



NORTHERN ASIA-PACIFIC DIVISION  
THE MOST CHALLENGING FIELD

# NEWS & VIEWS

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March / April 2022



## 업무 협약 체결식 MOU SIGNING CEREMONY

MORAMORPHUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN NORTHERN ASIA-PACIFIC DIVISION  
NORTH AMERICAN KOREAN CHURCH ASSOCIATION



NSD and North America Korean Church Association sign an MOU to strengthen cooperation for the North Korea mission.

# God Will Open the Door

Since the Korean War in the 1950s, the north and south borders have been firmly closed, preventing any movement between the two countries. Transportation cannot move freely, and communication has been shut down; those who left the north have not been able to visit family members who are still there. Numerous Adventist churches and institutions in the north closed. As a result, there is no official Adventist church or institution in North Korea.

How can we open the door of North Korea? In chapter three of Revelation, Jesus is described as “He who has the key of David.” We need a key to open a tightly locked door. If you have a key, no matter how tightly closed the door is, you can easily open it. From a human perspective, it seems that no one can open the door to North Korea. Armed with nuclear weapons, North Korea appears to be a strong fortress. However, the Lord will open the door in His time. The important matter is whether we are ready for that time. Do we have pastors and missionaries who are dedicated and ready to go to North Korea when the door opens? Do we have enough funds ready to use when our missionaries arrive there?

In 1982, before Germany was unified, a small prayer meeting began at St. Nicholas Church in Leipzig, East Germany. Pastors Christoph Wonneberger and Christian Fuehrer gathered dozens of church members and started praying for peace as they walked down the street. This continued for several years.

On Sept. 4, 1989, the number of participants in the prayer movement reached 1,000 people, and three weeks later, it reached 10,000 people. Soon after, this prayer movement spread throughout East Germany. On Nov. 9, 1989, the Berlin Wall in Germany

collapsed. People knew that this was done by God’s hand, a great miracle that humans could not accomplish. By Dec. 26, 1991, the Soviet Union had also dissolved—all in God’s time. When the people of Israel were under

slavery in Egypt, it seemed impossible for them to be free from that bondage. Even when Moses and Aaron came to Pharaoh and performed great miracles, Pharaoh hardened his heart and did not let God’s people go. However, Pharaoh could not stop God’s plan to free them. When all of 10 plagues were upon them, Pharaoh had no choice but to surrender and kneel before God. In addition, when the Israelites were in a frustrating situation blocked by the Red Sea, God heard their cries and opened a way through the sea.

“When the miracles were wrought before the king, Satan was on the ground to counteract their influence and prevent Pharaoh from acknowledging the supremacy of God and obeying His mandate. Satan wrought to the utmost of his power to counterfeit the work of God and resist His will. The only result was to prepare the way for greater exhibitions of the divine power and glory, and to make more apparent, both to the Israelites and to all Egypt, the existence and sovereignty of the true and living God” (*Patriarchs and Prophets*, 334).

North Korea’s door is still closed. But it is only a matter of time when God’s mighty hands will open that door with the Three Angels’ Messages to save the perishing souls in North Korea.



## 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 Open the Door / 2

**COVER STORY** NSD and North America Korean Church Association Promise to Work Together for North Korea Mission / 4

**NEWS FOCUS** NSD Holds International Bible and Mission Conference / 6

## DEPARTMENTAL & REGIONAL NEWS

A Call to Pray / 9

I Will Go to the World Again: 2021 Mongolia Mission Annual Council / 10

2021 Japan Union Conference Annual Council / 11

Mongolia Mission Makes Strides toward its Mission Goals / 12

Digital Missionary Dedication Service / 13

Dedication Speech of KUC Digital Missionaries / 15

Couples Retreat of Mongolia Mission / 16

Reaching Out to the End of Time, to the World Mission Fields: Sahmyook University Overseas Mission Congress / 17

Blessings of Prayer Walking over Twenty Years / 18

Publishing Ministries of Taiwan Conference / 19

Professional and Leadership Development Programs of Mongolia Mission / 20

Digital Missionary Training in Ho Chi Minh International Church / 21

Mongolia Mission Conducts Ten Days of Prayer / 22

Health Ministries in the COVID-19 Pandemic / 23

TWC Children's Ministries amidst the Pandemic / 24

3-Year Performance Review of Sahmyook Village Project / 25

Faculty Council Meeting Held in Metaverse / 25

U.S. Online Training Program, Blue Ladder / 26

Entire Group of 33 Students of the Overseas Employment Training Course Successfully Employed in the U.S. / 26

NSD Health Emphasis Week / 27

Mongolia Mission's Shepherdess Training / 28

It Started with Two Cows / 28

Dorcas Society Holds Wednesday Bazaar for Scholarship Fundraising / 29

First Competition of Heroes Bible Trivia Game in Korea / 30

**1000MM** Growing into a Church Full of Faith / 31

He Is at Work / 33

Cast My Burdens on God / 35

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.



# NSD and North America Korean Church Association Promise to Work Together for North Korea Mission



**Oh BeomSeok**

NSD North Korea Mission Director

For cooperation concerning the North Korea mission, the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) and the North American Korean Church Association (NAKCA) held a special signing ceremony on Jan. 24, 2022, at the Korean Adventist Press in Los Angeles, Calif., USA.

North Korea is one of the remaining mission fields to preach the gospel “to the end of the earth” (Act 1:8) to hasten the Second Coming of Jesus. For this reason, NSD established the North Korea mission as a new department in its 2021 Midyear Committee. Since then, various mission activities, such as training missionaries, conducting a special prayer Sabbath, and organizing prayer meetings, have been carried out by the department.

Meanwhile, the North America Korean Church Association, composed of about 140 Korean Adventist churches and groups in North America, have also been participating in mission in North Korea, running various mission activities, including building a hospital and bread factories in North Korea to help people, especially orphans and the elderly.

Thus, it was meaningful that NSD and the association strengthened cooperation through a memorandum of understanding (MOU) for implementing the North Korea mission more effectively.

Pastor Kim KyeJeong, secretary of the NSD North Korea Mission Committee, led the signing ceremony. After all attendees were introduced, Pastor Oh BeomSeok, NSD North Korea Mission director, gave a presentation to introduce mission activities NSD North Korea Mission has been carrying out. He also offered detailed suggestions for effective cooperation between the two organizations.

At the ceremony, NSD President Kim SiYoung gave a presidential address, citing Zechariah 4:7, “What are you, O great mountain? before Zerubbabel thou shalt become a plain.” He emphasized that both parts should put all hands together to conquer the mountain of the North Korea mission and make new history. Pastor Kim SeongSik, NAKCA president, and Pastor Yoon YoungHwa, NAKCA mission director, declared that 140 churches and groups in North America are ready to commit to the North Korea mission at this time.

Pastor Jairyong Lee, former NSD president, said in his congratulatory remarks, “NSD has been striving for opening the door of North





Korea and preaching the gospel for 20 years. I hope those efforts will bear fruit through this agreement. Let us join forces once again for North Korea mission with the spirit of willingness as the apostle Paul had, who ‘could wish that I myself were cursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my people, those of my own race’ (Romans 9:3).”

Pastor Oh WiYoung, who performed a special song, “Pining for Diamond Mountain in North Korea,” reminded attendees of the earnest wish for unification

between the South and North. All programs were wrapped up with the benediction by NSD Treasurer Joel Tompkins.

Along with the ceremony, a committee discussed cooperative measures for achieving their mutual goals, sharing ideas on how to evoke interest and sympathy for the North Korea mission from younger generations who did not directly experience the tragedy of the country’s division.

In addition to delegates from NSD and NAKCA, other parties who shared the vision of the North Korea mission were also present. Southeastern California Conference president, Park JeongHee, said, “I am sure that this ceremony is planned and guided by God. Let us cooperate for this mission with obedience.” Pastor Oh TaeSun, president of Korean Adventist Press in the U.S., and its officers and members also showed their support at the ceremony.

As presented in the Book of Job, “Though your beginning was small, yet your latter end would increase abundantly” (Job 8:7), this agreement ceremony held in a small place will accelerate the great mission for North Korea and hasten the Second Coming of Jesus.



Pastor Oh BeomSeok, director of the NSD North Korea Mission department, gives a presentation on mission activities of the department.

# NSD HOLDS INTERNATIONAL BIBLE AND MISSION CONFERENCE



**Jonas Arrais**  
NSD Ministerial Secretary

The Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) is one of the most challenging places in the world to evangelize. Composed of Korea, Japan, Taiwan, and Mongolia, it has an enormous population to be reached for Christ, and there are places where religious liberty is still restricted. But God has been using dedicated church workers and committed members to reach this part of the world.

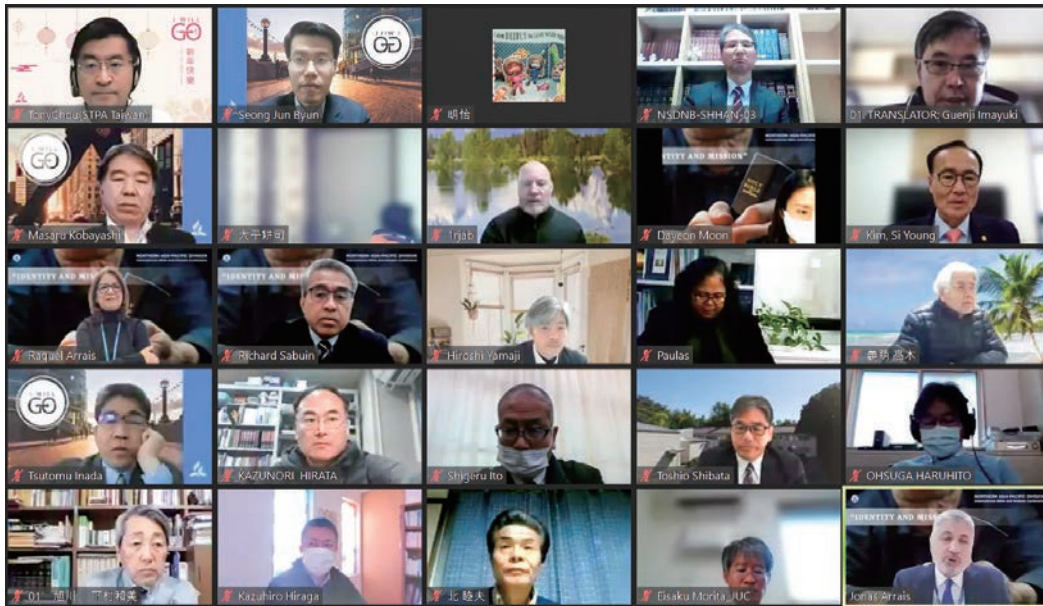
In response to these challenges, the NSD Ministerial Association held the 2022 International Bible and

Mission Conference on Feb. 7-10, with the theme, “Identity and Mission,” coordinated by Dr. Artur Stele. More than 750 church pastors, administrators, Bible instructors, theology professors, and other church workers attended this important event prepared in partnership with the General Conference Biblical Research Institute via Zoom.

