

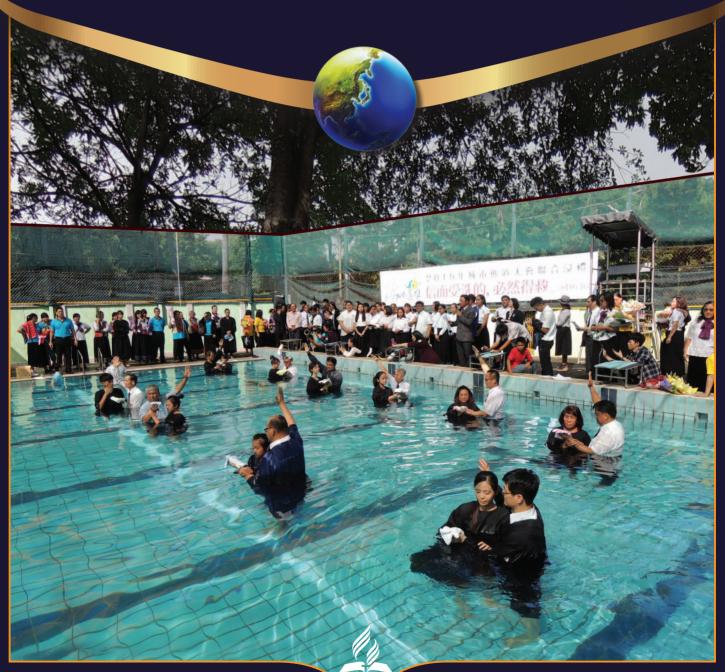
NORTHERN ASIA-PACIFIC DIVISION

THE MOST CHALLENGING FIELD

NEWS&VIEWS

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The 2015 City Evangelism project of Taiwan Conference was held from November 21 to 22 in Kaohsiung city. Seventy-eight souls were baptized during the evangelism.



Return to the Lord!

Now Is the Time to Renew Our Commitment

Jairyong Lee, President Northern Asia-Pacific Division

Happy New Year!

A new year has just dawned with great hope in Christ. The Second Coming of our Lord is one year closer. Numerous signs of the times are taking place in many parts of the world, eloquently telling us that Jesus is very near, even at the door.

What about our readiness for His return? Aren't we in Laodicean conditions, neither hot nor cold spiritually? Ellen White pointed out that we have serious spiritual problems: "The message to the Laodiceans is applicable to Seventh-day Adventists who have had a great light and have not walked in the light" (2SM, 66). Nevertheless, God has not given up His church, but rather sent a loving message to us: "Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest, and repent" (Rev. 3:19). And He promised, "Then you will call upon Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you" (Jer. 29:12). God is inviting us to return to Him. So what does it mean to "return to the Lord"?

1. Restoration of Faith

We need to restore our faith in God. The Bible repeatedly emphasizes that "the righteous will live by his faith" (Hab. 2:4; Rom. 1:17). It also asserts that "without faith it is impossible to please God" (Heb. 11:6). Ellen White clearly defines faith: "Faith is trusting God—believing that He loves us and knows best what is for our good. Thus, instead of our own, it leads us to choose His way. ... It is faith that puts us in possession of these principles" (*Ed*, 253).

In order to restore our faith, we need to come closer to the Word of God. "So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ" (Heb. 10:17). May the Lord help us restore our faith daily in God!

2. Restoration of Consecration

We need to restore the spirit of total consecration to the Lord. We are God's special people traveling in this world and heading for our heavenly home. We are living on earth as "aliens and strangers" (Heb. 11:13). I wonder, however, whether we are living in this sinful world as if it is our eternal home. It seems that worldliness and secular lifestyles are infiltrating our lives. Selfishness is prevalent in the church. We are trying to get more and more for our own benefit but neglecting the needs of others.

We need to have undivided consecration to the Lord and His work. Ellen White wrote, "When we have entire, wholehearted consecration to the service of Christ, God will recognize the fact by an outpouring of His Spirit without measure" (*RH*, 1896.7.21).

3. Restoration of Mission Spirit

We have a great responsibility to share the gospel message to the people who are still living in spiritual darkness without knowing the true Savior of the world. Ellen White clearly stated that we were chosen by God for His mission: "In a special sense, Seventh-day Adventists have been set in the world as watchmen and light bearers. To them has been entrusted the last warning for the perishing world....There is no other work of so great importance. They are to allow nothing else to absorb their attention" (9T, 19). She also stated that "the missionary spirit needs to be revived in our churches" (6T, 29).

The mission spirit should be restored in the church. Mission should be the top priority in all activities because it is the very reason for the existence of the church. May the passion for mission be revived in the church!

"Come, let us return to the LORD. He has torn us to pieces but he will heal us; he has injured us but he will bind up our wounds" (Hosea 6:1). The Latter Rain of the Holy Spirit is about to fall upon us. Let us return to the Lord now and be ready to receive this celestial gift from our Lord Jesus Christ. May we have a spiritually prosperous new year!

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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By Pastor Ken Feng – Director-General for 2015 City Evangelism Project

Praise God Who Gives Us Faith

In response to Mission to the Cities, a Global Mission initiative, in 2014, the Taiwan Conference (TWC) organized the Taipei City Evangelism to initiate the City Evangelism Project. This has been one of the biggest challenges for the TWC, since the progression of Taiwan's missionary work has been strong in the villages but weak in the cities. In other words, with urban churches lacking workers, coupled with the struggling financial situation of TWC, it has been a challenge to advance such city evangelism projects.

However, praise God for granting faith to TWC president Steven Wu and his team. By faith, this great responsibility, this seemingly impossible mission, was initiated in 2014. In 2015, although TWC was facing financial challenges, lacking the budget for furthering such a project, with faith that God would provide for the funds, TWC chose Kaohsiung, the second largest city in Taiwan, to continue the City Evangelism Project initiated in Taipei. I was chosen as the directorgeneral for the project.

To be successful in completing the City Evangelism Project, our

executive team suggested changing the organizational structure of the 2015 City Evangelism Project to a bottom-up approach, a suggestion that was accepted. This is not TWC's conventional approach. However, the TWC had great confidence in our executive team and entrusted us with much authority. Such confidence caused us to put every effort into organizing the event.

We praise God for His blessings. We have experienced Him like never before. We have seen God's glory manifested upon His work. The impossible was made possible. We have tasted the joys of being one with



God, walking with Him and serving Him. What a wonderful experience!

Our goal for the 2015 City
Evangelism Project was that 3,000 would attend and 100 would be baptized. More than 30 decisions for baptism were to come from churches within the project district. We also expected to see Fongshan Church become the first "evangelistic church" in the TWC as an evangelism model for the rest of the churches. The goal was to fully utilize this precious opportunity to make Fongshan Church the greatest success of the 2015 City Evangelism Project.



A choir sings a special song wearing traditional Taiwanese clothing.

From Small Groups to Big City Evangelism

We praise God that the 2015 City Evangelism Project was a great success. From November 21 to 22, 2015, the average attendance was 25,000 people. Seventy-eight souls were baptized. The event was held at the spacious Fongshan Sports Arena. The stage was carefully set up, professionally done with a video wall. The high quality sound system, lighting, and cameras helped people on the stage to freely deliver their message or share their songs.

The programs were wonderful and their timing well managed. The day was filled with testimonies, and hearts were filled by the Spirit. Many expressed their praises and approval. God's glory was present, and the spiritual lives of the people were renewed.

The 2015 City Evangelism Project was categorized into two aspects. The first was an ongoing process as a foundation, and the second was a harvest as a celebration. The ongoing aspect included sowing, nurturing, managing, and various other ministries (basically, local church ministries throughout the year). Without foundational ministries, the

celebration gathering would have been meaningless. Therefore, our local church, Fongshan Church, continued to grow our established small group ministry from 2014. Plans were made to expand the original three districts (Daliao District, Nanzih District, Siaogang District) into six to eight small group ministry territories.

The Fongshan Church and the Kaohsiung Church met together and decided to start by forming the Cianjhen and Gushan District. God blessed our collaborative efforts. As everyone worked together in unity, the small group ministries flourished rapidly. For example, Cianjhen District started with one family, and now ten other families have joined.

Each group leader and member did his/her part, caring for others day after day, week after week, and seeking those who were ready to receive Bible studies and accept Jesus through baptism by the time of harvest

I believe small group ministries is the foundation for an ongoing, developing city evangelism project. For example, Fongshan Church experienced rapid growth because they promoted small group ministries. Three years ago it was only a

company church with 30 members. Today it is a church with hundreds of members and close to a hundred regular attending guests. With more than 200 people attending this city evangelism event, the church had the highest attendance rate. It also had the highest number of decisions for baptism, a total of 24. Many more people are receiving Bible studies, which means that more will be ready for baptism by the time the city evangelism event takes places in 2016.

The core concept of the 2015 City Evangelism Project was that local churches must successfully promote small group ministries in order for the harvest celebration to be meaningful. Throughout this time I often said to my team, "If we cannot be successful with our small group ministries, let's not waste three million on organizing a big event. We ought to put that money into building churches instead." Praise God for setting the members' hearts on fire for Him, which allowed us to have some success to show as a testimony of His power. Of the 78 decisions for baptism, half were from Kaohsiung and Fongshan Church.











