



NORTHERN ASIA-PACIFIC DIVISION
THE MOST CHALLENGING FIELD

NEWS & VIEWS

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May/June 2020



Almost all Adventist churches in the NSD territory have stopped offline worship services since the coronavirus became a pandemic. Many church members participate in worship services using online platforms.

God Will Save His Churches from the Deadly COVID-19 Pandemic

Dear Adventist brothers and sisters in Christ,

How much difficulty are you in because of the chaotic situation of the coronavirus, which has shaken the entire world? I pray that God will be with all of you and give you strength and courage during this difficult period.

Churches in Daegu-Gyeongbuk area and the Southeast Korean Conference (SEKC) have suffered the most in Korea. They have not been able to gather in church for more than two months and have worshiped at home through online services. However, is this happening only in SEKC? All areas of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) are having the same difficulties. Before churches in Korea had to stop meeting, Mongolia had to stop having Sabbath gatherings because of government recommendations. Japan and Taiwan have also had to close their doors. I thank the leaders of Korean Union Conference, Japan Union Conference, Taiwan Conference and Mongolia Mission for quickly providing guidelines and responding urgently in such a chaotic situation. Thank you, pastors and church members of all the churches, for managing this crisis wisely with cooperation and perfect order.

The coronavirus is spreading not only in the NSD territories but also throughout the world, resulting in a lot of victims. Many countries have closed their borders, limited citizens' movements and advised people to abstain from hospital visitation. Unexpected problems in finance are also making people scared. As you already know, the 61st General Conference Session, which was scheduled to be held in June this year, was postponed to May next year. In many areas of the world, including

the General Conference, meetings have been cancelled or postponed and mission activities have stopped.

Beloved brothers and sisters, the Seventh-Day Adventist Church is the church that delivers hope to the world. The promise of God written in Psalm 91 gives us hope and courage. "Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, 'He is my refuge and my fortress, My God, in whom I trust.' Surely he will save you from the fowler's snare and from the deadly pestilence." What a precious promise this is!

The NSD office is praying for you every morning and noon. God said in Jeremiah 29:11, "'For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.'" Please rely more upon God in this difficult time. I hope we have hope in Jesus. Our God will be with us to overcome all our difficulties. Please pray that the day will soon come when the doors of our churches can be open again and we can deliver the gospel.

Let us all raise our eyes and sincerely long for Jesus who is coming soon. May the good guidance and abundant grace of God be with all of you forever.

Maranatha!



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.



Kim SiYoung, President
Northern Asia-Pacific Division

TABLE of NEWS & VIEWS CONTENTS

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INSPIRATION God Will Save His Churches from the Deadly COVID-19 Pandemic / 2

COVER STORY COVID-19 and Paju International Church / 4

NEWS FOCUS Church Is People, Not Building / 6
 COVID-19 and the End of Time / 8

DEPARTMENTAL & REGIONAL NEWS

The Word of God Is Not Bound: Mongolia Mission and COVID-19 **9** Adventist Radio Station in Mongolia Wins National Contest **10** NSD Spring Week of Prayer **12** Crisis to Opportunity: Japan Youth Stand Up to the Coronavirus with a Multi-Generation NEWSTART Program **14** Do Not Fear **16** MM Family and Women's Ministries Produce Video Bible Study Series **17** Choonyang Church Supports Workers Fighting COVID-19 **17** Ideas for Sabbath School at Home **18** It Is Time to Serve **19** ADRA Responds to COVID-19 in South Korea **20** Sharing Sanitizers and Masks with Neighbors **21** Cheonghak Church in Korea Hosts Blood Drive **22** Serving Public Health Workers during the Pandemic Crisis **23** Taiwan Conference Dealing With COVID-19 **24** What Do You Do When Your Church Is Closed? **25**

PCM Public Campus Ministries to Save the Future of Taiwan Adventist Church / 26

Public Campus Ministries in Pingtung / 28

Public Campus Ministries of Hsinchu Golden Star Church / 29

1000MM Three Days of Torture: Super Training for 1000MM Missionaries / 30
 With God All Things Are Possible / 31

To Be a Missionary Who Cares for People's Bodies and Souls / 33

Am I Truly Prepared for God's Mission? / 34

PMM Online Prayer Meeting for PMM Missionaries / 35

MFSC MFSC Sends Special Gift to Foreign Neighbors Suffering from COVID-19 Crisis / 36

Golden Angels Testimonies of Golden Angels 17th Batch / 37

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.

COVID-19 *and Paju International Church*

As the Lunar New Year holidays passed in January 2020 and the COVID-19 crisis began to become increasingly serious, the Korean Union Conference and other institutes in Korea started coming up with emergency countermeasures. At the Paju International Church in Korea, we took the initiative to think about how to deal with this situation.

When the beginning of the school semester was delayed, the Paju International Church stopped all offline worship services and official meetings from Friday vespers on February 28, in line with the nation's recommendation.

Instead, our church launched online worship services. Friday evening worship service was broadcast in real time for an hour from 7:30 p.m., Sabbath School lesson was from 10:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Sabbath, and the divine worship service was from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Since this was our first time conducting an online worship service, the media team had to deal with a lot of trouble to broadcast live. Also, we had to do a lot of preparation in the first week of broadcasting because we had to purchase the necessary equipment in a hurry. However, the media team members did well despite their busy schedules and finished the first broadcast without any major disruptions. After a month or so, the broadcast was going well, and the number of subscribers exceeded 100, resulting in the YouTube address of our church.

As a result of broadcasting sermons for a month, we gained some confidence and know-how in the field of real-time broadcasting, but with the prolonged coronavirus situation, we had to find ways to interact among the church members and between the members and the preachers.

First of all, we asked the members to take a video of how each household was doing at home and send the video to the pastoral staff. The pastoral staff then edited the videos, put subtitles on them, and played them during the real-time service. The church members were very pleased to see other members whom they had not seen for nearly two months, even if it was just on the screen.

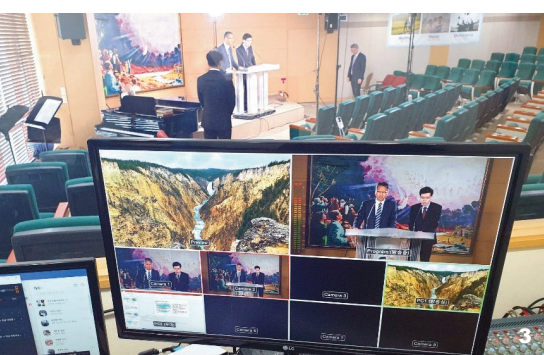
In addition, the Tuesday evening prayer meeting, which had been suspended due to the coronavirus incident, was resumed through a video conference program called Zoom, and the Bible study class during the weekday was resumed through the same program. We are grateful that we can share our spiritual fellowship and pray together through such a program at such a difficult time.

Our church has plans to move to Paju soon. When the COVID-19 situation comes to an end, we are planning to preach the gospel to new residents there in a new way. The most important mission strategy is the strategy of H2O, which is an acronym for Healthy, Happy, and Outstanding. It is a strategy to pursue healthy life, happy family, and high intellectual education. Here is a brief introduction:





1. The Paju International Church has plans to move to a new church building.
2. The church will provide various facilities, such as a book café, for their neighbors.
3. Since the offline worship service was stopped due to COVID-19, the church has provided online worship services.



Healthy: We are planning to provide a baking class and cooking class. We will also have sports clubs, including basketball club and badminton club, and gym night. We are also preparing a dry sauna for elderly members.

Happy: We will run a parenting and family workshop and counseling. Bible studies will take place on Thursdays at 10 a.m. in Korean and Sabbath afternoons in English. The Pathfinder club will meet on Sabbaths.

Outstanding (which is linked with Education): We will offer language classes (English, Chinese, Japanese) for adults. In addition, there will be English classes for the children as well as a children reading coach.

We will also provide various facilities, including a book café, healing room, gymnasium, auditorium, and classrooms for the residents.

There is a mission that God wants our church to be prepared for during this coronavirus situation. We expect to overcome this difficult time soon and achieve a great revival in the new mission field with God's help.



Kim JungYoo

Associate Pastor at
Paju International Church

NEWS FOCUS I

CHURCH IS PEOPLE, NOT BUILDING



Pastor Kim SunHwan and Pastor Richard Sabuin deliver a sermon, which is live streamed on YouTube.

Regardless of the outbreak of COVID-19, church is never and should never be closed. Why? Church as a building is a limited meaning of what church is. In fact, biblically, church is people. “But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light” (1 Peter 2:9). Therefore, as long as there are people of God, there is church. Without God's people, it is just a building. In some circumstances, a church building may be closed, but the church—God's people—remain!

Certainly, a church building or place of worship is important. As a community of faith, the people of God need a place where they can gather together for worship, Bible study, and fellowship. The Bible admonishes us, “Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching” (Hebrews 10:25). In our time, local churches with hundreds of members may need a big building to meet. When we meet in our church building, we greet one another, we sing and listen to worship music, we praise God, we discuss the Sabbath School lesson, we listen to the sermon, and our children love to listen to good Christian stories. The functions of fellowship, mission planning, encouraging one another, communal activities and services, closeness and physical presence are best fulfilled when all members of a local church gather together in their designated place of worship.

The question is: Can we do all these in our house, alone or with our family, in our cooperation with and support of the government instruction for self-isolation to suppress the spread of the coronavirus? The answer is “Yes, we can do most of these activities on Sabbath, at and from home.” This question matters, since many places of worship were closed for several Sabbaths in many different parts of the world. During those Sabbaths, people of God worshiped at home (some may still be doing it). It is an example that church buildings or places of worship might be closed because of natural disasters, wars, and other unexpected situations.

In the time of the first century church, Christians in Jerusalem met not only in the temple, but also in their houses (Acts 2:46). In other regions, Christians gathered together at their homes for their regular meetings. Several families

might come and worship together in one house (e.g. Romans 16:5; 1Corinthians 16:19; Colossians 4:15; Philemon 1:2). For that reason, when Saul (who then became Paul) “began to destroy the church, going from house to house, he dragged off men and women and put them in prison” (Acts 8:3). Why from house to house? Because the church—God’s people—was there!