On the first conference day, the keynote speaker, General Conference President Ted Wilson, reminded attendees about the importance of preaching the Three







More than 750 church pastors, administrators, Bible instructors, theology professors, and other church workers attend the NSD International Bible and Mission Conference.

Angels' Messages, handling the word of God correctly, and how pastors should live and minister in these last days. In the opening program, NSD President Dr. Kim SiYoung highlighted the importance of the Church's mission theme, *I Will Go*, inviting every participant to put "Mission First" in the NSD territory.

The Bible and Mission Conference was enriched by several guest speakers from the General Conference. The presenters addressed relevant topics such as: the Three Angels' Messages, Sanctuary, Adventist Interpretation of the Bible, Loyalty to the Prophetic Word, and the Pastoral Family.

The International Bible and Mission Conference was a blessed time for all with encouragement from the word of God to be more committed to the Church's mission. It was also encouraging for participants to receive helpful training for their lives and ministries. After listening to all the lectures, we could say, "the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work" (2 Tim 3:17, NIV).

## MESSAGE FROM NSD PRESIDENT

We praise the Lord for the great blessings He has bestowed upon us through the NSD International Bible and Mission Conference.

This conference has strengthened the identity of the Adventist Church and has been a great opportunity for spiritual revival. It truly was a touching event that instilled a passion for mission. We appreciate the General Conference president, Ted Wilson, and vice president, Dr. Artur Stele for their support to help make this conference successful. Also, appreciation goes to the various lecturers from the Biblical Research Institute, and a special thanks to the Union and Conference leaders in the NSD territory. Above all, I want to express my deep thanks to all the pastors and leaders who faithfully participated in this conference, and especially to Dr. Jonas Arrais, NSD ministerial secretary, for successfully leading this event.



**Kim SiYoung**  
NSD President

# FEEDBACKS FROM THE FIELD



**Huh ChangSoo**  
KUC Ministerial Secretary

The International Bible and Mission Conference was a special time to reflect upon the changing environment in the COVID-19 era, especially as we move into the third year of the pandemic. And above all, there are strong signs that we are approaching the end of this world's history, the remnant people enduring difficulties while their faith in the Second Coming is shaken by various heresies. At such a time, it has been meaningful for Korean pastors to hold a Bible conference to re-affirm their identity through core doctrines of the Adventist Church and the Three Angel's Messages, solidifying their sense of mission.

Because we are still in the coronavirus crisis, attending the 2022 International Bible and Mission Conference via Zoom was a blessing to all the pastors, church workers, and theology students from Japan Union Conference. I share with you some responses from them:

"I really enjoyed participating in this Bible and Mission Conference. The variety of speakers and variety of themes connected to the main theme were very complete. Listening to the lectures, I felt like I needed to study some Bible topics more."

"It was a wonderful and a blessed experience to participate in this conference online. It was a great opportunity to explore the topic more about the Three Angels' Messages and understand better the church identity as a remnant church."



**Masaru Kobayashi**  
JUC Ministerial Secretary



**Nyamsuren Myagmar**  
MM Ministerial Secretary

It was good to join with our brothers and sisters in Christ to learn the sound teaching of the Bible regarding our church "Mission and Identity." Those who joined the livestream could listen to the lectures in the Mongolian language. A total of five synchronic translators took turns to translate from English to Mongolian. The Facebook page statistics showed that the first day event reached 840 people; the second day reached 912 people. The teachings and words of encouragement received from the speakers touched the pastoral team, church workers, and lay members. As a young Mission it is always our desire to grow in Jesus and understanding of our beliefs, and to be more involved with the church initiative *I Will Go*. Thanks goes out to the General Conference, Biblical Research Institute, and NSD for their support and leadership.

The Taiwan Conference thanks the General Conference and NSD for the well prepared 2022 International Bible and Mission Conference for the pastors and church workers. And we thank the Lord that we had about 70 people attend the online meeting. In particular, I would like to thank Mr. Canny Tay who is a teacher at Taiwan Adventist College for the simultaneous translation during the whole meeting. He did his best effort for the work and offered an excellent performance.

I believe that each of us were moved more by God's words with every single theme that each speaker shared. In this last generation, we are more confident about our mission and responsibility for proclaiming the Three Angels' Messages. Now, we are willing to respond to God's call with each of us saying: "Here I am! I will go to proclaim the gospel and urge the soon return of Jesus Christ."



**Clark Ke**  
TWC Ministerial Secretary



# A Call to Pray



To begin the year 2022, NSD employees join together for the Ten Days of Prayer to be united together by prayer and to be filled with the Holy Spirit.

Every January, Seventh-day Adventist churches globally join hands together to fast and pray during the Ten Days of Prayer. This prayer event was adopted by the world church in 2010 because God knows the value of praying alone and corporately.

For this reason, the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) employees began the new year by joining together for the Ten Days of Prayer, Jan. 5-15, 2022. The theme, “The Three Angels Call to Prayer,” was appropriate considering the current coronavirus pandemic which has brought the world to a standstill. If ever a time was needed for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the Church and a call to be united in prayer, then certainly that time is now.

Organized by NSD’s Revival & Reformation Committee, all participants had an opportunity to pause each morning to sing, study the word and pray together as a family. There was a time for testimonies, thanksgiving, as well as personal prayer requests for themselves, family and friends. North Korea Mission was the special focus of these prayers, asking the Holy Spirit to open the doors for the gospel of Jesus to enter and reach our brothers and sisters beyond the river.

A secret prayer friend was assigned to each participant to foster fellowship and communion with one another. At the end of the 10 days the revealing of the secret prayer friend was combined with a meal together. It was a joyful ending to ten special days—the chance to experience Jesus through a deeper relationship and a renewed commitment to share His love with others.

The NSD family is committed to “Mission First” and by God’s power they “will GO” where God sends. But only with a constant prayer connection to Him can we carry out the task He has prepared. God bids us, “Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know” (Jeremiah 33:3).





# I Will Go to the World Again: 2021 Mongolia Mission Annual Council

**Angelina Pagarigan**  
MM Treasurer

**T**he Mongolia Mission (MM) held its Annual Council on Nov. 23, 2021, under the title of “I Will Go to the World Again.”

Pastor Han SukHee, the newly appointed MM president who began his duties last June, articulated his vision during the meeting. He reminded the attendees of the words of the famous Mongolian hero Genghis Khan who once said, “With Heaven’s aid I have conquered for you a huge empire. But my life was too short to achieve the conquest of the world. That task is left for you.” Pastor Han challenged the first-generation young Adventist leaders of MM to go out and conquer the world again with the Good News of salvation.

The highlight of the meeting was the agenda of restructuring the departments and the pastoral leadership of local churches in the main city of Ulaanbaatar. Departments were combined to reduce the number of departmental directors from nine to five. The main objective was to maximize the potential of a limited number of ordained pastors. Instead of keeping all the talented and most qualified ordained ministers in the departments, these pastors will be assigned to the districts and to the churches in the countryside to strengthen the service of local churches so that the Adventist presence will be felt in the community.

The churches in Ulaanbaatar, which had been led by 15 pastors, have been combined into three or four churches

which are then grouped into districts; four district leaders will be appointed by the administrative committee before the end of the year and will take effect immediately at the beginning of 2022.

These changes were carefully studied with the vision that collaboration between departments and district leaders will be more practical and efficient because the departmental directors will no longer be tied to one church as before while serving as a departmental director.

As the MM vision was clearly defined and the human resources aligned, it was appropriate that the financial operations budget follow the vision. There was maximum consideration made to improve the salaries and benefits of the workers to boost the morale and elevate the dignity and quality of service for every worker.

Pastor Kim SiYoung, president of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) gave his devotional message at the beginning of the meeting. He said that the MM leaders and workers must experience seeing the invisible God like Moses when he led the Israelites in the wilderness. The message was timely and inspiring as the new MM president, Pastor Han, takes upon himself the full responsibility of leading the descendants of Genghis Khan to be faithful remnants of Jesus Christ—conquering the world with a mission of spreading the gospel in the whole country of Mongolia and beyond its borders to seek and share the gospel to all Mongolians wherever they are.



Pastor Nyamdavaa Dovchinsuren, MM executive secretary, and Pastor Nyamsuren Myagmar, MM ministerial secretary, shared their plans to begin a theological school in Mongolia to equip the next generation of young leaders, and a laymen's training to send Mongolian missionaries abroad. The branch of the 1000 Missionary Movement (1000MM) in Mongolia will also be revived in 2022 in partnership with 1000MM in the Philippines. And for the continuous leadership development plan, MM has allocated funds for study

sponsorship for a basic degree in theology at Mountain View College, in Valencia, Philippines, and a master's degree at AIIAS, Philippines, both with online and face-to-face options.

