



**NORTHERN ASIA-PACIFIC DIVISION**  
THE MOST CHALLENGING FIELD

# NEWS & VIEWS

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July/August 2019



Public Campus Ministries (PCM) leaders in Mongolia held an evangelistic series from April 30 to May 4, 2019. On the last day of the series, 60 young people were reborn by baptism.

# Don't Wait Any Longer! Be a Part of TMI!

Rembrandt was a Dutch painter in the 17th century. He is famous for his great paintings, such as *Night Watch*, *Self-Portrait*, and *The Ascension of Christ*. In 1634, he married Saskia, daughter of the mayor of Amsterdam, but she died because of an illness eight years later. He lost himself because of that, but he met God and got back on his feet, leaving behind masterpieces, including *The Supper at Emmaus*. Whenever his friends asked him for the secrets to a good painting, he answered, "Before asking how to draw or paint, just hold the brush, and start drawing."

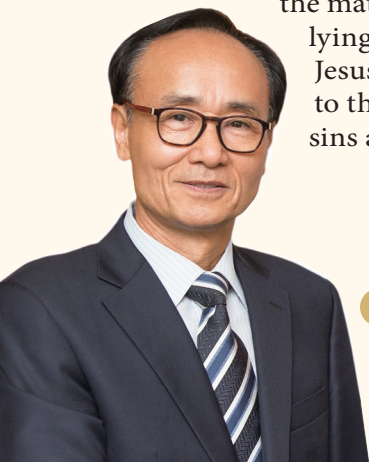
Among the four gospels, the book of Mark is called the gospel of action. In this book, the Greek adverb **euthus**, meaning "right now, or immediately," is used 41 times, indicating fast movement from one action to the other. Mark also uses many historical present verbs, about 150 times, which helps to express past events as happening presently for vivid description. In addition, the gospel gives the sense of realism by using Aramaic words, the language people used in those days. It mentions Aramaic words, such as "Talitha Koum," "Ephphatha," and "Abba." It seems that the Gospel of Mark gives the impression of a drama rushing toward the climax of the cross. It not only gives evidence of the scenes, but it also tells us, "There is no time to waste. Spread the gospel right now! Listen, believe, and practice immediately!"

Mark chapter two portrays the positive actions of a paralyzed man's friends. Despite the cold reality of the people blocking their path to Jesus, they were able to find an unexpected way; they removed some parts of the roof, let down the mat on which the sick friend was lying, and led him to Jesus. When Jesus saw their active faith, He said to the paralyzed man, "Child, your sins are forgiven" (Mark 2:5). They

didn't use a common way, but a realistic method that best suited the situation.

Total Member Involvement (TMI) is not just a plan, nor is it just a slogan. TMI is the act of putting the smallest services into immediate practice. We cannot limit ourselves just by using very few methods. Hence, TMI includes very broad areas and uses different approaches. TMI, in other words, is daily evangelism. Other than the suggested methods, the most important thing is to have the passion to bring souls to Jesus, even if we have to remove some parts of the roof to make a way, and to ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

"Wherever you are, you can begin at once. Opportunities are within the reach of everyone. Take up the work for which you are held responsible, the work that should be done in your home and in your neighborhood. Wait not for others to urge you to action" (*Welfare Ministry*, 119).



**Kim SiYoung, President**  
Northern Asia-Pacific Division



## NSD MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division of Seventh-day Adventists is to call all people within its territory to become disciples of Jesus Christ, to proclaim the everlasting gospel embraced by the three angels' messages (Revelation 14:6-12) and to prepare them for Christ's soon return.

# TABLE of NEWS & VIEWS CONTENTS

## Officers

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- INSPIRATION** Don't Wait Any Longer! Be a Part of TMI! / 2  
**COVER STORY** The Impossible Made Possible! 1K Youth & PCM Evangelistic Series in Mongolia / 4  
**NEWS FOCUS** First Worldwide Adventist-Muslim Relations Conference / 6

## DEPARTMENTAL & REGIONAL NEWS

NSD Midyear Committee in Hong Kong **8** Military Chaplaincy Issues Conference Held in Silver Spring **9** Healthy Families: Family Ministries Centennial Conference **10** NSD Sabbath School and Personal Ministries Workshop **12** A Smile Makes a Change: It Is Written Medical Team in Mongolia **13** A Healthy Chinese New Year **14** Spiritual Life on Campus: AAA Visits Adventist Universities in Korea **15** Revival at Banqiao Happiness Church, Taiwan **18** WCKC Launches One-Stop Support Center **19** Korean Local Conferences Hold Pathfinder Camporees **20** A Joyful Health Ministry in Hong Kong **22** Evangelistic Meeting in Gwangju Wolgok Church **23** The First Korean PCM-ACT Gathering in Europe **24** Prayer Conference at Loma Linda University **25** Adventist Institutions in Seoul Hold a Festival Together for Their Neighbors **26** A Mighty Day of Prayers **27** Evangelistic Meeting in Xindian Church, Taiwan **28** 2019 World Publishing House Congress Meets in Israel **29** Foot Care Volunteers' Association Goes to Local Festival Near Seoul **30** H<sub>2</sub>O Produces Four Souls: Evangelistic Effort of Ilsan English Church **31** KUC Holds Religious Freedom Seminar **32**

- Special Feature** Historical Milestone for Japan / **33**  
**1000MM** Life of Gratitude: A Story of a Missionary in Kenya / **35**  
 My Grace Is Sufficient for You / **36**  
 A Virtuous Cycle of the Gospel / **37**  
**Golden Angels** Golden Angels Mission in the Land of the Rising Sun / **38**

Vision  
One Million  
2020

Mission First in All Activities to Reach the World

News & Views is published bi-monthly by the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Its mission is to share the news of mission activities and views of mission of the NSD with the world church so that the Second Coming of Jesus Christ will be hastened.



# THE IMPOSSIBLE MADE POSSIBLE!

## 1K Youth & PCM Evangelistic Series in Mongolia

**Kim NakHyung**  
NSD Youth Ministries Director



1



2

1. A baptismal ceremony was held on Sabbath.
2. GC PCM director, Dr. Moon JiWan (right), served as one of the guest speakers for the evangelistic series.
3. Over 250 young people came up to the stage, declaring their decision to follow Jesus and commit to a life of mission and service.



3

Earlier this year, Public Campus Ministries (PCM) leaders in Mongolia planned for what seemed impossible—an evangelistic series where 1,000 young people would attend. Although it was hard to believe that it could happen, PCM leaders prayed with hope and love that God would fill the place with His angels and with 1,000 young people. They also prayed for the Holy Spirit to lead and guide them throughout the week.

The praise team had one last practice before the program was scheduled to begin. Requests for prayers were sent out via Facebook “to make the impossible possible and for miracles for what they had prayerfully been planning for.” In faith, the evangelistic series was entitled the 1K Youth & PCM Evangelistic Series, with the subtitle of “Come, Follow Me! — iFollow.”



1. PCM missionaries in Mongolia.
2. Joanna Kim presented health lectures during the evangelistic meetings.
3. A special performance by some Mongolian youth.



On April 30, 2019, the first night of the event, there was visible evidence that God was answering prayers. The place was filling up. A Facebook message declared, “To God be the glory! Continue to pray for us!!”

On the 4th night, a miracle happened in Ulaanbaatar. More than 1,000 young people attended the event with 90% being non-Adventists. More than 250 young people walked on stage declaring their decision to follow Jesus and to live a life of mission and service. On May 4, the first group of 60 young people descended to the baptismal waters to start a new life with Jesus!

God surpassed all expectations, and He taught us that with Him nothing is impossible! According to Pastor Munkh-Orgil Lkhagvaa, youth ministries director of the Mongolia Mission (MM), this was the largest gathering ever in Mongolian Adventist history. He also expressed his belief that the amazing work for God will continue to happen in Mongolia. Adventism in Mongolia began in the 1990s; it is one of the youngest Adventist missions in

the world. Currently, only about 800 to 1,000 Adventists attend Sabbath services regularly. These young souls will definitely change Adventism in Mongolia.

It was a blessing to have Dr. Moon JiWan, General Conference PCM director, as a gospel speaker and Joanna Kim, health instructor, as a health speaker who fully reflected and delivered God’s infinite love and grace to the young people. Citing a Bible verse in 1 Corinthians, “Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ,” Dr. Moon urged young people not to follow worldly values but to follow Christ Jesus and to preach the gospel to the world.

Special thanks to MM president Kim YoHan and Pastor Munkh-Orgil, who organized the event, and the team of PCM Ambassadors, who worked tirelessly on campus to impart the Word of God throughout Mongolia.



# FIRST WORLDWIDE ADVENTIST- MUSLIM RELATIONS CONFERENCE

Many Adventists like referring to Muslims as cousins. Such a title comes from mutual understanding and dialogue with one other. Muslims, as descendants of Ishmael, can be called cousins because Ishmael was the step-brother of Isaac. With a view to understanding these cousins, becoming friends with them, and finding multifaceted ways to lead them to the true light, the 1st Worldwide Adventist-Muslim Relations (AMR) Conference was held in Dubai, UAE, from June 10 to 13, 2019.