However, when an unexpected and unavoidable circumstance, such as the outbreak of COVID-19, requires God’s people to celebrate Sabbath

Nor finding your own pleasure,
Nor speaking your own words,
Then you shall delight yourself in the LORD;
And I will cause you to ride on the high hills of the earth,
And feed you with the heritage of Jacob your father.
The mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

Jesus promised: “For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them” (Matthew 18:20). Even when you are alone in a self-isolation



alone or with family members at home, it is wise that each family or individuals meet at home. God is present there. There have been many ideas on how to have worship at home on Sabbath. They will receive the same Sabbath blessings from God.

He has promised in Isaiah 58:13, 14:
“If you turn away your foot from the Sabbath,
From doing your pleasure on My holy day,
And call the Sabbath a delight,
The holy day of the LORD honorable,
And shall honor Him, not doing your own ways,

due to the coronavirus, He is our Good Shepherd (John 10:11), and He will be with you, just as He was with John in Patmos on the Lord’s day (Revelation 1:10). Our church buildings might be closed for some time, but the church should continue to worship Him, celebrating His Sabbath at home. As a church, let God’s people remain faithful to Him.



Richard Sabuin
NSD SS/PM Director

COVID-19 AND THE END OF TIME

The current coronavirus known as COVID-19 has brought the world to a standstill. The increase of cases and deaths throughout more than 90% of the world has been exponential. In many places, such as China in January, Italy and Spain in March, and the United States in April, infections and deaths doubled every day. In the middle of March, 164,532 confirmed cases and 6,463 deaths were reported. By April 12, there were 1,771,514 confirmed cases and 108,503 known deaths. That's almost 11 times the number of cases and almost 17 times the number of deaths all in just under four weeks!

To be sure, the bubonic plague of the middle 14th century known as the Black Death, and the Spanish Influenza pandemic of 1918 were much more devastating pestilences. The Black Death caused at least 20 million deaths in Europe—a third of the entire population—and untold more in Asia. The flu of 1918 caused between 50 and 100 million deaths worldwide! The virus was such an efficient killing machine that many people got it one day and were dead by the next. COVID-19 is still far away from those numbers, but we haven't seen the end of it yet.

Of course, in 2020, the world is much better prepared than centuries ago to handle the devastating consequences of a deadly pandemic. But the world has never been so flat. That is, the world is now one organism. All countries and economies are intertwined. Millions travel every day easily from one continent to the next, making contagion much more likely to occur.

We may never go back to the life we knew before COVID-19 began. Laws will be put in place that didn't exist before. Work habits may change. Travel may become something different than what we have known. Governments may become more authoritarian in the name of public safety. And we may be forced to live simpler lives.

We were told by Jesus that pestilences would be one of the signs of the end (Matt. 24:3-7). Many dismiss these signs as something that has always occurred and

something that is not unique to our history. This is true. But what is also true is what Jesus said next: "All these are the beginning of sorrows" (v.8). What does that mean?

In the original Greek, it says "the beginning of birth pangs." Mothers know that there are two distinctive features to birth pangs: frequency and intensity (pain). The more frequent and the more intense the contractions (birth pangs), the closer the coming of the baby. I don't know about pandemics, but a few years ago, I did a research on earthquakes, also mentioned by Jesus as a sign of the end. A 7.0 earthquake is considered a major earthquake, carrying great destructive power. I found that there was only one of those for the entire 16th century, eight of them the next century, four the next. In the 19th century, there were 30 such earthquakes. And last century, the century when most of us were born, there were 215. Do you know how many earthquakes 7.0 or bigger scientists project for this century, based on what they've seen in the first 13 years? 1,031 major earthquakes. That's five times the frequency of those in the 20th century! An Australian seismologist I read wrote that something began to happen since the year 1990. The frequency and intensity of major earthquakes increased tremendously.

So, perhaps, God in His great love is using these tragic events to wake up the world to a realization that they need more than money or things or leisure. And perhaps God is trying to alert the church that He is actually coming soon! In the words of our Savior: "Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near" (Luke 21:28).



Ron Clouzet
NSD Ministerial Secretary



churches for worship. Doors of all kinds of churches were supposed to be locked until March 1, but this has been extended until April 30 since the virus became pandemic. Nevertheless, we believe that “the word of God is not bound” (2 Timothy 2:9).

When travel restrictions and public gathering bans were announced, we decided to have online Sabbath Schools and divine services. We have done this for about two months so far. Of all Christian denominations, the Adventist church was the first one broadcasting online worship services in Mongolia. For the first few days, pastors formed small groups in their churches, and members of each small group gathered at a house to worship together on Sabbath. When the situation got worse, however, we were not able to do house visitation for everyone’s safety and online church program began to air. God blessed us with the ability to keep worshipping Him despite the limitations.

We have been surprised by discovering that many non-believers have been watching our videos and engaging in the programs. Also, people who left the church have been now joining the program. This has helped them to rejoin the church and be revived in their Christian lives! Through the live streaming Sabbath School program, all Adventist members in Mongolia are receiving the same message, singing together, and praying together with one heart.

As far as tithe and offering are concerned, members are returning

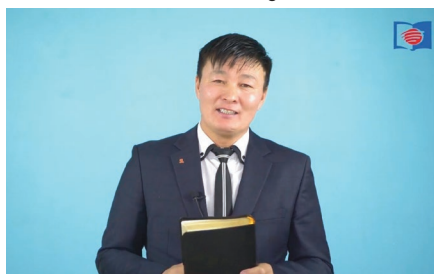
The Word of God Is Not Bound: Mongolia Mission and COVID-19

Gan-erdene Ganbaatar
MM SS/PM Director

As the newly appointed director of the Sabbath School and Personal Ministries department of Mongolia Mission, I had a number of plans for 2020. But from the beginning of the year, things have been changing because of the coronavirus, which has been spreading throughout

the world. Since Mongolia shares a border with China, where the virus began, we have had to be more alert. Our government made some urgent decisions, such as closing public meetings including churches. From January 23, 2020, we have not been able to gather in

As public gatherings were banned due to COVID-19, the Mongolia Mission started online Sabbath Schools and divine services.





their tithe and giving offerings through online banking. Those who do not use online banking bring their tithe and offerings to their church treasurers. In our live streaming videos, we encourage them to give offerings and return their tithes.

We have been encouraging our Adventist members to celebrate the Sabbath by joining the online worship from Friday evening. Every Friday, I have an arranged vespers meeting from the house of one of our pastors. We produce a video containing their precious testimonies and how they are preparing and worshipping with their family. It serves as a good example for the church members. On Sabbath, we begin live streaming at 11 a.m. If someone is late for worship, he or she can watch the video again later.

As the COVID-19 situation has continued for months and has prevented people from going to church, they have been feeling thirstier than ever for the word of God. That's why Mongolia Mission is trying to reach every church member and feed them through online and social media. It is time to stand firm on the belief that God is with us and His word cannot be chained!

...

Adventist Radio Station in Mongolia Wins National Contest

Munkhbileg Tserenchime
MM AWR Coordinator



Khemnel Radio, a radio station operated by the Mongolia Mission, recently won the National Best Children Content for Radio contest, hosted by the prime minister of Mongolia. The competition, which took place February 2020, was open to all local television and radio networks, rewarding the best works illustrating national heritage and history.

The Khemnel Radio network decided to take part in the contest and submitted their works with great faith. “God gave us all the opportunities to compete, and we were able to submit our program in a short time. We are convinced that the help of the Holy Spirit was sent at the right time. We are happy to popularize Khemnel Radio throughout the media channels,” said Munkhbileg Tserenchimed, station director of Khemnel Radio.

Out of more than 10 radio works submitted into the contest in the category of Best National Children’s program, the children’s show produced by Khemnel Radio was chosen as the winner and received about 3,600 USD as a prize.

The children’s program aims at promoting Mongolian history and heritage. At the same time, it was designed to shape character, teach integrity, and educate Mongolian children. It consists of three main parts, where the first one involves reading a story and studying it while talking with the children who listen to it. The second section covers topics related to human character, such as respect, love, forgiveness, and correcting wrongdoings, among others. Lastly, the third part offers health tips for growing and developing as a healthy human being.

Khemnel’s children’s show is not a direct evangelistic outreach. We do not preach the gospel right away, but we do guide our young citizens toward our heavenly Father through stories and change of character. We see this program as a way to influence adults through children.

Khemnel Radio was established in June 2019 with the motto, “From the right music rhythm to the right rhythm of life.” It currently has three full-time staff members and five volunteers. This radio was established by faithful supporters of Adventist World Radio.

The members of Khemnel Radio spent half a year preparing broadcasts, which cover health, education, family, children, and youth. During that time and continuing until now, they have been leveraging their internal resources to produce their own programs. The



The Khemnel Radio network team. The radio network is operated by the Mongolia Mission.

programs first started to air in Ulaanbaatar, the capital city of Mongolia, in September 2019. Now they have achieved quite an audience.

God has given us the opportunity to reach children, following Jesus’ words as found in Matthew 19:14, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.”

The office of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) had spring week of prayer from March 16 to 20, 2020, with Pastor Ron Clouzet, NSD Ministerial Association director, as the speaker. The NSD had originally planned to invite Pastor Jeffrey Mbwana, vice president of the General Conference (GC), as the speaker for the week of prayer, but because of the coronavirus pandemic, it was changed to an in-house speaker and also not face-to-face meetings but online meetings. Pastor Clouzet spoke on the theme “Let’s Talk About Prayer.” The different topics each day included “The Lord’s Prayer,” “Praying Like Jesus,” and “Praying During War.” Pastor Clouzet encouraged everyone to experience being filled with the Holy Spirit through prayer.

All the officers, directors and staff members participated in the meetings from their individual offices using Zoom on their computers or mobile devices. The meetings were held successfully without any technical problems.

Pastor Clouzet also emphasized the 100 Days of Prayer, which the GC has designated as March 27 to July 4, and appealed for active participation by all. The NSD family, through this week of prayer, was able to again realize the importance of prayer and have a time of resolution. They prayed earnestly to God for the quick ending of COVID-19. The various feedback comments from NSD members are as follows. Please enjoy and taste the blessings!

■ **Caryn Lee**

I was so blessed by the touching and encouraging message from Dr. Ron Clouzet. Worshipping through a real-time media connection was a new experience, but it did not keep me from receiving the daily bread of life. This was mostly because the messages Dr. Ron shared each morning were inspiring and timely. Thank you again. God bless!



