

NORTHERN ASIA-PACIFIC DIVISION [www.nsdadventist.org](http://www.nsdadventist.org)

# NEWS&VIEWS



March / April 2024

10 DAYS OF PRAYER

PRIORITIES OF FAITH

January 10-20, 2024

"He has told you, O man, what is good;  
and what does the Lord require of you  
but to do justice, and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with your God?"

MICAH 6:8, ESV

JOIN AT [WWW.TEND](http://WWW.TEND)





INSPIRATION

# Be Still, and Know that I am God

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

“One of those days Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray, and spent the night praying to God” (Luke 6:12). When Jesus was on this earth, He often withdrew from the crowd and went to a solitary place to spend time with His heavenly Father. His priority was to receive heavenly wisdom and power from the Father even though people were looking for Him.

We all know that Jesus is our example of how we should live our Christian life. He shows a good example through His earthly life of how we can successfully overcome our weaknesses and shortcomings. The Bible shows us how Jesus did that in the book of Luke. “But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed” (Luke 5:16, NIV); “One of those days Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray, and spent the night praying to God” (Luke 6:12). And again, we can read it from the book of Mark. “Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed” (Mark 1:35).

From these Bible verses, we can discover the following things: 1) Jesus often prayed. 2) Jesus prayed alone. 3) Jesus went to a solitary place to pray. 4) Jesus spent long hours praying. 5) Jesus prayed early in the morning. We can see where, when, and how He prayed.

Even though Jesus was God, the Son himself, He solely depended upon the power of God the Father to heal, cure, and save His people on this earth. He received power from God and performed great

miracles to heal the lives of people. Ellen G. White stated, “The lessons of the life of Christ are precious to us. He waited, He worked, He prayed, in behalf of man. He depended upon God, and in His life plans worked with God. He cooperated perfectly with the will of His Father. We need to copy this Pattern in all things” (12LtMs, Lt 87, 1897, par. 2). Mrs. White emphasized that we need to follow and copy the example of Jesus Christ. Jesus prayed and depended upon God, and He followed the will of His Father. In many cases, we have failed to follow Jesus’ example. Sometimes, we are too busy with work and travel. We fail to communicate with our God. And that is the reason why we are not always successful in our gospel ministry.

We need to learn how to “be still and know that I am God” (Psalms 46:10). In this part of the Bible, the Psalmist tells us how God is powerful and helpful to us. He says, “God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging” (Psalms 46:1-3). In whatever situation we are in, or kinds of difficulties we face, God is always there with us to protect us and strengthen us. He is described as an “ever-present help in trouble.” We truly need to trust in this Bible verse. It is because God loves us, and He is an omnipotent God.

Dr. Frank Hasel reminded us during the 10 Days of Prayer, “Our lives are packed to the brim with so many things we want to pursue.” It is true. In many cases, we are driven by our worldly desires, which lead us to fall into temptations to disobey God’s will. As Dr. Hasel mentioned, we must “intentionally reduce and make room for meaningful, soul-invigorating quiet time with our Creator and Savior.” Then, God will come to meet us personally and direct our paths.



# NEWS & VIEWS

MARCH/ APRIL 2024



**On the Cover**  
An NSD staff holds the booklet for the 10 Days of Prayer.

## INSPIRATION

- 2 Be Still, and Know that I am God

## COVER STORY

- 4 Priorities of Faith: 10 Days of Prayer

## DEPARTMENTAL & REGIONAL NEWS

- 6 I WILL GO WITH JESUS - NSD Children's Ministries Advisory  
8 Completion Ceremony: A Hope for Growth and Development  
9 "Passion and Courage" Heather-Dawn's Legacy to Me—a Tribute  
10 Healthy Heart Happy Life  
11 First Nationwide Pastors' Meeting in Five Years  
12 Response to the Noto Peninsula Earthquake  
13 Sahmyook University Unveils Global Mission Initiative with 18 Student Envoys  
14 Geumcheon Haneulsaem Church Members Complete Bible Reading Challenge  
16 KUC Women's Ministries holds Evangelistic Meetings in Bangladesh  
18 Bangladesh Adventist Union Mission Understanding the Region and its Potential  
19 Ministerial Advisory and Leadership Certification Training Program  
20 Mission- Wide Spiritual Revival Meeting  
21 Dedication of the Mriduke Daap Inae Church  
22 PASC Unveils Nursing College Lecture Hall and Skills Lab Center  
24 "Winter of That Year" Korean Language Camp  
25 "Celebrations: Healthy Inside Out" Published in Chinese for Children  
26 "Renewing the Spirit: A Journey of Unity and Commitment"  
27 Mongolia Mission Holds Church Leadership Meeting  
28 Sri Lanka Mission and Himalayan Section  
29 Harmony Echoes Through Himalayan Section

## MISSION PROJECT

- 31 Twelve Young Adventist Begin Their Missionary Journey  
33 PMM Missionary Family Homecoming Ceremony

## 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.

  
**Seventh-day  
Adventist Church**  
NORTHERN ASIA-PACIFIC DIVISION

### Officers

**President** Kim YoHan  
**Assistant to the President** Choi HoYoung,  
Wu ChungFeng (Taiwan Affairs)  
**Executive Secretary** Hiroshi Yamaji  
**Associate Secretary** Lee HyungJin,  
Toshio Shibata, Kim SunHwan  
**Treasurer** Kim TaeSeung  
**Undertreasurer** Lyu DongJin

### Departmental Directors

**Adventist Mission** Kim SunHwan  
**Children's, Family & Women's Ministries**  
Raquel Arrais  
**Communication** Byun SeongJun  
**Education** Edgard Luz  
**Health Ministries** Jacob Ko  
**Ministerial Association, ACM** Jonas Arrais  
**North Korea Mission** Oh BeomSeok  
**Planned Giving and Trust Services**  
Kim TaeSeung  
**Public Affairs and Religious Liberty**  
Kim SunHwan  
**Publishing Ministries, Sabbath School &  
Personal Ministries** Kim Kwon  
**Stewardship Ministries** Kim NakHyung  
**Youth Ministries** Choi HoYoung

