

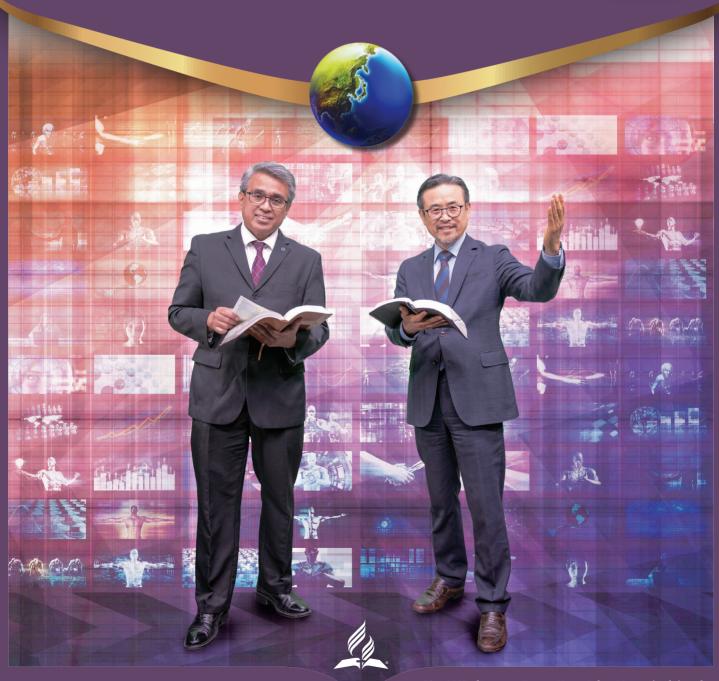
#### NORTHERN ASIA-PACIFIC DIVISION

THE MOST CHALLENGING FIELD

## NEWS&VIEWS

www.nsdadventist.org

March/April 2021



Two NSD directors, Pastor Kwon JohngHaeng (right) and Pastor Richard Sabuin (left) served as the speaker and the translator of the online evangelistic meetings in Indonesia.

### The Core of *I Will Go* Mission Project: Personal Evangelism

"Whatever one's calling in life, his first interest should be to win souls for Christ" (*The Desire of Ages*, 822).

That's right. The biggest concern for Adventists living in these last days is missionary work that leads people to Christ. The Seventh-day Adventist Church was organized for missionary work, and the key vision of this church, the Three Angels' Messages, is also the last appeal to guide people to Christ. We have a mission to convey the Three Angels' Messages to the people. The three angels are none other than ourselves. In Chapter 14 of the Book of Revelation, the image of the angel flying through the air and shouting loudly depicts the Adventists who are active dynamically around the world. They are people who actively participate in the *I Will Go* mission project in person, not just with slogans or words.

The *I Will Go* project to find souls and lost sheep is the most important of all, and our individual *I Will Go* activities have greater consequences than we think because the value of a soul is infinite and Jesus' cross tells this. Actually, due to the lack of such mission activities, people around us are dying even now. Jesus contacted people personally. He didn't stand apart from those who needed His help. He went into people's homes, comforted those who grieved, healed those who were ill, enlightened those who were in darkness, and did good. The *I Will Go* project is definitely to follow in Jesus' footsteps, so as long as we say that we follow Jesus as His children, we must do as He did and we must join the *I Will Go* project.

"Of equal importance with public effort is houseto-house work in the homes of the people. In large cities there are certain classes who cannot be reached by public meetings. These must be searched out as the shepherd searches for his lost sheep. Diligent personal effort must be put forth in their

behalf. When personal work is neglected, many precious opportunities are lost, which, were they improved, would advance the work decidedly" (*Gospel Workers*, 364).

Here are 15 specific ways to implement the *I Will Go* mission project.

1) Be interested and work diligently. 2) Be kind and fulfill people's needs. 3) Get close to people. 4) Visit people of every class. 5) Visit the sick and the suffering and the poor. 6) Show interest in children. 7) Talk to all family members. 8) Say kind greetings and sympathetic things first. 9) Introduce the health message. 10) Open the Bible, teach it, and distribute useful publications. 11) Pray earnestly together. 12) Visit in a regular manner. 13) Visit in pairs. 14) Visit as many places as possible. 15) Invite people to your home and socialize.

Let's meditate deeply on the inspirational message of Ellen G. White below. Let us reflect on it with our hearts, arm ourselves with the spirit of mission, and practice this at each church and mission field that we belong to.

"There are many who need the ministration of loving Christian hearts. Many have gone down to ruin who might have been saved if their neighbors, common men and women, had put forth personal effort for them. Many are waiting to be personally addressed. In the very family, the neighborhood, the town, where we live, there is work for us to do as missionaries for Christ. If we are Christians, this work will be our delight. No sooner is one converted than there is born within him a desire to make known to others what a precious friend he has found in Jesus. The saving and sanctifying truth cannot be shut up in

his heart" (*The Desire of Ages*, 141).



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



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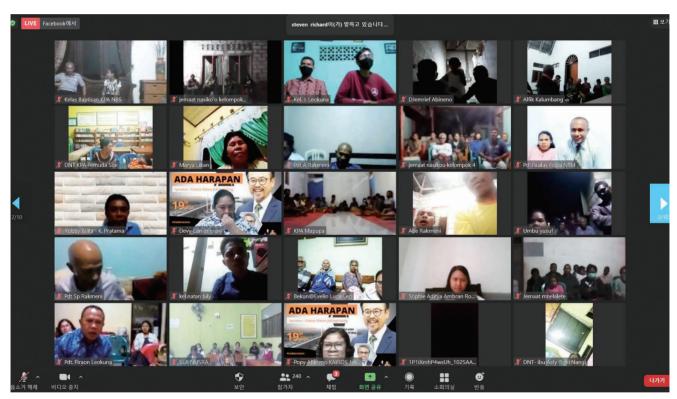
News & Views is published bi-monthly by the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) of the General Conference of Seventhday Adventists. Its mission is to share the news of mission activities and views of mission of the NSD with the world church so that the Second Coming of Jesus Christ will be hastened.



## From the North to the Southeast:

Online Evangelistic Meetings in Nusa Tenggara Mission





From February 21 to 27, 2021, online evangelistic meetings were held in Nusa Tenggara Mission using Zoom. It is estimated that 2,000 to 3,000 people joined the meeting every evening.

For many, the COVID-19 pandemic was a disaster. Thousands of people lost their lives. Others lost families, suffered financially, or lost their jobs. Churches were also affected. For example, church services have long been replaced with online services to prevent the spread of COVID-19. At the same time, however, this has been an opportunity to experience the workings of God, who always does new things and turns people's crises into opportunities.

The Nusa Tenggara Mission, following the recommendation of Richard Sabuin, director of the Education department and Sabbath School and Personal Ministries for the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD), invited Kwon JohngHaeng, NSD Stewardship Ministries director, to serve as the evangelist. The Nusa Tenggara Mission is located in southeast Indonesia. Geographically, the Mission would fit better into the territory of East Indonesian Union Conference, but

From little children to adults, family members and other groups of people gathered together to listen to the message.







with more transportation options connecting the Mission with the capital city of Indonesia, the Nusa Tenggara Mission belongs to the West Indonesian Union Conference.

Initially, the evangelistic meeting was scheduled for September 2020, but the gatherings could not take place due to COVID-19 and the speaker was not able to go.

Even so, it was not God's plan to delay or cancel the evangelistic meeting indefinitely. Pastor Richard Sabuin talked with the leaders of Nusa Tenggara Mission, and he suggested that the evangelistic meetings be held through Zoom and Facebook.

The Nusa Tenggara Mission leaders, along with pastors, promoted Zoom and Facebook to the local church leaders and members. Pastors and lay leaders taught the

Bible to seekers and appealed to them to be baptized. Dr. Sabuin taught baptismal candidates for several hours using Zoom.

Finally, at 7 p.m. on Sunday, February 21, 2021, the seven-day evangelistic series began. Pastor Kwon preached from the library of his apartment in Korea, and Pastor Sabuin translated the sermons into the Indonesian language from the living room of his apartment in Korea. More than 250 Zoom accounts were linked every evening. In some places, they gathered in churches wearing face masks, and in some

places, about ten people sat around and listened to the word from a distance of two or three meters using a cell phone. In some places, only the audio was heard without seeing the video. Many of those in the audience were organized Bible study small groups. By calculating the number of people gathered in one place as ten or more, it is estimated that 2,000 to 3,000 people listened

to the messages every evening.

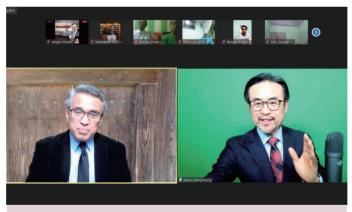
Although the meeting was an hour and a half every day, Indonesian church members sang hymns and opened the Bible to search for verses as if they were at an on-site evangelistic meeting. One of the most touching features was the children of kindergarten or elementary school age who would sit in the front row with their twinkling eyes and listen.

of kindergarten or elementary school age who would sit in the front row with their twinkling eyes and listen.