NSD Spring Week of Prayer



Han SukHee
NSD Communication Director

■ **Moon DaYeon**

We didn’t have much time to set up all the programs and get all the technical things in place, but God had prepared things in advance, and He helped us to be encouraged, and eventually everything turned out great. The staff members are now used to the live-streaming program, Zoom, which was a suitable tool to carry out Dr. Clouzet’s sermons. Everyone was blessed and inspired through his messages. We’ve learned that we must make quality time with God, and we should pray earnestly and pray with assurance, putting prayer at the top of our priorities. After each sermon, we also had a great chance to share

our responses with our designated group via Zoom. Although it was awkward at first, we realized that we were blessed again by hearing other’s thoughts. Overall, God poured out blessings exceedingly and abundantly beyond our expectations.

■ **Esther Ke**

It was an unforgettable experience to have the week of spiritual emphasis done through ZOOM. God’s word inspired and encouraged me. The outbreak of the coronavirus (COVID-19) has isolated us in difference places. However, God’s loving message shared by Dr. Ron united us in one spirit.

■ **Baek YoungShim**

The NSD has a week of prayer in March every year. This annual event means a lot to me because it enables me to reflect on the first two months of the new year and to make up my mind again to focus on God. Due to COVID-19, a speaker who originally planned to visit for the week could not travel to Korea, which meant that the week of prayer could have been delayed. However, through the efforts of the NSD In-house Revival & Reformation Committee and an IT technician, we were able to gather together during the third week of March through an online meeting software. Moreover, the NSD family was privileged to invite Dr. Ron, NSD ministerial secretary, as the speaker! The theme of our week of prayer was “Let’s Talk About Prayer,” and every sermon brought very specific lessons on how we should pray to God. One of the important messages Dr. Ron delivered was that God’s hope for prayer is that we befriend Him and receive from Him what we need. Also, he emphasized that we need to have confidence in prayer, and he said, “You can be sure God will answer when you can be sure God

has heard you.” I am sure that this has changed my prayer life, which is now aimed at total surrender to God. I hope to continue growing closer to God.

■ **Stanley Ng**

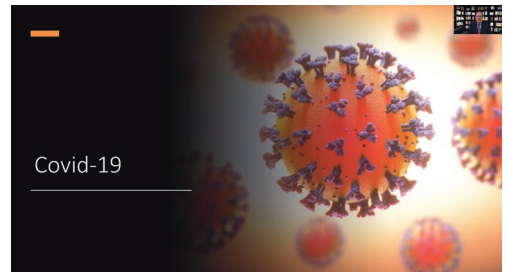
It was an amazing experience to have this first-time online week of prayer for the NSD family through Zoom teleconferencing platform. The speaker’s message and presentation were very clear and relevant to the current situation under the threat of the COVID-19 pandemic as we can’t meet in person and have to keep social distancing. Thanks to the In-house Revival & Reformation Committee for making this possible.

■ **Richard Sabuin**

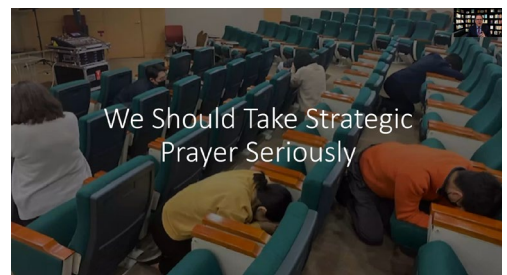
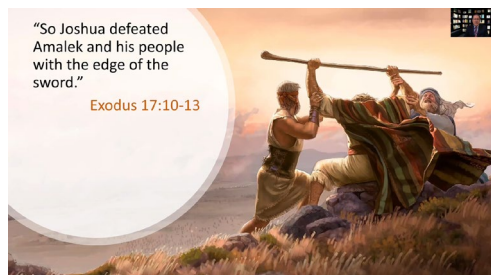
I remember the promise of Jesus in John 14:3, “And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.” We are looking forward to being with Jesus in one place, together, at His presence, physically. Now we communicate with Him through prayers. Although we do not see Him due to the limitation of our “video” system, He can see us! But this is not the permanent setting. We pray

only when we are here in this world. When we get to heaven, together with Jesus, we will not pray again because we will talk with Him face to face.

Nothing can equally replace the face-to-face meeting, the togetherness, in all church functions, including worship services and week of prayers. I am impressed with the way the week of prayer was conducted through Zoom. A Zoom meeting is good, but it is not ideal. Just like prayer, it is only temporary. When we meet together in our meetings, worship services, prayer times, we will no longer need Zoom. So also, when we are being transported to heaven at the coming of Jesus, while passing through the air, we will shout: “Farewell, farewell, sweet hour of prayer” (Seventh-day Adventist Hymnal #478) because we will meet God face to face in heaven, and He will be with us forever and ever.



Because of the spread of the coronavirus, the NSD spring week of prayer in 2020 was held via live stream. A series of sermons by Dr. Ron Clouzet with slides were provided every day on Zoom.



Even though the coronavirus is bringing fear upon the world, fearless young people in Japan are coming up with creative ways to make a stand. From March 17 to 26, 2020, a group of young people, who were supposed to participate in the March Youth Rush program but were no longer able to do so because of the coronavirus outbreak, came up with a new idea called “Daniel Rush.”

Initially, Daniel Rush was designed for young people to provide an opportunity for spiritual growth and fellowship during this long quarantine time without going to school. They did not want to waste their time and be lazy at home.

Three Youth Rush university students and a Youth Rush leader gathered together, prayed, discussed, and planned out the Daniel Rush program in less than a week. In the book of Daniel, the four Hebrew youth were taken to Babylon as captives. Instead of eating the exotic and unclean Babylonian food, Daniel and his friends asked to be given water to drink and vegetables to eat for ten days.

Daniel Rush encourages all participants to take God seriously and to adopt NEWSTART* lifestyle habits in their lives for 10 days. All communications and activities

are supposed to be done in the online group room at Line, a mobile application for instant communication. Through word of mouth and personal invitations, 125 people joined this program online!

Every day, the Daniel Rush leaders posted fun health quizzes and helpful surveys on the Line group. The participants were also encouraged to learn more about the Bible and health using GiFTS, which is an online discipleship training program hosted by the Youth Ministries department of Japan Union Conference, and stands for “Gideon Family Training School.” God is truly working through young people to accomplish great things here in Japan.

The purpose of this program was not to faithfully fulfill all eight principles of NEWSTART but rather to learn to enjoy finding and implementing healthy habits. When we talk about health, we are talking about both physical and spiritual health. Rather than coming up with reasons not to do something and putting off healthy changes, Daniel Rush encourages participants to start with something they can do right away. We believe that the journey of pursuing

Crisis to Opportunity: Japan Youth Stand Up to the Coronavirus with a Multi-Generation NEWSTART Program

Tanaka Noa

JUC Literature Ministries Coordinator



Daniel Rush encourages all participants to adopt NEWSTART lifestyle habits, such as exercising and drinking enough water.



1 & 2. Young Japanese Adventists who completed the GIFTS discipleship program.
3. Tanaka Noa, JUC Literature Ministries coordinator

health is closely connected to the process of sanctification in a Christian’s journey.

Since everyone who was available online was able to participate whenever they had time, not only students but adults could join the program. We had participants from a wide range of ages, from teenagers to people in their 70s. There were 125 people from various backgrounds. They were divided into small groups of 4 to 6 people per group. Each small group had their own small Line group room to communicate, discuss, and pray for one another every day. Each small group was free to have a group call prayer meeting to have a discussion or simply exchange group text messages and notes everyday—whatever the group members preferred.

Here are some feedbacks from participants: “I was able to do my best because of team support!!” “Just having a different mindset and accountability really changed my day! Thank God for this opportunity!” “At my church, there are no young people in my age group. Through this Daniel Rush, I was able to have spiritual fellowship with young people my age! I am very happy!”

Here is a summary of activities of Daniel Rush:

1. Every day participants report, share, and pray with their small group members. They enjoy online fellowship and encourage one another to implement NEWSTART principles.
2. Participants enjoy and learn about health principles through daily quizzes posted in the main Line group by the Daniel Rush leaders.

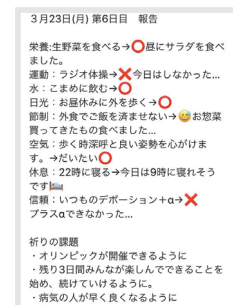
3. Participants compare the health surveys they took before and after Daniel Rush and see the growth and changes.
4. Participants are encouraged to learn and study using the GiFtS online program about various topics, including the Bible and health.
5. People who aren’t able use the Line app can join using email.
6. After a 10-day program is over, for people who are interested in continuing, we plan to rearrange and make new teams to continue together.
7. We plan to create a testimony booklet by gathering testimonies from the participants. In these difficult times of the coronavirus pandemic, we hope that the testimony booklet will be an encouragement for people in Japan.

Through Daniel Rush, we were able to turn crisis into new opportunity. We pray that even after the 10 days of Daniel Rush, young people will continue to take the health message seriously and burn with passion for gospel mission. Also, it was a valuable experience that people from a wide age range had fellowship and teamwork using the mobile application. We are excited for the future of Daniel Rush. We pray that God will pour His blessings upon each and every one of us wherever we are. God bless you and maranatha!

* NEWSTART is an acronym for the eight great principles of good health that God has given us to live by. The eight principles are nutrition, exercise, water, sunlight, temperance, air, rest, and trust in God.



The promotional poster of Daniel Rush (left) and the online group room (below).



In the middle of crisis, many Adventists try to help others and show them hope in God.



Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, over 1.5 million have been infected and 88,500 people have lost their lives as of April 9, 2020. This virus has rapidly spread throughout the world. Currently, the number of total cases in the USA and Europe exceeds that of China and many other countries.

In the Northern-Asia Pacific Division territories, schools have been closed far beyond their normal winter break times. Although students may enjoy the extra time off, their parents are now under more stress, trying to manage work and their children at home all day. Workers and business owners are suffering because of the economic challenges caused by losing their jobs or failed businesses. Lockdowns have forced people to stay at home, losing a sense of normalcy in life. Many people in India became jobless and had to walk hundreds of miles to their hometown because of no public transportation. We are now living in a time of worries, fear and uncertainty.

Because of the pandemic, people are suffering from the pain of loss of job, health and loved ones. When we experience this kind of stress, anxiety and fear come into our hearts. Scientists say that fear and anxiety can weaken our immune system and can cause cardiovascular damages. Fear can impact our thinking and decision-making in negative ways. All of this eventually leads to fatigue, clinical depression, and post-traumatic stress disorder. How should we overcome this kind of terrible situation?