### News & Views Editorial Team

**Editor** Byun SeongJun  
**Assistant Editor** Lee EunYoung  
**Contributing Editors** Toshio Shibata,  
Lee SangYong, Han SukHee, Clark Ke  
**Designer** Lee EunYoung  
**For free subscription or news items,  
send an e-mail to**  
**sjbyun@nsdadventist.org**  
**irislee@nsdadventist.org**

or

67-20, Beonttwigi-gil, Paju-si, Gyeonggi-do,  
Republic of Korea

COVER  
STORY

# 10 DAYS OF PRAYER

January 10–20, 2024



## Priorities of Faith: 10 Days of Prayer

**Kim JeHwa**

NSD North Korea Mission/Health  
Ministries Project Assistant

### New Year, Renewed Commitment

The 10 Days of Prayer initiative is a prayer session proposed by the General Conference and provides an excellent opportunity for Seventh-Day Adventists around the world to spend a special time in prayer and meditation of the Word for renewed commitment to the Lord, especially at the beginning of a new year.

### 10 Special Days at NSD Headquarters

From January 10–20, 2024, the office of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division conducted the 10 Days of Prayer. Every day, people gathered in the auditorium in the morning and sang the theme song, “Fill My Cup, Lord.” All participants humbly asked Jesus to come and quench the thirst of their souls. After the songs and prayer, the daily speaker led readings on topics by Dr. Frank Hasel titled:



“Less is More,” “The Danger of Being Busy for God,” “The Blessing of Waiting,” “Grit, Passion, and Perseverance,” “The Blessings of the Sabbath,” and more. These readings encouraged participants to think deeply about the topics. The directors of NSD led the daily reading and prayer



time which proceeded in small groups; on some days, people gathered together by birthday month. People prayed for the four new NSD countries (Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, and Nepal), for churches, for pastors and members, and individuals suffering from difficulties, among other things. After the prayer time, people sang “Leaning on the Everlasting Arms.”

### Secret Prayer Friends

Because prayer is a communication and outpouring of our hearts’ desires to our Lord and Creator, intercessory prayer is a powerful form of praying for others. It is an act of compassion and love, allowing us to care for those around us as the Bible encourages us to “seek the good of others” (1 Corinthians 10:24).

During the 10 days, we were encouraged to spend meaningful time in prayer to develop a closer relationship with the Lord, take an interest in those around us, and offer intercessory prayers for them. Each member of the NSD family drew a name randomly from a box to be their secret prayer friend, someone to think of and pray for. Throughout the program, they were to think of special prayer needs for the person and ask our heavenly Father to look after them and fulfill the desires of their hearts according to His good will. They were also to subtly show their prayer friend that God cares about them and their colleagues in mission.

On the last day, the names of the secret prayer friends were revealed, and each person had an opportunity to

reach out to their partner and talk. Some were seen thanking the other for a little token of love and support. We hope this little exercise of sharing and praying for one another brought us closer as a spiritual community and mission-centered office but also to our Lord, who longs to spend time with us and has special plans and blessings prepared for every one of His precious children.

### Renewed Focus on Our Faith and Mission

The 10 Days of Prayer session may have concluded, but our prayers must continue. Remember to spend time sitting at Jesus’ feet daily, talking with Him, and reading His Word. If getting to know God personally becomes our life’s top priority, we will experience a beautiful journey. “Personal effort for others should be preceded by much secret prayer; for it requires great wisdom to understand the science of saving souls. Before communicating with men, commune with Christ. At the throne of heavenly grace obtain a preparation for ministering to the people” (Prayer, p. 313).

Focusing on our own needs, difficulties, and problems and crying out about our situations in prayer is all too easy. But this is not the only purpose of prayer. Prayer is meant to strengthen our faith. We are encouraged to claim God’s promises during our prayer time, taking our eyes off ourselves and our weaknesses and look to Jesus. By looking at Him, we are transformed into His image. Then, we should ask God how our church can serve others.





**Raquel Arrais**  
NSD Children's/Family/  
Women's Ministries Director

# I WILL GO WITH JESUS - NSD Children's Ministries Advisory



Directors of Children's Ministries

One of the most vital ministries in the life of the church is teaching children to live gospel-shaped lives; establishing strong theology in our children will set them up to navigate well the increasingly complex society they live in.

Under the theme, "I Will Go with Jesus, Unions and Conference directors from seven countries met on Jan. 21-24, 2024, in Okinawa, Japan for the quinquennium CHM Advisory. The group was inspired for the opportunity to share new concepts in their work of reaching children for Jesus after the pandemic, which heavily impacted

the NSD territories. The three areas of emphasis for Children's Ministries, were highlighted by Raquel Arrais, NSD Children's Ministries director, providing new vision, guidance, ideas, and resources for the mission with children.

- TEACH: To strengthen the learning of biblical principles.
- REACH: To equip children to reach others.
- SERVE: To empower children for service and mission.



Dr. Orathai Chureson, GC Children's Ministries director, and Nilde Lust, GC Children's Ministries associate director, shared their expertise, providing clear direction for the work with children in NSD. Reports which covered challenges and plans for the NSD fields were given by each Union, Conference, and Mission leader. Special sessions were devoted to prayer and recommitment to the task.

Leaders discussed important issues, brainstormed, and shared ideas to align the work of Children's Ministries for the years ahead. Dr. Chureson presented the General Conference Children's Ministries Strategic Plan with a special emphasis on Reaching Children and Teens Using Modern Technology; Strengthening Prayer Ministries for Kids; and Children's Mental Health. Nilde Lust shared the vision of Total Member Involvement for children, inviting every child to do something for Jesus. Chureson and Lust also presented the morning devotionals where they stressed the importance of protecting children and to be like Jesus to inspire children to follow Him.

The Sabbath School Teacher's Curriculum was presented where leaders in each field were encouraged to train and enrich Sabbath School teachers through this program.

Praise be to God for the days we spent together as CHM leaders. We finished the advisory spiritually refreshed to lead an effective CHM where God has placed us for such a time as this. The directors returned to their fields equipped and empowered to fulfill their calling as Children's Ministries directors in their territories.