The First Day: Worship Service

Pastor Jairyong Lee, president of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD), shared a very touching message. Wonderful music was presented by the Golden Angels, a large choir, and various other groups. The baptism of 78 souls followed. When each baptismal candidate was introduced on stage, the assembly responded with heart-warming praises. After the baptismal vows and photos, the candidates, ministers, and helpers proceeded to the swimming pool outside for the baptism. Most of the assembly remained in the arena where live streaming of the baptism was broadcasted on the video wall. Such an arrangement was purposely planned for everyone's convenience and comfort.

In the afternoon there were exciting mission spotlight presentations. Video presentations combined with testimonies were a great encouragement to everyone. Each district also prepared wonderful programs and music, even better than the previous year. Each aspect of the program deeply touched the hearts of all who attended.

- 1. The Golden Angels sing a special song.
- 2. As baptismal candidates are introduced on stage, people send them hearty congratulations.
- The orchestra shows God's grace through their beautiful music.
- 4. A group of people are on stage to share their testimonies with attendees.



At a fair, people browse the booths and see various health-related products and healthy food.

The Second Day: To Build a Healthy City

The second day was filled with programs that were in collaboration with Kaohsiung City's government organizations. Based on the common theme of health, we worked together with the public sector in organizing something innovative. After much discussion, the Indigenous Affairs Commission Kaohsiung City Government and the Department of Health agreed to share our theme: "Healthy City: HOPE Kaohsiung."

Each organization shared resources and collaborated with mutual respect. For example, our church requested that there be no meat products made available at the event. Though the

Department of Health deemed meat as part of a healthy diet, and ministers from other denominations said that it would be impossible for them to organize programs without making meat available, yet in the end they respected our church's request.

Programs included a joint worship, musical praises, LOHAS (Lifestyles of Health and Sustainability) and health promotion activities, a fair, etc. Considering that in the past 60 years, few have come to know our church, it was a great opportunity to reach out to the public and increase the public's awareness of our church. Praise God for the success of the programs and glory to His name!





God Blessed Us in Various Ways

First, Pingnan District leader Pastor Clark Ko was proactive in assisting the director-general in various important ministries. Also, the experience and counsel of our coordinator, Pastor Noah Lai, were invaluable to the direction and quality of our programs.

The Holy Spirit moved various church institutions in Taiwan to actively participate and support the cause, resulting in significant improvement in quality. Chinese Hope TV assisted with arranging for the video wall and managing the flow of programs. Their crew also helped film the small group ministries video, which touched each attendee and encouraged all to be involved in small group ministries. Such an encouragement was exactly what the event organizers were aiming for.

The arrangements and decorations at the arena were sponsored by Signs of the Times, adding much value and professionalism to the venue. In addition, Taiwan Adventist Hospital not only provided financial support,

but also provided a work force and contributed valuable health programs, which provided us with a platform to reach the public and become known by the public.

Furthermore, the Lord provided support through non-members. For example, Mr. Li, the owner of Xiu Yu Vegetarian Buffet, sponsored 6,000 lunch boxes. Lastly, the Lord arranged for the public sector (the Indigenous Affairs Commission Kaohsiung City Government and the Department of Health) to collaborate with us on the programs for the second day. As a result, we had a great opportunity to reach out. They also provided us with a lot of resources, such as funding, a great venue, etc.

Our Mission Is Not Over

The challenge with the continuation and development of city evangelism still exists within the TWC. We must greatly improve our method of city evangelism. We should no longer only focus on public evangelism. Instead, we should also focus more on personal evangelism.

As this year's director-general, my belief is that small group ministries is the foundation of the harvest event. Without successful small group ministries, there would be no big heartwarming harvest event. If we want to experience a breakthrough, our urban churches must initiate small group ministries.

If each church would pattern after Kaohsiung and Fongshan Church in developing small group ministries, the church would experience at least a 10% growth each year. With such a change, we would see greater results with the 2016 Taichung City Evangelism Project. A hundred decisions for baptism would be easy. Even two hundred decisions for baptism wouldn't be a problem. Small group ministries is truly the foundation and core ministry of city evangelism. If small group ministries is the locomotive of ministry development, large-scale, celebrationtype events are the inspection stations and refueling stations. They serve to provide small group ministries with the motivation to press on.



he Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) of Seventh-day Adventists held a Ouinquennial Council from November 5 to 9, 2015, at the Ilsan NSD office, near the capital city of Seoul, Korea. Two days before the main sessions, Division and Union officers met together in the NSD's newly renovated conference room to share and discuss what had been accomplished during the past five years along with plans for future mission work. As of September 30, 2015, NSD statistics showed Church membership at 702,081 with more than 77,000 baptisms during the last five years. Pastor Jairyong Lee, NSD president, set a goal by saving, "During the next five years, what can be done to win 300,000 souls to reach a membership of 1 million? Nothing is impossible!"

On November 5, the first day of the council, Pastor Lee presented the NSD's five-year report. The major events and mission activities on his report were as follows:

- Mission to the Cities
- NSD International Mission Congress in 2013
- NSD International Pathfinder Camporee in 2012
- NSD Youth Leadership Congress in 2015
- Development of NSD Leadership Training Center on Jeju Island
- Retention and Reclamation Summits in 2014 and 2015
- International Bible Conferences
- Theological Education Centers in China
- Extraordinary Tithe Projects
- Adventist elementary school in Mongolia
- Dormitory for college/university students in Mongolia

- Construction of 25-story Hong Kong Adventist Hospital-Tsuen Wan Building and Korean Union Conference Children & Youth Vision Center
- Heritage tour for Chinese church leaders
- Reorganization of Chinese Union Mission
- Multi-Cultural Family Service Center
- Public evangelistic meeting by Doug Batchelor in China
- Chinese Hope TV launched for 24 hours a day and 7 days a week TV programming
- Soul winning and church planting
- NSD Leadership Convention in 2012
- NSD ASI Convention in 2011
- GC officers visit China, Korea and Japan
- The 60th General Conference Session in San Antonio, Texas, 2015

NORTHERN ASIA-PACIFIC DIVISION QUINQUENNIAL COUNCIL 2015

By Song SungSub (Paul) – NSD Associate Secretary









1. NSD president Jairyong Lee 2. CHUM president Robert Folkenberg, Jr.

3. GC vice president Artur Stele

During Pastor Lee's presentation, attendees could not help but thank God for leading this division with abundant blessings. The five-year mission activity reports of all NSD departments and Unions, including Taiwan Conference and Mongolia Mission, were also presented during the five-day meetings.

The theme phrase "Mission First! In All Activities to Reach the World" was highlighted on a large banner hanging on the wall. During the past years, the NSD has used the theme of "Mission First" to spread the three angels' messages throughout the NSD territories by overcoming difficult challenges. "Now we are entering another quinquennium with a great mission burden to reach the world, telling the good news of the

soon coming of Jesus Christ... We need to have a new start with renewed commitment and unprecedented dedication to the mission of the church," said Pastor Lee.

For this new quinquennium, the NSD proposed the "Vision One Million 2020" initiative, a challenge to reach a church membership of 1 million in the NSD by the year 2020. The major areas to be strengthened in this initiative are as follows: (1) Mission to the Cities - Reach the World, (2) Comprehensive Health Ministry, (3) Centers of Influence, (4) Leadership Training, (5) Pastors' Re-education (6) Stewardship/ Trust Service, (7) Youth/Children, (8) Women in Mission, (9) Spiritual Revival & Reformation – Trust in His Prophets, (10) Evangelism – Public and Personal – Total Member Involvement, (11) Retention and Reclamation. (12) Promotion of the Mission First Spirit.

On the Sabbath of November 7, during the Ouinquennial Council period, the 14th Pioneer Mission Movement (PMM) dedication service was held at Byeollae Church near Seoul. Nine pastors were appointed as PMM missionaries to be sent to foreign countries: Taiwan. Turkey, Philippines, Peru, and other countries. They will serve for six years in their respective mission lands. At the dedication worship service. GC vice president Artur Stele delivered an inspiring message to the nine PMM families and all the NSD council attendees present at the church. Since 2003, 102 PMM pastors have been dispatched, and currently 48 pastors are serving in 16 different countries.

The NSD 2015 Quinquennial Council was a special one, including an unusual year-end meeting following the 60th General

Above: Three NSD officers, Yutaka Inada, Jairyong Lee, German Lust, at the council Below: Attendees are given the banner with NSD's new theme, "Mission First! In All Activities to Reach the World"





Conference Session, July 2-11, 2015, in San Antonio, Texas. During this quinquennial council, the directors for each department of the division were elected. This was the first time for this to happen since the NSD was created by splitting the former Far Eastern Division (Asia-Pacific Division) into two in 1997. Department directors were previously elected during the General Conference Sessions in 2000, 2005, and 2010.