The year-end meeting was attended by the three officers and three departmental directors from NSD, the three officers of MM, and eight members composed of lay leaders, departmental directors and local church leaders in Mongolia.

# 2021 Japan Union Conference Annual Council



**Toshio Shibata**  
JUC Executive Secretary

From Nov. 21-22, 2021, the Annual Council of Japan Union Conference (JUC) was held online. On the first day, the opening ceremony of JUC's new headquarter building was held with congratulatory remarks from Elder Kim SiYoung, president of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) and Elder Masumi Shimada, the former president of JUC. At the compound located in Yokohama, Japan, a training center that can accommodate 27 people was built in 2020, with a new JUC headquarters built in 2021—the first new headquarter building in 55 years. Because the former buildings were old and narrow, JUC worked from a building in Tachikawa, Tokyo for the past 20 years. In this way, there were two headquarters in Japan. But finally, the two parts of JUC moved to the one location in Yokohama. It is expected that the JUC workers will serve God's church and people in its territory more efficiently. Because of COVID-19, the training center is temporarily closed, however, JUC has plans to make many disciples of Christ through training programs at the center.

In the Annual Council, the reports from JUC, its local Conferences, and the institutions were presented. Even though the COVID-19 pandemic has constricted mission activities, the attendees thanked God that His words have continued to actively spread through various online services. Also, the reports demonstrated that God has protected the works of the Adventist institutions in Japan.



1. On-site attendees of the 2021 JUC Annual Council.  
2. Pastor Yutaka Inada, JUC president.  
3. JUC's new headquarter building.

# Mongolia Mission Makes Strides toward its Mission Goals



**Angelina Pagarigan**  
MM Treasurer

Mongolia Mission held an official business meeting Dec. 6-7, 2021. During the meeting Adventist ministers in Mongolia had the opportunity to talk about their successes and challenges with church services and small group activities in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Despite the ongoing challenges, attendees heard some surprising stories. One of MM's new missionaries, Sosorjav Tuvshin, assigned to Nalakh Church, which is located about 40 kilometers from Ulaanbaatar, the capital of Mongolia, shared his story on how he was able to reach out to people in the community. His experience brought new ideas to other church leaders and administrators on how a simple and humble act of friendliness can

bring more people to the church and may lead new souls to the feet of our Savior Jesus Christ.

The meeting also included the restructuring plan, voted at the year-end meeting last November. The plan was announced to all church leaders, together with the rotation of church assignments, which had not been done for more than five years. Church leaders accepted the changes as a new beginning. The presence of the Holy Spirit was felt as God guided the process while there was much prayer and faith that these changes will be implemented for the furtherance of the work in Mongolia and for strengthening the support to local churches, especially those in the countryside.

Pastor Han SukHee, MM president, humbly appealed to church

leaders while emphasizing the Three Angels' Messages of sharing the gospel into all the world, including the seven provinces of Mongolia outside of Ulanbaatar where many unreached people live.

Pastor Han taught God's eight actions based on Exodus 3: God sees us, hears us, is concerned about us, comes down to us, rescues us, brings us up, sends us, and promises us that He will be with us! He reiterated the promises of God that the power of the Holy Spirit will be with those who go out to evangelize. It was an encouraging message for pastors and church leaders who renewed their desire to serve churches they were assigned to in the year 2022. And Pastor Han asked all attendees present, "Are you sure that your names are still recorded well in the





book of life in Heaven?” This question made listeners evaluate their emotions and their dedication to serve wherever they are called. The message closed with the passage from Ellen White’s writings, *Christian Service*, as quoted: “The world needs missionaries, consecrated home missionaries, and no one will be registered in the books of heaven as a Christian who has not a missionary spirit.”

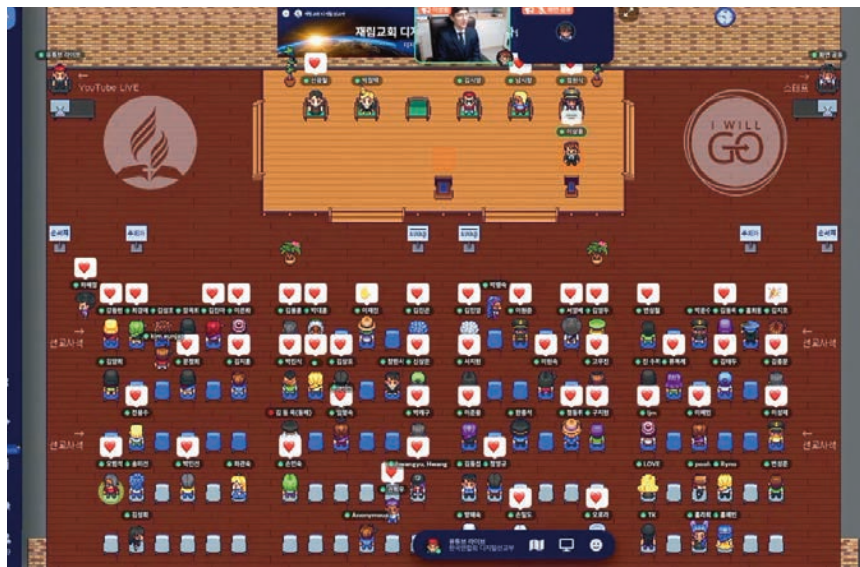
And for the first time in almost 30 years, employees who have served 5, 10, 15, and more than 20 years were recognized, and each received cash awards, a certificate, and a plaque of appreciation for their loyal and dedicated service to MM.



# Digital Missionary Dedication Service

**Lee SangYong**

KUC Communication Associate Director



KUC’s digital missionary dedication service is held on *Gather*, a metaverse platform.

The Adventist Church in Korea has trained and dispatched its first digital missionaries for online mission work as shown when the General Conference declared “digital evangelism” one of the key initiatives for this quinquennium. On Jan. 15, 2022, the Digital Evangelism department of the Korean Union

Conference (KUC) held an Adventist digital missionary dedication service and officially dispatched 62 missionaries.

Digital missionaries will spread the Three Angels’ Messages in the digital world through the Internet and social media, using various digital tools and techniques. The activities involve

engaging in digital evangelism while leading the participants to Jesus and training them to be His disciples. They will collaborate with relevant departments such as Hope Channel Korea and the Bible Correspondence School. The KUC digital evangelism program is supported by the Digital Evangelism department of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD).

The first group of digital missionaries were recruited a month before starting in October 2021 with 160 Adventist participants. And those who successfully finished the required six-week training became official digital missionaries. The training, which was conducted via video conference, dealt with the topics such as God’s call for a missionary, the identity and history of the Adventist Church, digital missionaries’ activities, etc.

Digital missionaries will perform their digital evangelism activities through a weekly mission given by the KUC Digital Evangelism department. They will also run their personal blogs and SNS accounts for

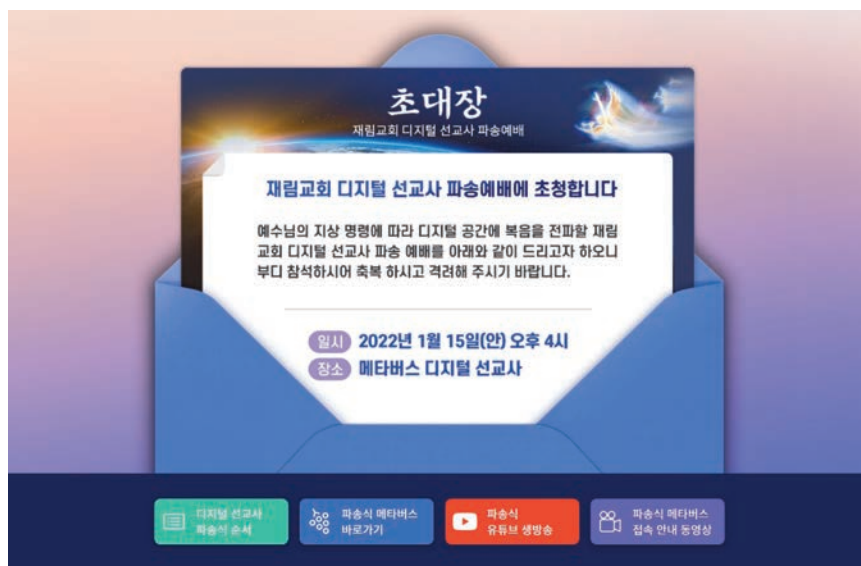
their mission work. The KUC Digital Evangelism department will provide various materials made solely for this purpose, such as 365 Bible texts, images including texts from the *Spirit of Prophecy*, and video content for mission purposes.

The Korean Union Conference expects that digital evangelism will bear the fruit of saving souls, thereby expanding the base of this style of evangelism. This has the potential to change the mission work environment by causing a spike in Adventist content sharing on the Internet and SNS, contributing to the influx of truth seekers and new believers through cyberspace.

The dedication service took place on *Gather*, a metaverse platform, and progressed in the order of pastoral prayer, Bible reading, sermon, introduction of digital missionaries, presentation of appointment certificates, and dedicatory prayer. *Gather Town* was accessed simultaneously by 82 people including the official missionaries, and more than 1,000 people watched the service on YouTube.

In his welcome address, Pastor Shin GwangChul, KUC Sabbath School and Personal Ministries director, cited the Bible verse in Romans 11 that says, “for God’s gifts and his call are irrevocable.” Pastor Shin said, “I am thankful to God for His grace and providence in calling you to do mission work in digital space. I look forward to seeing your amazing achievements in the online world.”

KUC President Kang SoonKi said in his sermon, “The mission of the church is to spread the gospel throughout the world. Jesus told Peter, who had tried all night in vain to catch fish, to cast his net on the right side of the boat where Jesus was standing, the side of faith. The lesson here is that we will surely succeed without fail if we work closely with Him.” He added, “Now it’s our turn to cast our net. Jesus, even now,



An electronic invitation card for the KUC digital missionary dedication service

through various channels, puts truth seekers in contact with His people, who know the truth. Just like Jesus revitalized His disciples’ mission at the Sea of Galilee, I hope to see the Holy Spirit’s amazing work of spreading the news of eternal life throughout the world achieved through all of you.”