The Bible gives us encouraging messages in times of trouble and uncertainty. In Isaiah 43:2, God says, "When you pass through the

waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze." God said that He would be with us. Waters or fire cannot harm us. Daniel's three friends withstood the test of the furnace. When they trusted in God, they met Jesus in the blazing furnace, and not one hair was singed nor did their clothes smell of smoke.

We need to remember that God will not depart from us but holds our hands in times of trouble to strengthen us and to help us to overcome these kinds of difficult situations. As we see all these disasters and epidemics, let us not forget that God is our refuge as Psalms 91 reminds us.

One method to overcome anxiety is to turn our focus from ourselves to others. If we give too much attention to our own problems, they could appear bigger than they are. But if we put our energy into helping the people around us, we can easily forget about our own worries, which will in turn give us joy and happiness in the place of fear and anxiety. As we see the number of people infected by the coronavirus increasing, let us not be afraid, but trust in the Lord and try to find a way to help others.

Do Not Fear



Byun SeongJun
NSD Communication
Associate Director

MM Family and Women's Ministries Produce Video Bible Study Series

Oyuntuya Batsukh

MM Family and Women's Ministries Director

The Family and Women's Ministries departments of Mongolia Mission (MM) have been producing a video series of a Bible study program since February 2020. The Bible study program is based on the *Homes of Hope and Healing* booklet, published by the Women's Ministries department of the General Conference, and is shared with Adventist Church members in Mongolia every week. To make each episode, one pastor's family is invited. They teach the Bible, give valuable lessons for families, and pray for them. Four episodes have been released online so far, and each has reached more than 4,000 views.

This Bible study program involves opening our homes to our neighbors for fellowship and learning. In these perplexing times, when hopelessness abounds, our homes can be places where neighbors, family, and friends gather in fellowship to share spiritual healing and encouragement with one another.

In *Ministry of Healing*, Ellen White wrote, "Christ's method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Savior mingled with men as one who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He bade them, 'Follow Me.' . . . Accompanied by the power of persuasion, the power of prayer, the power of the love of God, this work will not, cannot, be without fruit."

A pastor's family is invited to each episode of the Bible study series to teach the Bible.



Choonyang Church Supports Workers Fighting COVID-19

Since a group of residents in a nursing home were found infected with coronavirus in early March 2020, Bonghwa-goon has become one of the most vulnerable regions in South Korea. As of March 31, 70 COVID-19 cases have been found in the county. During this situation, the members

of the Choonyang Church in Bonghwa-goon came forward to help public officials who are combatting COVID-19, rather than waiting for help themselves.

The church prepared 250 snack packages, which included homemade bread, fruit, packs of soy milk, and nuts. The church members delivered them to people who work at the town's public health center, town center, police office, fire station, and post office. They also made 1,100 pocket size bottles of hand sanitizer and donated them to workers at those offices.

Since the severe infection in a nursing home, public officials have been striving for infection control and prevention of the coronavirus for more than a month. Many of them said that they were exhausted, physically and emotionally. "We are moved that a church prepared all of these things for us and cares for us."

The members of the Choonyang Church said, "It was a valuable experience for every church member, being engaged in 'Total Member Involvement' in order to help others."



Ideas for Sabbath School at Home

Richard Sabuin
NSD SS/PM Director



Due to the outbreak of COVID-19, and in our cooperation and support of the instructions of the government to stop the spread of the virus, many local churches have decided that their members should have Sabbath services at home, not in the regular worship place or church building, for several Sabbaths.

What can we do for Sabbath School at our homes? Here are some ideas:

Live streaming of the Sabbath School program. Many churches are doing this. When we do this, remember that we want as much as possible to do what we do in the church building. Therefore, it is good to begin with a welcome remark and greetings, followed by singing a song together. Inform the church members that when they are invited to sing a song, they should sing it in their houses. Although they may not hear others singing, heaven can hear it as a praise offering by the church. Other parts of the program could be livestreamed, such as the Sabbath School lesson study. Although it is not interactive, members can open their Sabbath School lesson book while listening to the presentation. Close the Sabbath School program with another song and prayer.

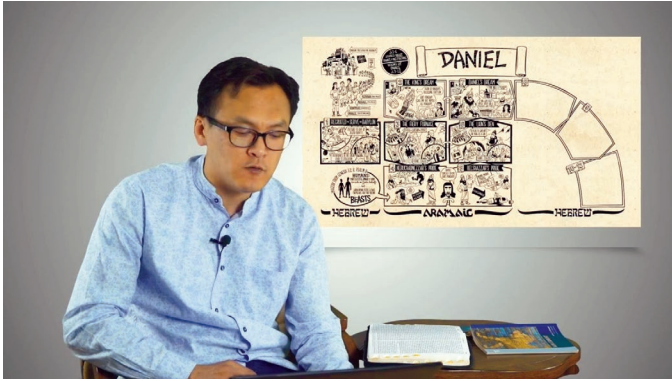
Interactive Sabbath School through online meeting applications, such as Zoom. When all members have cellphone or laptops, your church can arrange that all members would install the Zoom application that is usually used for conferences or meetings. The advantage of using this application or program is that you may have an interactive Sabbath School program as you do in regular meetings. You can even have Sabbath School discussion by groups. If you use this application for just 40 minutes, it will be a free program. Longer than that, you may need to pay. Just visit <https://zoom.us/download> to see how you can install the program. An IT person in your church may be able to help you with this.

Family Sabbath School. This is exciting, especially when there are several members of the family participating. Each may take a part: leading song services, offering prayers, special music, and leading out in the Sabbath School discussion. Remember, it is a Sabbath School program. As much as possible, do it as if you are in the regular Sabbath School program in the church building. Since children and adults are worshipping together, parents

may decide to study and discuss the children's Sabbath School lesson. Parents can give a Bible quiz to the children and vice versa from the Sabbath School lessons.

Stay Connected. When you are alone, or when you are the only Adventist in your family, make sure that you stay connected with your church. You can watch the live streaming of your church, or one provided by your Conference or Union, or even by the Hope Channel TV. You may also participate in a Zoom interactive Sabbath School program. If there are no such programs, stay connected by studying the Sabbath School lesson, more or less at the same time as the regular Sabbath School lesson study with your local church. Telephone calls with fellow Sabbath School members for a short discussion may help you to stay connected!

Children Activities. When just staying at home on Sabbath, children would miss their Sabbath School where they meet their friends and have a lot of activities. We can do something for them so that they can still enjoy Sabbath School at home and Sabbath remains a special day for them. Preparing a coloring activity for them is one idea. Choose



Mongolia Mission provides Sabbath School lessons through live streaming.



pictures about Bible stories or events, and ask them to color, and while they are doing it, you may tell them the story of the picture. A Bible quiz for children will be interesting. Give them a small gift for their right answers. Playing for them a short Bible story animation will be helpful. Let them know that this is their Sabbath School program. As much as possible, do the program according to the time schedule as they would have in their regular Sabbath School.

These are some suggestions. Your local church may arrange something even better than these. The bottom line is the same: the spread of coronavirus will not prevent us from having our Sabbath School program although we do it at home. God is present there, and we will receive His blessings.



It Is Time to Serve

Enkhbayar Mishigdorj
MM Health Ministries Director

Amid concerns over the spread of COVID-19, the Mongolian government declared a state of emergency in Mongolia and has taken active measures. Since January 27, 2020, schools and public gatherings have been suspended until April 30. In response to this circumstance, the Mongolian Mission (MM) started online worship service on February 1. The first online Sabbath sermon was health-emphasized. Also, the MM delivers health nuggets for every Sabbath service. It is obviously the time to share the Adventist health message with our community.

In addition, 3,200 masks and 70 hand sanitizers were distributed to the public and government agencies by the MM Health Ministries department, the MM Youth department's outreach program, and local churches under the MM's instruction. As Jesus showed us His example of mingling with people and providing for their needs, we are trying our best to serve the community in times like this.

Mongolia Mission Health Ministries distribute masks and hand sanitizers to public and government agencies.



South Korea has confirmed more than 8,400 COVID-19 cases and 84 deaths as of March 18, 2020, but the pace of new infections reportedly shows signs of slowing. Local authorities are managing the situation and trying hard to contain and quarantine known cases conducting about 15,000 tests daily. Medical workers clothed in protective gear and wearing face masks have been working around the clock at drive-through centers, swabbing people's mouths and throats for testing.

"Some local authorities are trying to procure any noncontact infrared forehead thermometers to prevent any spread of the coronavirus in public areas. On top of that, the government has begun regulating the use of face masks by selling them," said Lim JongMin, country director for the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) in South Korea. "People can buy up to two masks per person each week. Under the five-day rotation system, the day for buying masks is determined by the last digit of a person's birth year." The regulation comes as mortality rates have decreased, but precautions remain to contain further outbreak.

ADRA Responds to COVID-19 in South Korea

Adventist Development and Relief Agency News



ADRA is currently serving in Bonghwa, Chungdo, Daegu, Andong, Uiseong, Yeongcheon, and Pohang in Gyeongbuk Province to assess immediate needs.

"Most people do not want food," Lim discovered. "Instead, ADRA will provide them with cash vouchers, which will help people who have been displaced from their job as a result of the pandemic to buy necessary items for them and their families." Lim added that studies show using cash helps families, especially the most vulnerable and low-income households, make ends meet during times of crisis.

In the Bonghwa and Chungdo provinces, ADRA has prepared and donated 500 food kits to treatment facilities and delivered 300 food kits to Gyeongsan city for vulnerable families.

"To ensure safety among our team, we are working with the Korean Union Conference's (KUC) Health department to monitor the body temperature of our staff," said Lim. "As emergency responders, we have to ensure that our health is intact so we can continue working to provide aid."

Lim said that the Adventist Community Services in the Daegu and Gyeongbuk regions, which reportedly have the most confirmed COVID-19 cases in the country, have been distributing hand sanitizers produced by the Adventist Church. "They have been offering bottles of hand sanitizers to people in the streets, retail shops, and homes," he added.

"Staff from KUC, ADRA, and local conferences and churches all pitched in to also donate blood," said Lim, as there has been an increased need for blood donations.

South Korea overall has seen a decrease in tourism since the start of the outbreak. Reports are that the novel coronavirus has also made an impact on exports, industries and companies, aviation, and retailers.



An ADRA staff worker holds a sticker that reads, "Let's Overcome Together."