During this council, the NSD Nominating Committee announced their recommendations, and the full Executive Committee accepted the following names of department directors and associate directors:

- Joo MinHo: Assistant to the President for General Affairs; Director of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty (PARL)
- Ng Wai Chun (Stanley): Assistant to the President for China/Taiwan Affairs; Director of Planned Giving and Trust Services; Director of Publishing Ministries
- Lyu DongJin: Under-Treasurer
- Ron Clouzet: Secretary (Director) of Ministerial Association;
 Director of Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries (ACM)

- Lisa Clouzet: Associate Secretary of Ministerial Association; Director of Women's Ministries/ Family Ministries/Children's Ministries; Associate Director of Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries
- Richard Sabuin: Director of Education; Director of Sabbath School and Personal Ministries
- Kwon JohngHaeng: Director of Stewardship Ministries
- Sung GuiMo: Associate Director of Stewardship Ministries (Korea)
- Wu Chung Feng (Steven):
 Associate Director of Stewardship Ministries (Taiwan); Field Secretary (for NSD Taiwan Branch Office)
- Akeri Suzuki: Honorary
 Associate Director of Sabbath
 School and Personal Ministries
- Choi YoungII: Director of Health Ministries
- Nilde Itin Lust: Associate
 Director of Women's Ministries/
 Family Ministries/Children's
 Ministries
- Kim NakHyung: Director of Youth Ministry
- Kim SiYoung: Director of Adventist Mission
- Han SukHee: Director of Communication Department

- Byun SeongJun: Associate Director of Communication
- Song SungSub (Paul): Associate Secretary

Besides the NSD department directors, Chinese Union Mission officers and the board members of six NSD institutions were appointed. Followings are the institutions: Geoscience Research Institute. Adventist Multi-Cultural Family Service Center, NSD Leadership Training Center, Taiwan Adventist Hospital, Taiwan Adventist College, and Signs of the Times Publishing Association (STPA). The three reelected officers of Chinese Union Mission are as follows: Robert Folkenberg, Jr. as president, Daniel Jiao as secretary, and Johnny Wong as treasurer. They will continue to serve for the next five years.

We pray that God may rain down His Holy Spirit abundantly to bless the NSD's new quinquennium 2015-2020, the goal "Vision One Million 2020," and the new leadership team by refreshing the spirit of Mission First in all activities to reach out to the world!





Japan Union Conference ANNUAL COUNCIL

By Norihiko Hanada – Assistant to the President for Evangelism of JUC

The Japan Union Conference (JUC) Annual Council was held from November 22 to 23, 2015. Churches, schools, and institutions that participated in the "All Japan 2015" project gave their evangelistic reports.

Based on the reports given, we have proposed the following evangelistic motto and policy for the next five years, from 2016 to 2020.

- Motto: "Arise! Shine! Jesus Is Coming!"
- Basic Evangelistic Policy:
 "Relationship with Heaven,
 Relationship within the Church,
 Relationship with the Community"
 In order to fulfill the Great

Commission in Japan, each individual church member is encouraged to develop the following three relationships: "Relationship with Heaven (Reach Up)," "Relationship within the Church (Reach In)," and "Relationship with the Community

(Reach Out)." Relationship with Heaven refers to church members becoming vessels for the Holy Spirit and growing in their identity as Seventh-day Adventists. As the Relationship within the Church strengthens and church members unite through the love of Christ, the "Mission First" spirit will be awakened. Relationship with the Community means that all Seventhday Adventists become witnesses for Christ, letting Christ's light shine upon the community through their lives. By upholding these three relationships, the people will become prepared for the Second Coming of Christ as they fulfill the Great Commission.

In order to strengthen the three relationships, Reach Up, Reach In, and Reach Out, and develop every church member to become an evangelist, we came up with 15 items (five for each relationship) that we need to focus on. One of these items is media ministry. In order to strengthen media ministry, we have decided to combine the Publishing House and the Media Center as one department, naming the new department the "Media Publishing Department."

The JUC committee members also agreed to adopt a new financial policy in order to overcome the intense winter season, the drying up of the retirement fund and the extremely financially difficult situations. We concluded the Annual Council meeting as we reaffirmed our commitment to mission work.

The Japan Union Conference General Session will be held from January 13 to 15, 2016. The following Sabbath, on January 16, we will have a special 120th year anniversary worship program. Please pray for a good beginning for JUC's mission endeavors.

Mongolia Mission ANNUAL COUNCIL

By Yure Gramacho – MM Communication Director

From November 11 to 12, 2015, a very special year-end meeting was held at the Bayan Khair Church in Ulaanbaatar, the capital city of Mongolia. A total of 22 people, including administrators, department directors/coordinators, local pastors and church leaders as well as lay members, gathered to attend the Mongolia Mission (MM) Annual Council 2015.

This annual meeting always takes place during the last quarter of the year, and the main purpose of this meeting is to praise the Lord for the great things that He has done for us through His church. On this occasion, during the opening remarks, Pastor Jairyong Lee, the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) president, provided the spiritual inspiration by reflecting on the life of David. He

encouraged the attendees to have the faith and courage to keep fighting the holy battle in the name of the Lord.

"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," emphasized Pastor Lee. With this vision in their hearts and the motto "Mission First in All Activities to Reach the World," the participants listened in amazement at the annual reports from many areas and ministries of the MM. They realized the wonderful and blessed way God has been guiding His people, "with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm" (Psalms 136:12). since the earliest years of the missionary work here in Mongolia up to the present.



"The gospel has been preached in this country for not more than 22 years, and we can see how far God has led us with His powerful help. The Annual Council is a good time to reflect on His sustaining power, rather than focusing on our feebleness." said the chairman of the meeting, Pastor Bold Batsukh, MM executive secretary and acting president. Pastor Bold also underscored the importance of retention and reclamation of church members as well as the urgent demand to introduce new methods in order to encourage total member involvement. "We have been very active, but we need





to improve our effectiveness. More innovative approaches are needed," concluded Bold. Indeed, discipleship is the key word in achieving this end!

As a Mongolia Mission team, we truly believe that unity is indispensable for accomplishing our mission. This is imperative! Therefore, each department at the MM is looking forward to working together as partners in the "battlefield," with different ministries and approaches, but fully integrated and with the same goal. Jesus established the Church as an agency of salvation, as His own "body" over this Earth. This body needs to work together and be in harmony to faithfully carry out the Great Commission of our Lord, namely to make disciples (Matthew 28:18-20).

May all the glory and honor be to Jesus Christ because God's work in Mongolia is moving forward by faith. With the power of the Holy Spirit as well as with the hard work of local pastors, church leaders, missionaries and lay members, we will be able to overcome each one of our big challenges and share the everlasting gospel with our people throughout the country. Let's reach the world. Jesus is coming very soon! Hallelujah!

Please pray for God's Church in Mongolia!

Chapter Celebrates Revival

Adventist-Laymen's Services and Industries (ASI) Hong Kong-Macao Chapter was established about a year ago. In order to make it known to the public, the Chinese Union Mission (CHUM), Hong Kong-Macao Conference (HKMC) and ASI jointly held a revival at the Bible Auditorium in Kowloon, Hong Kong, from November 20 to 21, 2015.

The theme of the revival was "Go! Let it shine!" Dr. Baraka Muganda, vice president of Washington Adventist University, was the keynote speaker. He urged the Adventists in Hong Kong and Macao to exercise faith that even amazes the Lord (Matthew 8:10) in order to prepare the people in their communities for the Second Coming.

ASI is made up of active lay people who are professionals and entrepreneurs. The motto of the organization is "sharing Christ in the marketplace." ASI has many local chapters in numerous countries. They encourage their members to share Christ at their workplaces and wherever they meet others.





Above: Keynote speaker, Dr. Baraka Muganda (left) Below: Professionals and entrepreneurs of HKMC



The guests of honor ushering in a new era at Hong Kong Adventist Hospital - Tsuen Wan

CHUM A Labor of Love for an Adventist Hospital

Years of hard work, dedication and care have been invested into the new Hong Kong Adventist Hospital building in Tsuen Wan, not to mention 1.7 billion Hong Kong dollars, but for everyone involved in the mega-project, all their efforts have been completely worthwhile. The brand-new, 25-story, 50,000-square meter hospital building, which sits atop a tranquil hill in Hong Kong, officially opened on November 17, 2015, significantly

extending the Adventist hospital's scope of services and providing additional, much-needed hospital beds

Hong Kong Adventist Hospital – Tsuen Wan is the only private hospital serving a district of 1.5 million people, and the expansion will allow it to care for 1,000 out-patients a day from its previous 300 to 400. The total number of beds will increase threefold from 120 to 470, with 20 percent of the beds set aside for

grass-roots patients referred from public hospitals, alleviating the demand for private medical services in New Territories West while giving back to the community.

"God brought the right people to the right positions at the right time to make sure this project was successful," said Dr. Robert Folkenberg, Jr., chair of the Hospital Board and president of the Chinese Union Mission.

As the population increases and ages, there will be an increased demand for medical services.