NSD President Kim SiYoung said in his congratulatory remarks, “The COVID-19 pandemic is shaking the whole world. It has changed the world and the environment. Due to intensive social distancing, mission work is confronting major challenges. Given this situation, it is like making a road across the deep Red Sea for KUC to discover a new way of mission work, sending digital missionaries along that way.”

The missionaries who had just taken the first step in their new career reestablished their determination, saying they would spread the news of salvation and the gospel through digital cyberspace according to the great commission of Christ.

Missionaries Kim DongWook and Kim JiHo, who gave dedicatory speeches on behalf of their fellow missionaries, appealed to church

members for their interest and participation in digital evangelism, saying, “We hope many people will take part in spreading the light of God with dedicated hearts.”

In his consecration prayer, Pastor Byun SeongJun, NSD Digital Evangelism director, prayed that the Holy Spirit would fill the hearts of digital missionaries, who dedicated themselves to the gospel mission so that they can quickly spread the gospel in the digital world.

Pastor Lee SangYong, KUC Digital Evangelism associate director said, “My thanks go out to all who gave support and encouragement for the recruitment of digital missionaries. In line with the digital platform development and mission work initiatives of the GC, the Korean Union Conference will create various digital evangelism methods that can meet the needs of people, using tools from digital messengers and SNS to the recently spotlighted Metaverse.



# Dedication Speech of KUC Digital Missionaries



Kim JiHo

The inspiration and resolution for me to decide to serve as a digital missionary began in the fall of 2016. I usually didn't pay much attention to advertisements in the *Church Compass*, a monthly periodical for Korean Adventists, but strangely one day an advertisement caught my eye. It was recruiting for the third class of the Missionary Academy. The moment I saw the notice, I became convinced that God had answered my prayer.

So, I decided to join the Missionary Academy training held at Deer Mountain Training Center in Korea. The event was a feast of God's words. Tears of repentance and gratitude gushed out as I listened to the beautiful lectures and sang praises to God.

Looking back, I realize that whenever I am faced with an ordeal in life, the Holy Spirit refreshes my mission spirit and assigns me the right mission, whether it be big or small. It was then that God directed my missionary vision toward evangelism through social media in which I completely transformed my neglected personal blog into a channel of gospel.

I also began sending text messages from the Bible and the *Spirit of Prophecy* to people around me. I received positive feedback and messages of gratitude, encouragement, and support. But when I started to send a message about the Sabbath, they sternly told me not to send such a message. And I was gradually estranged from people around me and ended up falling out of touch with some of them.

The stress of losing contact with different ones took a toll on me as I was in the process of recovery after suffering from an affliction in my body. Even so, I couldn't stop spreading the gospel. In order to reduce stress as much as possible, I focused on my gospel blog and continued to upload texts. It was then that I saw the Korean Union Conference (KUC) recruitment advertisement for digital missionaries and applied without hesitation.

We can dedicate ourselves and do volunteer work in various ways both individually and as a group. But our ultimate goal should be "mission." Whether through a small task or big one, we can spread the gospel using talents God gave to each of us. If we pray fervently for mission work, God will surely bring about the result, though we don't know when and where it will be.

Though all my work takes place on social media, every morning I go to a virtual space on the Internet as if going to the office, and I steadily post Bible texts, pastors' sermons, and hymns while writing comments. I believe digital evangelism is an opportunity from God, so by working with the Holy Spirit, I hope

to carry out God's complete will through all things that please Him.

The Internet is full of entertainment, but I hope to see those worldly entertainments that many souls experience in virtual space replaced with spiritual things through the work of digital missionaries. I am in the first group of digital missionaries, and I hope to witness many Adventists, along with me, spreading the light of God with a mission spirit. My deepest thanks goes to God and KUC for giving me this opportunity. Immanuel!



Kim DongWook

I am grateful to God for calling us to be digital missionaries. I am grateful to Him for bestowing on His servants His grace. As this mission is His project, we will move forward relying entirely on Him. We will hold onto His promise that He will be with us until the end of the world. We assure our dedication and pledge to perform our mission as digital missionaries until Jesus returns, no matter what trials and tribulations we may be facing on our way.

# Couples Retreat of Mongolia Mission

**Angelinan Pagarigan**, MM Treasurer, and her husband **Dominic Pagarigan**

The long-time planned couples retreat at Suut Resort was finally able to take place on Dec. 4-5, 2021, as the government began allowing small gatherings due to the pandemic. Pastor Batsukh Oyuntuya, director of MM Women's and Family Ministries lead out in the retreat.

Presentations emphasized God as the center of the marriage relationship with practical experience from the longest-married couples—Mrs. Angelina Pagarigan, MM treasurer, and her husband, Dominic, married for 29 years, and MM President Han SukHee and his wife Mrs. Chun EunKyung, married for 24 years. Both couples talked about secrets to a successful marriage based on their experiences.

The participating couples were counseled to remember the Bible verses found in Ephesians 5:21-25, where submission, love, and respect are the most important values that each spouse must strive for to keep an everlasting relationship. The attendees were given three important points to ponder: 1) A good and lasting marriage happens not with the perfect couple but when two imperfect individuals learn to accept and enjoy each other's differences. 2) The happiest married couple is not made up of those who are alike but of two people who are different but accept and understand how their differences compliment their relationship. 3) A successful marriage is something you make and continue making. Both husband and wife must work at it.

Pastor Altanbaatar and his wife Boloroo, are among the most active couples in family ministries in Mongolia; they gave an inspiring presentation on the importance of family relationships and challenged the couples to renew their marriage vows daily not just occasionally. Pastor Darkhanbaatar and his wife Solongo shared the importance of giving the children the gift of family for eternity. The couple reminded attendees that in this world there are diminishing family values, so it is crucial for the parents to devote time and energy to building a strong foundation for their family and their children's characters. With the challenges of a vastly changing

world, children's characters can either be molded by Christian parents or by the world itself. Character development cannot be left to chance; parents must join hands together to develop strong Christian characters in their children, an eternal gift for them.

The two-day couples retreat ended with the year-end thanksgiving celebration which was done simply but meaningfully. Pastor Nyamsuren Myagmar, MM Ministerial secretary, and Pastor Adiyakhuu Oktiababri, MM Sabbath School and Personal Ministries director, led a foot-washing and communion service. All attendees resolved to keep their faith in Jesus Christ and to serve one another in Him.







# Reaching Out to the End of Time, to the World Mission Fields: Sahmyook University Overseas Mission Congress

The Sahmyook University Overseas Mission Congress was held from Dec. 17 -19, 2021, in commemoration of the university’s 115th anniversary. Under the theme, “Reaching Out to the End of Time, to the World Mission Fields,” the meeting was co-organized by the department of Adventist Mission of the Northern Asia Pacific Division, the department of World Mission of the Korean Union Conference, and the World Mission departments of the five local conferences in Korea.

The spiritual revival session of the congress featured lecturers Pastor J, former missionary to Congo, Elder Ha YongPan from Chinese Missionary Group, and Pastor Kim JeongGon, director of the Adventist Training Center in Korea. The congress also had reports from mission groups, including the Chinese Missionary Group, Bicycle Mission to the World, Adventist Mission, Pioneer Mission Movement, Public Campus Mission, 1000 Missionary Movement, Compass, and HisHands Mission Movement.

There was a research presentation session, titled, “Contemplation on the Path of the Seventh-day Adventist Church’s Mission in the Pandemic Era,” where experts in mission and/or history, including Professor Lee KukHyeon, Professor Choi GyeongChun, and Pastor Jeong HaeSeob took part to further solidify the concept of mission theology. Moreover, activity reports and testimonies of missionaries from over 20 countries around the globe further touched the attendees’ hearts.

The highlight of the congress was the chain of earnest prayers on the following topics: safety, health and mission work of missionaries; blessings of mission supporters and sponsors in their continued generous donations for the mission work to expand the Kingdom of God; Sahmyook University to carry out its mission as the hub of overseas mission; campus mission and the mission for foreign students; and for the mission in North Korea.

Professor Kim WonGon, chairperson of the Mission Congress Steering Committee, said, “The Korean Adventist Church, which now celebrates its 118th Anniversary of its mission, has grown from a missionary-recipient country to a missionary-dispatching country for the mission work in different parts of the world.” Kim further explained the purpose of the congress: “Sahmyook University, celebrating its 115th Anniversary, organized this meaningful event to support world Adventist missions, as well as to enhance its capability to lead the university for world mission.”

Pastor Jeong SeongCheol, professor of Sahmyook University, and Pastor Kim SeokGon, principal of Mongolia Adventist Collage, talk about world mission.





Pastor Morihiro Kohama and Elder Chizuko Asakawa

At Chiba Church, the elders and Pastor Morihiro Kohama wondered what could be done while worship services and activities were suspended due to the spread of the coronavirus. Then the church decided to practice “Prayer Walking” from the book, *In the name of Jesus*, by Dr. Ron Clouzet, former Ministerial Association secretary of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD).

In June 2021, the church purchased 69 copies of *In the name of Jesus* as a church-recommended book. The goal was to have all church members finish reading the book by December 2021.

Then, in order to raise awareness of prayer walking, the pastor recommended the book in divine worships and prayer meetings. When church members were not able to gather at church, the pastor encouraged people to actively engage in this prayer walking movement when they were walking, shopping, or commuting to work.

Elder Chizuko Asakawa, who had only recently learned of the prayer walking method of evangelism, had already been doing this kind of intercessory prayer on her own for more than 20 years without knowing it. The following is her testimony.

◆

Forty-five years ago, on Nov. 27, 1977, when my second daughter was born, I was near death due to an illness. I prayed hard and desperately, asking God to help me. This was my first encounter with Christ, and soon I was blessed to be led to the Adventist Church.