The beginning of the spring semester for kindergarten, elementary, middle, and high schools has also been postponed twice. In the meantime, the Korean Education Ministry plans to provide digital textbooks and offer online classes to avoid gaps with continuing education.

The original version of this story was posted on the ADRA site.

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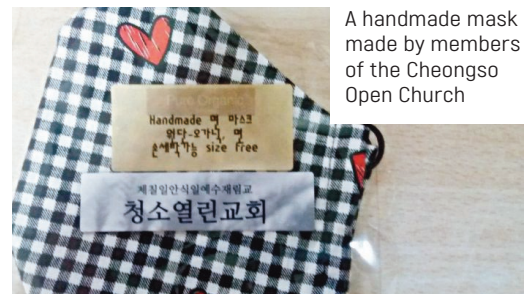
The Cheongso Open Church in Korea gave away handmade hand sanitizers and handmade masks to their neighbors for free to help them prevent coronavirus. "When the virus began to spread fast in Korea, it was not easy for people living in a rural area like us to get hand sanitizers and masks. I thought our church should help overcome this hardship from COVID-19 together with our neighbors, rather than just feel frustrated," said the church pastor Lee JinSeon.

For a few days, some of the church members gathered to produce 8.8 oz bottles of hand sanitizer. To prohibit any contamination, members were not allowed to take off their masks or talk during work hours, concentrating only on making the sanitizers. On the bottle, they put a label, which states, "Hang in there and stay healthy." About ten church members volunteered to deliver the bottles of sanitizer to 150 households, going door to door.

Also, a couple who serve as a deacon and a deaconess at the church produced 250 handmade masks, which are available for multiple uses, and donated them for locals. People who received the gift expressed their gratitude to the church. "I know that it is a very valuable gift these days. Thank you for your thoughtful sharing."

It is not the first time for the Cheongso Open Church to reach out to their neighbors. The church has built a good reputation among them by doing volunteer services, such as cleaning up the village and sharpening people's kitchen knives. "It really is a hard time for all of us due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but I could also say that the crisis rekindles the spirit of unity and mission among our church members," said Pastor Lee. In addition to helping people in need, the church is also trying to reach out to backsliders and long-absentees of the church, to keep up a good relationship with locals, and to foster a strong bond among church members.

Sharing Sanitizers and Masks with Neighbors



A handmade mask made by members of the Cheongso Open Church



Cheonghak Church in Korea Hosts Blood Drive



It was not common in Korea for a local church to host a blood drive. However, as blood shortage has continued because of the ongoing coronavirus crisis, Cheonghak Church in Gyeonggi, Korea, decided to make a bold move to urge local people to participate in blood donation. On the Sabbath of March 7, 2020, a blood donation bus from the Korean Red Cross arrived at the parking lot in the village of Cheonghak.



“The number of participants was more than I expected. It was surprising that people from this village gathered voluntarily to donate their blood,” said one of the staff members from the Korean Red Cross.

The idea of a blood drive came from Seong KiYeol, who is a deacon of the Choenghak Church and a nurse working in a hospital in Seoul. A month ago, he asked a blood supplier to deliver blood and received an answer that he needed to wait for a week. “I had heard the news that blood shortage has been severe due to COVID-19, but I hadn’t realized how bad things had gotten until it happened to my patient,” said Mr. Seong. He thought he should make people around him know the situation, so he suggested to the church he attends that they should hold a blood drive.

To promote the blood drive, Mr. Seong posted on the online local community a week before the event, getting the attention of the local people. “Once we receive positive responses from the online community, it becomes easier to attract people on the day of the event.” It was also essential that members of the Cheonghak Church actively participate in the donation. Above all, what was key to making the blood drive possible was that the church has built up trust with their neighbors through volunteer service, charity sales, and street cleanup for the neighborhood. “When the Cheonghak Church suggested blood donation, local people were pleased to participate without any prejudice of religion or church denomination. Rather, the church gained a good reputation from the people,” said Mr. Seong.

The blood drive was held efficiently. Volunteers from the Cheonghak Church sent applicants a pre-screening questionnaire in advance primarily to make sure they met the eligibility requirements to donate blood. Furthermore, to avoid any possible exposure to the coronavirus due to gathering, the church divided applicants into groups and let them visit at the appointed time only and tried best



After donating blood, the donors were given a couple of gifts, including hand sanitizer.

to minimize contact with others. While waiting in line in front of the bus, they were wearing a mask, kept enough distance, and took a body temperature check.

The participants' faces were filled with joy from helping others. "It was my first time to donate blood. For the past few days, I have drunk enough water and have tried to keep myself in good health condition. I am so glad that my little effort can help to save someone's life, and I will participate again next time there is a blood drive," said Kwon SoonYeon, a church deaconess.

There was a mother and daughter getting on the blood drive bus together. Kim YouBin,

the daughter, is a college freshman. "I have donated blood since I was in high school, but this time it feels more meaningful because many people, health workers, and patients in Korea are suffering from the coronavirus outbreak. I hope more people join this blood donation." Mrs. Woo, her mother, said that she was proud of her daughter.

The church pastor Heo YoonKi expressed his deep appreciation for the donors and the volunteers from the church. "We have witnessed that the heart of sharing love with people in need has overcome the growing anxiety and fear amid the coronavirus pandemic. I hope many Adventists in Korea join the blood donation efforts," said Pastor Heo.

The event finished around 5 p.m. A total of 77 people checked for eligibility, and 55 who met screening criteria donated blood. The church gave donors a bottle of hand sanitizer and a pack of grape juice. Also, snacks and various gifts were donated from some of the local villagers. It was the day the Adventist church members and their neighbors worked together to make their community better.

Serving Public Health Workers during the Pandemic Crisis

On March 13, 2020, the Domadong Church delivered 40 boxes of soy milk packs to workers at its nearby public health center to encourage them during this hard time of the coronavirus. Soy milk is one of the major products of Sahmyook Food Factory, which is an Adventist food company in Korea.

"Originally, we planned to send the soy milk to Daegu-city and Gyeongbuk Province, which had the largest number of COVID-19 cases in Korea. However, we found out that delivery service around those regions was limited due to the increased demand of its service, so we changed our plan to express our gratitude toward health workers in our community," said the church pastor Kim SahnBae.

There was a note attached to every box of soy milk, saying, "We are by your side in the fight against COVID-19." Furthermore, the church put up a banner outside, along the sidewalks and driveways, which reads, "We pray for public officials, health workers, and those who suffer from coronavirus."

If the situation goes on for more than a month, the church will develop new plans to support health workers and neighbors.



Taiwan Conference Dealing With COVID-19

Li-Chun Lai
TWC President



During TWC's vegetarian health week, church members in Taiwan were encouraged to work out, study the Bible, and follow a vegetarian diet.

Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, Taiwan has put a lot of effort into containing the virus and has been able to control the spread in Taiwan so far with testing and quarantining. In response to the outbreak of COVID-19, the Taiwan Conference (TWC) made several decisions.

First, TWC set up a crisis management committee, which holds meetings when needed. Also, all Adventist pastors in Taiwan are invited to the Zoom online meeting which deals with matters related to COVID-19. The online meeting will continue to be held until the situation normalizes.

TWC has assisted local churches in purchasing alcohol disinfectants. Also, 120 thermometers were distributed to each church. For every meeting in local churches, all the attendees are required to measure their body temperature to prevent the spread of the coronavirus.

Due to the epidemic situation, TWC's mission plans with local churches were cancelled. However, the Health Ministries department encouraged local churches to conduct the vegetarian health week and made great efforts to promote the participation of pastors, elders, church leaders and members.

At present, TWC is following through with the "100 days of prayer" campaign, uniting in prayer with the Adventist world church. Pray for unity and for the faith of church members as they wait for the second coming of Jesus Christ.

Even though the world is in the middle of a crisis, TWC encourages our church members to see hope in God and suggests the following attitudes toward the pandemic:

1. In the time of COVID-19, we can find an opportunity to preach the gospel of God that will bring people peace.
2. It is an opportunity for us to develop small group ministry by praying and caring for one another.
3. Remember that now the fastest way to spread the Gospel is through online media, such as Facebook, YouTube, and instant messaging apps.
4. It is a proper time to promote the Adventist health message that teaches people how to keep their bodies safe and healthy.
5. Let us try to lead more people to the Lord by living up to His teachings in the Holy Bible.

I pray that the promises of God will continue to be with us so that we may be strong in our faith and work hard to preach for the coming of the Lord. Amen!



What Do You Do When Your Church Is Closed?

Ron Clouzet
NSD Ministerial Secretary

This article was first published in the April issue of *Church Ministry Newsletter* from the NSD Ministerial department.

Adventist churches in Korea have been closed for at least five weeks now due to COVID-19. In other countries of the division, it is the same. Many pastors and churches immediately began streaming Sabbath services, including the study of the Sabbath School lesson and the Sabbath sermon. But is this enough? What are churches supposed to do in this situation when the Bible clearly encourages us to worship together? The apostle wrote, “Let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, **not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together**, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, so much the more as you see the Day approaching” (Hebrews 10:24-25, emphasis supplied).

That’s a good question. Some churches are defying the recommendations of governments not to assemble in groups. But the Bible also says “Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. Therefore, whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves” (Romans 13:1-2). In our current

situation, we could keep our social distance, and yet continue growing as Christians. How?

Two weeks ago, we sent information from the Ministerial office regarding many resources available for pastors and churches at this time. Check your email from your union, conference, or mission ministerial secretary. You also can check <https://ministerial.adventist.org/covid19> again. There are many other resources on spiritual growth you can pass on to your members that are found here: <https://revivalandreformation.org>. But there are a few more things to consider, especially if you are a church pastor. Here are four of them:

Take More Time to Study and Pray. Since you cannot visit members in their homes, cannot lead meetings, and basically do not travel, this is the time to shore up your spiritual walk with God. Over the years, I’ve heard many pastors complain to me that they were so busy they couldn’t spend adequate time praying or studying the Word. That excuse is gone now. You do have the time, even if you have children at home all day. Do not miss this opportunity! If you spent 30 minutes praying, spend 60 minutes now. If you read God’s Word for 60 minutes in the past, take two hours or more now to study and reflect on what God is thinking. Do this to have a closer walk

with Jesus. He is giving you a wonderful opportunity now which might be gone very soon!