Around 260 administrators and leaders in charge of AMR or mission in each Division gathered to share some specific ideas on how to support mission for Cousins. Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) has no Muslim countries. That's the reason the NSD has not really thought about mission for Cousins up to now. But Islam is the second largest religion after Christianity. Strategically, they are making painstaking efforts to spread their religion in many Christian countries. Recently many young Cousins came rushing into Korea and Japan for different reasons, such as finding decent jobs. In the wake of such an influx of Cousins into cities, small groups are being organized for their religious practices.

AMR Conference provided an eye-opening experience for all the delegates from the NSD—one delegate from the Division office, five from Korean Union Conference, one from Japan Union Conference, three from Chinese Union Mission, and two from Taiwan Conference. The twelve delegates who attended the AMR Conference felt the need of mission for Cousins.

## NEWS FOCUS

Ted Wilson, president of the General Conference (GC), gave a speech during the opening session and talked about his early childhood experience. He grew up in Egypt, hearing the Muslim morning prayer every day while his parents served as missionaries. He underscored the significance of Adventist mission for Cousins, the second largest religious group. With his ample experiences and broad knowledge of Cousins, Dr. Petras Bahadur, director of the GC Global Center for AMR, presented the Adventist vision for Cousins and mission, together with unceasing administrative support.

Some scholars and experts on the Muslims were also invited to the conference. They presented a biblical interpretation about Cousins in order to motivate leaders to be involved positively in mission for them. In group discussion time,

each Division had its own meeting with delegates and made tangible action plans for Cousins.

Dr. Joo MinHo, NSD Adventist Mission director, led NSD's group discussion and presented what NSD would do later on for Cousins.

1. Division level – NSD has to stimulate administrators in Unions and Conferences by having a seminar or forum so that they may open their eyes in terms of mission for the Muslims.
2. Academic level – There are several colleges and universities in the NSD. The Division asks theology professors to study and present about Cousin's religion and culture so that church leaders might know how to understand them and become friends with them in order to lead them to the true light.
3. Union & Conference level – In collaboration with Unions and

Conferences, the Division should provide a training course for local pastors after preparing some materials so that the local churches might engage in the mission for Cousins through various community services meeting the needs of Cousins.

Recently two Korean churches have served some Cousins: Ansan Multi-cultural Family Service Center and Onamri Church. Something these two churches have in common is providing Korean language class for foreigners. That service has given these two churches the chance to contact a few of the Cousins.



**Joo MinHo**

NSD Adventist Mission Director



Mickael Mok and his wife, Yamaji Hiroshi, Dan Lyu, Joo MinHo, and Mark Tseng. They are participants from China, Japan, and Taiwan.



Attendees of NSD midyear meeting at Hong Kong Adventist Hospital – Tsuen Wan

# NSD Midyear Committee in Hong Kong



**Yutaka Inada**  
NSD Executive Secretary

The Northern Asia-Pacific Division EXCOM members had a midyear meeting at the Hong Kong Adventist Hospital – Tsuen Wan from May 21 to 24, 2019. The reports from each department were focused on Total Member Involvement.

One of the reports was from Youth Rush Japan, a student literature evangelism that originally started in California, USA. We invited the leader of Youth Rush Japan, Daniel Fukuda, who gave a very enthusiastic report. Three years ago, Pastor Shimada, Japan Union Conference (JUC) president, decided to adapt the methods of Youth Rush from California. Many JUC leaders were concerned that it would not be well accepted in Japan, but the Japanese young people proved them otherwise. Many of the Adventist academy and college students responded positively and joined the literature evangelism.

Through this ministry, they were able to meet God and experience His miracles. JUC then expanded the age limit for this ministry and developed “All Rush Japan,” which was open to all ages in order to give everyone a chance to experience partnership with the Lord.

Dr. Ron Clouzet, NSD ministerial secretary, gave a series of lectures on evangelism. The topics were “Evangelism and Leadership,” “Reaching Our Large Cities,” and “Prayer as Strategy.” He also shared “30 Important Lessons Learned on Effective Evangelism,” which was based on his experience conducting successful evangelistic meetings and teaching evangelism in three continents for many years.

In between the meetings, the attendees also had the chance to visit Hong Kong Adventist Hospital – Stubbs Road, and saw how God has

achieved many things in Hong Kong through the hospital.

We are looking forward to seeing each other at the annual council with many good reports of God’s great work in our division.





# Military Chaplaincy Issues Conference Held in Silver Spring

A unique conference was held from April 10 to 11, 2019, at the General Conference headquarters entitled “The State of Military Service in the Seventh-day Adventist Church Conference.” Invitees participating from every division were the directors and associate directors of Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries (ACM), Public Affairs and Religious Liberty, and the World Service Organization. Representing the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) were Drs. Ron and Lisa Clouzet, Pastor Kim SunHwan, Pastor Lee JiChoon, and Pastor Lee GeeHo.

A number of excellent papers were presented by various church scholars, such as Drs. Jiří Moskala, Ganoune Diop, Barna Magyarosi, David Trim, John Reeve, and Cedric E. W. Vine. The tenor of these papers dealing with what the Bible said about war, Israel’s engagement in battles, and related issues, was not only that the Seventh-day Adventist Church is correct in advocating non-combatancy and Sabbath faithfulness for Adventist soldiers serving in the military, but also that the Bible would not support volunteering to join the military. The Christian is to abstain from any form of violence. The wars engaged by Israel were holy wars, conducted and initiated by God Himself. When Israel’s kings made those decisions on their own, negative consequences followed, sometimes for a long time.

Former military chaplains, such as Drs. Darold Bigger and Jim North, also presented papers. Their view was more nuanced, even allowing for Christians to serve God and their country in rather equal parts. Everyone acknowledged that it would be much better for young people to refrain from serving in the military, if given the choice.

Dr. Ron Clouzet, as ACM director, presented a report on the state of Adventist youth and the military in the NSD territory. Other division representatives did the same. The international conference was very informative and instructive, and it gave some guidance for leaders to counsel young people who would be interested in serving in their country’s military if given the choice. The Church, however, would support those choosing to serve.



**Ron Clouzet**  
NSD Adventist Chaplaincy  
Ministries Director



Pastor Kim SunHwan,  
Lee GeeHo, and  
Lee JiChoon, with  
Elder Ted Wilson, GC  
president, and Drs.  
Ron and Lisa Clouzet



Dr. Willie and Elaine Oliver, GC family ministries directors

# Healthy Families: Family Ministries Centennial Conference



**Lisa Clouzet**

NSD Family Ministries Director

This year, Family Ministries celebrates their 100th year anniversary. For this reason, the family ministries departments from the Chinese-speaking territories of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD)—China Union Mission, Hong Kong-Macau Conference, and Taiwan Conference—came together for a conference at the Taiwan Sanyu Health Education Center from April 17 to 20, 2019. About 35 leaders attended; they reviewed the history of family ministries as well as participated in seminars and workshops.

The speakers for the conference were Dr. Willie and Elaine Oliver, General Conference (GC) family ministries directors; Dr. Lisa Clouzet, NSD family ministries director; and Dr. and Mrs. James Wu, the CEO and manager of the Sanyu Health Education Center. They talked about essential elements in today's families, including emotional, spiritual, relational, and physical health. The family ministries leaders were inspired by the lectures and practices the speakers presented on becoming intimate allies with their spouses as examples in their

local churches. Only when couples receive Christ into their hearts and homes will they experience long-lasting marriages, peace, and happiness. It is an art to keep marriages fresh and beautiful. This kind of relationship in marriage and in the home is a representation of our wonderful, heavenly home.

The participants enjoyed the beautiful environment as well as the healthy and delicious meals prepared by the health center. Unforgettable memories were made through worshipping, learning, and fellowshiping together.

Here are some of the comments and thoughts of the conference attendees:

"I am grateful for the seminars. I learned the essentials that make a house a home. Only when the presence of Christ is in the family will it turn into a happy Garden of Eden. It is my hope that every Adventist home would be a heavenly home. I believe that God will do miracles in every home."

"I experienced the love and good care of God in this event. He knew my thoughts and listened to my prayers.

God granted me messages from the excellent speakers. Last, but not least, I am grateful for the diligent reading of the Bible and for the chance to listen to the instructions of God.”

“I was so happy that I had the chance to participate in the seminars and workshops of the Family Ministries centennial event. To me, the most memorable words the speaker said were, ‘marriage not only makes us happy, but it also makes us holy.’ We learned a lot of skills on how to maintain a wholesome marriage, but the main one is to build our marriage on Jesus, the Rock.”

“I give thanks to our Heavenly Father for providing this good opportunity for us to join in the event. May our Father bless each of us to have a healthy and happy family, and to help our homes become little lights to shine into the families that surround us.”