“One thing I have desired of the Lord,  
That will I seek:  
That I may dwell in the house of the Lord  
All the days of my life,  
To behold the beauty of the Lord.  
And to inquire in His temple” (Psalm 27:4).

# Blessings of Prayer Walking over Twenty Years

**Eisaku Morita**

JUC Assistant to the President for Evangelism

I kept praying, hoping to share the joy of being alive despite my illness. Every time I went out for a walk for rehabilitation, fearing that I would collapse at any moment, I was reminded of the words of Jeremiah 17:14: “Heal me, O Lord, and I shall be healed; Save me, and I shall be saved, For You are my praise.”

Before I recognized it, I was being transformed into a person who sees people through the eyes of Jesus, praying to Him to give me the height, breadth, and depth of His heart, and praying to Him to let me meet people with whom I could share the blessings I had received. I found myself walking along the street, looking at the nameplates and praying for blessings on the people who lived there, as if I was “prayer walking.”

God’s grace was given to me on each of my walks. I was blessed with the opportunity to give tracts and the Adventist magazine, *Signs of the Times*. And along with the grace to pray, God also lightened my illness. Strangely enough, one day I was able to walk without a cane.

In the midst of all this, I began to offer intercessory prayers as described in the book, *In the name of Jesus*, and more blessings were given to me. I think it was through intercessory prayers that I was able to continue without a break even though my family members were hospitalized more than 100 times.

At present, in the Sakura area where I live, there are seven Adventist families, and in the neighborhood, there is a group of non-Adventists who cooperate with the work of the Chiba Church. At the church prayer meetings, we pray for God’s grace and blessings together. God’s Word is true: “I have many people in this city” (Acts 18:10). I hope to be strengthened by this verse and continue to enjoy talking with Jesus and prayer walking.



Publishing ministries, as the name implies, preaches the gospel of God with words. In the early days there were various evangelistic tracts distributed everywhere. Nowadays, due to the development of the Internet, coupled with the fact that there is no time to read books because of busy schedules, the work of literature evangelism has gradually been replaced and weakened.

Even when books introduced by literature evangelists are placed on the bookshelf at home, no one is looking at them. But I still believe that God will take care of His truth, and when the time comes, someone will find these books and magazines to read. God will deliver the truth in these books and give peace and hope to distressed souls at the time most needed. His love will shine through, and the understanding of forgiveness of sins will give precious relief—through the years, much literature has helped people live meaningful and worthwhile lives.

The work of literature evangelists has never stopped. In every corner of Taiwan, they carry out evangelism through publications. Even with COVID-19 in 2021, the results did not diminish. On the contrary, under God's guidance, literature evangelists even made progress in 2021. Therefore, we must continue to share our testimonies through these missionaries.

On Feb. 7-9, 2022, Taiwan Conference (TWC) Publishing Ministries department held a three-day retreat at Formosa Naruwan Hotel Resort in Taitung, Tawian. At the retreat, literature evangelists shared their experiences and moving testimonies. While inspiring and encouraging one another, they more clearly re-affirmed their mission and responsibilities, and once again were assured that they are all messengers of the gospel. Those attending decided to always adhere to this spirit, to endeavor to spread the good news of Jesus, and help more people to change their lives.

Please join us in praying for the publishing ministries of TWC in support of the literature evangelism work—words that testify to the greatness of God, to understand and implement the truth, and to fulfill the mission of the publishing ministries.

Adventist literature evangelists in Taiwan gather at the retreat held by TWC Publishing Ministries.

# Publishing Ministries of Taiwan Conference

**Michael Wang**

TWC Publishing Ministries Director



# Professional and Leadership Development Programs of Mongolia Mission



Officers, directors, and staff members of Mongolia Mission

This year of 2022, a large portion of Mongolia Mission's operating budget has been dedicated toward professional and leadership development. This emphasis is a quest for MM to develop leaders both spiritually and professionally as one of the standard requirements to elevate its status from Mission to Conference.

Currently plans are going forward to open a theological school in Mongolia through partnerships with Adventist institutions abroad. The school would offer a bachelor's program with several pastors from MM who could teach at the school. For those who are already employed as church leaders, the opportunity to earn a bachelor's or master's degree in theology within the country or abroad will be given. It is a strong

desire of executive secretary, Pastor Nyamdavaa Dovchinsuren, and ministerial secretary, Pastor Nyamsuren Myagmar, to send missionaries to other cities of Mongolia and to countries where there are large numbers of Mongolians.

The 1000 Missionary Movement (1000MM) in Mongolia will re-open the training program in partnership with the 1000MM in the Philippines to begin training missionaries in the local context. Also, the Jesus Discipleship Training curriculum has been prepared for the lay leaders training that will take place in programs under the theological school.

The MM professional development program is not limited to pastoral staff. The treasury department has

started a professional development program for accounting staff through online sharing of practical experiences of fellow accountants in other countries. On Jan. 7, 2022, the Korea Union Conference Chief Accountant Kim YoungSik and his team shared their skills and talents with the MM accountants via Zoom. Ms. Sarah Jane Arengo-Deblois, General Conference Auditing Services audit manager, gave a lecture entitled "Working Moms: Work-Life Balance" on Feb. 18, 2022. This professional development program will be scheduled once a month. Lily Cho, one of the NSD treasury staff members, will share her own experiences with the title of "Time Management and Office Ethics" on March 4, 2022.

Giving MM accountants and other office staff exposure to the challenges commonly met by their counterparts in other countries will broaden their perspectives and improve their skills as they learn how to resolve challenges. The MM staff members are also given the chance to join NSD's Communication and Leadership Advancement Program (CLAP) and this year, a budget has been allotted for the English proficiency online classes of interested accountants for possible registration to a master's degree program in business administration should they pass the academic English skills requirements.





# Digital Missionary Training in Ho Chi Minh International Church

**Byun SeongJun**  
NSD Digital Evangelism Director

The Ho Chi Minh International Church in Vietnam held a digital missionary training through Zoom on Jan. 22, 2022, with Pastor Byun SeongJun, Director of Digital Evangelism of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) as lecturer. Pastor Kim JungTae, senior pastor of the church, said in his welcoming remarks, “In Vietnam, like other countries, it is difficult to hold face-to-face meetings due to the COVID-19 situation, making mission work in digital space all the more important. So, we planned this training session for church members.”

In the training session, joined by many youth and the Vietnam Mission Youth director, pastor Byun encouraged active mission work in online space. He emphasized that digital evangelism is truly needed throughout the General Conference, its Divisions, Unions, Conferences, and local churches. The training session dealt with digital evangelism’s goals, purposes, strategies, methods, and concrete plans for practical use. “Digital evangelism is about delivering mission content to one’s Bible seekers with a prayerful heart through social network services, which are based on the Internet.

Even if you are afraid of face-to-face evangelism, you can easily do digital evangelism,” said Pastor Byun.

Pastor Kim JungTae said in his closing remarks, “Today’s session was very educational for me. I will do my best to activate digital evangelism in my field.” For this endeavor, the Vietnam Mission Ministerial Association and its Youth Department will continue to hold digital evangelism training sessions for adolescents and ministers in collaboration with the NSD Digital Evangelism department.

Recently elected as the Vietnam Mission’s ministerial secretary, Pastor Kim JungTae has been working as a Pioneer Mission Movement missionary in Vietnam.

Pastor Kim now directs his mission work to helping Vietnamese Adventists in multiple ways: the Goat Project, the Children Scholarship Project, the Seminary Scholarship, the Literature Mission Project, and the Layperson Sponsorship.

Pastor Byun, NSD Digital Evangelism director, leads a digital missionary training for the Ho Chi Minh International Church.



Mongolia Mission (MM) joined the Ten Days of Prayer program as part of the Adventist world church's yearly event, from Jan. 5-10, 2022. This year's theme was "The Three Angels Call to Prayer." Pastor Nyamsuren Myagmar, MM Ministerial secretary, and Pastor Batsukh Oyuntuya, MM Family and Women's Ministries director, led Mongolia Mission officers and staff members to visit 10 local churches in 10 days, while encouraging church members to join the prayer movement. All church pastors and lay leaders were given the opportunity to participate in the program as preachers, prayer leaders, or through special music.

About 15 to 30 members prayed together face to face in each church. The prayer meetings were also livestreamed via Facebook. Each meeting had 600 to 1,000 viewers, which is more than any face-to-face meeting that MM normally has held in the years before the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Mongolia Mission Conducts Ten Days of Prayer



The Ten Days of Prayer concluded with a community service activity at the bus stop in front of the MM office. All MM workers went out to distribute the gospel book, *Power of Hope*, with a bundle of face masks. This activity began from sharing ideas on how MM could do a simple mission activity in the most accessible location at the end of the prayer event.

The activity at the bus stop did not end with the conclusion of the event, but became a continuing ministry. During weekdays, on their 15-minute break time, the office staff led by Purevdulam Jugderjav, MM's newly appointed Children's and Health Ministries director, and Pastor Batsukh Oyuntuya together prepare 100 books bundled with five face masks, a toothbrush, and toothpaste wrapped with a gift ribbon. And every Friday, they distribute the gift pack at the bus stop on their way home for Sabbath preparation.

A week after they started the bus stop mission, Pastor Tsolmontuya Nergui, the pastor of Bayankhair Church on the 5th Floor of the MM office, whose contact information was stamped on every distributed book, got a call from a person whose sister received the book, *Power of Hope*. How great is the Holy Spirit that works in the heart of those receiving these books?

Other local churches in Ulaanbaatar also followed up with this distribution activity. Through the leadership of Brother Enkchulun Khuderchuluun, voluntary lay leader of Amazing Grace Church, the church members have distributed the books in the community near their church and have started a friendship with the street vendors who even share their candies with the church members in exchange for the church's gift pack.

Let us continue to pray for this simple bus stop mission that it may lead more people to come to Jesus and accept Him as their personal Savior in His time.