Every evening I appealed to the audience to make decisions by raising their hands, and they responded to the appeal. On February 27, Sabbath, after the evangelistic meeting and worship, baptismal services were held in different places. In some places, it was done in a church baptistry. Others were held by streams or in mountain valleys. On that Sabbath, 27 precious souls were baptized and entered the remnant church, and on the following Sabbath, March 6, another 13 precious

souls were baptized. This brings the total to 40 souls for

the kingdom of heaven.



Pastor Kwon JohngHaeng, NSD Stewardship Ministries director, served as the speaker, and Pastor Richard Sabuin translated.



#### **More Attendees**

Three years ago, I held an evangelistic meeting at the Remboken Church in the Minahasa Conference in Indonesia. The church was cramped, so the Conference set up a tent in the front yard of the church. There were 118 people on the first day, 257 on the second, 322 on the third. The number of attendees increased every evening. On Sabbath, the last day of the evangelistic meeting, 530 people gathered. It was quite a good number. However, when the evangelistic meeting was held online this time, more than 2,000 people were able to participate.

#### **Security**

While I was doing evangelism at Remboken, as I watched the increasing numbers every evening, I expected a large number of people to respond to the altar call. However, when I first made an altar call, there was no response at all. I suspected that the interpreter might have gotten it wrong, so I tried again and again, but no one moved. When I returned to my quarters after the evangelistic meeting, Pastor Rouland Raranta, my interpreter, saw my disappointment and spoke to me. "Pastor Kwon, people are afraid to openly express their decision in public places. But those who have decided to be baptized know the local pastors." This time, with the online evangelistic meeting, there was no difficulty in responding personally to appeals.

#### **Saving Time and Money**

When I went to Indonesia three years ago for an evangelistic meeting, I had to go to the Indonesian embassy and pay to get a

KITA MASIH

ADA HARAPAN

Speaker: Pastor Kwon JohngHaeng

24-27 Februari 2021

1 900

1 MEDIAKOM
GMAHK DNT

PEMBAHASAN:

Hari Ke-1: Nubuatan Daniel 2

Hari Ke-2: Kedatangan Yesus Yang Kedua Kali
Hari Ke-3: Nubuatan 2300 Pagi Dan Petang
Hari Ke-4: Penghakiman Pra-Advent
Hari Ke-5: Kepastian Nubuatan Alkitab
Hari Ke-6: Umat Yang Sisa
Hari Ke-7: Langit Dan Bumi Yang Baru

MEDKKEMM

KITA MASIH

Dia Color Password: 6t36sq

MEDIAKOM
GMAHK DNT

Penerjemah:
Pdt. R. Sabuin

Host:

Tim Mediakom

visa. I had to pay for an airplane ticket, wait at Incheon Airport for an hour, travel to Singapore for several hours, spend the night at the airport, then fly the next day to Indonesia and travel by car for several hours to the meeting place. There was also the cost for room and board. For the online evangelism meetings, all I had to do was go from my living room or bedroom to my study room.

#### **Cost for the Meeting**

When planning an evangelistic meeting in the field last year, a budget of \$8,000 was required. For the online evangelistic meeting in Nusa Tenggara Mission, it was about \$2,500. Some of the money was used for data purchase. About 100,000 Rupiah or \$7 each was paid for data purchase so that 100 sites could access the Internet. All costs were just over \$700. Actually, the program had more than 200 Zoom connections plus the Facebook audience which we could not count.

#### **Togetherness**

Online evangelistic meetings allow thousands of people to access each other simultaneously and see each other's face on Zoom without the limitation of space, allowing the attendees to feel group dynamics that they can experience in public meetings. Also, those who joined the online meeting together with a group of people, such as families, friends, and colleagues, could feel a sense of closeness and encourage one another in strengthening their faith.

#### **Total Member Involvement**

Public evangelism meetings within the territory of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division are often attended by adult members or older age group. However, since evangelistic meetings on the Internet are attended by families in the evening, families of all ages can participate in the evangelistic meetings and listen to the message. Moreover, most onsite evangelistic meetings are usually planned, prepared, and conducted by adults. However, online meetings delivered through Zoom, Facebook, or YouTube often need the help of adolescents or young adults rather than adult members. In the Internet evangelistic meeting, such as the one conducted by Nusa Tenggara Mission, youth have a sense of ownership and help with the evangelistic meeting.













On the Sabbath of February 27, after the evangelistic meeting and worship, baptismal services were held in different places and 27 precious souls were baptized. On the following Sabbath, March 6, another 13 precious souls were baptized.

Pastor Albertho Tulalessy, president of the Nusa Tenggara Mission, representing all church members, expressed his gratitude: "We thank Pastor Kwon and Pastor Sabuin who have become God's mouthpieces in this evangelistic meeting. We are grateful that the NSD extended its helping hand to support evangelism in our Mission. Most of all, we praise and magnify the name of the Lord for what He has done through this evangelistic meeting. Please pray for the newly baptized souls and all the members in Nusa Tenggara Mission that we may be faithful until Maranatha."

The increase in knowledge and traffic is one of the signs of the end time. The pandemic brought social severance, but it did not prevent the spread of the Gospel, and it made it possible to find breakthroughs more quickly. The pandemic is not an excuse for evangelism to shrink, but the time to find new ways that God allows for spreading the Gospel more widely and more quickly.

## REPORT OF TAIWAN CONFERENCE SESSION 2020

#### **Jack Chen**

TWC Executive Secretary



(From left) Pastor Jack Chen, TWC executive secretary, Pastor Tom Sun, TWC president, and Elder Daniel Shen. TWC treasurer

Great thanks to the Lord. Despite the pandemic of 2020, the churches in the Taiwan Conference (TWC) had their 6th Session at the end of the year 2020, which includes the re-election of the administrative team. The new TWC administrative officers are a young team that dares to accept challenges, is not afraid of failure, and meets the expectations

of Taiwan church representatives. We have no fear of the future, unless we forget that we all walk with God along the way.

With the spread of the global pandemic, the session to be held from December 13 to 14, 2020, was the biggest challenge. Thank God, in Taiwan, we can still gather church representatives, and at the same

time, we used webcast and online meetings, so that local and overseas representatives who were unable to attend due to the pandemic were still able to participate in the meeting online. TWC made the necessary preparations, such as pandemic prevention, disinfection, venue layout and accommodation arrangements.

From the beginning, with the registration of church representatives, we were able to see that it was different from the previous experience. The registration area was equipped with electronic sensing devices and thermal imaging camera. When the registration was confirmed, the details of the delegates were displayed on the computer screen. The session handbook and the reports of various offices and ministries were also available in Chinese and English for the convenience of co-workers of different nationalities, and the TWC reception team led them to their designated sitting areas.

According to past church election methods, the district representative would select the members of the organizing committee on the first day, and then the organizing committee would select the nominating committee. Thanks to the members of the nomination committee for the immediate meeting on the first night to select the new administrative officers. The difference in this session was that after the nomination committee proposed the name, the delegates voted anonymously under the proposal of the delegates. Because the session meeting time was shortened to two days, only three executives, the executive committee, and the amend constitution and bylaws committee members were selected this time. The responsibilities of appointing the new secretary and team formation were delegated with consideration of the needs of the new

administrative team. The incoming appointment must be discussed and approved by the new TWC EXCOM.

In this election process, we were able to see that the secret ballot enabled the delegates to vote at ease on whether to accept the list of nominated members for discussion and suggestions, which shows the excellence of our church election system.

At this session, former TWC treasurer, Elder Dan Liu, gave the treasurer's office work report. The work of the TWC treasurer in the past three years included the renovation of the missionaries' dormitory, settlement of land disputes, existing property management, use of the current wage system, total workers number control, etc. The report on the

current tithes of the local churches and the development of TWC was given with detailed explanation. It also emphasized that the current operations of the treasurer's office are being digitized on the Internet. It is hoped that in the future, it will be able to assist workers to pass on information and share various information between TWC and the local churches more efficiently. Other ministries directors put forward work reports on the session agenda through writing. Due to time constraints, there was no oral report.

Pastor Tom Sun was elected as TWC president, the administrative secretary was Pastor Jack Chen, and the treasurer was Elder Daniel Shen. In terms of experience, the new team is far behind their predecessors, but they are willing to move forward bravely, and thank the elders and predecessors of the church for their dedication and effort over the years, because their achievements have laid the foundation for the church. May God remember and bless them. If it were not for the grace of God, we would not be able to move forward courageously, and may the Lord help us be just, compassionate, humble, and walk with God.

Finally, I would like to ask you to pray for the entire TWC team. We are not complete but we are chosen by God. We are weak but strong in the Lord. We have sorrow and tears but the Lord will be with us. We may meet difficulties but bravely brave the faith, and we have challenges but we will see the light of our Lord.