If You Are Married with Children, Get Creative. It may be a bit more challenging for everyone in the family to stay in small quarters day after day. That's why you need to get creative. You don't want your children to long for the days they can go back to school because home is so boring or stifling! And you don't want your spouse to wish you were out of the house so she doesn't have to take care of you also! Get creative. That's your responsibility. You are the leader of your home. Ask God each morning to give you ideas about how to do schoolwork with the children, how to play together, and how to grow spiritually together. Ask the family every night what they would suggest for the next day. If you focus on this, your family will thank God for you.

Call Your Members and Interests. Yes, a simple phone call. This is not sending a text to members nor a message to everyone through KakaoTalk or a different social platform. This is making a personal phone call. Your members want to know that they matter to you *personally*, not only when they are part of a group. Set a goal of calling five or more members each day, to see how they are

doing, and to pray for them over the phone. Select a Bible promise just for them, not one to share with everyone. And don't forget to call nonmembers who usually attend your church or are interested in the Adventist message. They are also part of your flock.

Read for Spiritual and Intellectual Development. Many pastors stop doing serious reading after they graduate from Seminary (master's degree). That dishonors God. A pastor should continually be improving his or her understanding of God and the world. Read Bible commentaries, read Adventist history or Ellen White's books you've been wanting to read. Read philosophy, read apologetics, read science. All this will help you craft better sermons and communicate better with others. Take advantage of the fact that you have more time now to do this.

COVID-19 may be over in a few weeks or months. In the meantime, consider this time as a gift from God to help your life, that of your family, and that of your members. Remember the words of God's servant regarding the use of time: "Our time belongs to God. . . . Of no talent He has given will He require a more strict account than of our time" (*Christ's Object Lessons*, 342).

PUBLIC CAMPUS MINISTRIES



Public Campus Ministries to Save the Future of Taiwan Adventist Church

Kim DongHyun

PCM Missionary at Beitun Adventist Church

I came to the Beitun Adventist Church in Taiwan as a Public Campus Ministries (PCM) missionary in January 2020. I have been taking a Chinese language course at National Taichung University of Technology, and I spend time with students attending the university in the afternoon.

Like other countries in the Northern Asia-Pacific Division territories, Taiwan has many obstacles in evangelism, such as aging of society and the country's folk religions. Moreover, the majority of Adventists in Taiwan are the indigenous residents, who comprise less than three percent of the total population, compared to the Han Chinese, who make up more than 90 percent.

For the last two months, I've worked for PCM ministries with church pastor Kwon SoonBeom. While meeting many college students with Pastor Kwon, we are convinced that PCM is a good way to revive the Adventist church in Taiwan.



Three years ago, the Beitun Church started campus ministry. The church started a Korean class, and some of the attendees of the class were baptized and became youth members of the Beitun Church. Since four of those baptized members were attending the National Taichung University of Technology, which has a total of more than 16,000 students, the church began to support them to organize a Korean language club at the university. Around 110 students have joined the club, and among them, more than 20 students attend the weekly lunchtime prayer meeting on the campus and five students have visited the church.

Local churches in Taiwan have a prejudice that college student mission is a waste of time and effort. However, Beitun Church has kept trying to cast away the prejudice. The church encourages its youth members to serve as missionaries in the school they are attending. Many of the members have a part time job, and now they give back tithes and offerings to the church. Some members who get a job in the Beitun region after graduation continue to attend the church.



1. Pastor Kwon SoonBeom baptized the president of the Korean language club at the National Taichung University of Technology.
2 & 3. Beitun Church holds the weekly lunchtime prayer meeting on the campus.



It is unavoidable that college students leave the church and go back to their hometown after graduation. That's why we make church connections. When students graduate from the university, we introduce them to a church pastor in the area they are going to live so that they can continue to go to the Adventist church around them.

Also, we encourage our youth members to evangelize their friends because this is a simple but most powerful way of evangelism. In December 2019, the president of the Korean language club at the National Taichung University of Technology was baptized. The impact has been greater than expected. Many friends have come to the church more easily. They feel free to gather at the church as they do on the campus. Some of them come to church six times a week.

Beitun Adventist Church has around 40 participants for Sabbath worship. Among them, fifteen are young people, and only one of them is indigenous Taiwanese. PCM can be an answer for the age-old problem of the Taiwan Adventist Church, which is the skewed population toward indigenous people over Han Chinese.

Evangelism through PCM has resulted in a high retention rate at the Beitun Church. It is not a one-time meeting on campus, but it continues until students grow as committed members of the church. Of course, it is not easy to open the doors of young college students. Some of the students took three years until they attended the church regularly. Once they become church members, however, they participate in various church activities, such as leading praise and worship, taking up offering, telling the children's story, and washing dishes after lunch. They definitely have a sense of belonging for the church.

Since I am a third-generation Adventist, it has been so natural for me to have the Adventist faith. But at the same time, it made me hesitate to introduce my faith and preach the gospel to others. Serving as a PCM missionary in Beitun, I am gaining a valuable experience to share the gospel of God with people of my generation. I sincerely pray that the Holy Spirit continues to lead the PCM in Taiwan.



Hello, *News & Views* readers. I'm Kim KangHan, a 2nd batch Public Campus Ministries (PCM) missionary from Korea. I was dispatched to the Pingtung Church in Taiwan in February 2020. Pingtung County is located in the southernmost part of Taiwan, and only a few Koreans live here. In order to preach the gospel to people in Pingtung, learning the Chinese language is essential. I have been learning Chinese since March.

As a new semester begins in March, my Taiwanese missionary partner and I knuckled down for mission work on campus. First, we launched a Korean language club. Classes are held once a week on campus. We also provide additional classes for those who learn slowly or for those who join late. Our ultimate purpose for running the club is to introduce Jesus to members and evangelize them. I not only teach the students the Korean language in class, but I also try to connect with them and spend time with them on weekends. Soon I hope to invite them to our church on Sabbath.

Moreover, we started a regular prayer meeting to reach out to other students who are not interested in our Korean club. At first, I had no idea how to attract students and lead out in prayer meeting. I doubted

that this prayer meeting plan would be carried out, but God knows my worries. Pastor Kwon SoonBeom, who is serving in Beitun Church, gave me some advice on running the group. He said that it would be better to hang out with the students first, go out for a meal together, and share encouraging words with them. We started the prayer meeting with youth members of our church, and asked them to invite their friends to the meeting. Our goal is to have more than ten young people meeting together.

Through those two evangelism activities mentioned above, we will eventually invite students to evangelism meetings, which we are planning to hold during summer vacation. Until then, I will try my best to spend much time with students in the Korean language club and the prayer meeting group and lead them to the church.

Even though I am young, lack experience, and sometimes am unable to find what to do, I believe that God always guides me to serve Him and opens ways for me. A total of ten missionaries, including myself, are serving in Taiwan. I ask for your continued prayer for the PCM in Taiwan. Thank you and God bless!

Public Campus Ministries in Pingtung

Kim KangHan
PCM Missionary at Pingtung Church



Pingtung Church holds a Korean class once a week on campus.





Public Campus Ministries of Hsinchu Golden Star Church

Baek Joon

Pastor at Hsinchu Golden Star Church

In 2019, the first two missionaries for Public Campus Ministries (PCM) were sent to Hsinchu Church, which opened on June 16, 2018. The Hsinchu area is called the Silicon Valley of Taiwan because the city includes Hsinchu Science Park, the country's hub of high-tech industry. Although it is a small city with a population of 450,000, there are two universities, Tsinghua University and National Chiao Tung University, which rank second and third in the country. The education and living standards of people in Hsinchu are comparably high in Taiwan. Currently, two PCM missionaries from the second batch and I are working together on campus mission aiming to evangelize college students.

Since March 2020, we have had Friday Night Fellowship time every Friday night, and 10 to 15 students participate in this program. Every Wednesday at lunch, the missionaries and I visit the campuses to have a prayer meeting with students and provide them lunch boxes. The Korean language class that used to be held at the church received approval as a formal club from Tsinghua University on September 2019, so they gather on campus now.

In 2019, the average number of church attendees for Sabbath worship reached 25, but recently the church has been struggling due to the COVID-19 situation. Most of them are new, so they seem to be more affected by the situation than those who have been in church for a long time. But there is hope in this church.

More than half of the members are college students and young workers. Eight young people regularly attend the Bible study every Wednesday at 8:30 p.m., igniting their dream of becoming missionaries. As a senior pastor of this church, I believe that God will use this church as a strong army of God, just as God worked through Gideon and the 300 soldiers. Please pray for the Hsinchu Golden Star Church to grow to be a church like Gideon's army.



Every Wednesday, PCM missionaries and the church pastor visit the campuses to have a prayer meeting with students and provide them lunch boxes.



Three Days of Torture: Super Training for 1000MM Missionaries

Park JiEun
1000MM 55th Batch

Due to all the chaos of evacuating after the eruption of Taal Volcano in the Philippines in January 2020, it completely slipped my mind that we had to take part in Super Training. I had heard so many horrendous rumors about Super Training, which is why I really wanted to avoid this activity at all cost. However, the day came when we had to pack our things for this three-day trip.

We had to drive for two hours and then walk for an hour in order to reach our destination. We walked in a long single file line and endured the strong waves of heat that gleamed in our faces. When we arrived, we were all excited to see the clear blue beach that seemed

to welcome us. However, our happiness and excitement did not last long. We immediately set our things down and started our training.

We were taught ten different physical training exercises. At first, it wasn't so bad; it was actually pretty fun. However, after 50 minutes of continuous exercise, we were exhausted. We wanted to take a break and drink water, yet there was no stopping till we finished going through all ten physical training exercises. The problem was, after 50 minutes, we were still stuck on physical training exercise #1. We had been told to leave our watches and our caps on campus, so we didn't know how much time passed while the sun scorched as hot as ever onto our faces. It felt like an eternity, finishing that session.

When lunch time finally arrived, we all groaned in pain and exhaustion. We all stuffed our faces with as much food as we could because we were starving. After eating, we wanted to be done for the day. We did not want to do anything; however, we knew that this was just the beginning. We continued our training after an hour of



break. For four hours, we consistently had our physical training exercises in the scorching sun with only a quick five-minute break in the middle. There were so many times, that I cannot even count, where I wanted to cry and give up. My whole body was giving up on me, and I just wanted to stop and hide in the shade.