After the Ten Days of Prayer, MM workers give away a gospel book and five masks to passersby at the bus stop.



# Health Ministries in the COVID-19 Pandemic

**Jacob Ko**

NSD Health Ministries Director

Despite many challenges faced during this COVID-19 pandemic, God's people are to help one another with whatever resources they have. Being one body of Christ, the church cares for its members. The Health Ministries department of the General Conference (GC) has expressed its sympathy and extended its helping hand to world divisions—the Northern Asia-Pacific Division received \$10,000 USD from the GC Health Ministries department to distribute to local Unions and attached fields in the division. The money has been used to help church members in many ways. The following reports demonstrate some of those ways.

## Mongolia Mission

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Mongolia Mission has been trying to be a good neighbor to our community like the good Samaritan in the Bible.

Mongolia Mission donated 500 diapers to the Child Center of Development. Also, we distributed more than 4,000 disposable masks to social and community workers of Bayangol and Songino Khairkhan districts in Ulaanbaatar, and a kindergarten for children with special needs, as well as Mongolia Mission staff members. Moreover, for staff members who were infected with COVID-19, Mongolia Mission used \$1,500 USD to help support their care.



MM gives diapers to the Child Center of Development.



JUC helps Adventist foreign residents in Japan who were affected by the recession from COVID-19.

## Japan Union Conference

Resident foreigners represent almost two percent of the Japanese population, but it reaches almost 15 percent in membership of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church in Japan. Some of them missed work as their families were affected by COVID-19. But the main reason for a drastic drop in their incomes was the irregular employment which caused them to suffer the effects of recession.

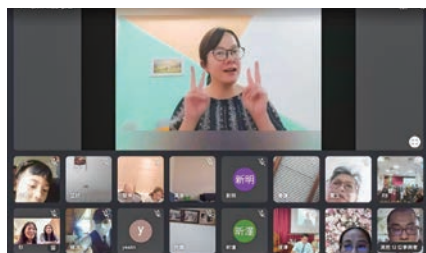
In the year 2020, Japan Union of Conferences (JUC) in cooperation with local churches launched a project to deliver free food baskets with products from the Church's Saniku Food Factory—109 families, comprising 334 people, 55 of them seekers, benefited by this project.

Due to the prolonged pandemic, JUC felt the need to relaunch this project. The timely help of the General Conference Health Ministries department gave relief to 100 families throughout 2021. At the end of August 2021, 32 families received the first batch of aid—a total of 82 people.

Smiling recipients showed their gratitude in photos from Nagoya and Gifu churches. One Japanese member at Nishinomiya church even wrote a letter of appreciation describing his happiness for receiving more than he needed. For the seekers, it was a surprise to see that there is a church that does not just ask for offerings but follows the principle of Matthew 10:8 "Freely you have received, freely give."

Taiwan entered the COVID-19 alert in May 2021 and the government imposed restrictive measures and pandemic prevention regulations for gatherings. In line with the government reaction, Taiwan Conference (TWC) issued a statement that each local church must strictly follow the government's guidelines. Local churches had to join online meetings at home, and implement protective measures. TWC and local churches quickly and actively adapted to this situation and held online meetings with Hope Channel to maintain church pastoral functions.

In the face of this challenge, the Children's Ministry department wondered how to proceed without face-to-face gatherings. After discussing with several teachers,



During the pandemic, TWC Children's Ministries department has enabled children to have online worship time at home.



TWC Children's Ministries planned to provide online children's Sabbath School video and audio materials, so that children could have online worship time at home as well. We produced a program with a mobile phone, a microphone, and an electronic keyboard. Every episode had a new Bible story and hymns. Interactive teaching materials were also included to enhance parent-

child relationships through the online Sabbath School.

And children's teachers in the local churches accepted the challenge of the online children's activities. For example, the team of children's teachers at Yuchi Church conducted a one-week online Vacation Bible School, an unforgettably joyful experience for both children and parents. The senior pastor of the Pingtung Church also led children's teachers to start the online children's Sabbath School by themselves. At first, the class was a bit confusing, but the children gradually learned how to cooperate with the teachers for the online program.

There is a saying that "Crisis is a turnaround." While carrying out the online children's Sabbath School, God helped us to find many families to join the children's meetings online and return to church. There were also many Bible-seeking families who watched the online children's Sabbath School video every week as well.

In September 2021, the Taiwan government announced a lifting of the third level alert, and local Adventist churches in Taiwan officially resumed physical meetings. Children's teachers were excited to carry out various activities for children that had not been completed due to the pandemic. Because of the online meetings, children were still familiar with church activities when they returned to physical meetings. We thank God for helping our children to continue growing in Him during the COVID-19 crisis.

# TWC Children's Ministries amidst the Pandemic

**Joyce Chen**

TWC CHM, FM & WM Director





## 3-Year Performance Review of Sahmyook Village Project

The Sahmyook Village Project is attracting attention. This enterprise involves students developing care services and registering them to an online platform to find and match local beneficiaries. The project has become a model that applies “community care,” that breaks away from caring through facilities and builds a care system for each region at the village level.

On Jan. 12, 2022, Sahmyook University held a performance presentation for the Sahmyook Village Project and reported results for the past three years. According to the report, the project involved 389 enrolled students providing 696 care services to 167 people in need.

For the Sahmyook Village Project, the university first established an online platform, the SU-Care Shop, which matches students who are the care providers, with beneficiaries. After

students develop services according to needs, a process that includes expert verification and online registration, the beneficiaries or community center officials can search for and apply for the services they need.

The university then launched a content development project that supports students to establish advanced care service developers. The project equips students with a course of lectures on care-related issues including care philosophy, care ethics, and care economy with tips for starting a business which could expand their care shop into a social enterprise. Student developers were also given an opportunity to have their care services undergo a feasibility study by community care officials and practitioners.

Among the various care service developments by different teams, “The Elderly and Sahmyook” and



Students of Sahmyook University provide care services to elderly neighbors through Sahmyook Village Project.

“Dream Laundry” have received a commendation from the Nowon District Mayor for contributing to issues of those who have been neglected in terms of welfare in the local community. “The Elderly and Sahmyook” delivers healthy, low-salt meals to the elderly, and “Dream Laundry” provides bedding and air conditioner cleaning to the elderly.

## Faculty Council Meeting Held in Metaverse



Sahmyook University held its faculty council meeting on the Metaverse platform *Gather* on Dec. 22, 2021. It is the first meeting for the university with this digital platform.

The virtual space consisted of a conference hall named, Koinonia Hall, where “rooms” were set up for group discussions with an exhibition hall for policy presentation videos, and a tutorial room. Faculty members

participated in the virtual meeting by using features such as avatar creation, video connection, voice chat, and video sharing.

During the council meeting, participants gathered at the conference hall to attend the devotional and hear the president’s remarks, after which they moved to the Koinonia Hall, dividing into 12 small groups for a time of fellowship.

From there, they moved to the video exhibition hall to watch pre-recorded presentations from each department of the university on the following policies: vitalization of the multi-major system (Academic Affairs Office); concepts of Metaverse and plans for its class application (Institute for Innovative Education); career guidance for students—major

accomplishments and future plans (Student Affairs Office); report on the establishment of the University Innovation Support Project (Planning Office); and Utilization of the online IR system (IR Center).

Group discussions took place in small conference rooms in which several major topics were addressed, including the following: the enhancement of the student employment rate; improvement of the university’s image; improvement of methods and indexes for department evaluation; improvement of the university’s research environment; development of the smart learning environment; enhancement of student satisfaction; and the improvement of faculty welfare.

## U.S. Online Training Program, Blue Ladder



The opening ceremony of the 3rd batch Blue Ladder.

For the past three years, Sahmyook University has participated in the Blue Ladder project which provides training at overseas universities for students who enthusiastically seek career-building opportunities and work hard to develop their capabilities amidst social and financial difficulties. This year the university held the 5-week online training program from Dec. 27, 2021, to Jan.

26, 2022. The project is supported by the Korean Ministry of Education and the Korean Student Aid Foundation.

Sahmyook University has joined hands with the University of Guam to run the overseas training program for 30 students, including 28 from Sahmyook University and two from other universities. While trainees were sent overseas in the previous years, those for this year received online training due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Participants took a foreign language class by ESL instructors from the University of Guam. They also teamed up to conduct a company analysis project and toured global companies on Jeju Island. The course also provided the trainees an opportunity to experience the history and culture of Guam.

The program was run on the Residential College system, where participants stayed together in a dorm throughout the course of training. Along with regular classes, holistic and creative community education was provided, including a meet-up with seniors who have been hired overseas, craft programs where they learned baking, making leather wallets, and more.

Meanwhile, Sahmyook University decided to provide priority selection opportunities for the K-Move School, the US internship program, to those who completed this round of training.

## Entire Group of 33 Students of the Overseas Employment Training Course Successfully Employed in the U.S.

K-Move School, Sahmyook University's overseas employment training course, saw its entire group of 33 graduates successfully earn jobs at companies in the U.S. So far, a total of 76 students have found jobs overseas through this program.

K-Move School is a project that provides customized training courses for overseas employment to university graduates and graduates-to-be who are looking for opportunities to work overseas. It then leads them to actual employment by matching them with top companies. Sahmyook University has been operating this project since 2018, with the support of the Ministry of Employment and Labor in Korea.

The most recent courses of the program began in June 2021, with 15 participants in the e-Biz Course and 18 participants in the Design Course, which ran for 6 months. Consisting of various subjects, of which amount to 660 course hours, including job training (300 hours), business English and other language training (300 hours), and education on culture, safety, and legal affairs (60 hours), the program successfully equips students with capabilities that meet local demands in the U.S.

The university also has made external efforts, signing business agreements with local overseas employment agencies, finding excellent companies, and securing and verifying job opportunities. Furthermore, the course has a follow-up management system that supports the overseas employed graduates to successfully settle in their local environment. Last October and November, President Kim IlMok also added support by making a personal visit to some of the companies to discuss ways for further cooperation.