The Japan Union Conference (JUC) holds sessions on a five-year cycle. The 38th session convened from January 17 to 18, 2021. The JUC prepared the meeting with united prayer. Starting in November 2020, 60 Days of Prayer were held in order to make the meeting an opportunity of spiritual revival.

In the history of the 125 years of Adventist mission in Japan, this session was the first to be convened online, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Forty-one sites in Japan and the office of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) were connected online, and 192 delegates participated in the meeting.

One of the main programs of the session was developing the mission strategic plan for the next five years based on *I Will Go*, a strategic plan the General Conference has presented. The following plan was adopted in order to break through the difficult mission situation in Japan.

#### Motto: Jesus Is Coming! Get Involved!

#### 1. Church members should be disciples.

Adventists should have a lively personal relationship with Christ daily, and have joy to actively invite people to become disciples of Christ.

#### 2. Pastors should be apostles.

JUC pastors should serve as apostles who receive teachings from Christ through the Bible, who will be dispatched for mission, and who become witnesses of Christ by receiving the power of the Holy Spirit in unreached places.

## JESUS IS COMING! GET INVOLVED! 2021 JUC SESSION Toshio Shibata JUC Executive Secretary



Pastor Shimada, former JUC president, and Pastor Inada, newly elected president, exchanged a fist bump during the online JUC session.

A total of 192 delegates from 41 sites in Japan and the NSD office in Korea were connected online for the JUC session.

#### 3. Churches should be the light and salt of the world.

Churches will interact with communities and meet their needs and try to have an impact on the communities.

Elder Yutaka Inada, who is currently serving the NSD as executive secretary, was elected as the president for the next five years. The executive secretary, Elder Toshio Shibata, was re-elected for a second term, and Elder Tadashi Yamaji, president of Hiroshima San-iku Gakuin Academy, was elected as the treasurer. In Japan, it is unusual to have an ordained pastor elected as the treasurer.

JUC president Masumi Shimada and treasurer Mitsuhiro Shinasue completed two terms, ten years of commitment, and retired after the session. The Japan Adventist Church deeply appreciates their devotion to the Church.

We praise our Lord that He guided our session during the COVID-19 pandemic, revived us for His mission, and closed the meeting with His blessings.





#### Media Mission Movement in Mongolia

During recent meetings, the Mongolia Mission (MM) set a goal of reaching a membership of 4,000, opening ten new churches, and increasing the amount of tithe and offering by the year 2022. To accomplish the new goal, they have been focusing on training 45 leaders for each department of the MM.

In accordance with the MM's new goal, the MM communication and media department started media missionary movement. It aims to share the Three Angels' Messages and the hope for Christ's soon coming via social network in this age of the pandemic.

This movement had its first training for 30 media missionaries from January 23 to 27, 2021. Through this training, missionaries were able to learn how to make video content and had the chance to apply their content in online worship. The training will continue throughout the year.

Moreover, the MM media missionary movement will collaborate with Healing Zone group from Korea, which is led by health missionary Joanna Kim, in order to have a health crusade on February 22, 2021, via Facebook. After the event, they plan to launch an online church for seekers and new believers

May the Lord Christ be praised through the Mongolian media missionary movement. We ask for your prayers.

**Dorjderem Narankhuu** MM Communication Director



The COVID-19 pandemic might have stopped people travelling from one country to another, but it will never stop the work of God. Although it is still impossible at this time to enter Mongolia to conduct some training for the church there, there is still another way of doing this, which in some ways, is more effective.

From January 28 to 30, 2021, a training session for small group leaders in the Mongolia Mission (MM) was conducted virtually through Zoom. The director of Sabbath School and Personal Ministries (SS/PM) department of Mongolia Mission, Pastor Gan-Erdene Ganbaatar, organized this training for small group leaders. The training took place two hours every day, from Thursday to Sabbath. Pastor Richard Sabuin, SS/PM director the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD), gave three presentations, one each day.

A total of about 110 small group leaders joined the training: around 30 joined through Zoom, and 80 others followed it through Facebook live streaming. The MM plans to do this kind of training regularly through Zoom. The evening before the training began, Pastors Erdene and Sabuin, organized a prayer meeting with the small group leaders, praying to ask for the Holy Spirit to fill the hearts of God's people. Let us pray for small group ministry in Mongolia Mission.

#### **First Day of Training**

The first presentation focused on the great commission of Jesus Christ (Matthew 28:18-20) that Jesus gave to His disciples in the midst of an on-going great controversy. On the side of the enemy of the gospel, the Jewish leaders and the scribes relied on the power of Pilate to prevent the resurrection of Jesus, by placing some soldiers to guard the tomb of

Jesus (Matthew 27:62-66). Further, knowing that Jesus was risen, they bribed the soldiers with a large amount of money to spread the lie that Jesus' body had been stolen (Matthew 28:11-15). They guaranteed the soldiers of their safety, saying: "We will appease him [Pilate], and make you secure" (v. 14).

It is in this context that Iesus says: "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth, go therefore and make disciples of all nations" (vv. 18, 19). The great controversy theme is obvious. The enemy relies on human power and money in doing everything against God. The disciples of Jesus are to rely on the authority and power of Jesus Christ. While the message of the enemy is "He is stolen," the message of Jesus' disciples is "He is risen." This is a concept that all small group leaders need to know. There must be a sense of urgency in disciple-making with no time to waste, and the message is to be spread quickly. All small group members need to know that they are disciples of Jesus trained to make others His disciples too, and Jesus is with them until "the end of the age" (v. 20).

#### **Second Day of Training**

On the second day of the training, the small group leaders learned about the meaning of discipleship, based on the use of the verb "to make disciple" in the New Testament. Discipleship is an ongoing process, and not a one-time event. It is to win souls for Christ, to teach them what Christ has taught, and to train them to make disciples so that the cyclical process of discipleship continues until Jesus

The New Testament gives at least four categories of disciples. The first may be called "secret disciples," like Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus (John 19:38, 39). These are those who have accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior but because

#### Small Group Leaders Training in Mongolia Mission

Dr. Sabuin served as the speaker of the small group leaders training in Mongolia Mission.





A total of about 110 small group leaders joined the threeday training via Zoom and Facebook live streaming.

of some circumstances they hesitate to make it public. Time will come that without fear they will declare themselves publicly that they are disciples of Christ. Small group leaders need to be able to identify these people. Small groups need to reach out to them, and they should be involved in helping them be brave enough to stand for the Lord. The second group of disciples is the "beginning disciples," like some of the disciples in Ephesus (Acts 19:1-5). They have been baptized without the knowledge of many of the teachings of Jesus Christ. The third group is "the learning disciples" like the disciples of Jesus. They have accepted Jesus Christ for some time and are still learning to become disciple makers. The last one is "the discipling disciples." Jesus gave the great commission to make disciples only at the end of the three and a half years of training His disciples. At the beginning He simply said: "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men" (Matthew 4:19). He calls them with the intention to make them disciplemakers, using a verb in future tense "I will make you." But at the end, He commissioned them with an imperative verb: "Make disciple."

#### **Third Day of Training**

During the last presentation of the MM small group leaders training, Pastor Sabuin emphasized the importance of self-sacrificial spirit in making disciples. Small groups cannot always depend on the church to finance their activities. Members of small groups, called disciples, need to follow the example of Mary who broke her alabaster flask and poured the sweet-scented perfume on the head of Jesus (Matthew 26:6-13).

It was an act of self-sacrifice, giving all she had to Jesus, a costly perfume equal to the payment of one year of labor. For this act of sacrifice, Jesus says: "Assuredly, I say to you, wherever this gospel is preached in the whole world, what this woman has done will also be told as a memorial to her" (v. 13). It means that the work of the gospel, including what we do in small groups, requires the sacrificial spirit of His disciples to give what they have to Jesus.





Four pastors were recently ordained in Taiwan.



## Seven Pastors Ordained in Mongolia and Taiwan

Ron E. M. Clouzet

NSD Ministerial Secretary

Two pastors from Mongolia and four pastors from Taiwan were recently ordained to the gospel ministry. In addition, a pastor from Korea serving as a missionary in Mongolia was also ordained at the request of the Korean Union Conference.

Pastors Buynbileg Ishjargal and Munkh-Orgil Lkhagvaa served in the Mongolia Mission about 10 years each before their ordination service in Ulaanbaatar on December 18, 2020. The pastor from Korea was Yang EuiSik, a Pioneer Mission Movement missionary with extensive ministry experience. The service was done mostly online due to COVID-19 restrictions. Dr. Ron Clouzet, ministerial secretary of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD), gave the ordination sermon via Zoom.



The ordination service in Mongolia was held as a mix of online and and in-person.

In Taiwan, Pastor Jack Chen was ordained on November 28, 2020, Pastor Guang-Ping Chao on December 5, 2020, Pastor Yiu-Shing Pu on December 26, 2020, and Pastor Rui Yi Du on January 9, 2021. It is worth noting that whiles pastors Chao and Du serve in church districts, Pastor Pu is a chaplain serving at the Taiwan Adventist Hospital, and Pastor Jack Chen was elected by the Taiwan Conference Executive Committee as the new Conference Executive Secretary, only a few days after his ordination.