As Ellen White once wrote, “Out of the heart are ‘the issues of life’; and the heart of the community, of the church, and of the nation is the household. The well-being of society, the success of the church, the prosperity of the nation, depend upon home influences” (*The Adventist Home*, 15).

The family and its influence is so important! We praise God for His blessings and guidance during the past 100 years!

Hong Kong-Macao group with the 2019 family ministries sharing book



The Sabbath School and Personal Ministries (SS/PM) department of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) conducted a workshop from February 13 to 15, 2019. After implementing initiatives and programs since the beginning of this quinquennium, it was necessary to evaluate and plan for the future work of the department. Joining the workshop were the SS/PM directors from Union Conferences and the Attached Field of the NSD, as well as coordinators of the Bible Correspondence School. The workshop was held at the NSD headquarters in Ilsan, Korea.

Two full days were spent sharing, evaluating, and planning together. The directors gave a report of what had been done in their territories. They especially emphasized specific programs that have been considered successful and promising for the growth of the church.

Pastors from the Japan Union Conference (JUC) highlighted the effort of the JUC in promoting the Bible Correspondence School through social media. Pastor Akeri Suzuki, honorary associate director of NSD SS/PM, shared new information from the General Conference advisory about how to properly run the Bible Correspondence School.

Some of the pastors focused on their ministries by operating in small groups. Pastor David Ng, SS/PM

director of the Chinese Union Mission, testified how powerful small group ministry is in increasing Sabbath School participation. Pastor Wu Yi-Tun, SS/PM director of the Taiwan Conference, reported that they have adopted Disciples in Action (DNA, another name for the Sabbath School Action Unit) for Total Member Involvement this year.

Pastor Lee ByungJu, SS/PM director of the Korean Union Conference, introduced the “5 Steps 2 Cycles” program, in which church members practice the five steps of winning souls—dedication, contact, build-up, evangelistic meeting, and retention—twice a year.

The group came to the conclusion that there are four areas of ministry that need to be highlighted and promoted: 1) dynamic Sabbath School program, 2) evangelistic small group ministry, 3) well-managed Bible Correspondence School, and 4) intensive retention and reclamation initiatives.

The group was committed to updating the current strategic plan of the SS/PM department, making some adjustments based on the felt-needs in the fields. Regardless of who will direct the work of the department in the next quinquennium, it is good to have a continuous plan to strengthen the contribution of the department to what the Adventist Church is promoting, Total Member Involvement.

## NSD Sabbath School and Personal Ministries Workshop

**Richard Sabuin**  
NSD SS/PM Director





# A Smile Makes a Change: It Is Written Medical Team in Mongolia

The It Is Written medical team brought blessings to Mongolia! The seven-member team visited Zamyn Uud of Dornogovi, a small town with 20,000 people, from March 1 to 10, 2019. They were joined by a team from Mongolia Mission, and together, they conducted the following charity medical services:

- A total of 314 patients received medical treatment at two family clinics in five days. Free medicine and health brochures were distributed as well.
- The team donated 50 pairs of eye glasses for eye checkups.
- 150 kindergarten and elementary students received oral hygiene checkups and were given care kits with toothpaste and toothbrushes.
- About 160 people received dental treatment that was worth 4,300 USD.
- About 25 adults and 5 children attended the evening church services regularly.
- English classes were held for children in the morning and in the evening.

The medical team consisted of Dr. Gordon Guild, Dr. Diana Blaschke, Dr. Jeanne Unterseher, and Dr. Jon Kim. They were assisted by Sandy, David, and Jack. Although none of them speak Mongolian, they exchanged smiles with the people in the community. Through their smiles, the people in need were able to see Jesus. At the end of the medical ministry, five souls gave their lives to Jesus through baptism. Zamyn Uud, a town by the China-Mongolian border, has been a witness that although there are language barriers, smiles can and have made changes in people's lives.



**Enkhbayar Mishigdorj**  
MM Health Ministries Director

1. 150 children were given care kits with toothpaste and toothbrushes from the It Is Written medical team.
2. More than 300 people from Zamyn Uud of Dornogovi received medical treatment in five days.



# A Healthy Chinese New Year

**Miranda Wong**  
HKMC Health Ministries Director

## Health Fair by North Point Community Church

During Hong Kong's Chinese New Year holidays from February 5 to 7, 2019, the North Point Community Church held a Health Fair for the English-speaking community in the area. Checkups and health consultations were conducted every day from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. I was a part of the group of health counselors together with Dr. Kenneth Ho, vice president for Medical Affairs; Chan Wing Ying, health educator from Hong Kong Adventist Hospital – Stubbs Road; and a clinical nursing instructor from Tung Wah Hospital Nursing College. Together with the health team from Palawan Adventist Hospital in the Philippines and other medical staff members from Hong Kong Adventist Hospital – Tsuen Wan, we were able to serve 296 people. We praise God for the joint effort to help and serve the people in the community.



Palawan health team and the Hong Kong Adventist Hospital – Tsuen Wan nursing supervisor

## Home Remedy Lectures at Tai Wo Church

On February 20, 2019, shortly after the Chinese New Year holidays, the parents' group of Tai Wo Church organized a special meeting called "The Water Treasure." I was able to teach them about different kinds of hydrotherapy, including heat compress, hot and cold foot

bath, and steam inhalation. Then, on March 6, a session called "Self Help Massage" was held, focusing on massage therapy. I taught the parents' group about the seven basic massage techniques and self de-stress massages. I also taught them about a chair massage, which they practiced later in the session with their partners. The parents enjoyed the home remedies so much that they will arrange for more natural remedy sessions in the future.



Miranda Wong lecturing on home remedies

**Optimism at Siu Sai Wan Elderly Center**

To encourage the elderly to live a happy and healthy life in the new Lunar year, I gave a lecture on optimism of CELEBRATIONS (Adventists' 12 core health principles) at Siu Sai Wan Elderly Center on February 26. The material was from the General Conference health evangelism series. There were about 30 people who attended the lecture.



**Health Watch Program at Open University**

On March 12, participants studying the Health Watch program at the Open University of Hong Kong started their visitation practicum. They were assigned to help in the Heng On Chapel to teach about health and exercise for the elderly and to share Bible stories. In addition, they visited the elderly in their homes and accompanied them for their Bible study with Pastor Sarah Chan, the Heng On Chapel pastor. During this practicum, they emphasized the importance of both physical and spiritual health.



Miranda Wong and Pastor Sarah Chan visited the homes of the elderly to teach about health and to share Bible stories.

# Spiritual Life on Campus: AAA Visits Adventist Universities in Korea



**Richard Sabuin**  
NSD Education Director

Adventist education institutions are some of the best places for evangelistic and retention efforts. Thousands of young people are studying at these institutions. Students spend 4 to 6 hours a day studying on campus. They also participate in extra-curricular activities as part of their education. For this reason, our Adventist education institutions should strengthen their spiritual strategic planning. These are some of the things noted by the Adventist Accrediting Association (AAA) during its accreditation visits.

In April 2019, the AAA visited Sahmyook University (SYU) and Sahmyook Health University (SHU). They discovered many good things that these two institutions have been doing to enhance their spiritual life and mission activities.



### Spiritual Life at Sahmyook University

One characteristic of spiritual life at SYU is the wide support of chaplaincy ministry. In addition to 12 theology professors and 2 pastors from other departments who also function as chaplains, there are 16 pastors sent by the local conferences to serve as chaplains on a four-year rotation basis. This group of 30 chaplains receive training in workshops every summer and winter on various aspects of chaplaincy ministry.

In addition, every Wednesday morning at 8:30, they spend one hour praying and planning together. They are divided into five different teams according to their responsibilities: the Bible/religion class team, the chapel team, the faculty and staff training team, the evangelism team, and the support team.

Under their care, there have been several major spiritual initiatives that motivate the campus community of about 5,000 students. One of them is chapel cells. Students are given the option of not attending the required chapel programs if they would undergo training to form cell groups for Bible study under the supervision of their department faculty and theology students. In 2018, 126 students participated in giving Bible studies to 412 non-Adventist students. In April 2019, 230 students were receiving Bible studies.

During summer vacations, faculty and students of each department have conducted community services in different countries. In 2019, 19 of the 22 departments are planning to participate in mission trips.

Right now, 6 different congregations hold regular Sabbath services: the main church, the SAY church, the Mongolian congregation, the Chinese congregation, the International church, and the CREW congregation. The Vietnamese congregation will also begin holding Sabbath services soon.

Theology students support the chaplaincy team. The freshmen and sophomore theology students are assigned as coordinators of spiritual activities, particularly chapel programs, for the freshmen of all departments. This is part of the academic course, "Spiritual Life

and Ministry." The junior, senior, and graduate theology students are assigned, by the local conferences of the Korean Union Conference, to serve in local churches as assistant pastors, helping to connect students to local churches. Right now, there are 35 juniors, 35 seniors, and 40 graduate students who are helping in local churches.