The completion ceremony of the 4th K-Move School.







Dr. Jacob Ko, NSD Health Ministries director.



# NSD Health Emphasis Week

**Jacob Ko**  
NSD Health Ministries Director

God cares for our health, not only spiritually and mentally but also physically. Maintaining good physical health is the foundation for success in the workplace. The Health Ministries department of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) takes seriously the responsibility to promote and improve the health of the NSD family.

Several months ago, Mrs. Paula Sabuin, office assistant for NSD Health Ministries, shared her health plan of having a health station that could provide health assessment and counsel within the NSD office workplace. We decided to hold a health assessment activity from Dec. 6-10, 2021, during the Health Emphasis Week. We conducted major health assessments, including blood pressure, waist circumference, body composition, blood glucose, three-minute step test, health assessment questionnaires, and health counseling, all to raise health awareness among NSD officers and staff.

A week before the Health Emphasis Week, two Golden Angel members, Danielle and San, who are nursing professionals, called us. They said they would like to help us with the health assessment stations. Our department was very happy knowing that God had prepared two nurses for us one year earlier. On Dec. 5, Sunday morning, we came to the NSD office and prepared everything for the venue.

Mrs. Sabuin took care of registration and the blood pressure station. Danielle and San took waist circumference, body composition, and blood glucose. I was responsible for the three-minute step test and health counseling. We also prepared fruits and nuts as gifts for the participants.

On the first day, Pastor Kim JungYoo, pastor at Paju International Church, came with his foot wound as our first guest. His support in this activity encouraged our team. On the third day, NSD President Kim SiYoung visited before his meeting. We were happy that he could make the time to participate, helping to promote this event even with his busy schedule. Golden Angel members, NSD officers and staff members came to the health assessments according to their available time.

The NSD Health Ministries department was glad that it could be a service for the NSD family. We believe this is the first of many assessments to promote health among our workers. Furthermore, we will keep serving as God's servants to encourage healthy lives throughout the NSD territories.



## Mongolia Mission's Shepherdess Training



Mrs. Chun EunKyung (left), MM Ministerial Spouses Association director.

A training for ministerial spouses was held at Suut Resort by Mrs. Chun EunKyung, Ministerial Spouses Association director of the Mongolia Mission (MM). The training was conducted to foster social connections among the group, learn from each other, share inspiring stories of God's blessings, provide support, and share the love of Jesus through community services across Mongolia. The meeting was fun-filled where women participated in singing, praying, a Q & A session, and lively discussions.

During the event, ministerial spouses talked about the challenges of being a pastor's spouse and how to cope with these challenges. One participant said, "to face the challenges of being a pastor's spouse, you can choose to be who you really are in Christ and not to be somebody else." Mrs. Chun also shared her personal experiences as a pastor's wife for 24 years.

And a special prayer was offered for Mrs. Bae JiHyun and her husband, Pastor Yang EuiShik, who accepted a call to serve back in their home country after serving as missionaries in Mongolia for four years.

All the participants felt that they have been called to the ministry and expressed their love and commitment to God. Everyone enjoyed the training and they are looking forward to the next gathering. In 2022, MM's Ministerial Spouses Association plans to conduct the following programs: weekly meetings via Zoom for Bible study, group prayer and fellowship; monthly home meetings and visitations; seminars and training sessions with guest speakers from the Northern Asia-Pacific Division; and a ministers' family retreat.

## It Started with Two Cows

*The original version of this story was posted by Adventistischer Pressedienst, Adventist news site in Germany.*



Enkhtuya and her husband started organic farming with a sponsorship from ADRA.

A mother of two, Enkhtuya lives with her family in northern Mongolia. After the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, it seemed almost impossible for her to feed her family. Unable to find a permanent job in her home country, she went abroad for two years to earn money for her family. Then after two years, she had saved enough and returned home. She bought two cows and started selling milk and some dairy products. In addition, she and her husband set up a small vegetable garden.



# Dorcas Society Holds Wednesday Bazaar for Scholarship Fundraising

The Sahmyook University Church Dorcas Society has recently donated scholarship funds of 20 million won (\$16,700 USD). Formed in the 1960s, the Dorcas Society is a community service group run by church members, named after Dorcas, a New Testament biblical character known for her lifetime of service and good deeds for others.

The devoted group holds the Wednesday bazaar for scholarship fundraising on campus after personally going out to pick up fresh organic agricultural and marine products at wholesale markets or local farmhouses.

As the news that the bazaar offered cheap yet reliable agricultural produce and that the profits were donated for scholarship funds went viral, the weekly event began to be called the “Dorcas Market,” and became a local specialty.

So far, the total scholarship funds they have raised comes to 622 million won (\$52,000 USD), and has benefitted more than 900 students since the year 2001 when the counting of scholarship funds began. Every year, based on recommendations by departments, the group selects and helps about 50 students who are academically outstanding and/or in financial need.

Along with the scholarship fundraising, the Dorcas Society extends help to children of families without parents, or seniors who have no one to rely on, as well as offering

volunteer services at sanitariums, senior care centers, and prisons. To this end, they collect separate membership fees or accept support of benefactors who share the same goals.

“It touches my heart every time when graduates come and express gratitude, saying that they were able to continue studying thanks to the Dorcas Scholarship,” Yu YeongHwan, president of the Dorcas Society said. “We just hope that this fund continues to help struggling students and to be used in nurturing excellent leaders who contribute to society,” he added.



Acquaintances told Enkhtuya about a project sponsored by the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA). She went to a meeting with a local cooperative. There she heard about organic farming for the first time, became curious, and decided to enroll in several training sessions. Enkhtuya received organic seeds and fertilizers and began to apply what she had learned.

With a support loan from a project fund, Enkhtuya bought greenhouses. The vegetable garden became a small farm. She planted cabbage, beans, potatoes, celery, parsley, onions, garlic, and chili peppers. According to ADRA Germany, Enkhtuya harvested 42 tons (about 92,600 pounds) in her first year.

## Award as the Best Organic Farmer

ADRA Germany recently reported that in 2020, Enkhtuya was named “Best Organic Farmer of the Year” by Mongolia’s Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Light Industry. This has encouraged Enkhtuya and her husband to continue pursuing organic farming. “We all need to work together to advance organic farming,” she said, referring to her company.

Her family is also benefiting from the increased income. “Part of our profits from horticulture are used for my son’s tuition fees. I also want to expand my organic field and learn more about organic farming and its certification,” she said.

## The ADRA Project

In northern Mongolia, smallhold farmers have joined forces in cooperatives to produce organic food. They are supported in ADRA Mongolia’s project, Partnership on Organic Agriculture (POAG), funded by the German Government in partnership with ADRA Germany.

Farmers learn about new farming methods, receiving modern working tools and organic seeds to facilitate their transition to organic farming. With the help of ADRA, the first certification bodies for organic products were developed. ADRA also assisted farmers in finding markets to sell their products.

# First Competition of Heroes Bible Trivia Game in Korea



**Lee SangYong**

KUC Communication Associate Director

The first competition of “Heroes: The Bible Trivia Game” was held in Korea with participation from gamers inside and outside the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Hosted by the Digital Evangelism & Communication department of the Korean Union Conference (KUC) and supported by the General Conference and the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD), this competition was held throughout November 2021.

The organizers said over 600 pre-registered for the competition with 2,000 app downloads through the game promotion website and social network channel. With the help of a digital marketing campaign, anyone who was interested in the Bible game could download the app and participate in the competition regardless of church denomination. Since the event drew a large interest outside the Adventist Church, the monthly magazine for the Korean Protestant Church, *The Modern Religion*, published an article about it.

The awards ceremony was held online on Dec. 30, 2021. Pastor Kang SoonKi, president of KUC, sent a message of encouragement to the winners through video: “Your amazing skills and active participation in this competition was truly impressive, it will bring a bright future to our digital evangelism.”

Kim WooJin who placed first for the Best Record category, said, “The Heroes Bible Trivia game is where you can learn the Bible, and enjoy it without feeling burdened or guilty. It is easy to use and accessible for any age or gender.” Kim also ranked fifth in the global ranking among tens of thousands of users around the world.

The youngest winner, middle school student, Lee HyungRok, placed second. He said, “I found myself reading the Bible to answer the quiz about Bible characters that I didn’t know. Through this



competition, I found myself getting closer to the Bible and gaining knowledge. For me, it was a starting point for my Christian life.”

Deaconess Choi KyungSook, who placed first in the Maximum XP category (the participant with the highest score during the competition period), said, “It was good for learning the Bible more easily. I would recommend this game to adults who have free time. Also, if it is used by teenagers who are prone to indulge in harmful games, it will be of great benefit.” As a housewife, she emphasized, “I was able to get closer to the Bible in my daily life through this app.”

Deacon Lee JaeHo, who took second place in the Maximum XP category, said, “When I found the quiz matched with the Bible verses I read every morning, it was a great help understanding God’s word. I hope that this game will be distributed more in the world and help many people to believe in the Bible message, expanding the kingdom of God.”

Deacon Jeong YoHan, who was awarded the Most Sharing prize (the participant who shared the game most), said, “I used to think that there was a lack of quality content for teenagers and children in church. However, the Heroes Bible Trivia game changed my thinking. I tried this game myself and found it religiously motivating and fun, so I shared the app with my friends and acquaintances. Thank you very much for this unexpected award



and gifts. I hope someday I can be the one to help develop and improve this app if possible.”

Pastor Lee SangYong, associate director of the KUC Digital Evangelism & Communication department and host of the Heroes Game Competition, said, “Through this competition we confirmed new possibilities for Bible study and digital evangelism through mobile games. We will make sure that this game competition is not just one time, but a means of mission and ministry for the Adventist Church.”