All the pastors had gone through an extensive ordination interview, accompanied by their wives, with a committee made up of mission/conference leaders and experienced pastors led by Ron Clouzet. Both Mongolia and Taiwan depend on the NSD for ordination credentials. Recommendations for ordination are passed on to the NSD License and Credentials Committee, and then on to the NSD's Executive Committee for final action. Pastors who serve in Korea and Japan are vetted and ordained by their respective unions.

Each ordination service had a few people present but most people saw it transmitted online. The services showed the ministers, their families, and their constituents full of joy and gratefulness for the blessing of the Lord. May God continue to richly bless these newly ordained leaders, and may many people come to know Jesus through their ministry! Congratulations!

# Fulfilling a Father's Will After 30 Years: 250 Million Won Donation to Sahmyook University

The deceased's will to donate 250 million won to Sahmyook University was fulfilled by his family after 30 years. Mr. A, who ran a factory during his lifetime, became unexpectedly ill 30 years ago. Having gathered his family, on the verge of his death, he expressed his intention to sell his property, factory, and equipment, and to leave a will donating the entire amount to Sahmyook University. It was worth 250 million won at that time.

The family understood their father's wishes, and they worked on selling the property. Unfortunately, the buyer suddenly broke the contract, and the inheritance became a pile of debt. They liquidated the factory with difficulty, leaving no money in the family's hands. It seemed impossible to donate the money.

For Mr. A's three daughters, their father's desires remained a burden. They decided to save money to fulfill their father's will, and 30 years later, their savings reached 250 million won. The wife of the deceased and his eldest daughter, alumni of Sahmyook University, attended a ceremony delivering the donation for the development fund. The ceremony was held at the president's office of Sahmyook University on January 27, 2021. The daughter stated, "There was no disagreement with anyone in my family. I'm happy to be able to achieve my father's will even if it's late."

Sahmyook University recommended that Mr. A's real name be disclosed to promote a culture of donating and to commemorate the donor, but the family asked that their identity and name not be revealed.



Campus of Sahmyook University in Seoul, Korea

## Health Ministry Training at Taiwan Local Churches

Ruth Yu

TWC Health Ministries Director



In 2020, the Health Ministries of the Taiwan Conference (TWC) promoted the development of health ministry at local churches through training church members, including young people, and helping them apply what they learned to community health service so that they can sow the seeds of the gospel in many places and open the door toward Jesus Christ. In total, four churches—Fu Xing Church, Mao Lin Church, He Ping Church, and Jong Jeng Church—shared the same interest in emphasizing health ministry in local churches.

At the beginning of the year 2020, these four churches submitted to the conference their plan for training and community service. Each church started the training for health ministry in February and reached out to people in the community in

July. In October and November, they held community health evangelism. Later, the churches shared the results of their health evangelism at the "Health Evangelist Training and Soul-Saving Sharing Session" held by the TWC Health Ministries on November 2, 2020. Thanks to the Lord, many interests have joined the kingdom of God through the efforts of these four churches.

#### **Fu Xing Church**

Fu Xing Church held health events, including cooking classes, natural remedies, and hydrotherapy, for the community every quarter. They also had a "30-Day Vegetarian Challenge" twice that year, in February and in July 2020. In addition, they visited patients living at their homes and had prayer with them along with

providing detoxification and healthy vegetarian meals.

After visitation with prayer, caring, and Bible study, offered by Pastor Du Si Jin and the church members, five people were baptized on November 28, 2020.

#### **Mao Lin Church**

"Healthy Life Experience Camp" is a yearly health evangelism project, which the Mao Lin Church has been conducting for a long time. With enthusiasm and vision, the latest session of the camp led by the church members was held from October 15 to 17, 2020. With knowledge and experience accumulated over the years, Pastor Chen Zhi Wei has organized a sound health service team. The church members have been trained to work as nutritionists, cooking teachers, volunteers, etc.

- Members of He Ping Church provided the community with hydrotherapy massage.
- 2. The TWC Health
  Ministries held the
  "Health Evangelist
  Training and Soul-Saving
  Sharing Session" on
  November 2, 2020.
- As a result of health evangelism, Jong Jeng Church had baptisms of eight new souls.
- The health service team of Mao Lin Church provided health services to the community people.
- After caring fellowship by members of Fu Xing Church, five people were baptized on November 28, 2020.











#### **He Ping Church**

Over the years, He Ping Church has spared no effort in promoting the health ministry. The church members have often provided the community with health services, such as cooking classes or hydrotherapy massage. The year 2020 was not an exception. Pastor Bao Jun Kai and the health department director of the church led members to complete the following projects:

- 1. Internal training from June to August
- 2. Health service to the community from September to October

3. A health evangelistic meeting from October 22 to 24

Through a series of health ministries work, they have reached out to many people who were seemingly unreachable before and invited those who have never been to the church to join the evangelistic meeting. In the future, they are going to continue their caring ministry and to visit the new interests.

#### **Jong Jeng Church**

In August 2020, young people of Jong Jeng Church participated in the Health Evangelism Workshop at Taiwan Youth Camp. After the

meeting, they took the initiative to express to the church pastor, Enoch Liu, their desire to do health ministry. They started a community health service in July and had a family health evangelism meeting on October 30 to 31 and November 4 to 7. As a result, a total of eight new souls were baptized into Christ on October 31. It was very meaningful because this is the first time that Jong Jeng Church has developed the work of health ministry and even more, almost everything was promoted, planned, and implemented by the young people.

#### Churches in Mongolia Mission Have 10 Days of Prayer Online

**Nyamsuren Myagmar** MM Ministerial Secretary



Pastors and leaders of Adventist churches in the Mongolia Mission (MM) joined the online 10 Days of Prayer from January 6 to 16, 2021. The MM has been participating in the General Conference's 10 Days of Prayer initiative since 2016, but previously, it had been held only at Ulaanbaatar Central Church. In 2021, all churches of the MM decided to participate in this event and pray for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

The MM divided all churches into five regions, and pastors and leaders of the churches in each region gathered together online to participate in the prayer meetings. Local church pastors took turns preaching a sermon to their regional group members on the basis of the materials that the GC had provided. The main prayer focus was to ask God for the latter rain of the Holy Spirit, the successful implementation of the *I Will Go* mission

strategy worldwide, making disciples in the vineyard of the Lord, and multiplying the number of small groups in order to conduct ministries that change people's lives.

It was the first time participating in 10 Days of Prayer nationwide as well as the first time to run it online. Even though the 10 Days of Prayer event officially ended on January 16, morning prayer meetings continued among the churches of the MM. The eight churches of the Ulaanbaatar eastern region conducted 40 days of morning prayer meetings, which ended on February 14, 2021. The Ulaanbaatar western region continues to have a prayer session every morning. Many small groups are active online, meeting either daily or weekly, to grow as disciples of Jesus and to preach the love and power of Jesus Christ to non-believers and to prepare them for His soon coming.





#### Japanese Exchange Student at Sahmyook University Gets Baptized



(From left) Kim WonGon, director of Academic Affairs, Inoue Ami, and Shim KyungSeob, pastor at the Asian Missionary Church (AMC)

Inoue Ami, a 21-year-old Japanese student who came to Sahmyook University as an exchange student, accepted Jesus Christ as her personal Savior and was baptized on November 14, 2020. After completing her freshmen year in the department of Social Welfare at Fukuoka Prefectural University in Japan, Ami came to Sahmyook University in February 2020. She began attending Sabbath worship service at the invitation of the Asian Missionary Church (AMC), which was organized for missionary work toward international students at Sahmyook University.

As Ami interacted with other international students, she gradually accepted the Adventist faith and decided to get baptized. However, her parents were opposed to it. Ami consistently talked with her mother through online video calls and introduced the Jesus she met. Eventually, her mother also accepted Jesus Christ.

This story has spread throughout the campus and has inspired many people. A lot of students participated

in the baptismal ceremony, which was held at the baptismal hall of the university's theological department, and congratulated Ami. Kim IlMok, president of the university, and Kim WonGon, director of Academic Affairs, were also present on this special occasion.

Ami is going to go back to her country. "When I first came to Korea, I didn't know how God was leading my life in Korea, and I can't imagine what God has prepared for my future. After going back to my country, I just want to tell the gospel to people around me. I also have a plan to be a missionary and do volunteer work for the society after graduation," said Ami.

This is the Bible verse she keeps in her mind: "You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you" (John 15:16).



the Holy Spirit.

#### NSD Ministerial Advisory Held via Zoom

The 2021 Ministerial Advisory for the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) took place via Zoom on February 23 and 24, 2021, for a total of eight hours. Every ministerial secretary in the NSD participated. Many of them had been elected to their positions within the last two months.