### Spiritual Life at Sahmyook Health University

The chaplaincy department of SHU has developed a good Spiritual Master Plan (SMP). The plan includes 32 different initiatives. Adaptations are made to face challenges in meeting the spiritual needs of both the faculty and the students. The following are some of the activities that the professors participate in:

- Every morning, before starting their daily schedule, all faculty members attend morning devotionals.
- Twice a year, the faculty and staff members devote themselves to God by having prayer and attending Bible Study meetings for a week. This is called the Week of Dedication.
- Professors attend vespers programs on Friday evenings, joining the students' Mathetes (Disciples) Club.
- Faculty and staff attend weekly chapel programs in different groups together with the students.





- All professors are encouraged to form small groups of 10 to 15 freshmen for one year (2 semesters), providing spiritual care and fellowship for the students.

In 2018, students were able to choose which chapel program they would like to join: a) the main chapel program, b) religious literature chapel, c) contemporary church music chapel, d) worship-oriented chapel with Christo-centric sermons, scripture readings, prayers and testimonies, e) the SHU Campus Church chapel program or, f) the 1-year chapel program for seniors. This year, chapel programs are being conducted by the departments. The SHU Campus Church continues to operate.

Additionally, some open/volunteer programs include mission week (Week of Prayer) twice a year. The meetings are held every day of the week following the chapel schedule. All students participate in the meetings.

Adventist students are active. About 50 Adventist students join Mathetes Club, a core group of students that provide support and leadership in spiritual programs. They are divided into three subgroups: a praise team group, a program design group, and a media group. They faithfully attend Sabbath services and vespers programs in the university church, leading out in chapel programs, mission weeks, and other activities. The club has initiated a Bible reading program for the members of the club as well as for other students. This helps students develop an appreciation for the word of God and with spiritual growth. An office space has been assigned to the club, close to the office of the head chaplain. It serves as a center where many spiritual activities are planned and implemented by the students.

Fifteen pastors from local churches are scheduled to come to the campus every Tuesday morning during the chapel program to conduct the

SHU CC program. There have been 62 students participating in this program. They are divided into small groups with the local pastors as leaders. The pastors encourage these students to attend local churches, not only during their study, but also after their graduation. These pastors help the six regular chaplains of the institution.

We praise the Lord because we have seen significant results in the strong spiritual lives of students on campus. The number of baptisms has grown over the past three years: 103 students in 2016; 107 students in 2017; and 137 students in 2018. Students who are baptized receive a certificate of baptism, and their names are recorded as members of the university church. Some of them are baptized in the local churches and recorded as members of those churches.



# Revival at Banqiao Happiness Church, Taiwan

**Kim SunHwan**  
NSD PARL Director



A Total Member Involvement (TMI) evangelistic meeting was held at Banqiao Happiness Church in Taiwan from April 15 to 20, 2019. When I was first invited to Banqiao Church as the speaker for the evangelistic meeting, I hesitated to accept it because I had a General Conference meeting scheduled the week before the evangelistic series. However, Pastor Jung NamWoong, the new pastor of the church, persuaded me to come. After a twenty-one-hour flight, I arrived at the Taoyuan International Airport on April 15. It was quite a tight schedule, but in the end, it turned out to be a trip of great value.

This is the eleventh year since this church was started by a former Pioneer Mission Movement (PMM) pastor in 2009. The location of Banqiao Church is good in terms of accessibility. It is situated on the ground floor of a commercial building, just a walking distance from a subway station and a bus stop. Due to a few months of the previous pastor's absence, only a few members were attending the church. When Pastor Jung came, he restarted a Korean class prior to the evangelistic meeting. A number of former students, as well as some new ones, began to come to the church during the week. Church members who had neglected to come for some time began to attend the Sabbath worship services. Pastor Jung said that he wanted to make full use of the opportunity of this evangelistic meeting to revive the church.

For the first two days, a fair amount of people attended the meetings. This was partially due to the fact that Pastor Jung had announced to the Korean class students that the sermons would be rendered in Korean, which would be a

good listening exercise for them. The programs started with a Golden Angels' Concert at 7 p.m. After the sermon, the attendees were separated into two classes: one for the Korean afterglow class and the other for the in-depth Bible study class. In addition to preaching the sermons, I also led the Bible study class. The attendees raised many questions regarding the Bible and Christian life. An hour was not enough to satisfy the hunger of the thirsting souls, so the class lasted until 9:30 p.m. It was long but worthwhile for all the attendees.

On Wednesday, we didn't have enough chairs because we had more than fifty attendees. Some church members had to sit on the stairs, but they looked very happy. Though Mrs. Jung and some other church members prepared a lot of food for the attendees, there were no leftovers. Pastor Jung confessed that he had been praying to God to fill all the chairs in the near future, and that day, God answered his prayers. We felt that it was not only the people, but also the angels who were present that evening.

On Sabbath, the final day of the evangelistic series, six people were born again by confessing their faith in Jesus Christ through baptism. Every fruit was a result of the victory over personal conflicts between good and evil in each of their hearts. I cannot help but confess that it was not the work of the people but of the Holy Spirit that won these souls, and it was because of this that they were baptized to be sons and daughters of God. We all praised God for the wonderful miracles that He allowed us to experience during this evangelistic series. We believe that this is not the finish line, but the starting line of the journey for Banqiao Happiness Church. "Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus" (Philippians 1:6). Amen.



In-depth Bible study class with Pastor Kim SunHwan.



The center where counseling services are held



## WCKC Launches One-Stop Support Center

The family ministries department of the West Central Korean Conference (WCKC) opened the One-Stop Support Center on May 2, 2019. The center offers counseling services on life issues, such as law, taxes, accounting, family counseling, relationship recovery, medical care, construction, management, and career guidance.

Anyone can visit the center inside the WCKC office in person, or they can talk over the phone Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday counseling sessions are also available if needed. All sessions are provided for free.

The center has a good setting with comfortable chairs and subtle lights for effective counseling. The WCKC plans to further expand the area of counseling depending on demand in the future. Volunteers also plan to participate in providing counseling in the future.

At the opening ceremony, WCKC president Shin WonSik said, “The purpose of all church administrative bodies is for the church, so the purpose of the center is to fill the church’s needs and to serve church members.” He continued, “We want the counseling services we provide to help make members of the Adventist Church happier, more respectful, and more trustworthy.”

“In order to provide the best service, the center will adhere to the following principles: All consultation contents will be kept confidential. High quality counseling services will be ensured. We will listen to and try to understand what our visitors are saying,” said Jeon YoungSook, director of WCKC family ministries department.

WCKC’s One-Stop Support Center hopes to be a place where visitors are able to find the right direction in life, discover solutions to their problems, and, moreover, experience the guidance of God.

Church members, Golden Angels and Pastor Kim with the six souls baptized on Sabbath.





The theme of the 2019 ECKC & WCKC Pathfinder camporees was David.

## Korean Local Conferences Hold Pathfinder Camporees

Korea's local conferences held Pathfinder camporees in May 2019.

The West Central Korean Conference (WCKC) held a Pathfinder camporee at the Gyeonggi-do Youth Camp Site from March 3 to 6, 2019, under the joint supervision of the youth and children's ministries department. About 1,000 Pathfinders and leaders from more than 50 churches in the WCKC gathered together for the camporee. Pathfinder clubs from two churches in Jeju Island also participated in the camporee, and they enjoyed many new friendships with the WCKC Pathfinders.

The theme of the WCKC Pathfinder camporee was "David, Chosen by God." Pastor Lee TaeHo from Taegang Sahmyook Elementary School was invited as the main speaker. He talked about the following topics: "Chosen Craft: David's Child," "Chosen One: Victory from Goliath," "Chosen Place: David in the Desert," and "Chosen People: David of Israel."

"David was a passionate man," Pastor Lee stated. "He was a man of faith and skill, perfecting not only his love for God, but also his music, his skills as a shepherd, and his slingshot skills. Pathfinders should not only know Jesus, but they should be disciples who follow His life. That is the life and mission of the chosen. I hope each of you will be a victorious Pathfinder by having patience, by forgiving your friends, and by relying on God."

The Pathfinders engaged in various booths and outdoor activities, including forest exploration, memory verse recitation, first aid, CPR, craft making, and flying drones. They grew as healthy Seventh-Day Adventist members through the camporee, acquiring various skills through the indoor and outdoor activities.

"Through the camporee, I learned more about Jesus' love and realized the joy of service inside the church. I will continue to be a Pathfinder who serves Jesus as the captain, and I will proclaim the truth to the world," said one of the participants.



The East Central Korean Conference (ECKC) also hosted a Pathfinder camporee at the Deer Mountain Training Center from May 4 to 6, 2019. The theme of the camporee was also “David.” The participants learned about the faith, prayerful life, and patience that they could find in the relationship between David and God. A total of 650 people, including 190 Adventurers, 321 Pathfinders, pastors, and Pathfinder leaders, participated in the camporee.