Dr. Orathai Chureson, GC  
Children's Ministries director



Nilde Lust, GC Children's  
Ministries associate director

It is our hope and prayer that when we look at our children, we will see what God sees, hear what God says, and act accordingly to equip our children for God's calling in their lives. Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these" (Luke 18:16).



# Completion Ceremony: A Hope for Growth and Development

Park GeonGyoo  
NSD News Reporter



On Feb. 19, 2024, the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) held a dedication ceremony for the completion of a portion of the new NSD headquarters in Paju, South Korea. Directors and staff members of NSD attended the ceremony to celebrate the dedication service. Hiroshi Yamaji, NSD executive secretary, led the dedication ceremony which included a ribbon cutting, and a group photo session.

The special meeting space was named “Jabez Hall.” According to NSD President Kim YoHan, “Many ideas and names were suggested, but ‘Jabez Hall,’ proposed by Byun SeongJun, director of Communication, was selected. This name was inspired by the Jabez project, which facilitated the extension of NSD’s territory to include four new countries. Through this hall, NSD hopes and prays for growth and development in these four new countries.”

President Kim YoHan also expressed his sentiments about the completion of the headquarters building. “It is delightful and joyful to witness the completion of this building. I am simply thankful, and we should all be thankful to God. Let us do our best for God’s work in accordance with our responsibilities.”

The construction, which began in mid-October, was

completed at the end of January after three months. Elder Lee ChangHee, the construction manager, said, “Despite the challenges we faced due to the winter construction, we were able to successfully complete it by the grace of God.” This space will be used as a worship and meeting room in the future.



1. Members of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division support the growth and development of four new countries.
2. President Kim YoHan explains the meaning of ‘Jabez Hall.’



# “Passion and Courage”

## Heather-Dawn’s Legacy to Me - a Tribute



**Raquel Arrais**  
NSD Children's/Family/  
Women's Ministries Director



As I pause and write about my dear friend and partner in ministry, Heather-Dawn Small, my mind goes back to the 2005 General Conference Session in Saint Louis when I was appointed to serve as the GC Women's Ministries associate director, a position that I worked in for 16 years alongside Heather-Dawn. The day I was elected I met Heather-Dawn for the first time. She kindly welcomed me to the team and made me feel part of the global sisterhood called Women's Ministries.

In our first conversation I asked her many things regarding my job and all the areas where my full attention and dedication was required. I remember that she looked at me and said: "Raquel, you don't need training, you just need great passion and courage." These two words stayed in my mind and inspired my ministry over the years. Yes, passion and courage.

Heather-Dawn was a woman of passion and a woman of courage who inspired thousands of women globally to be brave and passionate about God's calling in their lives. During my years ministering side by side, I was touched by her strength despite her difficulties. Her positive attitude of bringing praise and joy into every aspect of her life taught me that things are possible when we choose to see what is good and what is

possible in every situation. Her legacy serves as a perpetual flame, illuminating the path she walked with courage, passion, grace, and purpose.

Heather-Dawn's faith, wisdom, clear mind, leadership, friendship, and charisma is a treasure that I carry with me. As I navigate the void of her absence, I draw strength from the resilience she exhibited in both triumph and tribulation. Her legacy for me is a living testament to the beauty of a life well lived for the Lord, inspiring me again to embrace each moment in my ministry with passion, courage, and purpose.

Today, as I grieve her loss, I find comfort in the words she shared with me in our last conversation: "Raquel my sweetheart, I am in peace. Don't worry, Jesus is with me and there is nothing that we can't do together. Keep on going, keep on courage and don't lose your joy. I love you dearly."

Thank you, dear friend, for the immeasurable impact you've had on our shared journey. See you soon, "Weeping may last for a night, but a shout of joy comes in the morning" (Psalm 30:5).

*Heather-Dawn Small passed away in Jesus on Jan. 2, 2024, ending her struggle with cancer. She was 66. During Small's 18 years of service as the General Conference Women's Ministries director, she was committed to serving God and other people and to the mission of the church. (This information was obtained from the January 3, 2024, issue of Adventist Review.)*

# Healthy Heart Happy Life

**Jacob Ko**

NSD Health Ministries Director



**H**ypertension is a major cause of premature death worldwide. It is diagnosed when the systolic blood pressure reading on two different days is 140 mmHg or higher, or the diastolic blood pressure reading on both days is 90 mmHg or higher. An estimated 46% of adults with hypertension are unaware that they have the condition. One of the global targets for non-communicable diseases is to reduce the prevalence of hypertension by 33% between 2010 and 2030 (WHO, 2023).

The NSD Health Ministries department planned a health promotion event for the church leaders during NSD's 2023 Year-end Meeting. Our goal was to increase the awareness of hypertension among leaders of NSD institutions as well as to help them practice healthy lifestyles. We decided to provide a blood pressure measurement service during the meetings, and prepared hand cream as a gift to raise the motivation for delegates who stopped by to get the measurements.

We provided two Omron electronic blood pressure machines, and recorded gender, and age groups for the statistics report. It was not a scientific report but a simple percentage calculation for increasing awareness of hypertension prevalence among church leaders.

The pastors were not used to measuring their blood pressure in public, but we told them we cared about their health and would not judge their health condition. No matter how high or low their blood pressure would be, it was just to remind them and increase their awareness. On the other hand, we found some delegates who had good knowledge of blood pressure and returned multiple times to measure their blood pressure and ask questions. They were happy to get more information to have better health, which was very encouraging to us.

Among the 26 males who came for the blood pressure

measurement, 18 were more than 50 years old and their average systolic blood pressure was 140.7 mmHg. Among them, 50% had a systolic blood pressure higher than 140 mmHg (the national standard determines that systolic blood pressure greater than 140 mmHg is high). If we took the American Heart Association standard which says that systolic blood pressure greater than 130 mmHg is high, then 88.8% of the participants had a high systolic blood pressure. For the male group who were below 50 years old, 25% had a systolic blood pressure higher than 140 mmHg and 62.5% higher than 130 mmHg. This picture shows the prevalence of high systolic blood pressure among the 2023 NSD Year-end Meeting male delegates.