Most of the presenters were from the General Conference Ministerial Association. Jerry N. Page spoke about the responsibilities of ministerial secretaries and about the need for revival and reformation in the church. Robert Costa spoke about personal and public evangelism. Anthony Kent gave presentations on the ministry of lay people, *Elders' Digest* magazine, and the ministerial internship program. Pavel Goia focused on church growth and the role of prayer as well as on *Ministry* magazine. Janet Page spoke about pastoral families and met, along with Lisa Clouzet, with the ladies in charge of ministerial spouses throughout the division in a separate Zoom room. Ron Clouzet also presented on evangelism priorities and the role of prayer, and gave one morning devotional. Kim SiYoung, president of the NSD, gave the other devotional.

A number of resources were sent to all ministerial secretaries before, during, and after the Advisory. These will help them accomplish their work more successfully. The group also had some time to pray together. The Lord blessed the meetings, and ministerial secretaries look forward to making a significant impact for God in the next quinquennium through the work of

Ron E. M. Clouzet

NSD Ministerial Secretary

The faculty of the Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies (AIIAS) is widely known for sharing their knowledge and expertise generously beyond the classrooms. They fulfill service requests from many parts of the world as they engage with pastors, frontline leaders, and administrators serving at various levels of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

"We've had the opportunity to engage, to listen, and to share," said Eike Mueller, Ph.D., the associate dean of the Seminary at AIIAS. These interactions demonstrate how AIIAS fulfills its mission, in part, by mentoring and supporting sister institutions and workers in the field.

With travel restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic, service as AIIAS has traditionally done it is no longer possible. "But new tools and resources allow us to do this in a new way," Dr. Mueller continued. "We ask ourselves, why not continue what we've been doing..., and continue that dialogue that we value so much?"

With the help of online technology, the AIIAS Seminary has launched a monthly webinar called the AIIAS Professional Series. The first episode premiered January 20, 2021, on the topic, "The Biblical Understanding of Sin," presented by Remwil Tornalejo, ThD.



## AllAS Seminary Launches a Monthly Professional Development Series

The Seminary hopes to meet needs through the Professional Series. "This is targeted to pastors and frontline workers in the field looking for additional resources. We want to share useful information," concluded Dr. Mueller.

Seminary faculty members will speak on a variety of topics. The seminary social media page provides links to prior presentations and news of upcoming topics.

The webinars are free of charge and are live-streamed via <a href="www.facebook.com/aiiasseminary">www.facebook.com/aiiasseminary</a> every second Sunday of the month at 07:00 p.m. (GMT+8) Philippine Time. Attendees may hit the like button to receive automatic notifications. Viewers may alternatively watch the webinars via the "AIIAS Media" channel on YouTube.

This article was first posted on the AIIAS news site.



## Korean Adventist Church Launches "Hope Zoom School," an Online Education Community Kim BeomTae Reporter of Adventist Village



Mrs. Kim SeongHee (a pseudonym), who has a son entering the third grade of middle school in 2021, feels frustrated whenever she sees her son holding his smartphone all day long. Due to the coronavirus outbreak, since March 2020, schools in Korea have been closed for many days or have been opened to only a limited number of students. Most students have struggled to keep up with their schoolwork. Furthermore, Mrs. Kim is worried that her son hasn't had proper religious education since

churches in city areas have been prohibited from on-site worship services for almost a year, following the government's social distancing guidelines.

Such worries are not just a matter for Mrs. Kim alone. This is common in families with children or young people. In particular, parents are anxious as their children spend more time at home and are more exposed to computer games or provocative content through their smartphones.

In order to resolve such concerns and present practical alternatives, "Hope Zoom School," an online education community platform, was launched on February 1, 2021. Pastors who have similar interests joined together to help students develop both intelligence and spirituality. Several companies and non-government organizations are supporting the project.

The four core values of Hope Zoom School are faith, capability, talent, and good personality. To make this school work, Adventist church members donate their gifts and talents. They share their values with children and young people and help them to improve their academic skills, grow in Adventist faith, and become faithful servants of God. Once the school is set in motion, it is expected to be used as a mission tool to attract children and their non-Adventist parents to the Adventist Church.

With the launching of the school, several courses were ready to be delivered: mathematics classes by grade, English vocabulary, coding, calligraphy, and leadership for children. In a religious class, students read a selected book and learn how to understand the text from a Christian viewpoint. Classes for learning Adventist faith are provided as well.

If Adventist church members want to serve as mentors, they can register the basic information about their classes, such as lecture subject, target student group, course period, class time, and the number of class attendees, on the official Hope Zoom School website. After they have a chance to promote their classes for several days, the classes are opened to students to register. Then, mentors can give lectures in online classrooms.

Classes begin the first and third weeks of each month. More courses will be opened soon, including major subjects, such as Korean, English, mathematics, history, as well as other subjects, such as Chinese, Japanese, physical education, science experiment, reading discussion, musical instruments, creation science, Bible history, and more. The school is waiting for mentors who will donate their knowledge and talents. Anyone who is eager to offer Adventist education to young people can apply as a mentor.

"Hope Zoom School is a mission project where Adventists pull together to raise our children and young people in the way of God," said Pastor Kim SoonKi, one of five school coordinators from local Conferences. "The people children meet at an early age make an impact on what kind of person they become. The purpose of the school is to let children meet Adventist mentors, learn from them, and improve their skills and talents with their help."

Pastor Kim added, "There is a saying in Africa that 'it takes a village to raise a child.' This is the time when every church member should cooperate in raising our children, who were created in the image of God. We support them to develop both intelligently and spirituality, learn to love God and neighbors, and become leaders who are a good influence on the Adventist Church and society in the future."



### Retired Pastor Donates 20 Million Won in Scholarship Funds



A retired pastor, who asked to remain anonymous, donated 20 million won (18,000 USD) in scholarship funds to Sahmyook University.

Pastor A, who attended the university in the 1970s, recalls that when he was a student studying theology he was in a financially difficult situation, but he received scholarships many times from several donors. "Though it took some time, I was determined to return the scholarship to other students someday. I am happy to be able to pay back the debt of grace," he said.

Pastor A still has not forgotten the names of those who provided him with scholarships. He says he believed that the only way he was able to return the grace was to study diligently and to be God's worker. After graduation, he found that his calling was the ministry, and he has devoted his life to ministerial work.

Those at Sahmyook University felt that his good deed would have a positive influence on other people. They asked Pastor A to let them disclose his name in sharing the story. However, he requested that his identity and name not be revealed.

## Adventist School Students Participate in Volunteering

#### Kim BeomTae

Reporter of Adventist Village

On January 27, 2021, there was a long line of young people wearing raincoats lined up in an alleyway of a small village in Dongdaemun-gu, Seoul, Korea. They were students of Hankook Sahmyook High School who were engaged in a volunteer project of sharing coal briquettes with underprivileged neighbors.

Although volunteering work has been reduced by concerns over the spread of the coronavirus, these students were willing to lend a hand to help their neighbors as they did the previous year. This time, 35 students took time to participate in the project during the winter vacation. Even more meaningful is that 1,200 coal briquettes were donated by the students themselves.





This project was in conjunction with the Dongdaemun Community Welfare Center. The coal briquettes will be used for low-income seniors struggling to pay their heating bills to stay warm in winter.

The students started to carry and deliver the coal briquettes from 9 a.m. Their cheeks quickly got red, and their feet were frozen in the cold weather, but they didn't seem to care. Rather, the smiles on their faces shone brightly. Due to the COVID-19 situation, all of them followed the government's social distancing guidelines.

"The elderly said that it takes only two briquettes to heat their house for a day. Because I wasn't used to carrying briquettes, it made me exhausted and my arms and back hurt. But I am pleased at the thought that the elderly will be able to spend the winter warmly with our little help. My friends and I are happy to see them happy. I want to participate in this activity next time if I have another chance," said a student.

A person who received support said, "We are thankful to the students for their loving heart and warm hands. I didn't know how to express my gratitude when I heard that they not only lent their hands to carry the briquettes but bought them with their own money."

Jin TaeJin, director of the Dongdaemun Community Welfare Center, appreciated the effort of the students. "Amid the continuing COVID-19 crisis, a lot of needy senior citizens around us are having a hard time. I am glad that this project could make them a little warmer and healthier. The center will continue to make more efforts to reach out to our neighbors who are in need."



Graduate Student at Sahmyook University Accepts Jesus Christ Through Science-Religion Course A graduate student in the Department of Convergence Science at Sahmyook University was baptized on January 30, 2021. He decided to be baptized after finding the truth while taking a course called "Science in the Bible," which was provided as part of the university's learning program, "Biblical Foundation of Faith and Learning (BFFL)."

Choi TaeYang, who graduated from the Department of Computer Science at Sahmyook University in February 2018, returned to his alma mater's graduate school in March 2020 and entered the master's and doctoral program in computer science. As an undergraduate, he had heard of the Adventist faith and the biblical truth while participating in chapels, Sabbath School events, and various subjects on Christianity, but he had not been very interested in it at that time.

After entering graduate school, the course "Science in the Bible" became a turning point. The course is a BFFL curriculum for natural science majors. While taking the course, students from different natural science majors study together, discuss, and explore various issues surrounding science from a religious point of view.