To make a true impact on the community, the building features ten operating rooms, four endoscopy suites, and a sky garden where patients and staff can relax or eat outdoors. Such a first-rate facility will help to relieve some pressure on the public healthcare system while strengthening synergy between the public and private healthcare sectors.

"Through God's guidance and provision, we are able to embark on this new chapter of the hospital," added Dr. Ella Simmons, general vice president of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. "In our pursuit to 'extend the healing ministry of Christ,' we will continue to offer high quality health care with compassion and to pray for His future guidance to serve the needs of the community."





Pathfinder Basic Staff Training Course





Above: Attendees of the training course learn the art of knot tying. Below: Youth leaders hold the Pathfinder and Northern Asia-Pacific Division banners.

The Pathfinders ministry of Chinese Union Mission (CHUM) before and after the 2012 Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) Pathfinder Camporee look distinctly different. Before the Camporee, the main concern for pastors working for youth ministries in CHUM was trying to figure out "how to nurture the youth in our church and guide them." However, the Pathfinder work is now finding its place as the best youth ministries program.

From October 9 to 11, 2015, the youth ministries department of the NSD and CHUM carried out a Basic Staff Training Course at Zhaoyang Church in Beijing for thirty youth leaders from the southern region of Beijing. On the last day of the course, they had a completion ceremony for the leaders who passed the practical examination. As of December 2015, about 450 youth leaders in China have completed the training course, and about 40 churches are operating Pathfinder clubs.

I hope Pathfinder clubs become more active throughout the whole country of China in the near future and that the church of God will be greatly revived by the participation of the faithful youth.

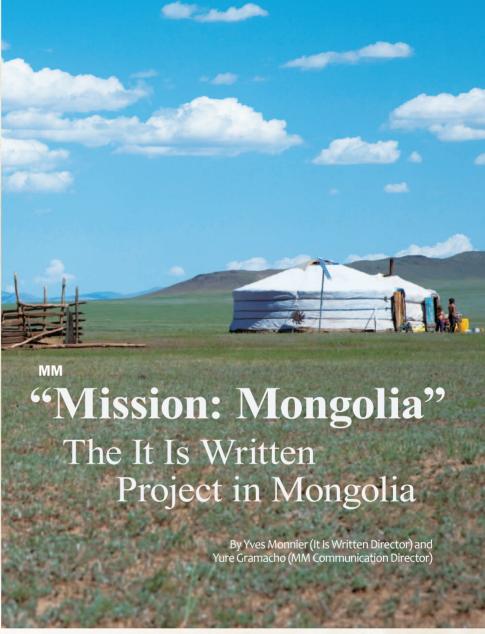
Kim NakHyung NSD Youth Director

Even though many books have been written and many sermons preached on the last verses in the Gospel of Matthew known as the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20), those words can be summed up in one simple sentence: Make friends for Jesus.

That's exactly what one team of volunteers determined to do from September 30 to October 11, 2015, during the first medical mission trip of the "Mission: Mongolia"* project by It Is Written.* From across the United States, eighteen It Is Written partners and friends (six doctors, one nurse practitioner, four nurses, one optician, and six helpers) converged upon Ulaanbaatar, the capital of Mongolia. Most of them arrived as mere acquaintances; however, by the time the journey was over, they had become a family because of the powerful experiences they had making friends for our Lord

Their mission involved working with two churches, the Amazing Grace Church and the Tolgoit Church, located in neighborhoods where the poorest of the poor Mongolians live, called Ger Districts. These are neighborhoods where there is no running water and in some cases even no electricity. Imagine these places in the dead of winter when temperatures drop to -40°C and people have to fetch water at the local water station up to a mile away. Living in Mongolia is definitely not for the faint of heart. Thankfully, with money provided by friends of It Is Written, wells were drilled so that churches would have running water—something that made the churches very popular places in the community.

On the first day of the clinics' operation, the It Is Written team and the faithful local church members transformed the churches into makeshift clinics. They set up waiting rooms, consultation rooms, and even little pharmacies. Once done, they wondered if anyone



would show up. They didn't have to wonder long because at both locations long lines of people quickly formed with people eager to meet with the foreign doctors.

With the help of dedicated translators, the team began to see patient after patient—700 altogether. Although we all realized that one doctor's visit would most likely not completely heal anyone, we determined to reflect the loving presence of Jesus through words and actions to a people who have no clue who Jesus is (over 97%

of Mongolians are Buddhist or nonreligious). All consultations ended with a prayer and an invitation to a health presentation in the evening.

Every evening a miracle took place: the meeting halls at the two churches were full. Keep in mind that these churches usually have just a handful of people in attendance. Every evening, though, it was standing room only—to the point that one of our physicians donated money for more chairs to be purchased.

The nightly health presentations were conducted by one of the health professionals followed by what they referred to as "Jesus Talks," a short personal and heartfelt talk to introduce people to Jesus. These nightly presentations were so successful that on Sabbath morning the regular church attendance actually doubled. What a blessing it was on Sabbath morning to see all these special guests attend the worship services and receive their very own Bible in Mongolian (around 500 Bibles were donated). There were many smiling faces.

"The Mongolian people I saw seemed to sense a need beyond Buddha and were open to learning who Jesus is and what He did and can do for them," said Dr. Gordon Guild, one of the volunteers who joined the medical mission trip.

One of the guests was a young pregnant woman who was suffering terrible back pain. She was so moved by the kindness of the Christian caregivers that she came every night to hear about Jesus and then even attended worship services on Sabbath. This revealed the power of combining the health message with the gospel and making friends for Jesus.

The opportunity in Mongolia is huge. The time is now. Please keep this important evangelism project in your daily prayers as It Is Written, in partnership with a handful of committed Christians in Mongolia, does its small part to be a witness in the "uttermost part of the earth" (Acts 1:8).

* "Mission: Mongolia" is It Is Written's three-year project to share Jesus with the people of Mongolia. The project will culminate in a citywide evangelistic series (Revelation Today series) by John Bradshaw in Ulaanbaatar, the capital of Mongolia. The project includes four mission trips involving medical, dental, and evangelism specialists to pave the way for the big evangelistic series in 2017.

* It Is Written is a donorsupported ministry of the Seventhday Adventist Church, passionate about communicating the Gospel to the world. It seeks to impact lives for Christ in four ways through the weekly telecast, the Internet, a worldwide evangelistic ministry, and Christian living and faithsharing resources. If you're interested in making friends for Jesus in Mongolia, we have two upcoming mission trips in April (13-25) and August (10-22) in 2016. We need health professionals, physicians, dentists, nurse practitioners, nurses, etc. Please contact Pastor Yves Monnier for more info at yves@iiw.org.

- 1. Dr. Gordon Guild (volunteer) with a Mongolian patient at the Tolgoit Church
- 2. Dr. Helmuth Fritz preaching during the "Jesus Talks" at the Amazing Grace Church
- 3. The volunteer team and Pastor Yure Gramacho







JUC

The Challenge of Saving 500 Souls:

Mission to the Cities Project of Japan Union Conference

Norihiko Hanada

Assistant to the President for Evangelism of JUC



Since 2010, in the Japan Union Conference (JUC), the number of deaths and disfellowshipped has been greater than the number of baptisms each year. The aging of the church, the decreasing number of student enrollment in our schools, the downward business trend of our institutions, and the lack of retirement funds have all helped bring a cold winter season upon JUC.

In order to fight this situation, for the last five years, JUC has been aiming to reach a major goal of "Saving 500 Souls in the Year 2015." Saving 500 souls in one year has never been done in Japan. The greatest number of baptisms in one

year was 483 baptisms in the year 1983. For the past six years, the number of baptisms has been lower than 300 people.

For this reason, JUC has been using the phrase "Revival and Reformation for Mission" as a watchword. More efforts have been made to train pastors, who are the church leaders. More efforts have been made to promote among church members a healthy identity as Seventh-day Adventists.

In 2012, we began the preparation for the Mission to the Cities Project. Through the Tokyo13 project, we had 78 baptisms in the Tokyo area, which was the greatest number of baptisms in Tokyo since 2001.

In 2014, the Mission to the Cities Project was launched in each of the conferences: Saitama14, Hanshin14, and Naha14. In 2015, the plan was for every church in Japan to be involved in the "All Japan 2015 Project."

November was designated the "All Japan Baptism Month," and about 90 evangelistic meetings were held all over Japan during the autumn. In the past, winning souls by conducting evangelistic meetings was considered difficult. However, many churches that had not held public evangelistic meetings finally decided to conduct one this year. In fact, one pastor who has been pastoring for many years conducted his very first evangelistic seminar.

As a result, at this moment on November 30, 2015, we have about 340 baptisms recorded for 2015. Although we did not reach our goal of 500 baptisms, we have reached the greatest number of baptisms since the year 2000. Furthermore, since the year 2012, slowly but surely the number of baptisms has been increasing each year (2012 = 229 baptisms, 2013 = 246 baptisms, 2014 = 283 baptisms).

According to a survey done among the recently baptized members, the number one reason for people starting to come to church was "family." Compared to five years ago, the number of people who started coming to church because of family influence has increased. Through the Mission to the Cities Project, the emphasis on Friendship



キリストの心をいただいて、愛する人々のために執り成すことから始めましょう



Evangelism among the local churches seems to be slowly bearing fruit. The following list includes lessons we learned in the process of engaging in the Big City evangelism efforts.