By the second hour, I actually felt my soul leaving my body. I felt like an empty shell, exercising mindlessly. When I was told to run, I ran. When I was told to lie in the water, I lay down. When I was told to crawl in the hot sand, I crawled. When I was told to do jumping jacks a hundred times, I did it. However, when my mind told me to run away, I could not. Why is that? It is because I was not alone. The hardest thing about the whole training was hearing the groans of my batch mates. When I was exhausted and in pain, I was not alone. I could not complain because I knew that others were experiencing the same thing. Even when my batch mates made mistakes and we had to receive more punishment, we could not groan because groaning made things worse. That day, we had to learn to accept the mistakes of others. Even when they kept messing up for more than an hour, we had to accept their mistakes.

Pastor Jun made it very clear to us that day that loving others is difficult; however, we must endure and understand them because that is what Jesus did. Jesus never complained. In the scorching sun, Jesus was crucified on the cross yet he never complained. Though



His disciples all ran away from Him, Jesus did not utter a word. Jesus never gave up no matter how difficult the situation may have seemed. Through this Super Training, I've learned to accept the mistakes of others without questioning. I've also learned that I should not give up; instead, I should depend on the Lord for help. It was a long three days that we all had to bear; however, through this torturous experience, we all grew a bit more mature in the presence of Christ. I am glad that I was able to complete this training; nevertheless, it is an experience that I never want to repeat again.



Debina (right) with her missionary colleague

With God All Things Are Possible

Debina Priyanjana
1000MM 55th Batch

My name is Debina Priyanjana. I am a 1000 Missionary Movement (1000MM) missionary from Sri Lanka. I would like to thank God for giving me this opportunity to share my testimony. Because He did a lot of miracles in my life, I decided to work for Him for the rest of my life. That's the reason why I left my country and came to join the 1000MM.

Training at the 1000MM campus has helped me to grow spiritually. John, one of our pastors, always asks the missionaries, "Why are you here?" I have also asked myself that question. At the beginning of our missionary training, I was full of worries and fears about going to the



mission field. I kept asking myself why I was here, and I became convinced that God has a plan for my life and only He knows what that is. I made a commitment to God that whatever happens in my life, I will do His mission work. “Here am I, Lord; send me wherever you want me to go.”

When the time came to go to the cottage meeting for ten days, I was clueless and unprepared. I didn’t want to leave this wonderful campus and my precious missionary friends. For the meeting, we were divided into groups and assigned to different places in Luzon, Philippines.

On Friday, my group members and I went to the Molino Central Church in Bacoor City, where we were assigned. It was quite close to the 1000MM campus. For the first three days, I felt lonely and missed the campus badly. On Monday, however, I was revived by the Holy Spirit, who encouraged me to carry out mission work for the church.

From Monday, we went out for house-to-house visitation. I didn’t expect people to listen to our message, but I was wrong. Many of them looked as if they were expecting us, waiting for us, and were willing to learn about God. On the way back to the church, we praised God that He prepared many people who have a thirst for the gospel of God.

On the second day, we went for house visitation again, but it felt like we couldn’t touch anyone’s heart. We got discouraged and decided to go back to the church early. As we were about to walk back to the church, I saw a lady standing alongside the road. I thought we should talk to her, so I suggested to the other missionaries that we go and talk to her. We introduced ourselves first as 1000MM missionaries, had some talk, and asked her if we could pray together. “We would like to pray for you. Can we pray?”

Surprisingly, she gladly said, “Yes, please pray for me and my sister because we both are suffering from a heart problem.” She continued, “I don’t know a lot about God, but I waited so many days for someone to pray for me and my sister.”

Praise the Lord who sent us to the lady to pray for her! When we talked with her, we could see sadness on her face. She told us that she is living alone in Bacoor, and she

has one sister who is living in another place. “I feel alone and that I have no one to listen to me. Sometimes I feel so lonely that I stand on the street by myself.”

After we prayed together, her face turned brighter. She said that she felt better and more relaxed. She also asked us to pray for her sister, too, “so she would also feel as comfortable as I am now.” We prayed once more and she even recorded it. After we talked more with her, we told her about our crusade and invited her to join us at our church.

We thought she would come to the church, but she didn’t come. After that incident we didn’t meet her again, but I can say that I saw her faith. When we prayed for her and her sister, she believed that God was able to heal her and her sister.

The lady reminds me of some Bible verses. In Matthew 9:20-22, there was a woman who believed that when she touched Jesus, she would be healed. “[Jesus] said, ‘your faith has healed you.’ And the woman was healed from that moment.” And in Matthew 19:26, Jesus also said, “With men this is impossible but with God all things are possible.”

After the day when we met the lady, whenever we went out for house visitations we never forgot to pray, “God, we don’t know where we need to go and whom we need to deliver Your words, but You know everything. Please guide us and lead us.” After that, whenever we went, there was at least one person waiting to hear God’s message.

During those ten days, we were blessed because we were able to touch many people’s hearts. We didn’t do anything, but God did everything in His way. And the brethren and members of the Molino Central Church were lovable, and they treated us like we were their own family members. God prepared everything for us.

I remember how scared I was before leaving for the cottage meeting. Now I realize that God chose me for His mission. As seen in His promise in Matthew 28:19, He will never leave me alone. I am really excited about going to the mission field because I want to experience God’s presence in my mission field. I do not fear because God is always with me.



Debina leads a Sabbath School program with her colleagues.



A group of the 55th 1000MM missionaries after completing their English training

To Be a Missionary Who Cares for People's Bodies and Souls

Kendrashieliu Maglonzo
1000MM 55th Batch

A few years back during my early years at university, I had already heard a little about the 1000 Missionary Movement (1000MM), but didn't give it much attention. Being a missionary is admirable because people who become one have to sacrifice a lot in their lives, but becoming a missionary was not on any of my lists. Besides, I didn't feel equipped with any talent or knowledge to be a missionary. Life for me continued as a college student, only focusing on making it until graduation.

During my final year of college, school became busier, but God showed me that there is more to life than just aimlessly completing my studies. I was invited as a health lecturer for two consecutive crusades that my university was doing in the rural areas. It was at that moment that I realized how amazing it is to become a worker for Christ, as though something within me was burning with peace and satisfaction. Even though I was in the middle of finishing a major requirement for my last year in university, I couldn't help but be assured that I could face it whatever the result was. During those crusades, my part was not just to impart health information, but I was also assigned to lead the community exercise, accompany our theology students in Bible studies and house visitations, teach children about Bible stories, build rapport in the community where we are and help handle the crusade programs. It was the most rewarding and most valuable experience I had during my university time.

Years after that, I was already in the hospital as a nutritionist-dietitian. I was happy helping people get better and prevent recurrence of their illnesses and working in lifestyle-disease prevention. In spite of enjoying being a support to other people and earning money by doing that, there was still an unfulfilled feeling that I couldn't yet determine at the time. I was also busy with personal travels and career goals that I didn't notice I was overlooking my spiritual life.

Then one day, an old university classmate reached me out to me through social media. We hung out soon after that. I learned that she went on to become a missionary right after we graduated from university. As she shared her story, it started to inspire me little by little, and the thought of becoming a missionary suddenly crossed my mind. Upon getting home, I started looking up missionary opportunities online on Seventh-day Adventist affiliated websites. There were several calls that I was interested in, such as those within the health and nutrition field. I also searched for the 1000MM and looked up their qualifications. The same search results appeared just as my friend had said I would find. She also told me that the



application processing for me wouldn't be too hard since I had already finished studying. For the last couple of months in 2018, joining the missionary movement filled my heart and mind. I longed for something fulfilling and rewarding, a means of making a big difference in people's lives not just through health but also for their soul, just like it says in 3 John 1:2 wherein, John prayed for the prosperity of his friend's physical health and spiritual health.

Fast forward to March 2020, I am now a trainee here at the 1000MM. I am grateful to God that He sent me someone to move my heart and make me realize the happiness that comes from joining this great cause. I don't know yet what kind of missionary I will be in the future, but maybe it will be within health and children ministries. I was glad to impart health improvement methods and share Bible stories to children during our recent training cottage meeting. Although these two are my current interests, I am continually praying for God's best plan for me. I know He is in control and He has called me to be an instrument of His love to others.



I am one of the 55th batch missionaries of the 1000 Missionary Movement (1000MM). I am from Korea, and I am now serving in Palompon, Leyte, Visayas, in the Philippines.

I was not born into a Christian family, but my mom started to go to church after she was unexpectedly diagnosed with cancer. After she became a Christian, she often told me about Jesus, and it gradually opened my mind. On the day she had surgery, I found that I couldn't do anything but wait. At that moment, what she had said about Jesus came to my mind, so I prayed to God to save my mom. Before long, I found out that God answered my prayer. After experiencing His grace, I wanted to know more about Him and was baptized in 2016.

One day, I heard about someone who had decided to dedicate a year of her youth to God. I was touched by her determination, and the small seed she planted grew in my mind and finally led me to join the 1000MM.

On the day before I left for the training center of the 1000MM, one pastor visited me to encourage me, saying, "The reason God is calling you is there's something He has prepared to show you. You may return without experiencing a single baptism or repentance. But if you are able to see the living God there and come back to testify to people that He is alive, isn't that enough?"

After two months of training, my partner and I were dispatched to a small, remote village in the mountain. There was no water, no electricity, and no telephone signal. It was

Am I Truly Prepared for God's Mission?

Kim SeongMin

1000MM 55th Batch



hard to communicate with people in the village due to language differences. Their ways of life were different from mine. I was not used to men and women taking a bath together in open space with their clothes on. Day by day, my mind grew weaker. All I could do was read the word of God.

One Sabbath, it was a usual gloomy morning. I was still faced with my incompetence, and my skin problem, which was caused by the scorching heat, was getting worse. I read the chapter in Ellen White's book, *Patriarchs and Prophets*, on the flood in Noah's days. For 120 years, people laughed at Noah and mocked him. They said building an ark would be useless. But Noah was just doing the work God had commanded. The result of that turned out to be the salvation of Noah himself and his family.

In my mission field, I asked myself hundreds of times, "What am I doing here, leaving my home and my family? For what am I going through all these troubles which I wouldn't have if I were in my country?" On that day, I repeated the same questions. Then I got a text message from my mom in Korea. She said that she was going to Sabbath worship with my dad. My dad had said to my mom, "I want to take my daughter's place and go to church with you."