After the opening ceremony, there were a variety of programs, including parades, marching and drilling presentations, booth activities, sermons, Bible plays, and testimonies, which allowed participants to learn the spirit of redemption and service.

New and exciting programs, such as All Terrain Vehicle (ATV) riding, paragliding, and water sports, were open for participants who had attended many camporees and were already familiar with most of the booth activities. Participants were also able to receive pins for every activity they completed. The campers enjoyed earning and trading pins, and they traded more pins than they did in 2018.

All of this was made possible by the many pastors of ECKC who prepared and conducted the camporee. Thanks to their hard work, the leaders of each Pathfinder club were able to guide their groups, participate, and enjoy the camporee.



Joyful Monday programs, which promote holistic health to nearby office workers, are held at Bible Auditorium Church.



# A Joyful Health Ministry in Hong Kong

**Nickey Shum**

CHUM Health Ministries  
Associate Director

Joyful Monday is a pre-evangelistic meeting program led by the Bible Auditorium (BA) Church, the Hong Kong Adventist Hospital – Tsuen Wan Lifestyle Management Center, the Chinese Union Mission, and the Hong Kong-Macau Conference health ministries departments. The aim of this program is to promote holistic health, as conveyed in the monthly themes. The theme for October 2018 was nutrition, the theme for November was exercise, and the theme for December was stress. The theme for the months of January to March 2019 was happiness. The program targets office workers near the BA Church.

Joyful Monday has been conducted twenty-two times from October 2018 to March 2019 with an average of 20 to 40 participants at every meeting. Some of the participants heard of Joyful Monday through flyers. Others received invitations from friends, colleagues, or relatives.

Twenty speakers from various areas gave lectures in this program. There were health

educators, dietitians, medical doctors, psychologists, social workers, counselors, chaplains, and church pastors. Sister Brenda Chan from the BA Church led a group of volunteers to dedicate their time in preparing healthy and delicious food every time, including vegetable salad, soup, and bread. The BA Church conducted two evaluations to collect comments from the participants. They all appreciated the food as well as the lectures.

Currently, four of the participants are joining the BA Church's activities, including worships, archeology lectures, and evangelistic meetings led by Dr. Ron Clouzet, ministerial secretary of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division. We praise the Lord for this!

Healthy vegetarian food is prepared for the participants every Joyful Monday.



# Evangelistic Meeting in Gwangju Wolgok Church



**Byun SeongJun**  
NSD Media Center Manager

Gwangju Wolgok Church of the South West Korean Conference (SWKC) held an evangelistic meeting from May 27 to June 1, 2019. They invited Pastor Byun SeongJun, Media Center manager of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division, to be the speaker. This evangelistic meeting was a part of the SWKC's Total Member Involvement evangelistic activities.

Even though a few years ago the church lost a lot of members due to conflicts among themselves, the newly assigned pastor, Lee JaeWook, has tried his best to bring their hearts together. The church members prepared for this evangelistic meeting by working on different methods to unite the church members and to develop people's interest for Bible study.

On the first day of the meeting, deaconesses who were dressed in beautiful hanboks, the Korean traditional costume, welcomed church members and new visitors. As they entered the worship hall, the church singing group praised God with songs of heavenly harmony.

During the sermon, Pastor Byun preached on the theme "Finding the Meaning of My Life." Pastor Byun shared how God created this whole universe with love and how that love was given for every single person living on this earth. Through his sermon, the attendees were able to understand the truth and the meaning of their lives, as revealed in the Bible. Through the decision cards that were distributed on Thursday and Friday nights, the congregation rededicated their lives to God as a living sacrifice, and three people made the decision to be part of the remnant church.

On Sabbath, the last day of the meeting, the three souls were accepted as church members: Mrs. Lee

YoungAe through baptism and Han SangSun and Jang JongKu by profession of faith. Mr. Jang was a former Adventist member who had left the church for decades, but he came back through this evangelistic meeting. That Sabbath was truly a happy Sabbath; all the church members were thankful to God, and they were happy to see these three people coming back to God's fold. What a joy it is to behold the lost people coming back to God and to enjoy fellowship together in our Lord Jesus Christ!



Gwangju Wolgok Church members welcomed three new members through baptism and profession of faith.



# The First Korean PCM-ACT Gathering in Europe



**Kim NakHyung**  
NSD Youth Ministries Director

Adventist Collegians with Tidings (ACT) ministry is a Public Campus Ministry (PCM) that started in Korea 50 years ago. Recently it was also organized in Europe with a new vision. The first PCM-ACT gathering of Koreans studying in Europe was held at the Korean Adventist Church in Vienna, Austria, from April 18 to 21, 2019. This was a historic moment for them to gather together in one place for campus ministry.

The theme of the retreat was “I Will Come by You into Spain,” which connects to the verse found in Romans 15:28. Twenty-seven participants from all across Europe, including Austria, Italy and Hungary, came and discovered God’s plan and vision for them through the Adventist faith. The meeting was held with the purpose of helping Korean college students to grow their faith and to promote campus ministry in Europe.

The event started with an opening program led by Pastor Hahm MinHo, the senior pastor of the Korean Adventist Church in Vienna. Pastor Kim NakHyung, youth director of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division, and Pastor Yoo KyungHo, associate youth director of the Korean Union Conference, delivered spiritual messages in the morning and in the afternoon. The praise team was organized by students majoring in music, and the worship was full of spirit and joy.

Special programs, such as small group activities and sightseeing in Vienna, enriched this meeting. The students were divided into small groups to earnestly share their personal concerns and difficulties of faith and seeking God’s guidance. Traveling in Vienna for four days helped them build friendships.



During this event, the PCM student board members were selected, and the attendees established the framework for future activities.

Lee JooHye, a member of the Korean Adventist Church in Vienna, said, “The enthusiastic sermons by the invited speakers from Korea were very helpful to the international students studying in Europe. The gathering was successfully completed thanks to the dedication and service of the church members and young people.” She also hopes that Korean PCM in Europe will fulfill its mission with a vision in Christ.

**First Europe Korean PCM Student Board Members**

- President: Jeong DoKyun (Vienna University of Technology, Austria)
- Vice President: Ahn DongHyung (Berlin University of Art, Germany)
- Secretary: Hwang JeongHyun (German Language Course in Jena University, Germany)



Pastors and three PCM student board members

# Prayer Conference at Loma Linda University

**Ron Clouzet**  
NSD Ministerial Secretary



Dr. Ron Clouzet, ministerial secretary of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division, was the featured speaker for the 2019 Annual Prayer Conference from May 2 to 4, which was held at the Loma Linda University Church, located on the campus of the best-known Adventist medical center in the world. The Conference dates are set every year in conjunction with the United States’ National Day of Prayer.

The topic of the four presentations was “Prayer in the Midst of Warfare,” teaching the concept of effectual prayer in the context of the great conflict between good and evil. The topic of the Holy Spirit in prayer was also approached. The University Church distributed 300 free copies of Dr. Clouzet’s book, *Adventism’s Greatest Need: The Outpouring of the Holy Spirit*, to members and interested guests who desired to read it.

# Adventist Institutions in Seoul Hold a Festival Together for Their Neighbors



At the Baebong Festival, local neighbors of Adventist institutions in Dongdaemun-gu were treated to booth activities, cultural programs, and free medical, dental, and cosmetic care.

Sahmyook Health University, Sahmyook Adventist Hospital, and SDA Language Institute are all institutions of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church located in Dongdaemun-gu, Seoul, Korea. Together, they hosted the 13th Baebong Festival for the residents of Dongdaemun-gu on May 25, 2019.

Park DoHan, president of Sahmyook Health University (SHU), said in his welcoming remarks, “It’s nice to invite our neighbors to the festival—neighbors who support and help the institutions of the Adventist

Church. Just as our schools teach students wholeheartedly, and our hospital treats patients with sincerity, we want to get together here and truly share our love with you. I hope this festival brings you happiness.”

About 100 students from Sahmyook Health University helped with the festival. The department of child care and senior care provided programs for children at booths, such as balloon art, face painting, coding robot experience, and glass decoration. The nursing department opened the school lab to provide visitors with internal and oriental medical treatment. The dental hygienist department provided

dental care and scaling, and they were well received by the visitors. The department of skin health provided a variety of facial and body massage as well as makeup. Lots of visitors kept coming to the booths by the hair design department, where they could get their hair cut and dyed, as well as get a pedicure.

Sahmyook Adventist Hospital provided medical services, including vital signs, blood pressure and blood sugar tests. They also offered a basic health checkup for those who wanted to receive medical treatment later.

The SDA Language Institute prepared various programs, including the experience of trying on traditional costumes from the Philippines and China, watching a traditional Japanese play, and introducing the culture of other countries to their neighbors.

The participants enjoyed a variety of performances at the festival, including the With Singers’ A Capella, solo performances of the violin and harmonica, Korean traditional music, children’s orchestra, and more. They all brought happiness to the participants.