- 1. By taking hold of the Great Commission by faith and obedience to the Word of God, the harvest will surely come. Japan is not a difficult country to evangelize; however, it is a country with very few laborers and with very few evangelistic activities.
- 2. According to the Spirit of Prophecy, Christ's method alone, which is friendship evangelism, will result in true success. Christ's method alone will bring great results to the mission in Japan.
- 3. Even in this modern age of Japan, if preparation and follow-up of evangelistic seminars are done thoroughly, the harvest will be guaranteed.
- 4. The Japanese do not like to be pushed. We discovered, however, that gently encouraging and asking people for decisions are effective.

- 5. If we appeal to people to make a big commitment, they will answer the appeal. We must also approach the young people for commitment.
- 6. It is desirable to plan a yearly schedule with a 5-step evangelistic cycle: 1) Spiritual revival for pastors and church members, 2) Discipleship training and evangelistic training for church members, 3) Community service and community evangelism, 4) Evangelistic seminars for the harvest, 5) Preparation and follow-up for evangelistic seminars.
- 7. The reality of finding very few seekers struck us like a ton of bricks. How to find more seekers will be one of our important agenda items.
- 8. Raising the mission spirit of each church member and sharing the evangelistic vision between pastors and laymembers are the keys to successful evangelism.
- 9. Outreach will be necessary for churches to receive the power of the Holy Spirit.
- 10. Many prayers were offered in Japan and all over the world

for Japanese evangelism. We believe that the increased number of baptisms was the result of intercessory prayer. Church members who experienced the power of prayer which moves people's heart have the responsibility and commission to dedicate their hearts and minds for intercessory ministry.

The current church membership in Japan is 15.209, and the decreasing trend is still continuing today. The number of baptisms is not catching up with the rapid pace of aging within the church. For churches to regain positive growth, reaching the goal of "saving 500 souls" is an absolute must. The Mission to the Cities Project in Japan helped change the mindset of church members to be aware of the fact that "every Adventist is a missionary." We would like to pray and continue to move forward as we face the challenge of saving 500 souls, a goal that Japan has yet to accomplish.





CHUM Fifth Adventist Youth **Sports Day** a Success

On November 15, 2015, the youth ministry department of Hong Kong-Macao Conference (HKMC) held a sports day for the Adventist youth in Hong Kong at Taipo Samyuk Middle School. This joyful day began with a devotional led by Anna Fu, associate director of the youth ministry department.

Many energetic players then competed in various sports, including basketball, table tennis and badminton.

They displayed a wonderful spirit of teamwork. Afterwards, everybody had the chance to enjoy BBQ and other delicious food.

The youth department hopes that young Adventists in Hong Kong will have both physical and spiritual health to serve the Lord. This year's event, which was the fifth Adventist youth sports day for HKMC, was a success.



кис Kids in Discipleship (KID) Leaders Training

The KUC children's ministries department held a KID leadership training at the Korean Union Conference auditorium from October 27 to 29, 2015. KID is an abbreviation for Kids in Discipleship, passing down faith to children by making them disciples. Eleven of the 13 divisions are implementing this program. At this training, there were 56 participants from five conferences.

Pastor Don MacLafferty, who developed the KID program, was invited as the speaker. While he was serving as a youth director in a local conference in the United States, he was concerned about the faith of his children, so he developed this program to raise them to be Jesus' disciples.

"Many people live very busy lives doing God's work, but they always find some excuses for not having worship with their family. Although God's work is very crucial, the more important thing is to build their personal and family altar. It is also good for our children to develop the right beliefs," said Pastor MacLafferty.

"KID is not only for the family, but also for all church members. Those who don't have children or those whose children are grown can pray for children in the church and share their interests with them," said Mrs. Ahn JaeSoon, KUC children's ministries director. MM

8th Batch of 1000 Missionary Movement in Mongolia Completes Training

By Gandolgor (Хас-Очир Гандолгор) and Yure Gramacho (MM Communication Director)

On December 5, 2015, a beautiful graduation ceremony was held at Mongolia Mission (MM). Six fearless and faithful disciples of the 1000 Missionary Movement (1000MM) 8th batch successfully completed their training by God's grace. They came from different churches all around the Mongolia area: Ganchimeg Tsagaanbandi and Otgon Purevjav from Hutul, Bolorgegee Saran from Arkhangai, Gantumur Ganbaatar from Tolgoit, Ulaanbaatar, Davaatsetseg Chuluunbat from Uliastai, and Batzul Ganbold from Nalaikh.

During the 35 days of missionary training, the graduates had a very disciplined routine. They woke up early in the morning, spent time having personal devotions, ate vegetarian food, performed physical activities even though it was during the winter, memorized a lot of Bible verses, had Bible studies, and participated in many other activities. They did a very good job. The days were busy, but no one gave up or complained; on the contrary, they were resilient and followed the example of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

During the training period, the trainees also helped out with two evangelistic meetings, giving health advice, preparing and teaching how to cook vegan food and having Bible studies with people. Fasting and long silent prayers early in the morning were their companions day by day.

At the graduation ceremony, the missionaries wore traditional Mongolian costumes, and many of them, with bright eyes, shared their powerful testimony about the missionary training and how God had blessed and guided them along this path. Administrators, local pastors, church leaders, lay members and other missionaries as well as





graduates, relatives, and friends gathered to attend the 1000MM graduation that was held at Bayan Khair Church in Ulaanbaatar. Six ordained pastors laid their hands on the new missionaries, dedicating them to the service and asking God's blessings and the power of the Holy Spirit over each one of them. Even though the graduates have not been sent out yet, they have already received God's call. God will send them out in His time and then, they may say boldly as Isaiah, "Here am I, send me" (Isaiah 6:8).

"According to prophecy, we are in the last moments of this world, so we need to share the gospel message with our people here in Mongolia as soon as possible. That's why we need to train more and more missionaries. The 1000MM is raising a new generation of dedicated disciples, especially among the young people. Accomplishing the mission is our top priority," said Pastor Nyamdavaa, MM ministerial/evangelism/Global Mission director and 1000MM coordinator.

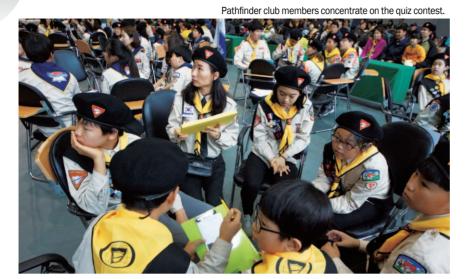
KUC

WCKC Holds Bible Meditation Training for Youth Leaders

The youth ministries department of the West Central Korean Conference (WCKC) held Bible meditation training for youth leaders at the Deer Mountain Retreat Center from October 17 to 18, 2015. About 70 people participated in the training, which was designed to help young people experience a change in their life through Bible meditation.

As part of the training, Pastor Ji SungBae, director of Compass Mission, gave a talk on the theory of Bible meditation, while Pastor Ko KyungDeok and Pastor Lee KwanTae talked about worship and application, respectively. The fourth batch of Compass missionaries also served as small group leaders. Participants had the opportunity to learn both theoretical and practical Bible meditation.





KUC

The first Pathfinders' Nationwide Bible Exploration Congress

The Korean Union Conference (KUC) Youth Ministries
Department held the 2015 Pathfinders'
Bible Exploration Congress on
November 8, 2015, at Madalpy

Sahmyook Retreat Center. The theme was the book of Genesis. This was the first nationwide Pathfinders' Bible Exploration Congress in Korea. The 400 members and leaders from

26 Pathfinder clubs who participated in the congress were those who had achieved the first level by passing the preliminary contest in their regions and union conference.

Pastor Choi HoYoung, director of KUC youth ministries, said, "Since this was the first congress, there were some shortcomings, but the youth ministry team will work on making improvements. We hope participants get great results and deeply engrave Genesis in their minds."

Pastor Hong ByungGil, coordinator of the congress, hosted the quiz contest. The 26 clubs sat in a circle and worked together to answer the 62 questions. As the correct answer was announced, the participants alternated between pleasure and sorrow. Most of the participants were satisfied with the level of difficulty and the method used, and they expressed a determined resolution to be prepared for the next congress.

Jeong HyunJeong, a teacher at Guri Church, remarked, "We teachers and students were passionate about getting together, even on Sundays, to prepare for this







congress. Members felt that it was difficult to study the Bible, but they became more and more used to it and worked together with one another. It was a great experience for us to learn how to read and study the Bible."

This Bible Exploration Congress emphasized cooperation rather than competition, and the process was more important than the result. Through cooperation with team members, participants were able to learn how to improve themselves and achieve their goals. Awards were not presented in order of highest- or lowest-ranking scores, but by calling the club's name first and then announcing their score. Also, prizes were not given according to the participants' scores. It was different from other competitive contests which include fighting against others using knowledge.