He added, “We are also planning to distribute it to various age groups and classes through collaboration with relevant departments such as the Children’s Ministries, Youth Ministries, and Sabbath School & Personal Ministries. And we plan to work with the General Conference to add quizzes and keep updating the app to find various uses for missionary purposes.”

During the award ceremony, Pastor Byun SeongJun, NSD Communication director,

The awards ceremony of the first Heroes game competition in Korea was held online.



recommended and congratulated KUC for adopting the game in their Union and holding the game event. He said that all Unions and Conferences in NSD territories are now in either preparation or the process of translating the game in their own language, and that this game could be a game changer in the digital gospel content areas in NSD.

*Heroes Bible Quiz game can be downloaded on the App Store, Google Play and <https://www.heroesbibletrivia.org/>. Gamers around the world are now participating in a new challenge.*



1000 MISSIONARY MOVEMENT

# Growing into a Church Full of Faith

**Ian F. Famisaran**

1000MM 56th Batch



**M**arabini church in the Philippines has a large church building but when my missionary partner and I arrived as part of the 1000 Missionary Movement, there were few members attending and most of them were newly baptized high school girls. When we inquired about the current state of the church, we discovered that the church did not have a formal program for Sabbath School or divine worship time. The church elder told us they only had a proper Sabbath School program if the mothers of the church members came to visit them.

My missionary partner and I agreed that what this church needed was better trained members who would remain steadfast. We did not attempt to conduct Bible study. Instead, we held a youth worship service every night at their homes. After a few months of constant



1000MM missionary Ian F. Famisaran

bonding through this simple worship, we noticed significant improvements. Adults became more engaged in church programs.

And the church began to have formal programs on Sabbath, as well as midweek and vesper services. Youth became so eager to participate in our weekly worship that they picked us up at our house instead of us waiting for them every evening. Declining to help during a church function became a thing of the past. After a few months of worshipping together, members of the church became more active instead of just sitting and listening.

After seeing this encouraging growth, my missionary partner and I began urging the Marabini church members to search for interest. Our active young members were the ones who were able to persuade former young members, who happened to be their friends, to return to church. The young people's abilities and skills began to emerge because of the continuous programs and activities we had implemented, which were beneficial to the mission.

We didn't need to be concerned about who could speak because almost all the youth had become capable of preparing their own sermons and giving the Sabbath school lesson. Even three young ladies who had formerly stopped attending church took the part of performing a special song on their ukuleles. This was compelling proof that the mission spirit was being reawakened in the hearts of the church members in Marabini, particularly among the youth, who took on the task of encouraging their friends to return to church and teaching them how to play ukuleles.

In November 2021, the church began preparations for a two-week crusade. My missionary partner and I asked the church members to look for those who might be interested in hearing the crusade message and invite them. Everyone was given a mission to complete. I could sense members' happy longing as the crusade proceeded for two weeks; and even though it rained every night, they were there to lend their support and assist us with our purpose.

When the baptism day arrived, thirteen individuals were baptized. Following the baptism, I asked two young girls who had decided to be baptized that day who was it that had encouraged them to do so. They cheerfully responded that it was two other young ladies who had previously lost interest in attending the church.

This experience, for me, was proof of the Holy Spirit at work in each of the members' hearts. We can complete the mission assigned to us by our Savior if we have the Holy Spirit in us. We need Jesus Christ to complete our task of preaching the gospel to the ends of the earth. So, my advice to those who are working for our Lord Jesus Christ is to "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight" (Proverbs 3:5-6). For we can only do all things through Christ who strengthens us by His Spirit (Phil. 4:11-13).



Young people of Marabini church perform a special song on their ukuleles and a guitar.



# He Is at Work

**Reven C. Encomio**

1000MM 56th Batch

I'm Reven C. Encomio, and I'm 24 years old. I was born into a Catholic family but adopted to an Adventist family. My mother, a literature evangelist, raised me and my brother as Christians.

But we simply obeyed our parents out of fear, much like other youth who had similar childhood experiences. I was not sure why I had to go to church every Sabbath or why I had to get up at 5 a.m. to worship when I could worship any time of the day. Everything I did felt like it was only a facade, and it was forced upon me. Despite being inundated with Adventist teachings and Ellen White's writings, I still felt hollow.

I had been involved in some mission work, but I didn't feel like I was progressing in Christ. Before joining the 1000 Missionary Movement, I had never felt fulfilled in whatever I had done. My missionary partner and I landed at Cardona, Philippines, in February 2021. Because the place was similar to my hometown in Cavite, I readily adapted to the environment, but that did not mean that my missionary journey there was simple.

The first issue was a language barrier. Tarlac's population is half Ilocano and half Kapampangan. Because I am from Cavite, learning and adapting to their language was difficult for me. As a result, I was unable to mingle with them sometimes because we couldn't understand each other. But I praise God because my missionary partner could fill in what was lacking in me. Religion was the second factor to consider. Almost half of Tarlac's population were devout Catholics. It was an unhappy thing to learn that our Adventist church had the smallest membership in the village, with only 9 or 10 members. It was a true battle.

Throughout our visitation, most people, especially the elderly in the village, stared at us.



We felt uneasy, but managed to do our mission. We met a number of young people from various religious backgrounds and would hang out with them, and they eventually became our company.

We met Nanay Tita, who was once an anti-Adventist and was known as a "native" in the village. Our church elder told us that she promoted rumors or negative information about Adventists. Nanay Tita was afflicted with an undisclosed illness at the time. Her foot was bloated, and her doctor told her that she needed surgery and that her left foot needed to be amputated. The problem was that she didn't have enough money to pay for the surgery. As soon as we learned of this, we urged our family and friends to assist us in gathering funds for Nanay Tita. God heard our prayers.

After we had the funds, we took Nanay Tita to another doctor for a check-up and a second opinion on her feet. God is truly amazing because the doctor indicated she wouldn't require surgery and that all she needed was continued treatment and anti-bacterial medicine. We didn't abandon her in the midst of her treatment. We continued to take her to the doctor's office whenever she needed to go.

Her feet were healed after many treatments. Our pockets were empty, but God never let us go hungry. Once her feet were back to





1000MM missionary Reven C. Encomio

normal, we began to offer her Bible lessons. We didn't say anything to her about ourselves, but she kept complimenting Adventists. She even desired to get baptized, but this was not possible during our time there, so she began attending our church in Cardona.

And those young people who had started hanging out with us became Adventists. They are now leaders of the church. Even though we had to leave, they continue to carry on the work we began.

I've taken a lot of lessons from my experience in Cardona. We will be stronger in facing hardships if we first commit ourselves to God. And when we completely surrender ourselves to God, He can readily work on us and use us to reach out to others more effectively. It is the Holy Spirit's mission, not ours, to persuade people to be baptized. Our job is to keep asking the Holy Spirit to live in us. It's not our job to transform others which is beyond our abilities; it's the Holy Spirit's work. As Christians and missionaries, it is our job to live the life of Jesus while performing ministry so that others might see Christ, not ourselves, through us.

I've also come to realize that I can only rely on Him. In our mission field, there were occasions when I tried to do things on my own, plan things without consulting God, and it always failed. Only God can provide us success. Our successes aren't truly ours; they're God's because we can't do anything without Him.





**M**y name is Kathy Bayudang. I was born in Bagabag, Nueva Vizcaya, Philippines, and I was born into an Adventist family. My family used to be a happy one, but after my mother died, everything changed. My father went through a lot of transformations. He began to abuse me after he met a girl. The fact that he was an Adventist layman in Pangasinan, made me furious at what he did to me.

So, when my aunt came to visit, I went with her to Manila. She is a Christian, but not an Adventist. She enabled me to get baptized in her church. After a few months, I was hired as a salesperson. My life appeared to be improving, but then another problem came. I was diagnosed with diabetes, and my doctor told me that they would have to amputate my feet since they were swollen and made it difficult for me to walk. Without crutches I could not walk.

My world was falling apart, and I sensed that something was wrong with me. But I told myself that I had to keep living. I found a new job that required me to travel from Manila to Pangasinan twice a week. Slowly, but steadily, my feet improved. I praised God for making a miracle for me. At that time, I was attending a Bible study with an Adventist lay pastor in Pangasinan. I lied to my aunt several times when she inquired about my attendance at her church.

However, she later discovered the truth. She told me that she was willing to do anything in order for me to stay in Manila. So, I told her why I kept returning to Pangasinan, that I was participating in a Bible study led by an Adventist Pastor. I also told her that I adored her, but that I adored God more.

I had to stand in my faith. So not long after that I went to Pangasinan, thinking that I would have a peaceful life there. But I

## Cast My Burdens on God

**Kathy Bayudang**  
1000MM 56th Batch



Kathy (middle) and her missionary partners



was wrong. Struggles kept following me, but I was confident that God was with me.

There were difficulties for me living in Pangasinan. I appealed to God and expressed my exhaustion, pleading with Him to give me the strength to continue. Indeed, I believe God has always heard my prayers. One day, one of my friends asked if I wanted to join the 1000 Missionary Movement in Cavite. I said yes. I was struggling financially before going to the 1000 Missionary Movement, yet God provided.

I was assigned to the province of Camarines Sur. My missionary partner and I were astonished to find it to be uncharted terrain when we arrived. We had no idea how to begin our mission, but God showed us a way. We started by conducting a house visit. Because I had training in massage therapy, I always brought massage oil with me in case there were people who wanted my help. In our mission field, I was able to put my massage therapy skills to good use. One family was baptized as a result of this.

That family was very special to me. I would occasionally take rice from our container and offer it to them to help them in their daily lives. I didn't want to tell my missionary partners about this at that time since I was afraid they would be upset. I did it because I couldn't neglect this family and their hardships of life. Praise God that every Sabbath that family always joined us to worship God.

What I learned in my mission field was that if I committed myself to God, I would be able to overcome any hardship. That's exactly what I've gone through in my life. I used to be irritable and self-centered, but God taught me to love in the same way that He loves us.




# HEROES

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