Choi was in charge of the final presentation for this course. The theme of his presentation was "The History of Conflict Between Religion and Science," which covered what they had dealt with in the class. While preparing for his presentation, Choi investigated the relationship between science and religion. Through this, he found out that faith and science were not at odds; rather, they could be connected and move together on a unified path of truth.

Afterward, determined to take a step further in faith, Choi studied the Bible with the senior pastor in charge of the youth group at Sahmyook University. Choi realized the love of Christ and accepted Him by baptism.



#### S PECIAL FEATURE

ne year ago, when COVID-19 became a pandemic, we reported here the impact it was having and the implications relative to our Adventist end-time scenario. Twelve months ago, South Korea had 8,236 cases and 75 deaths, and Japan had only 814 cases and 24 deaths. The number of cases worldwide was 164,532 and 6,463 had died. As of March 2, 2021, Japan alone has 432,771 cases and has suffered 7,940 deaths; South Korea 90,031 cases and 1,605 deaths; Mongolia 2,952 infections and two deaths; while Taiwan has 955 cases and nine deaths. Worldwide, 114,414,597 people have been infected with the virus, and 2,537,449 have died. (See https:// coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html for the latest statistics.)

Our lives have certainly changed this past year, affecting our work, our families, and our church. Travel has been severely limited. Children have spent many days at home with online learning. We wear masks and keep social distances. Church fellowship is not the same as before.

Even though vaccinations are now possible, and the number of cases worldwide is dropping, will we ever go back to a pre-COVID life? Possibly not. A level of normalcy may be experienced in many countries within a few months or by the end of 2021, but the fear of future pandemics will remain very real. Perhaps hugs and close contact with others may start to disappear.

Perhaps working from home and online schooling will become the new normal. The greatest negative impact in the church will be the result of social distancing. We can continue to do evangelism and preach sermons online, but close communion with others, praying together while holding hands, for example, or laughing, singing, or worshipping in a small group without masks may become a thing of the past.

The Bible speaks of King Asa as one who sought the Lord early in his

reign (2 Chronicles 14:2-4). Having made a habit of it, when a million enemy soldiers came to overwhelm him, he was ready to face them (vv. 9-12). Ellen White comments, "Having sought the Lord in the days of prosperity, the king could now rely upon Him in the day of adversity" (Prophets and Kings, 111). Have we sought the Lord in the pre-COVID days of prosperity? Have we made a habit of sitting at the feet of Jesus every morning? That is when spiritual strength is built up for the pandemics we might later need to face in our lives.

It is not too late. Life during COVID is a daily reminder that we have no guarantees about anything except the love and promises of God. Let us draw much closer to Jesus while we still can. Let us store up reservoirs of the assurance of God's love for us before life becomes so difficult that we won't be able to do then what it is possible to do now. The prophet Isaiah said to the people of Judah, before Babylon came to destroy their country, "Seek the Lord while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way . . . and He will have mercy on him" (Isaiah 55:6-7).

It is our privilege today to do the same.

This article was first published in the March 2021 issue of *Church Ministry Newsletter* from the NSD Ministerial department.

### COVID: One Year Later

Ron E. M. Clouzet

NSD Ministerial Secretary



### 2021 NSD Public Campus Ministries Missionaries Training Choi JiSoo NSD PCM 3rd Batch

The Public Campus Ministries (PCM) department of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division conducted intensive training for its 3rd batch missionaries from January 17 to February 7, 2021, at the NSD Leadership Training Center on Jeju Island. This training session was held with missionaries from other mission projects, such as the Golden Angels and the 1000 Missionary Movement, with a slight difference in the duration of the training sessions. Although each group has a different focus when it comes to mission work, the sole fundamental purpose of preaching the love of God enabled

them to be united in God during the training session.

Four Korean missionaries, Park SeolAh, Kim YeIn, Min SiYoung, and, and I, participated in the onsite training on Jeju Island. Two local missionaries attended the training session through Zoom: Nai Zhen Pan, a Taiwanese missionary who is going to serve at Beitun Church, and Yu Jung Pan, a Taiwanese missionary at Banquiao Church. Stefany Cayhadi and Ruth Kwaikwai, who are foreign missionaries from the Philippines and Indonesia and who are now at New Life Church in Taiwan, also joined the training via

Zoom. Nam DongHyun, a Korean missionary who has been working for Beitun Church in Taiwan since the beginning of the year 2020, also participated in the training.

During the training, the missionaries woke up at 4:30 in the morning, meditated on the Book of Matthew, and had prayer time to meet God. Then, they went out to exercise out in beautiful nature in order to develop their physical strength. During the morning, they listened to testimonies and had classes on the Bible, selfmanagement, missionary attitude, and other subjects, which were led by invited speakers. They spent afternoons with group activities, building their own mission plans.

Church pastors with whom the second batch PCM missionaries worked together introduced mission projects they had carried out.
Through this session, the new PCM missionaries were able to learn the vision and mission plans of the church they are going to work for. Also, all of the newly dispatched missionaries and church pastors discussed how they could combine their efforts to evangelize people in Taiwan

Since the COVID-19 pandemic is still ongoing and the Taiwan government has controlled visitors, it is unclear when the three PCM missionaries in Korea will be able to leave for their mission fields. In such a circumstance, the message about faith that they were given at the training encouraged them. During this pandemic, they have been trained how to hold onto God with faith, how to follow His plan, and how to work for Him. With what they learned at the training



(From left) Four PCM missionaries, Park SeolAh, Choi JiSoo, Kim YeIn, Min SiYoung, and NSD Youth Ministries director Kim NakHyung

session, the missionaries will try their best to deliver the love of God and His word and to bring people to Him for salvation.

Here are the testimonies of three of my missionary colleagues.

#### ■ Park SeolAh

Through this training session, I was able to get closer to God. I had time to think about the proper missionary attitude. I am currently waiting for my visa. I believe all my plans are in God's hands. My faith has been strengthened through the training, and now I can remain thankful in this time of waiting.

#### ■ Kim YeIn

The training session was a precious time for me to find the reason for being called as a missionary for God. In addition to spiritual training, it was very useful to receive lessons on life in Taiwan, especially as a missionary. I also had quality time with a church pastor and a local missionary. We were able to plan ahead for the church and clarify our vision. Above all, I am grateful to God for giving me "faith" through the training.

#### **■** Min SiYoung

It was time to develop a deeper relationship with God and to instill the mission spirit inside me. I once again realized that a missionary must be awakened, pray constantly, read the word of God, and communicate with God. I learned how to live a life as a missionary through the missionary training, and now it is time to practice what I've learned. I will do my mission with all my heart for God.

#### 1000 MISSIONARY MOVEMENT





## What I Found in My Church

Jeong SukHyun 1000MM 55th Batch Hello, I am Jeong SukHyun, and I am a 55th batch missionary of the 1000 Missionary Movement (1000MM). I was sent to Tabionan, Philippines, on July 13, 2020, but after 10 days of quarantine, I was reassigned to another mission field, which was in the municipality of Mogpog. In my second mission field, I had a strong disagreement with my missionary partner. My mission field was changed once again to Buenavista, and I am currently working with my new partner.

When I arrived at my mission field in Buenavista, I gave thanks to God. Most of the things were better than before, such as the faster phone signal and the church right in front of my house. However, soon after that, conflict with my new partner began to make it hard, the things that I thought would be solved if the mission field and partners were changed. I faced other trials, big and small, and they weighed me down.

Filled with anxiety and worry, I opened the door of the church and sat alone on a church chair without even realizing what I was doing. I spent time alone with God in the quiet church where I couldn't hear any sound around me, and I started to look back on my relationship with God. After that time, it was amazing that all of my partner's behaviors that I hated no longer provoked uncomfortable feelings in me. Before I came



Left: 1000MM missionary Jeong SukHyun (right) with his two missionary partners Below: SukHyun and members of the church in his mission field in Buenavista, Philippines



to the 1000MM, I had thought that a church was just a formal place to worship, praise, and pray God. However, my thoughts toward a church have completely changed.

Most of all, I find heavenly peace in church. I learned that a church is where people meet, communicate, worship, and put down all of their difficulties and gain true peace. When I had a conflict with my partners, it was in the church where I met God again. When I read the Bible in church, it felt like God was talking to me directly. And whenever my heart was troubled, God has consoled me with His special touch. In the church, I am closely connected with God.

Also, I experience the sound of heaven in a church. On the first Sabbath in September, when I studied the Bible, listened to the sermon, and gathered together with church members to praise God, all the different sounds were mixed and it gave me a glimpse of worship in the heavenly kingdom. In addition, after the quarantine was lifted on the Sabbath day and the spread of the coronavirus calmed down, the church, which had been quiet for a long time, was filled with the praise of God's children again. That was one of the happiest Sabbaths in my life.