Among 10 females who came for the blood pressure measurement, five of them were above 50 years old and had an average systolic blood pressure of 140 mmHg. Therefore, 40% of the participants in this group also had systolic blood pressure higher than 140 mmHg, while 60% were higher than 130 mmHg. For females below 50 years old, 20% had higher than 140 mmHg, and 40% were higher than 130 mmHg. This data showed that there was a high prevalence of systolic blood pressure among the female delegates as well.

During the meeting, the Health Ministries department reminded the delegates of some steps to manage their blood pressure. They were to have a healthy diet with more vegetables and fruit, reduced salt intake, stress management, regular exercise, enough sleep, while monitoring blood pressure with a joyful heart as good medicine. Moreover, we provided health counseling to those who asked for health advice. It was a wonderful experience to provide this health awareness activity.

We pray for good health for our church leaders and pastors because they play important roles in mission and church development. We hope this health awareness activity will help some pastors and leaders to take the step toward a healthier lifestyle or to monitor their blood pressure regularly. Promoting health is our goal. The Adventist Health Ministries has a motto of Sharing Wholeness, Serving All, "to empower every church to be a center for health and hope."



# First Nationwide Pastors' Meeting in Five Years

**Toshio Shibata**  
 JUC Communication Director



Pastors of Japan Union Conference, Dr. Jonas Arrais, NSD Ministerial Association secretary, and Dr. Peter Roennfeldt.

There are two conferences and one mission under the Japan Union Conference. Each of them holds a pastors' training seminar at least once a year. Due to the impact of Covid-19, the first nationwide pastors' training seminar in five years was held in February 2024, at Kamenokoyama Church, located on the grounds of the Union headquarters.

The lecturers were Dr. Jonas Arrais, NSD Ministerial Association secretary, and Dr. Peter Roennfeldt from Australia. Arrais delivered an important lecture on church growth while Roennfeldt lectured on discipleship and evangelism in the early church, focusing on the contents of his book, "Following the Apostles' Vision," which was recently translated into Japanese and published in Japan.

The Japan Union Conference has set the following themes as its basic evangelism policy for 2021-2025: 1) Pastors are to be apostles. 2) Lay members are to be disciples. 3) Churches are to be light and salt. During this pastors' training seminar, we learned what is needed to promote this basic policy. In the discussions, sorted by generation and church size, there were lively debates, which provided great hope for the future of

evangelism in Japan.

Japan is an island nation, which sometimes fosters a limited perspective. However, we are grateful for the new stimulation provided by these lecturers. I hope this pastors' training seminar will revitalize evangelism throughout Japan.



Dr. Peter Roennfeldt (right) lectures on discipleship and evangelism in the early church.

# Response to the Noto Peninsula Earthquake

**Toshio Shibata**  
Chairman of ADRA Japan  
Board of Directors



January 1 begins the New Year in Japan, a time when families gather together to relax and spend time together. However, on this January 1, 2024, a major earthquake struck the Hokuriku region.

The earthquake, measuring a 7.6 magnitude, claimed more than 230 lives leaving a trail of destruction, impacting hundreds of communities, and affecting more than 44,000 homes.

There are three Seventh-day Adventist church companies in Hokuriku, but there was no significant damage to the structures or the church members.

Japan is a country prone to earthquakes, and ADRA Japan has been involved in disaster relief efforts since the 1995 Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake, the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake, and the 2016 Kumamoto Earthquake. ADRA responded quickly to the recent Hokuriku earthquake as well.

On January 3, ADRA had already launched a fundraising campaign. Many donations were received from outside Japan, especially from Taiwan. By January 8, there had been 2,200 bottles of beverages and 4,000 servings of soybean meat food donated by the Adventist SAN-IKU

FOOD COMPANY. The soybean meat pouches can be eaten without heating, making them very useful in the affected areas. In places where the water supply had been cut off, ADRA provided support such as hot showers, footbaths, and mobile cafes with the disaster response bus.

The situation in Hokuriku will improve, but ADRA Japan will continue to provide necessary support from time to time.

As of Feb. 7, 2024, 160 donations had been received with many warm encouraging messages. We sincerely thank those who have supported us through their donations and prayers. Please continue to pray for the work still going on in response to this earthquake.





# Sahmyook University Unveils Global Mission Initiative with 18 Student Envoys



In a groundbreaking move, Sahmyook University has announced the deployment of 18 students as ambassadors for an ambitious year-long global mission. The selected student envoys have pledged to carry the torch of the gospel, spreading the message of love and salvation across diverse corners of the world.

The official announcement took place on December 12 at the university's centennial memorial hall during the grand ceremony titled '2024 SU-SM (Sahmyook University Student Missionary) Dispatch and Scholarship Certificate Award Gala.'

The distinguished 18-member envoy includes notable individuals such as 1000 Missionaries: Park Haeun (2nd year, Theology), Baek Dongmin (4th year, Theology), Shin Yegyu (2nd year, Nursing), Lee Yena (2nd year, Nursing), Lee Eunjin (2nd year, Nursing), Lee Haeun (4th year, Counseling Psychology), Im Yena (1st year, Theology), Im Uichang (4th year, Theology); Compathos Crusaders: Kim Minhyuk (3rd year, Theology), Kim Seojung (2nd year, Theology), Kim Seongsu (3rd year, Theology), Kim Anseo (4th year, Theology), Min Hyoin (1st year, Theology), Joy Le (2nd year, Theology); PCM Pilgrims: Kwon Sunbin (2nd year, Theology), Kim Jiyeon (3rd year, Chemistry and Life Science), Na Haewon (3rd year, Aviation Tourism

and Foreign Languages), Jeon Juhyeok (3rd year, Aviation Tourism and Foreign Languages).

President Kim Ilmok, in his address, commended the commitment of the students, expressing hope that their endeavors would lead to a global acceptance of the gospel and salvation.