Finally, a healthy vegetarian meal was served free of charge to all guests at the cafeteria at Sahmyook Health University. We praise God for the successful event! All the participants had a pleasant day through the various services and programs prepared by the Adventists.

On April 7, 2019, the Kowloon Church in Hong Kong held a prayer camp. Each participant was given two devotional books, *The Prayer Handbook* and *Devotional through the Lord's Prayer*. The camp started at 10 a.m. and ended at 3 p.m. The program included tutoring, demonstration, sharing, discussion, and prayer practice. It was an enriching experience. All of the participants were immersed in learning, and they shared their experiences to inspire and encourage one another.

Pastor Howard Fung, Pastor Danny Chow, and Elder Mak Yip Cheong spoke from the Bible to educate the members on the importance of having daily personal prayer devotionals. Then, by opening the Word of God, they pointed their audience to a heavenly home that is only accessible to those who pray.

The participants were divided into groups to study *The Prayer Handbook*. They were touched by Ellen White's writing and deeply felt the importance of prayer for spiritual life.

Prayer in unity ensued after all of the motivational messages. Participants were divided into groups of two to pray with each other. Holding hands to form a circle, the members began to pray for the person next to them.

By the end of the day camp, the members felt spiritually rejuvenated. Fervent and persistent prayer is the source of strength and power for Christians. Without prayer, we have neither strength nor a spirit-filled life. Only when people begin to totally depend on God can they have spiritual power to defend themselves against the evil one.

Members in the Hong Kong-Macao Conference realize that they need to pray more fervently in the last days for the spiritual revival of the people in their territories.



## A Mighty Day of Prayers

# Evangelistic Meeting in Xindian Church, Taiwan



The Xindian Church in Taiwan held an evangelistic meeting from April 22 to 27, 2019, and invited Pastor Han SukHee, the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) communication and HisHands Mission Movement director, to be the speaker. The evangelistic meeting, held every year in April, is the most important event that the church holds.

Pastor Han preached sermons with the theme “The Truth Will Set You Free” and touched the hearts of the congregation. The Golden Angels’ beautiful praises and heavenly melodies moved the hearts of the people to the throne of grace. Through door-to-door visitations in the morning, visitations for lost members in the afternoon, and the messages rendered every evening, six precious souls made the decision to be baptized. Two people were baptized during the first baptismal ceremony, and the other four are ready for the second baptismal ceremony.

Currently, the members of the Xindian Church are working together to reach their goal of 100 Sabbath worship attendants by 2021. They are also joining hands together to prepare for the Total Member Involvement (TMI) Evangelism 2019 project, which will be held in July of this year. Xindian Church pastor Kim MinSub states, “We are blessed that our church members are composed of all age groups of youth, adults and elderly people. If all of our members are united in one mind and one heart so that each member will bring one soul to Christ, we will soon be able to reach our goal of 100 attendants.”



**Han SukHee**  
NSD Communication Director



# 2019 World Publishing House Congress Meets in Israel



**Stanley Ng**  
NSD Publishing Ministries Director



Participants received a special plaque of appreciation from the GC publishing ministries.

“Stronger Together Reaching Everyone” was the theme chosen for the 2019 week-long World Publishing House Congress. It was held in the beautiful country of Israel, a Holy Land with spiritual inspiration and historical significance.

The congress was led by the General Conference (GC) publishing ministries department, under the leadership of director Almir Marroni and associate director Steven Apola. About 90 publishing house leaders, representing more than 25 publishing houses around the world, gathered together to share their visions and strategies, brainstorming how best to approach the technologically advanced generation. It was a great opportunity to get to know each other better and to promote cooperation among our publishing houses worldwide.

Numerous devotionals and presentations were shared with the group. Some of the focus areas of publishing ministries were discussed, including missionary book production and circulation, Ellen White books open source translations, balance between sales and mission-minded products, evaluation and counsel, relationship with church leaders, and the growing together project.

At the closing program, all publishing house presidents/managers received a special plaque from the GC publishing ministries department in appreciation of their contribution and support in the production and distribution of Ellen White’s books.

The group spent the rest of the days visiting some significant places recorded in the Bible, such as the Old City of Jerusalem, the City of David, the Western Wall, Via Dolorosa, and many more.

The historic tour was a blessing and a wonderful experience to all participants. It was a reminder to all of us that God is love and that He still watches over His children in times of crises and challenges.

“Publications must be multiplied and scattered like the leaves of autumn. These silent messengers are enlightening and molding the minds of thousands in every country and in every clime” (*Colporteur Ministry*, 5).



# Foot Care Volunteers' Association Goes to Local Festival Near Seoul

The Foot Care Volunteers' Association, one of the Seventh-day Adventist Church volunteer groups in South Korea, conducted foot care activities at the 19th Guri Spring Flower Festival at the Han River Park from May 10 to 12, 2019. They were well received by the community. The association set up booths and offered free foot care services to elderly people 65 years of age and older. The volunteers, wearing blue vest uniforms, set up a cot in their booth and provided foot care services from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. for three days.

This year marks the eighth year that the association has done volunteer work at local festivals. Over time, they have established a system, and the number of visitors has been increasing as news of the foot care services spreads by word of mouth among members of the community.

One of the volunteers remarked, "We earnestly prayed that the love of Jesus Christ would be delivered through our service. We were very touched when we saw the people receiving the foot care service with joy and appreciation."

The booth also serves as a means of inviting people to the church. Recipients thank the volunteers and sometimes express a keen interest, saying, "I'm really grateful for such a good service. Where should I go if I want to receive this service again?" The volunteers then introduce them to an Adventist church close to their residence that offers foot care services; naturally, they also invite them to a Sabbath service as well. The number of people who have come to know the church through foot care services is increasing.

"If we offer foot care services on Sabbath afternoons, show love to our neighbors, and get the chance to talk about Jesus at the same time, the Holy Spirit will surely allow us to win souls and revive the church," said a representative of the association. Their hope is that foot care services will be another medium for spreading the Three Angels' Messages.



Foot care volunteers wearing blue vest uniforms



# H<sub>2</sub>O Produces Four Souls: Evangelistic Effort of Ilsan English Church

**Richard Sabuin**  
NSD SS/PM Director

On the Sabbath of May 18, 2019, the Ilsan English Church rejoiced with heaven for the baptism of four souls. They were baptized as the climax of the church's evangelistic meeting from May 11 to 18, with the theme of "Jesus, the Great I Am."

Different department directors of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) served as the speakers. Every evening, one aspect of Jesus being the Great I Am was presented, including: "I Am the Bread of Life," "I Am the Light of the World," "I Am the Door of the Sheep," "I Am the Good Shepherd," "I Am the Resurrection and Life," "I Am the Truth, the Way, the Life," and "I Am the True Vine."

One of the newly baptized members has been a faithful participant of the H<sub>2</sub>O program of Ilsan English Church. For this church, H<sub>2</sub>O does not stand for Hydrogen Dioxide, but for **Healthy, Happy, and Outstanding**. This is an educational program of the church that offers different classes, such as language classes (Chinese, Japanese, English), cooking classes, etc. The purpose is to pave a path and to open the door for soul winning.

These programs take place every week. There are participants of H<sub>2</sub>O who have been joining Bible study but

are still in the valley of decision-making. It is our prayer that they also make the decision to accept Jesus Christ as their personal Savior.

We appreciate the work of all church members under the leadership of the senior pastor Kim SunHwan, and associate pastors Hope Zhang, Cho KwangSang, and Kim JungYoo.



Pastor Kim SunHwan gives certificates to the newly baptized members.

# KUC Holds Religious Freedom Seminar



Han JiMan, medical student who won a lawsuit on not taking exams on Sabbath

The 2019 Religious Freedom Seminar of the Korean Union Conference (KUC) was held on May 25, 2019, at the main hall of the SDA Language Institutes in Seoul, Korea. The seminar was attended by 250 young people yearning for religious freedom. They started with a worship session, followed by a report session.

Lee JiChoon, KUC Public Affairs & Religious Liberty (PARL) department director, said in his opening remarks, “We should look back at faithful believers in history who worked to protect the freedom given to them from God. That’s why we gather here to work together to consider how we can establish and defend our freedom.”

The seminar continued with a worship session, where KUC president, Hwang ChunKwang,

preached about “Sabbath and Freedom,” connecting it with the verse in Deuteronomy 5:15. “Freedom of religion is the most fundamental thing,” he said. “My father, who at first refused to allow me to go to church as a child, changed his mind and allowed me to attend the church. Later, he also became an Adventist. Our God is the God of liberty. The Ten Commandments show that not only I, but also my family, my neighbors, and even my livestock have been given freedom through rest, and that the land has also been given rest as a Sabbatical year.”

Han JiMan, who won a lawsuit against a medical school regarding Sabbath accommodations, said at the report session, “I have done nothing, and God has done it all.” Shin MyungChul, the lawyer who led the trial, testified to God’s providence. He emphasized that he could not have won the case without God’s intention to intervene. KUC PARL director Lee shared cases of the Korean state exam held on the Sabbath in recent years and the efforts of Korean Adventist churches to address them.

