence, please visit MissionToTheCities.org.



4



Watch this story in action at m360.tv/s1826.

Christ's Method of Ministry

"Christ's method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Saviour 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'" (*The Ministry of Healing*, p. 143).



5

Student Filmmakers Tackle Mission

What do Adventist students around the world think mission is? That's what Adventist Mission wanted to find out in 2017 when it launched its first-ever student film contest.

Student filmmakers from the United States to the Middle East and from the Philippines to Mexico sent in their short films, hoping for a chance at the grand prize: an international trip to assist with filming a story for *Mission Spotlight!*

The "Mission is . . ." film contest launched on April 7, 2017, at the Sonscreen film festival in California, United States. Students

from all over the world were encouraged to submit 30-second films that expressed what they think mission is and why it's still important today. The top 10 entries were then selected by a judging panel. These 10 films were posted on the Adventist Mission website, where the public voted for their favorite films.

Adventist Mission believes that films showing mission work and how God is changing lives are important tools for evangelism and building faith. That's why Adventist Mission produces the *Mission Spotlight* and *Mission 360°* short films that church members

across the world watch each Sabbath.

Kayla Ewert, Office of Adventist Mission



The "Mission is . . ." film contest inspired these young filmmakers to express their feelings about mission and its importance in today's world. Watch the winners' short films at AdventistMission.org/2017filmcontest.

MEET THE WINNERS



1st

RACHEL FORTUNATO

University of Montemorelos, Mexico

Prize: International film trip

Mission 360° (M360°): What attracted you to filmmaking?

Rachel: Film to me has always been more than simple pictures running rapidly across a television screen; it's an art that has expressed every human emotion, touching more people than any other area of study.

M360°: What motivated you to enter the contest?

Rachel: I was motivated because it allowed me the opportunity to engage in one of my passions. I also liked the fact that the church has put a lot of effort into filmmaking, and the different prizes were really nice.

M360°: What message do you hope people will take from your film?

Rachel: Being a missionary isn't simply traveling to other places where there's poverty. Mission is a way of living. What Jesus commanded us to do in our daily lives is to serve others as He did here on earth. The mission is right in front of us: a neighbor, friend, anyone in need.

2nd

MADAI VILLA-COPPIANO

Andrews University, United States
Prize: GoPro HERO5 camera

M360°: What attracted you to filmmaking?

Madai: What attracted me most was its ability to influence people's perspectives and help us understand each other more, as well as the art behind it. My creativity is always expanding, and I have come to really love that it's never the same work over and over but something new each time.

M360°: What motivated you to enter the contest?

Madai: I have always enjoyed Adventist mission work in my church ever since I was

little. I love doing mission work, going on mission trips, and I thought it would be an amazing opportunity to combine film and mission work. I knew I had to do it and just could not miss out.

M360°: What message do you hope people will take from your film?

Madai: I hope people take the message that it is really important to have your own spiritual walk with God and to have Him as your best friend before you go door to door or tell your neighbor about the love of Jesus. People will look at your character and your personal life with God before they can commit to your words. And if you live what you preach, that's what mission really is to me.



3rd

ASH-RAF AWAD

Middle East University, Lebanon
Prize: Ricoh Theta S spherical camera

M360°: What attracted you to filmmaking?

Ash-raf: The power of media. Media is everything now. We can reach all people and access people who are hard to reach.

M360°: What message do you hope people will take from your film?

Ash-raf: Mission is important because it helps you learn how to give something to someone in need. In Egypt, we say, "Teach me how to fish; don't just give me a fish." It's important to teach each other. Mission can be anywhere, and it's not only a story, it's also an experience that can change both the missionary and the one the missionary reaches.



JUDGES'
CHOICE

MADELYN ROGERS

Southern Adventist University,
United States
Prize: Scratch-off world map

M360°: What attracted you to filmmaking?

Madelyn: I chose to pursue filmmaking because I've always loved to tell stories. I think film is one of the most powerful ways we can communicate and make an impact on others, and I love the endless possibilities it holds.

M360°: What motivated you to enter the contest?

Madelyn: I decided to enter at the last

minute. I didn't really think I could do it, but finally I realized that if I didn't try, I wouldn't learn anything, and I wanted to learn. I knew learning by experimentation always leaves the longest impression on me, so I took the dive, pulled together a crew, found an idea, and entered it.

M360°: What message do you hope people will take from your film?

Madelyn: Through my film, I hope others will be reminded that they don't necessarily have to wait until they have an opportunity to go overseas—they can spread light right at home, maybe even next door. Mission starts with you.



General Conference of
Seventh-day Adventists
12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring, MD 20904

Non Profit
Organization
U. S. Postage
PAID
Nampa, ID
Permit No. 66



Adventist Mission

MISSION Spotlight GOES DIGITAL!



LOVE A GOOD MISSION STORY?

GOOD NEWS!

Sign up for our *Mission Spotlight* eNewsletter to watch and download fresh, exciting mission stories from around the world.

HERE'S WHAT YOU'LL ENJOY:

- ▶ Instant access
- ▶ HD videos
- ▶ Multiple languages
- ▶ It's still free!

DON'T DELAY - SIGN UP TODAY! MissionSpotlight.org/subscribe