Lee Yena (2nd year, Nursing), one of the 1000 Missionaries, shared her familial connection to the missionary cause, stating, "Both my parents are esteemed 1000 Missionary alumni," emphasizing her commitment to becoming a missionary reflecting the teachings of Jesus on a daily basis.

Compathos Missionary Joy Le (2nd year, Theology) conveyed her personal motivation, stating, "Throughout my ministry, I sensed a deficiency in love within, prompting my venture into missionary service. Equipped with thorough training, I am resolute to tread the path as a missionary of the Lord."

During the ceremony, the student missionaries were honored with scholarships, underscoring Sahmyook University's unwavering support for their noble service and the collective prayers for their successful return after a year of mission.

# Geumcheon Haneulsaem Church Members Complete Bible Reading Challenge

On Dec. 23, 2023, the Geumcheon Haneulsaem Church held a 'Bible Reading Completion Ceremony,' to celebrate their successful drive for its members to read the entire Bible in 2023. Out of approximately 80 members, 58 successfully completed the challenge, instilling a sense of pride and gratitude, while emphasizing the importance of leading a gospel-centered life.

Three years ago, the church's new pastor, Park WooByoung, identified the need to strengthen the internal foundation of the church members. Hence, he adopted the slogan "By the Power of the Word! Through the Grace of Prayer," and strongly emphasized Bible reading. As a result, over 70% of the congregation completed the Bible reading.

Elder Hwang JooYeon, the church's mission committee director for four years, said, "Everyone takes on challenges, but back then, I honestly doubted how many would succeed when the pastor first suggested the Bible reading. I thought, 'Well, a few more people might succeed besides those who do it yearly.' However, almost every member succeeded in the end, except for newcomers and young children." He credited Pastor Park's constant encouragement and support as the key to their success.

In practice, Pastor Park set a daily reading goal of about 30 minutes, posting the progress chart on the church bulletin board. During the worship, he acknowledged and encouraged individuals who read the Bible. For those who hadn't started, he urged them to take on the 'Bible Reading Challenge,' which naturally led to an atmosphere of checking progress together, fostering communal engagement with the Word. Even those who initially hesitated found encouragement and successfully completed the challenge.



Elder Bae DeokHwan expressed his joy and shared his intention to cherish the 'Bible Reading Completion Certificate' as a family treasure, stating, "This brings me even greater happiness because I did it with my wife. We woke up every morning at 4:30 a.m., and read the Bible for 30 minutes. Experiencing the Word afresh each time made me realize I missed out on this wonderful thing in the past." He pledged to diligently read the prophetic books this year.

The oldest among the completers was Deaconess Yoo HaeYeon, who was born in 1932. She had already completed reading the Bible two or three times a year before. Deaconess Yoo, who prepared a large-printed Bible before her eyesight worsened, brightened as she said, "Reading the Bible allows us to discern right from wrong. I particularly love Proverbs. By regularly consuming the Word, like meals at breakfast, lunch, and dinner, I can stay





1. Deaconess Yoo HaeYeon, aged 93, smiles as she points to her Bible reading chart. Daily Bible reading is one of her secrets to staying healthy.

2. Members of the church celebrate the completion of reading the Bible.

3. One of the members of the church writes devotional notes while reading the Bible.

healthy and attend church.”

Elder Lee ByungGuk, the mission committee chairman, said, “Honestly, in the beginning, the Bible was my ‘sleeping pill.’” However, he laughed and said that he felt the blessing of understanding difficult parts by reading commentaries and experiencing the joy of discovering the truth.

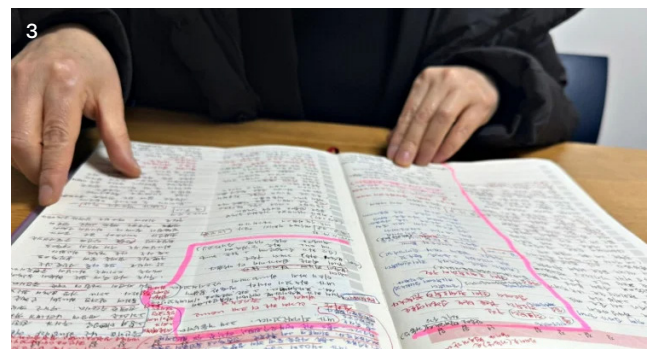
He highlighted his favorite verse, John 3:16, and said, “When I read the Bible, I feel like I am walking with God. So, even in the rough journey of life, I have no worries. Thinking about God’s love brings tears to my eyes, and I constantly ponder how I should respond and live in this love. Every time, the determination I wrote in the corner of the Bible comes to mind, providing significant help.”

Deaconess Kim KyungSook is busier than most, but her passion surpassed that of others. Despite starting her day at 3:30 a.m., and finishing work at 10 p.m., she said, “I always carry the Bible. I read it on the subway, during meals, and breaks. I heard from a deacon at a Protestant church that he reads the Bible seven times a year. Then I thought, ‘What am I doing who attends the True church?’ So, I am reading the Bible whenever I have time.”

Deaconess Kim MiHwa, who had been away from God’s embrace for 32 years, confessed, “At first, I didn’t have the courage, but after a severe injury, I thought, ‘If I die like this, Jesus won’t forgive for my sins, so I should repent.’ I

found a church and got closer to the Word due to the Bible reading trend.” She unfolded her notebook, filled to the brim with notes from studying the New Testament, and said, “I deeply realized that the Jesus found in the four Gospels is patient and the embodiment of true love.”

As we enter a new year, many Christians traditionally set a goal to complete reading the Bible as an accomplishment for the year. Often these goals fade after a few days or are abandoned midway. This year, let us hope that, when faced with busyness, tiredness, illness, or distractions, we can draw inspiration from the testimonies of the Geumcheon Haneulsaem Church members and renew our commitment to the Word.



# KUC Women's Ministries holds Evangelistic Meetings in Bangladesh

The trip to Bangladesh by the KUC Women's Ministries teams marked the first simultaneous evangelistic meeting since Bangladesh became a part of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division.