Moreover, the church is a shelter for my brethren and me. We are living in a place where there are frequent typhoons. When a total of three typhoons passed in a short period, I was evacuated to the church with my missionary partner and some members of the church. Our village had many damages due to the typhoon. Houses were broken, trees were uprooted, and there was flooding caused by the typhoons. In the middle of this disaster, God saved a church for us just like Noah's ark, keeping me, my partner, and people nearby safe from the typhoons.

I also realized that the world keeps trying to knock me down by sending not only these actual typhoons but also many hardships. God already knows that I cannot overcome the typhoon with my own strength, so He sends me to the church to evacuate from the typhoon. I found out that it is a church where I can put everything down and rest in God's arms when any hardship in the world approaches me. "Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace always in every way. The Lord be with you all" (2 Thessalonians 3:16).

There was a time I was so tired that I just wanted to give up and go back to Korea. However, even in those times, whether I tried to find God or not, I realize that God was always guiding me by my side. I am sure that God is with me at this moment and will be with me at every moment of my future. I would like to do my best for the remaining two months of my missionary term with gratitude. I'm already looking forward to God's providence.



#### When God Has a Plan

**Deborah Joy R. Luza** 1000MM 55th Batch



I am Deborah Joy R. Luza, 24 years old, and a 55th batch missionary of the 1000 Missionary Movement (1000MM). I was born in a Seventh-day Adventist family, and I've grown knowing that "Sabbath" is the rest day our Heavenly Father created. I learned that we cannot eat certain foods and that we shouldn't do certain things. I was brought up a Seventh-day Adventist in Christian lessons, but I felt that something was missing. I had attended church, but it was just because I was used to it—nothing less and nothing more. If someone asked me to take part in the Sabbath School or divine worship, I always said "No." But when someone suggested that I join the 1000 Missionary Movement (1000MM), I thought that saying "No" would not be the right answer.

When I was still in missionary training, I discovered how wonderful the agape love of our Savior Jesus Christ is, and at the same time, I found out how sinful I am. I realized that I needed to know more about Him. I learned to talk with Him every day, to confess and repent all the trespasses I'd made. I was determined to read His words every day, and He helped me and gave me the strength to face my problems by reflecting on His words.

It seems obvious that when Satan sees the servants of God trying to save souls, Satan will work double-time just to stop them from accomplishing the work. I experience that working in my mission field. One day, my emotional boundaries finally broke down, and I couldn't control my emotions. All that was in my mind was that I wanted to go back home. I was no longer thinking of what people would say. I didn't want to know what would happen next.

Then, my Father called me and asked me, "How are you?" I told him that I wanted to go home and I cried asking God to let all these emotions go out. He answered, "Remember your commitment to the Lord," and it struck me hard. I poured out my heart and told Him all about my life, my problems, especially my sins that I had committed against Him. Then afterward, the pain that I had been carrying was gone, and I felt the stillness that is felt only in God's presence. Psalms 46:10 says, "Be still and know that I am God."

After finishing her one-year mission term in her mission field, Deborah decided to extend her mission in order to serve as a 1000MM campus missionary.



Deborah with Pastor Jeon JaeSong, director of the 1000MM

Because of that experience, I became stronger, not just emotionally but spiritually. I have learned to be humble, to be patient not only for my own self but most importantly, to people surrounding me. Staying in our mission field for half a year was a great blessing. I witnessed how faithful the Lord is and that He will stay true to His promises that He will never leave us nor forsake us. For example, the time we experienced a typhoon, we didn't have any more food, and we solely held onto the promise that God would provide, and He did! The next morning, one of the brethren visited and gave us some food. That's the God we serve.

In our mission field, it was hard to hold an activity that involves a lot of people because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Even though there were only a few attendees, the nightly meeting still continued. We had three weeks of consecutive nightly meetings in different sites even though there were just a few attendees. We believed that God would do the rest. Indeed, through His grace, a total of 30 precious souls were baptized after three weeks of consecutive nightly meetings.

Seeing the newly baptized accept Jesus Christ as their personal savior made my heart so happy. I know that the church brethren in our mission field, with the help and guidance of the Holy Spirit, will nurture and help them to know how wonderful it is to be at the feet of our Lord.

The time came for us to leave our mission field and go back to the 1000MM campus. Deep inside, it was so hard for us to leave the people in our mission field because we'd become so close to our





brethren. They were like family to us, but we decided to leave for our graduation, which is the Homecoming.

When I was in my mission field, I already booked a flight schedule to go home, but after homecoming, it's so hard for me to decide whether to go home or to extend my mission. I prayed a lot asking God what His plan for me is. Now I am currently in my second mission field, which is in the 1000MM headquarters as a campus missionary. Indeed, "A man's heart plans his way, but the Lord directs his path" (Proverbs 16:9).

Deciding to join the 1000MM was the best decision I have ever made in my entire life. It was not a comfortable journey, but God was with me. Working on behalf of the salvation of souls is one of the most precious privileges anyone could have, recognizing how valuable each soul is in the sight of God.

Ellen White encourages every one of us, that every soul whom Christ has rescued is called to work in His name for the saving of the lost, that there is something for everyone to do. She added, "Every soul that believes the truth is to stand in his lot and place, saying, 'Here am I; send me,' (Isaiah 6:8) and lastly reminding us that it is the privilege of every Christian, not only to look for, but to hasten the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ's (Christ's Object Lessons, 69).



n the day I decided to join the 1000 Missionary Movement (1000MM), I had a dream. The dream was to bring a tremendous revival of faith in the mission field I would be going to. My heart was filled with anticipation as I imagined touching the hearts of more than 200 people with the Bible. When I arrived at the 1000MM campus, I worked really hard on the missionary training and tried to become the wonderful missionary I had dreamed of. After a long wait, because of travel restrictions related to COVID-19, on the last day of June, I finally went to the mission field.

Since starting my ministry, I have been working hard at everything

in the mission field. Manila and its neighboring areas mostly use Tagalog, Filipino language, while the village where I was assigned to uses the language of Cabangan. My missionary partner and I had to learn the language step by step in order to get closer to the people in our village. There were so many young children in our village, so we gathered together in the front yard of the church to teach the Korean language and to play games and to spend time with them.

However, my passion did not last long. As time went by, I began to lose interest in learning their language and communicating with the people in the village. Sometimes even after hearing the voices of the children calling me, I didn't go out because I was so tired of playing with them. I was disappointed to see myself drifting apart from the missionary I had dreamed of.

One day, I was so angry at myself for not doing anything right. I went to an empty room by myself and began arguing with God. I was upset, asking what made me come here and why He had called me as a missionary and why I could not do anything right. God did not say anything, but He listened to all my complaints.

After that, God seemed to ask me back, "Why did you come here?" At first, I couldn't understand the meaning of the question. But once I understood the meaning, I was

#### Project of Being a Good Person

Park WoonJoo 1000MM 55th Batch



1000MM missionary Park WoonJoo (right) with his church members

forced to shed tears of repentance because I had no choice but to answer God's question of "Why did you come here?" by saying, "I came here to share the love of God." I realized I had been trying to be a good person and a good missionary for the people. Even in my dream, I was going to be a great missionary who brings a revival of faith. Until then, I had lived a life proving how good I am, not living a life of a missionary who delivers the love of God.

There was a change in me after the prayer of repentance. Wherever my help was needed, I always went out, even if it was a small help. And I started to have fun again with the children. One child became so close to me that he called me daddy. But what changed my life the most was that the moments with the people were so happy for me as opposed to past days. Also, I worked for God and souls, not for me, and it made me be earnest even in small things. I gave all of my clothes and items I brought from Korea to the people in need in my mission field. There was no unwillingness to give them away; rather, I was sorry that I hadn't brought more clothes.

Shortly after that, I received a message that I had to return to campus. Now I work as a praise missionary for HISM, an official singing group of the 1000MM, as well as a campus missionary who supports missionaries who work in mission fields. Although three months is a very short time for a missionary, during that time, I learned a valuable lesson that I wouldn't exchange for anything. I can confidently say that it was one of the happiest times of my life. Now, as a campus missionary and as a member of HISM, I am trying to be a missionary who gives glory only to God. I believe that my experience as a missionary here will be an important foundation for me to continue to live a life God wants.





When Park
WoonJoo was in
his mission field,
he spent a lot
of time mingling
with many young
children in his
village.



#### God Is Bigger Than Our Problems

Otgonbolor Gansukh (Amanda)

1000MM 55th Batch

Greetings from the 1000 Missionary Movement Campus!

My name is Otgonbolor Gansukh, but here on campus, everyone calls me by my English name, Amanda. I come from Mongolia, and I am one of the 55th batch missionaries of the 1000 Missionary Movement (1000MM). I am the only Adventist in my family, so it was not an easy decision for my parents to let me join the 1000MM, but they finally allowed me to come.

Our training was not the same as that of previous missionaries. Not long after the beginning of the year 2020, the coronavirus outbreak was declared. The dispatch of our batch of missionaries was delayed, and we

were in training for more than three months. After six months of staying on campus, I was able to be dispatched to Salinas, Lucena City, Philippines, with my two precious partners.