Kim SunHwan, PARL director of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division, talked about the importance of religious freedom. “The freedom of religion is specified in Article 18 of the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights. The population of 5.3 billion people, or 80 percent of the world’s population, is limited in their ability to exercise religious rights, and three-quarters of those who are persecuted are Christians,” he explained, citing an announcement by Open Doors, a community of Christians who support persecuted believers.

A short play was performed by the ACT (Adventist Collegians with Tidings) churches from the East and West Central Korean Conferences at the end of the seminar. It showed the different religious freedom issues that young people experience in their daily lives, such as opposition from non-believing parents, disrupted campus evangelical activities by those who classify the Adventist Church as heresy, and being outcast by friends for their religion.



ACT members perform a short play about conflict that young Adventist experience due to their Adventist faith.



In May 2019, the succession of a new emperor marked the beginning of the transition from the Heisei Era to the new Reiwa Era for Japan. Thirty years ago, when the Showa emperor passed away and the Heisei Era began, Japan as a nation grieved the loss of their emperor. However, this time, because the Heisei emperor abdicated while he was still alive, the imperial transition has seemed more positive, with the Japanese people entering the new era with a sense of hope.

In the Japanese constitution, the emperor is a symbol of the country. In the Shinto religion, which is the indigenous faith of the Japanese people, the emperor is god. As a Christian church, we are concerned about the ambiguous separation of church and state and the subtle limitations on freedom of religion in the Japanese imperial system. At this historical milestone of imperial transition, we would like to reflect upon the history of what the church has faced in Japan from a Christian perspective.

### Religious Ceremony

Regarding the imperial transition from one emperor to another, we must remember that many Shinto-related religious symbols and ceremonies are being practiced. For example, in November, at the first ceremonial offering of rice by the new emperor (Dai-josai), they will pray for the five-grain rice harvest, or in other words, for the prosperity of the nation. At the same time, they believe that the spirit of the emperor that has been passed down through the ages will be passed down to the new emperor,

signifying the new emperor as the new god of the Shinto religion. Using government money or public tax money to conduct such a religious ceremony is against the concept of separation of church and state, religion and politics. In regards to this matter, last autumn from the imperial palace, even Prince Akishino raised a voice of concern and protested that the festival of Dai-josai should not be conducted using public tax money. This protest caused some commotion and tension.

### The Adventist Faith and Oppression

The fact that the emperor's personal activities are treated as part of national and public activity is a warning sign. Having religious activities in the imperial palace being excused as just part of the Japanese cultural tradition and not any form of violation of separation of church and state should bring concern to us. Before and during the war, the Shinto religion and imperial customs were forced upon every citizen of Japan as "helping the national security and unity." Furthermore, the government enforced that worshipping the emperor and following the Shinto religion customs is the duty of every citizen.

In June 1941, six months before World War II, thirty-three Protestant church denominations were combined to form one organization, called the United Church of Christ in Japan, by the strong enforcement of the Japanese government. The new Christian organization promised to give absolute obedience and faithfulness to the country of Japan, as demanded by the Japanese government at the time.



HISTORICAL  
MILESTONE  
FOR JAPAN

Newspapers in Japan announced that their new Reiwa era began on May 1, 2019.



The Seventh-day Adventist Church did not join this organization and was persecuted severely as a result. The name of the church publishing house was forced to change from “End-time Gospel Company” to “Far East Gospel Company,” and then to “East Asia Gospel Company.” Currently, the name of the publishing house is “Gospel Company.” The magazine name was also forced to change from *Signs of Time* to *Health and Life*. Now, the magazine has changed its name back to the *Signs of the Times* magazine.

In September 20, 1943, 42 church leaders, including pastors, were arrested by the government. The church organization was disbanded, all the church properties were taken away, school institutions were closed, and hospitals were forced to be under the care of the government medical organization. The Adventist theological understanding of end-time events, the second coming of Jesus Christ, and the teaching that earthly kingdoms will one day cease to exist was denying the Imperial Nation of Japan the ability to be an everlasting kingdom of glory and dominance. The church in Japan was persecuted by the Japanese government because of their Adventist theological beliefs.

### The Faith that Is Passed on to Us

In the article “How Seventh-day Adventists View Roman Catholicism,” published by the General Conference in April 15, 1997, the following words were written:

“As Adventists relate to Roman Catholicism in particular, both the past and the future enter into our thinking. We cannot erase or ignore the historical record of serious intolerance and even persecution on the part of the Roman Catholic Church. The Roman Catholic system of church governance, based on extra-biblical teachings such as papal primacy, resulted in severe abuses of religious freedom as the church was allied with the state.”

If we cannot ignore the intolerant and tyrannical actions taken by the Roman Catholic Church several hundreds of years ago, how can we ignore what happened just 76 years ago? A group of people were persecuted and abused by a nation because of its strong biblical beliefs that were contrary to the national religion and agenda. The church organization was forcefully dismissed, and 42 leaders of the church organization were arrested. How can we ignore such actions?

Currently, the emperor seems to be understood as a symbol of peace, but the fact that the emperor is considered to be god in the religion of Shinto does not change. Looking back at how the role of the emperor changes throughout history, we must be aware that the role of the emperor might change again in the future. Furthermore, taking advantage of the beginning of a new era and a new emperor, the separation of church and state may become ambiguous; the emperor might become more than just a symbol of peace and begin to claim god-like authority and actions.

Surely, it is important to pray for the salvation of all people. We must pray even for the emperor and the imperial family members. However, we must be very careful of unknowingly following the worldly views of the Shinto religion. If the emperor becomes more than just a symbol and claims god-like authority and power, we are in danger of breaking the Ten Commandments by worshipping the emperor. Let us remember our faithful pioneers before and during the war, and continue on in the Adventist faith that has been passed down to us.

**Toshio Shibata**  
JUC PARL Director



Japanese visit a Shinto shrine to pray to their god in the religion of Shinto.



The water had stopped running, and a nearby stream was the only source to get water for doing the laundry.

# Life of Gratitude: A Story of a Missionary in Kenya

**Lee JeeHyeon**  
1000MM 50th Batch

It had been a month and a half since the water had stopped running. We had to wash the dishes, do the laundry, and take showers in the water of a nearby stream. When the reality of this situation first hit me, I had no idea where to begin or what to do.

One day, I felt something was strange with my hair. It was greasy, and I had lost too much of it. When I scratched my head, it began to bleed. I couldn't stand it anymore. I asked one of my students to bring me water for a bath. A few minutes later, the student brought me a bucket full of water, saying with a smile, "The water is clear today."

At the sight of the water, I couldn't think about anything for a moment, and then I started to get angry. Why was today the only day that the water was clear? Why should I have to lose so much hair because we didn't have water to bathe? What was I doing here? My hair had become so thin, and my whole body was aching. I didn't have a solution for my discomfort.

When I looked again at the clear water that my student had fetched for me, my anger was gone, and I was no longer upset. I took a bath and then later cut my hair at shoulder length because of the amount of hair loss that I was experiencing. Cutting my hair by myself was not something I was used to doing. I had lived comfortably back home. Why did I have to experience this kind of suffering?

Because the water was cut off, the electricity was cut off as well. When it rained, the muddy water was so bad that I again felt discouraged. This time, however, I let go of my discouragement and told myself to enjoy the moment. I prayed to God and said, "Lord, since there is no water, please give me rain."

God answered my prayer. It rained. I jumped up and put out all of my cans to catch the rain water. I saved enough rain water to drink. I had never drunk rain water in my entire life, but when I tasted the rain water, it was so good. I can confidently say that rainwater is the best water I've ever drunk. I felt euphoric after drinking the rain water. I think the rainwater in Kenya is the best.

In those difficult situations, I realized that I have one more thing to thank God for, and that's how precious water is. I am also reflecting on my life, and I have realized how wasteful I have been. Now, I am more grateful to God for sending me away from home to a difficult environment in Kenya to reflect on how blessed I am. James 1:1-4 says, "My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing."



# My Grace Is Sufficient for You

**Kim GeunHo**  
1000MM 49th Batch



“Fellowship,” according to the Bible, means being involved in the unity of God’s family, and it is a significant part of church culture in the Philippines. To build fellowship, Adventists from several churches sometimes have united worship. Most church members enjoy gathering together and work hard to achieve fellowship.

As a missionary from Korea, I could not fully understand why people here empty their church several times a year to have fellowship with their brethren in other churches. It is not easy to attend a united worship. People living in a mountainous region have to walk through mud fields for more than an hour to attend a united worship. Sometimes, we have ridden a motorcycle for five hours. There were also times when we had to ride a truck for more than five hours with more than 30 people in the truck’s luggage compartment.

We usually sleep in the church because a united worship program runs for three days starting Friday and

ending on Sunday. We are bitten by mosquitoes at night. Sometimes we sleep on pews, or we just sleep with a raincoat spread out on the floor. Once, I got sick after one of these programs.