Pastor Kim W.S., Bangladesh Union Mission president, and Kim S.K., Children's Ministry director in Bangladesh, requested that KUC Women's Ministry visit Bangladesh and hold evangelistic meetings outside of Dhaka; along with the Korean Adventist Women's Association, KUC's Women's Ministries prepared for this endeavor by gathering information about Bangladesh and raising funds through bazaars.

They made extensive preparations for more than a year in Korea and Bangladesh, with the support of the BAUM President, staff members, and pastors from the Northern Mission. In Bangladesh, they prepared beds and supplies for the evangelistic teams, including gifts and snacks for attendees, with the funds the team sent in advance.

Even though Bangladesh is a distant mission field requiring two flight transfers, 35 women volunteered. Therefore, they were able to form five evangelistic teams. The journey to the mission field was arduous. It took about 38 hours due to weather disruptions, including an emergency landing in Kolkata, India, and a detour to Bangkok before finally reaching Bangladesh. Some teams opted to save on airfare to sponsor water projects in Bangladesh. So, they endured overnight stays at airports while transiting through China. However, upon arrival at the mission field, they saw the church members waiting for them even late at night, welcoming them with flowers, traditional dances, and



music, washing away the fatigue of their long journey.

Five teams served Gobindopur Church, Deborah Church, Aconpara Church, Kuzura Church, and Baribide Church in the Northern Mission of BAUM. In the morning, they conducted Bible schools, followed by home visits and medical check-ups in the afternoon, and in the evening, they delivered sermons. In addition, they provided opportunities for attendees to experience various aspects of Korean culture alongside handicraft activities. In these evangelistic meetings, 40 souls from five churches were baptized and born again as children of God. In some areas, baptism took place in rivers. Baptism brought great



KUC Women's Ministries teams before departure.



joy not only to God but also to all who were watching. To the newly baptized, they gave a Bible as a gift.

To conduct missionary work, a considerable budget is required. However, God provided for all their needs. The WM department of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division and many other sponsors provided funds for expenses during the mission journey, including gifts and supporting projects such as water facilities, bathrooms, kitchen construction, church remodeling, and more. Five teams provided eight wells (water facilities), two bathrooms, and two kitchens, prioritizing support for classroom expansion, church roof improvement, and carpet replacement.

The Women's Ministries team stated, "We earnestly hope that the churches can proclaim the living water of Jesus to the souls in their community. We thank God for mobilizing the women in KUC to 'GO' and share the love of Jesus in Bangladesh."





# Bangladesh Adventist Union Mission: Understanding the Region and its Potential



Leaders and staffs of Bangladesh Adventist Union Mission.

Officially known as the People's Republic of Bangladesh, the South Asian country is large and densely populated with 170 million people in an area of 148,460 square kilometers. In 1947 the partition of India created East and West Pakistan based on religious makeup. East Pakistan emerged as the independent nation of Bangladesh in 1971 after nine months of war for liberation from the governing West Pakistan. Bangladesh is 89% Muslim and 10% Hindu. Christians are a microscopic minority at 0.3% of the total population, their numbers close to 500,000. There are 60 church denominations, cohabiting together in harmony and love, but also competing in terms of evangelism.

The Bangladesh Adventist Union Mission celebrated its 110th anniversary in November of 2016, and is now at 118 years of its glorious journey of evangelism in Bangladesh. The Seventh-day Adventist work was first pioneered in what was then called Bengal by colporteurs in the last decade of the nineteenth century. When Elder J. L. Shaw, the regional director of India Mission, visited Gopalganj, he met K. D. Poddar and other believers. These people were already keeping the Sabbath after Poddar learned the

truth from a tract received at Sealdah Station in Kolkata. In 1906 Lal Gopal Mookerjee, one of the earliest converts, went to East Bengal and opened a mission station at Gopalganj at his own expense. In 1907 Purna Chandra Dey, Manob Sircar, Krishnadhan Poddar, Ananda Chandra Halder, Sadhan Chandra Sircar, and Purna Chanda Gayen were the first men to be baptized in East Bengal.

The territories of BAUM comprise East Bangladesh Mission, North Bangladesh Mission, South Bangladesh Mission, and West Bangladesh Mission. There are 33,603 church members attending 127 organized churches and 288 company churches in the country. These congregations are nurtured by 37 ordained pastors, 167 gospel workers, 415 church elders, 377 deacons and 416 deaconesses. The Union has numerous departments and other supporting ministries such as: Public Affairs and Religious Liberty; Bangladesh Financial Association; Education and

**Imran Mrong**

BAUM Communication Secretary



Communication department; Ministerial Association and Chaplaincy Ministries; Family and Women's Ministries; Children and Ministerial Spouses Ministries; Stewardship and Planned Giving and Trust Services; Sabbath School and Publishing Ministries; Health and AWR ministries; and Bangladesh Children Sponsorship Service and Youth Ministries.

Each department has its own mission and objective to proclaim the Three Angels' Messages to the world as well as looking after the well-being of its church members. BAUM is blessed with seven boarding schools and 15

Adventist International Mission Schools (AIMS), 123 village schools and two colleges: Bangladesh Adventist Seminary and College, and the Bangladesh Adventist Nursing College. BAUM serves more than 13,139 students who are receiving a holistic education, preparing them for a useful and joy-filled life. There are 622, caring, kind, and courageous teachers who reflect the character of Christ. ADRA Bangladesh is a humanitarian arm of Bangladesh Adventist Union Mission, providing emergency relief in communities across Bangladesh. BAUM also gives dental service through its dental healthcare.

## Ministerial Advisory and Leadership Certification Training Program



The Ministerial Association of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division conducted a three-day leadership certification training program for local church elders, deacons and deaconesses, Jan. 20-22, 2024, in Bangladesh at the Seventh-day Adventist Maranatha Seminary and School, located about 300 kilometers northwest of the capital city of Dhaka. The purpose of this training was to help the local church leaders understand the biblical functions of their roles in their congregations as well as training for future leadership roles.

Pastor Jonas Arrais, ministerial secretary of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division shared biblically-sound topics with the 70 participants, who were moved by the Holy Spirit, and inspired to strengthen their skills and abilities as leaders to carry out their entrusted responsibilities in the church.