For the 2016 Pathfinders' Bible Exploration Congress, questions will be taken from the books of Mathew and John in the New Testament. A preliminary contest will be held by region on June 30, 2016, and the semi-final contest will be held before August 30. A final contest by KUC will be held at the Madalpy Sahmyook Retreat Center on October 16, 2016.

KUC MOU Agreement between **SHUC** and **Southwestern Adventist University**

Sahmyook Health University College (SHUC), Korea, and Southwestern Adventist University (SWAU), USA, signed an MOU for mutual cooperation. Five guests, including Dr. Ken Shaw, SWAU president, and Pastor John Moyer, president of Oklahoma Conference, visited SHUC for the agreement.

The purpose of the agreement is the exchange of professional work force, building a mutual network, and education and employment overseas. The MOU will provide SHUC students with opportunities for student internships, language training, and major field training at SWAU.

Dr. Park DooHan, SHUC president, noted that the college will be a specialized international college and that language instruction for freshmen continues to be strengthened every day. SWAU expressed interest in the positive leadership course at SHUC. There are great expectations for mutual exchange and cooperation.



Addiction Symposium

Sahmyook University (SU) along with Sahmyook Medical Centers in Seoul and Busan and Sahmyook Health University College co-hosted the International Lifestyle Medicine and Addiction Symposium from October 12 to 16, 2015. The conference was designed to introduce the Sahmyook Foundation's vision on health science and to provide the attendees with networking opportunities.

From October 12 to 15, there was a lifestyle medicine specialist certification program. The international symposium for addiction and lifestyle medicine and a lifestyle medicine lecture for healthcare workers took place on October 15, and an international addiction workshop was held on October 16.

Dr. Edward Phillips, professor of physical medicine and rehabilitation at Harvard Medical School, Dr. David Mee-Lee, chief editor of the *American Society of Addiction Medicine*, Dr. James Wu, president of the Asian Society of Lifestyle Medicine, and Dr. Joon Rhee, public health professor at Loma Linda University, were invited to the conference as the main speakers.



Sahmyook University is planning to leap to the level of a lifestyle medicine specialist training institute. "Since one of the core values of the schools is to make healthy people, we will have a system for systematic research and leadership training and global community service," said Dr. Kim SangRae, SU president.





Above: A team of six children on stage at MWKC Children's Bible Love and Praise Festival Below: An elementary school student participating in a Bible recitation test

Ruc MWKC Children's Bible Love and Praise Festival

The Middle West Korean Conference (MWKC) held their first MWKC Children's Bible Love and Praise Festival at the auditorium of Daejeon Sahmyook Middle School on November 7, 2015. There were about 600 attendees.

The festival included a preaching competition, a Bible recitation test, booth activities, and a praise contest. Seven children representing each district of MWKC participated in the preaching competition and delivered touching messages. At the Bible recitation test, 11 among 32 children were certified. Other children had the opportunity to memorize Bible verses through booth activities, such as "finding manna," "Bible bingo," and "building a tower of Bible." The festival was brought to a close with beautiful songs by members of 12 churches.

"This was a festival for children. I could see their potential once again. I am sure that the future of the Adventist Church is bright," said Pastor Kim HyunTae, associate director of MWKC children's ministries department.

astor Masaru Kawagoe is retired after 44 years of ministry, but is still an active speaker for the Japanese AWR radio program. On September 1, 2015, Pastor Kawagoe published a unique "Great Controversy Series Index" in Japanese. This index, composed of two volumes, has been well accepted by church members. One out of six or seven adult attendants obtained it in Japan.

This index is the first of its kind to be produced in Japanese, and it is very useful for pastors and church members as they include quotations from Ellen G. White's writings in their sermons or testimonies. Kawagoe says, "I will be happy if this index is helpful for those who read her books in Japanese."

Although the English Great Controversy series is composed of only five books, the Japanese edition includes eleven books with a total of 4.343 pages. If a person reads 12 pages a day, he or she can finish reading the entire series within a year.

Kawagoe reads 12 pages of the Great Controversy series out loud for 30 minutes every morning. As he does so, he underlines passages when he discovers new facts, comes to understand the meaning of Bible texts, and is impressed or excited by the reading. He says, "This devotional time is very effective in communicating with God and in understanding the Bible."

When Kawagoe was writing sermons, he sometimes thought, "I wonder which book contains that wonderful teaching and on which page. I want to quote it in my sermon." He would begin to look for it. Sometimes he could find it immediately. However, there was a time when it took him 20 to 30 minutes to find the passage he was looking for and another time when he gave up finding it. This is how he got the idea to produce a "Great Controversy Series Index," so that he could quickly locate passages from Ellen G. White's writings that he likes to use. After producing the index, he wanted it to benefit others who read the Great Controversy series in Japanese.



Each page of the "Great Controversy Series Index" in Japanese has four rows. The first row is for the Bible doctrine, newly discovered fact, meaning of the Bible text, interesting topic, etc., of each book of the series. The second row is the page number of the book, and the third row is the line number of the page. The fourth row is the page number of the 14 combined books, Light to Hope, including the Great Controversy series, Mount of Blessings, Christ's Object Lessons and Steps to Christ.

The contents of the index include an "Introduction" by the author and "Words of Recommendation" by Pastor Shinsaku Meichi, the president of East Japan Conference, and Pastor Tadaomi Shinmyo, former communication director of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division. Chapter 1 explains how to use the index. Chapter 2 is the index itself. Chapter 3 shares how the author's family become Seventh-day Adventists. Chapter 4 suggests ideas on how to benefit from the index. Chapter 5 tells of the importance of the index for the author, and chapter 6 introduces each book and the chapters of the Great Controversy series which deal with specific topics in detail, such as Jesus' baptism in Chapter 11 of Desire of Ages. Each one of these two volumes of the "Great Controversy Series Index" in Japanese has 56 pages, with 112 pages altogether.

JUC

Publication of "Great Controversy Series Index" in Japanese

Tadaomi Shinmyo NSD Former Communication Director





Chinese Union Mission Officers Preach at Seoul Chinese Church



From October 30 to 31, 2015, Seoul Chinese Church held an evangelistic series, which mainly targeted Chinese students studying in Korea. Robert Folkenberg and Daniel Jiao, president and secretary of Chinese Union Mission, respectively, were invited as the speakers, and Pastor Jo JangJin, associate director of the Leadership Training Center of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division, served as the translator.

On Friday night, Elder Folkenberg preached a sermon in Chinese. His preaching drew many people to the church, and the participants were eager to listen to the word of God. The two sermons by Elder Jiao on Sabbath morning and afternoon were powerful, and the congregations were touched by his sermons.

In addition to Chinese students studying in Korea, many Koreans also gathered together at the church. Because the chapel was fully packed and there were no available seats for latecomers, some people stood in the hallway to listen to the message.

Without the passion of church members for winning souls, this evangelistic series could not have been possible. The helping hands in the kitchen prepared a great meal for all those who attended the meetings. Donations were given in support of this evangelism. The support personnel for creating the banner, pamphlets and signboard were volunteers. The transportation services for people with mobility problems were also arranged by volunteers.

With God's grace, two souls decided to accept Jesus Christ as their personal Savior through baptism. "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose" (Romans 8:28).







L together with their new pastor and decide to have a planning session for the future of evangelism in the church. Many ideas are suggested.

Many questions are asked.

- 1. "Why do we believe we exist?"
- 2. "What do we think are the most important things for church members to be doing?"
- 3. "What role do we want the pastor to take in the future of the church?"
- 4. "What do we believe is the best area for evangelism in our community?"
- 5. "How much do we believe we can afford for our evangelistic budget?"
- 6. "What barriers do we believe will limit our success?'
- 7. "How much prayer do we believe is necessary to be successful?" The church is excited as it

determines the answers to these questions. The people agree to follow and support the pastor in the work of evangelism. Many days are set aside for prayer sessions asking God to bless the plans. A budget is set and the

church members give sacrificially to raise the funds needed for their plan. All is launched and

A couple of years later, after all the great planning and sacrifice, there are only meager results for all the hard work. There were some baptisms, but although some of those

who were baptized remained in the church, many have already gone away and have not returned.

What went wrong?

Was our faith too small? Did we not pray envough? Were the people not dedicated enough? Was the pastor not working hard enough? Are we working for God? Are we not making great plans for His ministry? Why is God not blessing us with great results?

We do not understand why such great hope ended in poor results. The pastor moves on, we get a new pastor and the sequence begins all over again.

I would suggest that we may not be asking the right questions. We need to also realize that there are no right answers to wrong questions. We train pastors to have what we think are the right answers, but we really should be training them to make sure the church asks the right questions.

As a local church pastor, I have been asked by the church, "Pastor, what is your vision for the church?" My answer: "I do not know!"

This may sound like bad leadership, but it is the right answer for Adventist pastors. "I do not know, but I know how we can ask God for His vision for the church. After all, that is the vision God will bless! My vision may not match God's, so I dare not voice it. Let's ask the right questions and get God's answers!"

So what might the right questions look like?