It took more than half a year before I was able to accept the culture of the Philippines. To serve as a missionary in a foreign country has required me to put aside all of my preconceptions. As time goes by, I have found that there is a difference in almost everything, from the foods we eat to the clothes we wear, the way we wash, the way we learn, and how we understand the Bible. Because it was so different from Korea, my home country, it was difficult at first, and I complained at times. However, I came to the Philippines, not as a tourist, but as a missionary, so I had to accept all the differences.

When my family members in Korea look at my pictures, they say, “Tell us if you need money.” However, I have never asked them for money. As a missionary, I think that it’s pointless to eat, sleep, play, and do things lavishly. I



think that learning to live in the Philippines has made me content, and I am grateful for this kind of environment that has taught me many different lessons.

I now have three months left as a missionary here. It took seven months for me to feel comfortable with my life as a missionary. I'm okay with only washing twice a week now. If I don't sweat a lot, I can wear the same clothes for several days. I can sleep anywhere; I just put a rug on the floor. Wherever I go, I have no worries about mosquitoes because I carry mosquito repellent, and I have local friends who welcome me wherever I go.

In 2 Corinthians 12:9, it says, "And He said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore, most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me." Through this Bible text, I have realized that although various environments seem impoverished in the eyes of men, God's grace is sufficient for us. I will serve God for the rest of my mission believing that the Lord has prepared me for this.

## A Virtuous Cycle of the Gospel

More than 20 years ago, two missionaries from the 9th batch of the 1000 Missionary Movement (1000MM) were assigned to go to Cagayan De Oro City, Philippines, for their mission of saving souls. During their service in Cagayan, they met a nine-year-old boy named Jay Alba Policarpio. Because of the missionaries' dedication and continued nurturing for this precious boy, he entered into the Seventh-day Adventist faith and became one of God's chosen people.

After a year, upon finishing their term in another mission field, the two missionaries returned to Cagayan De Oro City. There, they saw that the faith of this young boy had continually grown in Jesus. The faith had been passed on to his family, and this led to a healthy Christian home. As a young boy who devoted his faith to the Seventh-day Adventist Church, he longed to become a missionary.

This young boy, Jay, has grown in grace with God, and he joined the 1000MM as part of the 42nd batch of missionaries and dedicated his one-year of service for the Lord's labor. It was indeed a glorious year for him as he offered his service to the King. After serving as a 42nd batch missionary, he studied theology. After he graduated, he began serving as a pastor at Bulua Church in Mindanao and at Hope Channel.

A virtuous cycle of the gospel is taking place. Today, there are more precious souls waiting to be nurtured by our missionaries who will then take charge of the future of the church.



Jay Alba Policarpio served as a 42nd batch missionary and is a pastor at Bulua Church as well as at Hope Channel.

According to the latest update by the United Nations in May 2019, more than 126 million people live in the country of Japan. Christians make up about one percent of the population. Churches can be found across the country, including Catholic and Protestant churches, and including Seventh-day Adventist churches.

Japan is known as the most literate and technically advanced nation in East Asia. The country's status results in a comfortable and high standard of living for a large number of people. In addition, their hearts do not easily open to Christianity.

The challenge will be for the commissioned missionaries of God to go without hesitation or fear. Different methods are being utilized to touch the hearts of the souls in the country, including the Pioneer Mission Movement (PMM), pastors' ministries, and the Golden Angels' music ministry.

### **The Golden Angels Serve Foreigners in Japan**

From May 7 to 26, 2019, the Golden Angels 16 were invited to serve with the PMM pastors in Japan in their evangelistic activities. We were all so thrilled to be a part of the mission.

The first destination of the mission trip was Chiba, where the 3H Japanese Language School is located. The institution was established by a missionary 24 years ago. According to Pastor Kim SooHo, principal of the school, it was designed to help foreigners in the country learn Japanese. The students enrolled were from different countries, such as Korea, Vietnam, Taiwan, Philippines, China, and even from the Middle East. We had the privilege of sharing God's message with the foreigners, especially to the non-believers of Jesus.

A special program was also conducted for the church members and friends of the Chiba International Church, which is



# Golden Angels Mission in the Land of the Rising Sun

**Leah Servidad**  
Golden Angels 16

located next to the 3H Japanese Language School. The program was facilitated by PMM Pastor Chung EuiKwun, who was a former Golden Angels second batch member, and it was conducted by Pastor Um SungHyun, who specializes in home and family lectures. Through the important messages of the speaker, the uplifting music of the missionaries, and the grace of God, the week's program was successfully completed.

We also had the opportunity to visit nursing homes and a center for the disabled in Chiba. One thing I learned from our visit is that God allows us to see the beauty of life even under sorrowful circumstances. Even though the people we visited were disabled, they still gave their sincere love and smiles to the people who were taking care of them in the center. On that day, I witnessed the love of God in that humble place, and through the songs of Jesus, we

all felt real joy, which cannot be bought.

On May 15, one of the pastors from the Japan Union Conference took us to Tachikawa, Tokyo. We met the Taiwanese PMM pastor, Yu Chuan Fu, who later guided and led us to a mission for the Chinese community in Japan. The mission was started by a pastor's family thirteen years ago, and by God's grace, the only Chinese Adventist Church in the heart of Tokyo is now growing. The number of attendees is increasing, and the church held an evangelistic meeting that week.

Every evening program started with music by the Golden Angels and was followed by messages from the invited speaker, Elder Futai Mona. We sang in Chinese so that the congregation was able to clearly understand the songs. Many people said, "A sermon can take an hour to reach their hearts, but a song takes only five minutes to deeply move the hearts of the people."

We, as singing missionaries, really believe in that quote, but above all, we believe that the moving of one's heart is only possible through the working of the Holy Spirit. Besides singing in the evening programs, we were also invited to the house of a new non-Christian Chinese friend to share our songs and testimonies.

After days of effort and prayer, by the grace of God, five precious souls were baptized that Sabbath. This became a living testimony of God's miracle in Tokyo Chinese Church.

### Missionaries Called for Healing and Preaching Ministry

Next on our schedule, we served the Tokyo Adventist Hospital by comforting some of the patients through songs about Jesus. At the same time, visitors and hospital staff were able to witness the singing because we were in the corridor of the building. It was such a delight knowing that God was truly using our voices to declare His love and care to the needy, helpless, and sick.

Two days later, we visited Yokohama Saniku Elementary School, where we sang about Jesus and introduced Him to the young children. We also visited Yokohama Shalom Nursing Home, which was in front of the elementary school. Although we had a hard time carrying all the heavy equipment, setting it up, and taking it down, the moment we opened our mouths to sing for the elderly, our hearts were so touched by their genuine smiles and reactions. I felt their longing to see their families and to visit their hometowns; they were in tears, and they even hugged us tightly after our singing.

We were glad that we were given the opportunity to give them comfort and to introduce Jesus Christ to them. We hope that they will be able to realize that there is a living God and that there is hope beyond the grave.

### The Church That Waits for a Long Time

Ten years ago, the Golden Angels group from that time visited Biwako



Golden Angels had a moment of prayer at a park in Biwako, where the earlier batch of Golden Angels visited ten years ago.

Church in Shiga and left a good impression. After a long wait, the people of Biwako met with the Golden Angels again, although it was this year's batch. We flew to Osaka Airport together with Pastor Masaru Kabayashi.

Members of the church were thrilled to see the Golden Angels once again, and we really felt their enthusiasm because they were all preparing and planning for the success of the program. Every member made an effort to invite their friends who were not members of the church to witness the musical concerts by the Golden Angels and the messages from Pastor Cho DaeYeon, associate coordinator of Golden Angels. A major musical presentation was held on Friday and on Sabbath afternoon, collaborating with the Biwako Church choir that consisted mostly of non-Adventist members.

Although Japan may be described as the Land of the Rising Sun, ironically, the country is not yet lit by the light of the salvation of Jesus Christ. Acts 13:47 says, "For this is what the Lord has commanded us: 'I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.'" Just as God commanded His disciples, we, as young missionaries who are driven with God's love, will continue to travel and share the light of Jesus to the ends of the earth.



Golden Angels spent time with the elderly at a nursing home in Chiba to share the love of Jesus.

# LORD, SEND ME A SOUL IN 2019!



## What is TMI Evangelism 2019?



1. 2019 evangelistic series being held in churches throughout the Northern Asia-Pacific territory
2. All church members' movement: One church member/One soul
3. Contact souls through community service and friendship evangelism
4. Total evangelism: churches, schools, hospitals, food factories, language institutions, and all other institutions
5. Number of sites for the Northern Asia-Pacific Division TMI Evangelism 2019
  - Korean Union Conference: 1000
  - Chinese Union Mission: 750
  - Japan Union Conference: 110
  - Taiwan Conference: 110
  - Mongolia Mission: 29
  - Hong Kong-Macao Conference: 20