On Jan. 22, 2024, a Ministerial Advisory was held.

Those present were: Bangladesh Union Mission (BAUM) Executive Secretary Timothy Roy; North Bangladesh Mission Ministerial Secretary Benjamin Mrong; South Bangladesh Mission Ministerial Secretary Daniel Falia; East Bangladesh Mission Ministerial Secretary Milton Das; West Bangladesh Mission Ministerial Secretary Mathew Adhikary; and BAUM Ministerial Association Administrative Assistant Imran Mrong.

The Advisory was facilitated by Pastor Arrais who urged them "to be professional in their service and build reciprocal relationships with local church elders, deacons, deaconesses and church members to be successful in their pastoral ministry." He challenged them "to study thoroughly the SDA Church Manual and Working Policy, while doing extraordinary and historic tasks beyond their job descriptions that would be useful resources to the coming generation and church members."

# Mission-Wide Spiritual Revival Meeting

**Imran Mrong**

BAUM Communication Secretary



Bangladesh Union Mission Stewardship Director Dilip Hagidok offers dedication prayer.



New souls baptized as children of God.

A three-day Spiritual Revival Meeting was held at Monosapara Adventist Seminary and School Feb. 14-17, 2024, organized by the North Bangladesh Mission. It was a gathering of 1,000 mission-spirited individuals from every local church, driven by the Holy Spirit to revitalize their spiritual experience with the Lord, Jesus Christ that culminated in 41 baptisms.

Participants heard spirit-filled messages, songs, testimonies, prayers, and other programs. The key text was Matthew 16:27, “For the Son of Man shall come in the glory of His Father with His angels; and then He shall reward every man according to his works.”

Bangladesh Union Mission President Kim W.S. was the keynote speaker, along with other departmental directors. A colorful inauguration program was officiated by North Bangladesh Mission President Benjamin Mrong, with the support of other mission officers, district pastors, and administrators of Monosapara Adventist Seminary and School. A dedication prayer was offered by Bangladesh Union Mission Stewardship Director Dilip Hagidok.

Pastor Kim W.S. gave a thematic presentation on the 'Theology of Emptiness' during the evening worship on February 14, where he shared his deep spiritual reflections on Philippians 2:7, saying, “Jesus emptied Himself, taking the form of a servant, being made in human likeness.”

His second presentation was on the 'Theology of Service,' urging all participants to exemplify the model of service for the greater joy of mankind. He challenged them to follow in the footsteps of Jesus Christ. “The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many” (Matthew 20:28).

The congregations were richly blessed by the spiritual messages from other speakers, such as Pastor Timothy Roy, Pastor Dilip Hagidok, Pastor Bernard Ashim Baidya, Pastor Reuben Kisku, Pastor Benjamin Mrong, and Pastor Henry H. Hajong. There was a session of prayer and a thanksgiving program where people of pure hearts shared their life-changing experiences, testimonies of blessings, and miracles they received from the Lord, Jesus Christ. As attendees presented their prayer requests, all ordained pastors knelt, asking for divine mercy and blessings upon them through intercessory prayer.

This significant revival meeting served to remind those who have devoted themselves to advancing the journey of Adventism in the territory of the North Bangladesh Mission. Despite challenges, everyone pledged commitment to renew their dedication in their mission to spread the Three Angels' Messages beyond Adventist communities.



# Dedication of the Mriduke Daap Inae Church



This event was a culmination of the extraordinary commitment of a deaconess from the Daap Church and the financial contributions and efforts of Park N.G., director of Education and Mission of Pakistan Union Section, resulting in the church's construction.

The newly constructed church building occupies about 198 square meters, with the first floor as a pastor's residence, the second floor dedicated to the church with a baptismal pool on the third floor. Ji S.B., President of Pakistan Adventist Seminary and College, served as the construction supervisor.

The dedication service was attended by leaders from the Pakistan Union Section and Northern Pakistan Mission, along

with approximately 200 congregants. Together, they glorified God and joyfully worshiped. Additionally, five other church members from the Daap Church participated and conducted a commemorative evangelistic meeting over two days. This event led to the baptism of 17 precious souls.



# Pakistan Adventist Seminary and College Unveils Nursing College Lecture Hall and Skills Lab Center

**Kim BeomTae**  
KUC News Reporter



Completion ceremony of Pakistan Adventist nursing college.

Pakistan Adventist nursing college fulfilled a long-awaited project, finalizing lecture halls and skills labs for the formal launch.

On a beautiful Sabbath afternoon on Dec. 2, 2023, during the centennial celebration week, a ceremony marked the completion of the nursing college construction. The college is expected to serve as a cornerstone for healthcare professionals dedicated to serving the community in Pakistan. This project was possible thanks to funds from the "10/40 Window Mission Project" of the Korean Union Conference.

The nursing college consists of two buildings, both two stories high. The lecture halls, constructed with a courtyard, house facilities such as professor rooms, offices, and lecture halls. The skills lab features physiology labs, clinical skills and simulation labs, a library, and other auxiliary facilities. Thanks to the cooperation of Sahmyook Health University's nursing department, various lab equipment necessary for a quality learning environment has been provided.

Apart from the four-year academic course, the college also offers two-year certification courses for Certified





Nursing Assistants (CNA), Lady Health Visitors (LHV), and Community Midwifery Worker Programs (CMW).

The school has a vision to be a hub for training top nursing experts, fostering integrity, and delivering exceptional medical care. Their plan involves nurturing leaders dedicated to delivering compassionate care and fully committed to the field of nursing.

For this purpose, they have set core values called “I CARE,” which stands for Integrity, Caring, Accountability, Respect for others, and Excellence.

“Our mission is to educate every student to become holistic health caregivers. We will strive to go beyond the individual and family to meet the needs of the local community and the nation. Our aim is to develop nursing professionals with integrity, innovation, empathy towards patients, and neighbors,” said College Dean Ji S.B.

President of the Pakistan Union Conference, Lee M.J. said, “Although we have not yet received government approval, we expect to obtain it soon. The path ahead seems long and there are many shortcomings. However, I believe that God’s grace and blessings will guide us. I ask for continuous prayers and support to ensure the successful opening and operation of the nursing college.”