- 1. "Lord, will you show us why we exist in this community?"
- 2. "Lord, will you reveal to us what is important for your disciples to do?"
- 3. "Lord, will you show us the correct role of the pastor in our church?"
- 4. "Lord, will you reveal to us where in the community You desire us to work at this time?'
- 5. "Lord, will you supply the resources we need for success in what You have asked us to do?"
- 6. "Lord, will you remove all the barriers that may be in our way?"
- 7. "Lord, will you accept our prayers as we seek to be in Your will and vision for our church?"

Through study of the Bible, spending time in prayer together, and seeking God to reveal His will to the church, great discoveries will be made, answers to the right questions will be found, and great success will be accomplished.

I have found as a local church pastor that God is eager to reveal His will for each local church. God is eager to show us how to evangelize the community that He loves. and God's wisdom and power are available to His chosen people. Great success in growing God's church and retention will come as the church asks the right questions.

> **David Ripley** Former NSD Ministerial **Association Director**





κυς The 11th MWKC Women's Mission Congress

The 11th Middle West Korean Conference (MWKC) Women's Mission Congress was held at the 40th Anniversary Memorial Hall of Mission Work in MWKC on October 17, 2015. About 200 members attended the meeting to reconfirm their mission.

"A large proportion of Korean Adventist members are women who are involved in many things. I hope the church will grow because of their efforts," said Pastor Yoon JongHab, MWKC president.

The congress began with a report on the evangelistic meetings held in Mongolia from May 10 to 17 of this year. "During the meetings, we truly experienced God's providence, and eight people were newly born again," reported Mrs. Kim JooDon, overseas mission director of the MWKC Women's Association.

Local churches then presented different mission opportunities. Daejeon Saehaneul Church introduced the Descendants of Dorcas, a small group that makes clothes together. Janghang Church introduced a small group that participates in a mission to share clothing with overseas countries. Anmyeon Central Church introduced laughter therapy mission work, and Ipjang Church shared stories about their children's ministries through small group activities even though the church is located in a rural area.

HisHands Dedication in **Downtown District of WCKC**

The downtown district of the West Central Korean Conference invited Pastor Han SukHee, HisHands coordinator of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD), to conduct a dedication service at Donamdong Church on October 24, 2015. Pastor Han aroused the missionaries' passion for mission, saying, "There are many reasons for evangelistic failure, but the most fundamental and honest reason is that we don't do it. Evangelism is not an issue of success or failure, but an issue of obedience and disobedience. When we go out to the evangelistic field, following the commission of the Lord, He regards it as success."

The local district mission association of the downtown area is composed of Donamdong Church, Shinchon Church, Seoul Central Church, Miadong Church, Dobong Haneulbom Church, and Changdong Church. They visit house to house every Wednesday to preach the gospel.

Twenty-four newly dedicated HisHands missionaries gave their pledge as missionaries before God and the Church. "I will look up to Christ on the cross every second, and I will put all of my heart and passion into mission work."



Medical missionaries certified by Wildwood College of Health Evangelism



Completion Ceremony for Wildwood Medical Missionary Korean Online Course

n November 11, 2015, the Korean Union Conference (KUC) Health Ministries and Welfare Ministries Department held a completion ceremony for the Lay Institute for Global Health Training (LIGHT) online course of Wildwood College of Health Evangelism. This program is a medical missionary training course that teaches unique Adventist health messages. More than 10,000 students in about 80 countries have completed this course up to now. The LIGHT is a supporting ministry devoted to train and equip medical missionaries. It provides shortterm courses, online education, and 6-month or long-term courses. The online course offered in the Korean language, which opened last June, offers 15 lectures including health subjects, such as Principles of Health & Natural Healing, Nutrition, Health Evangelism, and Health Expo, and spiritual subjects, such as Christian Living, Finishing the Work, and Evangelism & Soul-winning.

At the completion ceremony, which took place at the KUC auditorium, certificates were given to 117 students who finished 140 hours of classes. "The Adventist health message is urgent and important, and it is good to train medical missionaries to help people in pain. God gave the Adventist Church health messages because He wants us to be a channel of blessings," said Pastor Shin WonShik.

"When we do medical mission work, physical treatment is not our only goal in accordance with the Bible and Adventist faith. To cure disease is a chance to lead the patient to God. Thus, the fundamental purpose of medical mission work is to restore the relationship between God and human beings and between a person and another," said Pastor Kim DaeSung, KUC president.

Representing the graduates, Mrs. Hong SoonAe, Mrs. Kim ChunGyeong, and Mrs. Lee JeongHee shared their testimonies. "It was not easy to study with online videos, but it was good to study in the Korean language anytime and anywhere. Now, I can share natural healing methods and health messages with others. I will try to help and serve neighbors with well-prepared words."

Ms. Joanna Kim, the Korean online course director, encouraged the graduates. "We are all proud medical missionaries who devote ourselves for the tremendous gospel mission. The time is serious and urgent, and our duty is huge and enormous. Modern natural healing is not just a method or a therapy, but a noble message based on the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy. The presence of the latter rain and the Holy Spirit is near. God will open the way and guide us."

The KUC Health Ministries and Welfare Ministries Department will continue to support graduates for medical mission work in cooperation with each conference.

Han SukHee NSD Communication Director







Above: Local people receive free hairstyling from volunteers of Taiwan Conference. Below: The conference introduces various books published by an Adventist publisher in Taiwan.

Mission Day at Taiwan Conference

By Jim Hsu – Director of Taiwan Conference Sabbath School Ministries

On October 19, 2015, the Taiwan Conference had a Mission Day event at Taichung. For a month, we had given out leaflets to promote this event to neighbors in Taichung and had prayed for souls. God blessed us by sending twenty-five souls to enjoy this event.

We prepared various activities, which were intended for our neighbors, including praise and worship, aerobics class, free hairstyling service, and a health seminar. We also gave out books and other gifts.

Our mission day began with prayer and worship. During the praise and worship session, I taught various praise songs to the participants. For most of them, the songs were totally new. They actively learned the songs and enjoyed singing along.

At the health seminar and aerobics class, we shared the health-related message of the Adventist Church. We also gave them Taiwan *Home and Health* and other books which are published by Taiwan Signs of Times Publication to introduce them to Jesus and our church.

Taiwan Conference was able to build a bridge between the conference and the local community through this event. We see a possibility of leading our neighbors to Jesus and completing our mission.



I was born in Cambodia and grew up in a family of six children. My father worked for the government, and my mother made money by selling clothes, perfume, and fabric from house to house by bicycle. Since my father spent money for his own enjoyment, such as drinking alcohol with his friends, my family lived in poverty. Family arguments and violence were normal for our family. Mom was often in tears, and we all lived in fear most of the time.

When I was 16 years old, I decided to quit school and earn a living for my family. I started a small business as a dressmaker at a local market. During that time, my mom got to know Jesus through her neighbor. My brothers and sisters could neither accept her decision nor did they go to church.

One day, one of my customers came to my workshop with her sister. She ran a women's club in Phnom Penh illegally. The club was designed to raise and train young women to become concubines for the high-class and the rich. After introducing her sister to me, the woman tried to persuade me to work at her club as a dressmaker. When I refused her proposal, she started threatening me.

My mom recommended that I visit a pastor for prayer, and so I did. The next day, the woman came again. She commanded me, at gunpoint, to take dresses to her car. I was so scared. I went to church again and prayed to God with the pastor. After that, I never saw the woman again. From then on, I started to believe in the mighty power of Jesus, and I went

to church every Sabbath. All my brothers and sisters followed me.

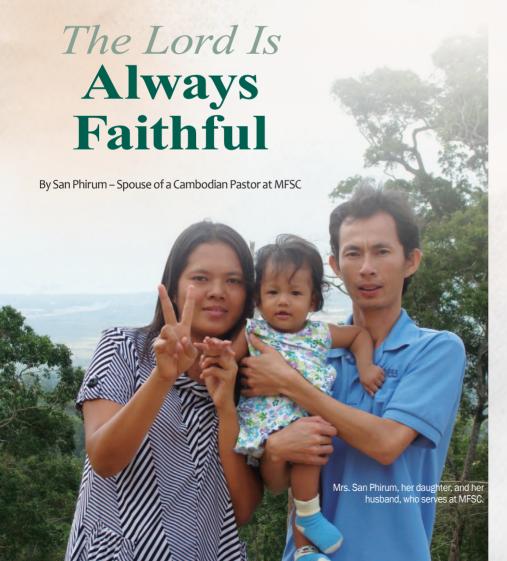
After I became a Christian, we faced persecution from neighbors and relatives and especially from my father. He swore at me almost every day. Every Sabbath, when we were about to go to church, he stood at the door blocking the way. He tried his best to stop our faith, even using violence, but we remained faithful to God.

Finally, I asked my mom to move out of the house with my brothers and sisters. From that day I was the breadwinner of the family. I started to run a new business in home decorating. God blessed me a lot through this job so that I could support my family and put my brothers and sisters through school.

In July 2006, I got married and moved to live with my husband at Asia-Pacific International University (formerly called Mission College), Thailand. With the little income I received from selling clothes and food, I put my three brothers and a sister through the university. I supported them until they passed the English courses and received scholarships.