As soon as we arrived in our mission field, my partners and I saw countless pigs. At first, I thought they were adorable; however, my mind was soon changed. The pigs surrounded our house and followed us everywhere we went. It was horrible, and what was worse, their sounds made it hard for us to fall asleep. We thought that we would get sick if this would continue to happen.

We tried to move to another house, but there was no other house for us. Our only hope was to surrender our



problems to God with prayer. After a few days passed, we realized that there was no more smell of pigs. We went out to check what was going on, but there were no more pigs around our house. All of the pigs were gone! We could not believe what had occurred. God answered our prayers.

The time came for us to focus on our mission and serve people in our mission field. But as soon as God solved our problem, there was another one coming. That was me. I was still looking for my own comfort and not hesitating to express my feelings to others. I was the kind of person that easily shows whether I am in a good mood or bad mood. I talked first before thinking. I thought there was nothing wrong with my attitude until I had to live as a missionary.

Someone came to me and said, "Are you really a missionary?" I was shocked. It was extremely painful for me. I cried many days before God. I knelt down and asked God to help me know myself and to understand people in my mission field. God told me that the problem was in me. I was battling with myself every day.

I wanted to fix my attitude because I knew it would be running my life. There are always two thoughts fighting to dominate my mind. Instead of following God, I chose Satan, and I kept on following him. If I couldn't throw off my selfish attitude, it might become a part of my character.

The decision of choosing God's side gave me a chance to build myself up again. I had to learn how to control my thoughts. I decided to always think about God. I claimed His promises that He would give me the strength to overcome myself. I studied more of Him. I learned of what He did when He was on earth. I prayed hard to God, telling Him that I could not overcome myself without His power.

After a few months, people around me saw changes in

me. My partners heard people saying good things about me. It seemed impossible by myself, but I was able to start to change myself with God's help!

The one year of my missionary journey has changed my character and my life. If I had not decided to join the 1000MM, I would not have experienced the miracles of God. I am delighted to work with God as a missionary. I am grateful to the 1000MM that I was able to learn about God and to find myself. God is indeed bigger than our problems.

1000MM missionary Otgonbolor Gansukh (Amanda) with a kid in the village





Amanda and her missionary partner told Bible stories to the children.

# Blessed Greetings from the 18th Batch of Golden Angels!



In the midst of the uncertainties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Lord keeps on leading this singing ministry for the establishment of His heavenly kingdom. We, the 18th batch of Golden Angels, feel overwhelmed by the call. He blesses us with health, youthfulness, and passion for His ministry.

This year, we are joined by six members from Korea, one from Hong Kong, and another from Myanmar. Due to the pandemic situation, the two members from Hong Kong and Myanmar had to go through two weeks of quarantine and were able to join the rest of the members on January 13, 2021.

Pastor Kim NakHyung, Golden Angels coordinator of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD), and associate coordinator Pastor Cho DaeYeon led the intensive training for the newly selected Golden Angels missionaries at the NSD Jeju Leadership Training Center from January 18 to 24, 2021.

Among the various training sessions, the most insightful part was the early morning prayer sessions. In the quiet, calm and undisturbed hour of the day, consecrating our minds and opening our hearts and ears to listen to God are a great spiritual power that we can gain as missionaries. Not to let the training we received to be in vain, we have been applying the training even after returning from the intensive training on Jeju Island.

As human beings, our abilities are limited, and we admit that it is not by our own strength that the work will be done. However, we know and believe that the power of the Holy Spirit will complete us when we surrender ourselves to be His instruments.

By God's grace, the ministry of the Golden Angels continues this year as well. Through His guidance and providence, eight young missionaries have gathered together to praise His name. Therefore, just as the apostle Paul said, we will run the race, not for a "perishable wreath" but for an "imperishable" heavenly reward.



## The Second PMM 19th Batch Training



Six Pioneer Mission Movement (PMM) pastors and their families participated in the second PMM training from January 25 to 29, 2021, which took place at the Leadership Training Center of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) on Jeju Island and through Zoom. Three PMM families have been assigned to Taiwan for church planting, and the others will be going to Japan, Philippines, and Indonesia, respectively. NSD president Kim SiYoung gave a message that was related to Christian mission history and the sacrificial life of ancient missionaries. Pastor Richard Sabuin, NSD SS/PM director, was invited as the keynote speaker, empowering PMM families to fulfill the Great Commission as Jesus instructed. Looking at the Great Commission, he taught them about the missionary attitude.

Some instructors encouraged them with messages to serve in the foreign countries as missionaries doing cross-cultural mission by the power and wisdom of the Holy Spirit. NSD treasurer Joel Tompkins and his wife Kelly also told PMM pastors and spouses their missionary stories. Specifically, they shared the experience they had as missionaries in Egypt, getting donations and raising funds for students who studied in the Sudan refugee camp.

Pastor Cha SungWon and his wife, who served as the 10th PMM family in Tanzania for nine years, touched the hearts of the PMM families with their mission stories. They emphasized dependence on God as missionaries. Pastor Joo MinHo, NSD Adventist Mission director and PMM coordinator, gave a message of dedication with the words of God and a lesson on missionary life. As soldiers of Jesus, they will go to the mission field in other countries, holding the blood-stained banner of Jesus.

- 1. Group photo of 19th batch PMM missionaries
- 2. Pastor Joo MinHo, NSD Adventist Mission director and PMM coordinator, delivered a message titled, "Missio Dei," which is a Latin term meaning "God's mission."
- PMM missionaries prayed together to ask for God's blessings on their mission fields.









The 6th cohort of the Communication and Leadership Advancement Program (CLAP) of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) commenced its first intensive session at the NSD Leadership Training Center on Jeju Island from November 15 to 27, 2020. Fifteen participants—mostly pastors and three institution workers—from Korea came to the venue while three Japanese pastors, three participants from Mongolia, and one from Taiwan participated in the session online. This CLAP 6A session was unique in itself since it was the first time in the history of CLAP to be run as a combination of online and face-to-face communication. Kellie Tompkins, CLAP English teacher, was involved in teaching onsite. On the other hand, Monica Gonzelez, new CLAP teacher from Texas, United States, and 12 conversation tutors from the SDA Language Institute in the Philippines offered their classes online.

For leadership classes, we invited four speakers. Dr. Ron Clouzet, NSD ministerial secretary, gave a series of lectures on 10/40 Window evangelism and urban mission.

Pastor Yoon JaeSung, director of the NSD Leadership Training Center, taught spiritual leadership. The other two speakers delivered lectures through Zoom. Dr. Richard Sabuin, NSD SS/PM director, covered Total Member Involvement, and Dr. Joo MinHo, NSD Adventist Mission director, talked about global mission and dealt with how to reach the unreached.

On the first day of the CLAP session, both online and offline attendees were busy figuring out what was going on and tried to get familiar with the tight schedule for the next two weeks. Every day the program began at 6:00 a.m. with personal meditation and ended at 6:00 p.m. with group worship. Each CLAP member was given an opportunity to share messages during morning and afternoon worships. Some spoke broken English, and some felt anxious about grammatical errors, but as we listened to them, it seemed obvious that each had a beautiful story to share on how God leads and uses them in various ministries of our church. Most of them confessed that it was their first time to speak or give a

## CLAP 6th Cohort Kicks Off Chelou Completado CLAP Assistant Missionary



On Sunday during the CLAP session, the offline participants of CLAP 6th cohort went for a short trip to experience picking mandarin oranges.



The first session of the NSD CLAP was held under the theme of "I Will Go: A Willing Response to God's Calling."

message in English. A few participants from the weaker group even confided later that they had not understood anything on the first day, but as the days passed by, they resolved to make the best out of the opportunities given to them through CLAP, and promised to pursue personal growth both in English language and leadership skills.

The 12-day training went by quickly as all enjoyed English and leadership classes and conversation time. On Sunday afternoon, in the middle of the session, the offline participants had a break to go for a short trip to experience picking mandarin oranges. It was mandarin season when the group came to Jeju, and when we passed by the mandarin farms, we could see the color orange almost everywhere we turned our eyes to. It seemed that all those mandarin oranges were ready for harvest. At the farm where we went, a group of four people had just one bucket to fill. It was a simple task because each mandarin tree was full of fruit, and we were able to reach them so easily that we did not need to move to other trees. Each bucket was filled so quickly while we also enjoyed feasting on fresh mandarins from the tree. I wished we had more buckets to fill and that we could take home as much as we could.

As I looked back on that mandarin-picking experience, I remember Luke 10:2, which says, "Therefore said he unto them, The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth laborers into his harvest." May CLAP continue to be God's channel to prepare church workers practically and more powerfully to go into the Lord's harvest so that many souls will be garnered into His kingdom.







- 1. Dr. Ron Clouzet, NSD ministerial secretary, led one of the leadership classes.
- To maintain social distancing, offline participants dined at a distance from each other at a cafeteria.
- 3. Seven participants from Japan, Mongolia, and Taiwan joined the CLAP online.