Since I had started to attend church with my mom, we had been waiting for the moment when my dad would go to church with us on Sabbath. He had turned down the invitation many times and didn't seem to want to hear our suggestions. We had never gotten a positive response from him. I couldn't believe that I finally got the answer while I was here in the Philippines. I was so happy that I couldn't help but cry with happiness. The gloomy Sabbath turned into a happy Sabbath!

I found out that God sometimes works in ways I couldn't have expected. The seed I planted as a missionary was accepted by God and produced a fruit in my home, where I love the most. Since then, I no longer ask God "why" questions. "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household" (Acts 16:31).





Online Prayer Meeting for PMM Missionaries



Joo MinHo
NSD Adventist Mission Director

Due to the widespread outbreak of coronavirus across the world, many countries have exercised travel bans to other countries and people with confirmed infection are being required to remain in quarantine until they are recovered and found negative. About three months after the initial outbreak, the coronavirus spread quickly throughout the world.

The Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) has 39 missionaries serving through the Pioneer Missionary Movement (PMM), which is a cross-cultural church planting project within NSD territories. In addition, some PMM missionaries serve in countries beyond the NSD territories since other Divisions have requested them to serve in unentered cities. Now in 16 different countries, they are serving as church planters. Most of them serve in developing countries, and those countries have a limited number of test kits for the coronavirus. Eight PMM families returned to Korea for the safety of family members. Thirty-one PMM families still remain in the mission fields, caring for their flocks.

The NSD Adventist Mission department planned for a special prayer meeting for the PMM missionaries using Zoom, a video conferencing software. Social distancing recommended strongly by each government keeps members from getting together in a church building for worship. Many churches are having online worship services because of this situation. Getting the idea from online worship, a Zoom meeting was planned.

The online prayer meeting was held on April 13, 2020, for two hours in the evening. Thirty-four PMM pastors and 17 NSD officers, directors, and working staff joined the prayer meeting.

Representative pastors reported on the mission projects they are engaged in and the difficulty of their current situation. PMM pastors introduced various mission projects and activities and shared how COVID-19 is affecting people's lives. Most

Two Adventist churches in Taiwan that have PMM pastors working for them, Beitun Church (Above) and Hsinchu Golden Star Church (Below), had public gatherings for evangelism and Korea-English Bible Camp, respectively.





Mission activity of house building and a baptismal ceremony operated by two PMM pastors in Mongolia. They temporarily returned to Korea for the safety of family members.



PMM pastors are taking care of members and teaching the Bible to seekers through SNS and online because many places are locked down.

Division officers and directors prayed for each of them after their report and expressed their concern. Pastor Lee Jichoon, Korean Union Conference ministerial secretary, joined this prayer meeting and shared encouraging words with the PMM pastors. NSD president Kim SiYoung also gave them encouragement with the words of God and prayed for their safety and faithful service as God's servants. This Zoom prayer meeting was the first online prayer meeting with PMM pastors. Many PMM pastors gave their feedback by expressing great thanks to the NSD for their concern and for their prayers.

MULTICULTURAL FAMILY HAPPINESS SHARING CENTER



MFSC Sends Special Gift to Foreign Neighbors Suffering from COVID-19 Crisis

Kim GeunSoo
Director of MFSC

On Sabbath afternoon of April 4, 2020, the Ansan Multicultural Family Happiness Sharing Center (MFSC) prepared 100 bags of rice to share with 100 foreign neighbor families who were carefully selected because of their economic difficulties due to the COVID-19 crisis. The number of confirmed coronavirus cases in South Korea has surpassed 10,000 since April 2. Many Koreans are suffering economically due to the coronavirus pandemic, and the situations of foreigners in Korea are even worse.

Those who received the 22-pound rice bags were very grateful to the MFSC and said that they were deeply impressed by the support of the center. They stated that they will do their best to overcome this crisis together.

When we are going through a hard time, it is an opportunity to share what we have and encourage others through the love of Christ.



Testimonies of Golden Angels 17th Batch

■ Kim HyoKi

In August 2019, I was about to graduate from university. I was considering options for my future, but nothing was yet decided. While so many thoughts and worries about my future flooded my mind, I got a phone call from one of my friends. He suggested that I apply for the 17th batch of Golden Angels. I turned down his suggestion because I didn't consider myself qualified to be a missionary. A few days later, he called me again, and I refused again. Several days later, when I tried to tell him that I was not going to apply for the mission because I lacked the qualities of a missionary, he said, "It is not man's work, but it is God's. He will lead you, and 2020 will be a wonderful year for you and Him." So I applied for the Golden Angels, and God allowed me to join the 17th batch.

Although I've lived as a missionary for only a few months, I have really appreciated my life here. Since the very first day we gathered as Golden Angels, we have been trained to live a distinctive life as a singing missionary. We go to sleep before 11 p.m. and get up at 5:50 a.m. Every morning, we devote our earliest hours to God through Bible meditation and prayer. We also try to maintain good health condition with exercise and diet. And of course, we spend a lot of time singing together. Praising God is the happiest and most enjoyable for us in our routine. I should thank my friend who recommended me to Golden Angels mission and thank God who has given me this wonderful opportunity to praise Him with my colleagues.



■ Lee YeeOn

When I started Christian discipleship training as a part of the Golden Angels ministry, I prayed to God to draw me closer to Him and reveal what kind of person I am. He answered my prayer, and He showed me my sins. What made it hard for me was that in my sight, everyone seemed clean except me. I was overwhelmed by the thought that I was not valuable. Days and weeks passed, but I continued to feel burdened by my sins. I could not stand it anymore, so I prayed to God more earnestly, telling Him my situation and my feelings. And He answered my prayer through the discipleship training.

The day after I made the earnest prayer, we had a discipleship training session, which has been held twice a week, and it was time to learn about the purpose of God's creation. "Even if you don't do anything, you are worthy for Me. I saved you by My blood. Even if you are still in sin, it does not change that I love you." It was the lesson I learned that day. He answered my prayer by showing me how much He loves me! At that moment, I made up my mind not to turn away from God's love for the rest of my life.

Through this spiritual experience, I don't get afraid of making mistakes any more. I know that even though I fall down, He will embrace me with His arms, telling me how much He loves me and how worthy I am in His sight.

■ Ko EunWoo

It has been more than three months since I joined the Golden Angels 17th group. At first, I set very high standards for myself being a singing missionary. As I wanted to do a great job, I worked hard in all respects. However, not long after I started the Golden Angels ministries, I found myself judging the other members.

When I put myself in despair due to my perfectionism, God gave me a message that I was born to be happy. I realized that God loves me and that He is the one who wants me to be happy and that I am a missionary who is commissioned to share true happiness from God with others. I have kept thinking about God's purpose toward me, and it has taken the load off my mind. I thank God for allowing me to learn how to be a missionary for Him.

■ Seika Kamino

I had a hard time during our two-month official training, which started right after I joined Golden Angels. I received intense training for singing, but my skills improved very slowly. I often felt frustrated and angry with myself. However, I can say that I was able to build up a relationship with God through those painful days. The more time I spent with Jesus asking for help, the closer I got to God. I still don't have the singing skills I expected, but now I have a close relationship with God. Even though I am a slow learner, I hope to grow not only in a musical way but in a spiritual way.

■ Kim JiYoon

I believe that God has prepared so many ways for me. When I first joined Golden Angels and finished training, I was really upset that I couldn't do my mission because the coronavirus had started spreading through some countries. But God has helped me grow during this time. He has trained me and has made me look at the word of God more often than before. This situation makes me understand the importance of my service more deeply, and I pray for the souls I will meet soon. I really want to share what I learned during this time when I go to a mission field one day.



■ Seo JuHee

While living a life as a missionary, the word of God gives me love, comfort, and motivation every day. "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path" (Psalms 119:105). I believe that for God, my price is the same as that of Jesus, who is more valuable than the whole universe! I am certain that He has a plan for me and will use me. As a member of the Golden Angels, I will do my best to accomplish the mission of preaching the gospel to those who need love and comfort from heaven.

■ Choi JoonSoo

When I heard that our mission trips to Hong Kong and Taiwan were canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, I was very disappointed. I had expected to go around the world and deliver the love of God as a missionary. When it turned out that many of our plans were gone, suddenly everything with my ministry seemed to be meaningless.



Above: Golden Angels male members and Pastor Cho DaeYeon, Golden Angels associate coordinator, record their music album.

Below: Exercising is included in their daily routines to keep them in good health condition.

As I have kept doing Bible meditation and discipleship training with our members, however, I have been able to understand God’s message. He said that it is not the right time, so stay and wait. While I was praying to God, I realized that I came here as a missionary. And I realized that this is the time to prepare myself to be a missionary throughout my entire life as well as during my one-year mission as a Golden Angels member. Now I am very thankful that God has given this opportunity to hold onto Him and grow my faith.

■ Weijie Kao

I found out that I have a special gift in singing when I was 12 years old, and it became a turning point in my life. I used to think I didn’t have any talents. However, when I started singing, I felt I was worthy. Since that time, music has been the most important part of my life. I was surprised that I was able to play the piano beautifully without reading the score. I found no difficulty in memorizing the melody of hymns and changing the chords. When I was 13, I was able to work as a church pianist. After I went to college, I worked as a summer camp teacher, teaching children music and the Bible during summer vacation. However, those part-time jobs didn’t satisfy my passion for music. God prepared a plan for me, and in 2020, He gave me a chance to join the Golden Angels ministry.

To become a singing missionary has been not easy for me. I have often felt discouraged. Also, I couldn’t help but get disappointed when our mission trips were canceled due to the coronavirus outbreak. However, encouragement among the members and our daily Bible meditation have kept me strong in faith. Through the ministry so far, I’ve learned an important lesson: Don’t look at who you are because God knows you better and He helps you. Now I admit that God always makes a way for me, so I surrender to Him.

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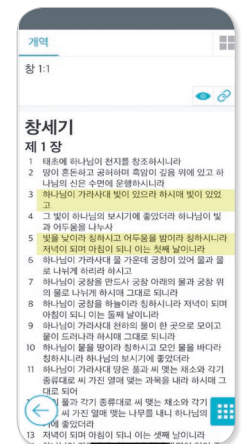
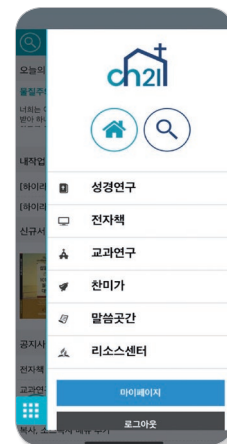
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