Now, all of my brothers and sisters have graduated from university. Two of them are working in Bomrong Rath Hospital in Thailand. My sister works for Cambodia Mission as the secretary, and my mom also works for Cambodian Mission as a church planter. My husband and I are in Korea. As for my father, he now feels proud of his children and has started to view Christianity in a positive way. He now protects his family and stands up for Christians when anyone says something bad about them.

We thank God for His kindness and faithfulness. He is the one who took us out of despair. God is good. God is grace.



God Is the Source of Our Cheerful Spirit

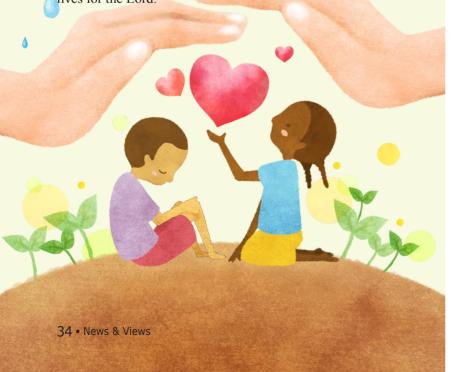
By Bae JinSeong - Director of 1000MM India Branch

The training session for the 12th batch of 1000 Missionary Movement (1000MM) missionaries in the India branch began on June 14, 2015, and continued for about three months. It took place at the office of the 1000MM India branch in Falakata, West Bengal. Thirty-three missionaries came from Mizoram, Manipur, West Bengal, Meghalaya, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh. Every day they gathered at 4:30 a.m. to begin their day. They finished their daily schedule at 9:30 p.m. During the three-month training session, they learned many things in preparation for the ministry that was ahead of them. This included memorizing more than 200 Bible verses.

One day, just before breakfast, it began to rain hard. All of a sudden, the bamboo tent, which serves as the temporary cafeteria, could no longer bear the weight of the rain and caved in. All the staff and missionaries struggled to set up the bamboo tent again. It took more than an hour for the rain to subside.

The wonderful thing was that nobody complained about the poor facility. Everyone stayed around the cafeteria and tried to help. All were cheerful even in this difficult situation. Who could be the source of this cheerful spirit? It could not be anyone or anything else other than God.

I am here as a teacher to guide the missionaries, but I often end up learning wonderful lessons from them. Their eagerness for the Lord touches my heart. It gives me immense joy to send out these precious young missionaries to work for the Lord in various parts of India. I request each reader to remember these 12th batch missionaries who have dedicated a year of their lives for the Lord.





Golden Angels Ann Truth Is Mar

The 12th group of Golden Angels missionaries held a thanksgiving concert at Byeollae Church in Korea on November 7, 2015. As usual, the concert was held during the Annual Council of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) so that the council attendees could enjoy the beautiful time of praise.

The theme of this year's concert was "Truth Is Marching On." Over the past year, the 12th group members have gone around to the different countries in the NSD territories and beyond to deliver the truth through their music.

The NSD youth and music ministries director, Pastor Kim NakHyung, welcomed the audience. In his remarks, he said, "By the grace of God, the NSD has been able to carry out music ministries through the



ual Concert:

ching On

By Kim NakHyung - NSD Youth Director

Golden Angels team since 2004. The Golden Angels members have spread God's message to the unreached territory in the NSD. Without His help and power, we could not have moved people's hearts and carried out this great commission."

Toward the end of the concert, Pastor Jairyong Lee, NSD president, gave appreciation plaques to each of the Golden Angels members as well as thanks to God for working through the singing missionaries for the past twelve years. Also, the new members of the Golden Angels 13th group were introduced.

The Golden Angels, a mission-driven singing group, was organized in 2004 to assist Pioneer Mission Movement evangelistic meetings within the NSD territory. It was a blessing from God that in 2016, the total number of Golden Angels missionaries over the years reached more than 100.





Above: Pastor Lee expresses his gratitute to a member of the Golden Angels 12th group.

Below: The Golden Angels 12th group with Pastor Kim NakHyung (second row, left), Pastor

Jairyong Lee (second row, 3rd from left), and Pastor Park KunChun (second row, right)



MISSIONARIES ON THE CAMPUS

"Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve" (Colossians 3:23, 24)

What is it like to be assigned to the campus? This is just one of the queries that people ask campus missionaries. They may think that being a missionary on campus is comfortable yet boring being in a serene and refreshing environment, away from the hustles and bustles of the busy city streets or the humble surroundings of the far-flung mission fields.

For this term, 14 missionaries from different batches have been stationed on the campus – three in the Media and Maranatha office, two in the farm and nine in singing ministry. Since many wonder how campus missionaries live and serve, we took the time to interview some of them.

What do you do on the campus and how do you give your best in your assigned work?

As a part of HISM (Here am I, Send me: 1000MM's official singing ministers), I have singing practice five times a week. Aside from that, I also clean the campus and exercise every weekday with the campus missionaries. I do my best by diligently practicing songs every day. I entrusted my talent to God in this ministry, so I keep on praying that the Lord will help us to be successful singers.

- Airen Palarao (HISM)

What can you say about being a missionary on the campus?

For me, being a missionary on the campus is a blessing because I have the opportunity to serve here and in other places, too. On weekdays, I edit *Maranatha* magazine, make videos and weekly magazines, and/







or go to the embassy or airport. On Sabbaths, I join prison ministry in the morning and do house visitations in the afternoon.

Hwang YoonHwan (Media)

How would you describe your campus life?

Being a missionary on the farm is like being a missionary in the field. The plants are the people, and we are the caretakers. I'm doing my best to take care of the farm because the produce will generate income that can support many missionaries financially. That's why I'm happy to be here.

- Ernel Cadiente (Farm)

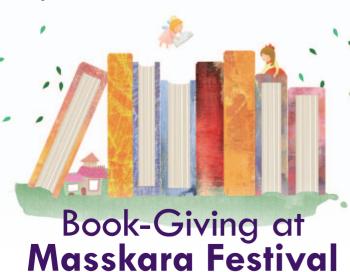


Twenty-Two Missionaries Sent Out for Mission in South Korea

The 1000 Missionary Movement sent out twenty-two missionaries to South Korea on November 12, 2015. They are the second batch of missionaries sent to South Korea this year. All of these missionaries successfully completed 10 days of training, which included Korean language and culture classes, English-teaching using Steps to Christ, house visitations, orientation on

missionary policy, testimonies from senior missionaries, Bible reading, and work education.

For a year or more, they will be teaching and preaching the good news of salvation in their assigned mission schools and churches. Let us continually pray for them as they serve in the "Land of the Morning Calm."



In the third week of October 2015, Bacolod city in the Philippines was filled with people and sounds of festive celebration. Despite the unpredictable weather, thousands from near and far came to celebrate the world-renowned Masskara Festival. This momentous event, which means "multitude of faces," happens only once a year, and Michelle and Glecelle, 45th batch missionaries, never let this time pass without doing something for the ministry.

This past October, with prayers in their hearts and books in their hands, these two women went to the plaza of Bacolod City to hand out books. "We gave out 150 Hiligaynon Bible study guides," Michelle reported. "Some people were reluctant at first, but upon knowing that the books were free, they received them gladly. Some even asked for more!" In spite of the rainy weather, the missionaries enjoyed doing ministry and seeing people gladly receiving the free religious books they offered.



THE 14TH GROUP PMM DEDICATION SERVICE







NSD PMM coordinator Kim SiYoung and GC vice president Artur Stele
 NSD president Jairyong Lee encourages the PMM missionaries.
 Adventist church leaders pray for the newly dedicated missionaries.

The 14th Pioneer Mission Movement (PMM) dedication service was held on November 7, 2015, at Byeollae Church, Korea, during the Annual Council of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD). Nine pastors and their families have volunteered for six years of frontier mission for the purpose of church planting and saving souls.

Dr. Artur Stele, vice president of the General Conference, encouraged the PMM pastors with a powerful message. He referred to the wonderful promise that God gave to Moses, that God would always be with him. "Now go, I will help you speak and will teach you what to say" (Exodus 4:12).

Dr. Jairyong Lee, NSD president, commended the pastors for their sacrificial missionary spirit as he presented the plaque of missionary appointment. These pastors have been assigned to five different countries: Minsub Kim – Taiwan; Soonbum Kwon – Taiwan; Noyoung Park – Taiwan; Seokgu Kim – Taiwan; Sukjin Jun – Philippines; Seungjoon Moon – China; Namwoong Jeong – China; Jinsung Park – Turkey; Sangeun Oh – Peru. The pastors will receive 100 hours of intensive missionary training before they depart for their assigned countries. The training focuses on crosscultural ministry, including church planting, living in a foreign country, methods of reaching people, spiritual commitment, community transformation, and servant leadership in mission.

In 2003, the first five PMM missionary families were dispatched to foreign mission fields. There have been 102 missionary families sent out since the beginning of the PMM program. As of October 2015, 48 families are currently serving in 16 different countries.

Kim SiYoung NSD Adventist Mission