Pastor Kang SoonGi, president of the Korean Union Conference, expressed his congratulations on the completion of the lecture halls and skills lab, stating, “I am eager to witness the growth of this institution. The Korean Church is committed to keeping up its ongoing interest in fostering a deeper partnership with Pakistan Adventist Seminary and College.”

In Pakistan, many individuals grapple with lifestyle diseases, often stemming from their penchant for high-calorie and salty foods. The institution holds optimism that well-educated Adventist nurses can break down barriers, embracing a mission-driven approach toward patients and advocating the health gospel of the Adventist Church. The Pakistan Adventist Seminary and College sought prayers from the Korean Church to secure the initial contract, a pivotal step for the Nursing College’s approval and collaboration with a training hospital.

*“Medical missionary work is the pioneer work of the gospel. In the ministry of the Word and in the medical missionary work the gospel is to be preached and practiced.” (MH.144.3)*



# “Winter of That Year” Korean Language Camp

**Ha HongJun**

Sahmyook University News Reporter

The Global Korean Studies Department of Sahmyook University and the Youth Department of the Taiwan Conference organized the Korean Language Camp, “Winter of That Year.”

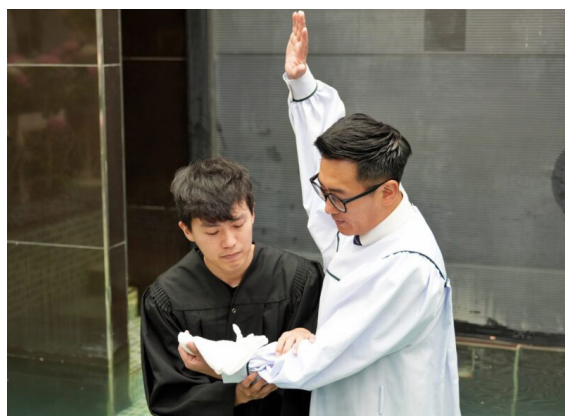
From Jan. 15-20, 2024, at Sahmyook University, a total of 92 university students and youth, participated in the camp, including 63 Taiwanese youth, 16 students from Sahmyook University's Global Korean Studies Department, and 13 youth from the ACT organization.

The camp operated with a program based on small group interactions. In the morning, Korean language classes were conducted, and in the afternoon, cultural experiences such as K-beauty, traditional games, and Korean food took place. Activities like learning K-pop dances and touring Korean tourist attractions were also organized.

Morning and evening sessions included lectures by Pastor Yang YoHan from Sahmyook University Church, followed by small group discussions for spiritual reflection and training. On the final day, two Taiwanese youth accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Savior and were baptized.



Sahmyook University and the Taiwan Conference Youth Department have closely collaborated on campus mission work in Taiwan for some time. Currently, there are missionaries from Sahmyook University, including Pioneer Mission Movement pastors and Public Campus Ministries missionaries, dispatched to seven churches in Taiwan. They have established Korean language clubs on Taiwan university campuses, using the Korean Wave and Korean culture as points of contact to actively engage in campus missions.





# “Celebrations: Healthy Inside Out” Published in Chinese for Children

Gloria Lin  
STPA Editor



Tony Chou, manager of STPA (second to left) and his team.

Signs of the Times Publishing Association (STPA) proudly presents the first Chinese health education guide written specifically for children!

Authorized by the General Conference and supported by the Children's Ministry Department of the North Asia-Pacific Division, STPA has had the opportunity to produce “Celebrations: Healthy Inside Out.”

Based on the 12 health principles summarized by the acronym “CELEBRATIONS,” the book uses vivid pictures, lovable characters, and simple text to help children understand these principles and establish healthy habits through a fun and engaging learning experience. Through the stories and interactions between the characters in the book, children can learn essential concepts like maintaining a balanced diet, getting adequate sleep, exercising regularly, and taking care of their physical and mental health. The book also provides practical health tips to empower children to make healthy choices in their daily lives.

The book is suitable for independent reading and

shared reading between parents and children. Parents can use it to discuss health-related topics with their children, exchange ideas and thoughts, and enhance parent-child relationships. Its content is easy to understand and is suitable for children ages 5 to 10. In addition, churches can incorporate the book into children's classes or health camp curriculum to promote healthy living practices.



# “Renewing the Spirit: A Journey of Unity and Commitment” - MM Pastoral Retreat and Training

**Bold Batsukh**  
MM Ministerial Secretary

In the heart of Ulaanbaatar, amidst the vast Mongolian landscapes where the wind whispers ancient tales and the spirit of resilience thrives, a gathering of faithful souls took place. The Mongolia Mission, in collaboration with the General Conference and the Northern Asia-Pacific Division organized a pastors’ meeting and retreat to renew unity and commitment.

On Feb. 20-22, 2024, the Aurora Hotel became a place of inspiration, wisdom, and fellowship. Thirty pastors, representing 33 churches and meeting places scattered across the Mongolian expanse, united in a shared purpose—to rejuvenate their spirits, deepen their commitment, and ignite their passion for their sacred calling.

Pastor Anthony Kent from the GC ministerial association and Jonas Arrais, ministerial secretary from NSD were the main presenters for this meeting. They imparted valuable wisdom upon the eager ears of the pastors. Practical topics were uncovered focusing on commitment to one’s calling, the artistry of pastoral visitations, the nuances of leadership principles and the diverse challenges related to pastors.

For these pastors and church leaders, this retreat was organized to provide a divine encounter that reignited the flame of passion within their souls. Inspired by the teachings, emboldened by the fellowship, and empowered by the divine presence, they emerged with a renewed sense of purpose, a strengthened resolve to wholeheartedly serve the One who called them.

In gratitude to God and to the presenters, we stand, united in purpose and steadfast in faith, ready to embark on the journey ahead—a journey illuminated by the divine light of commitment and fueled by the fire of unwavering devotion.



Pastor Anthony kent (left) from GC ministerial association and Jonas Arrais, NSD ministerial secretary(center).



Pastors and church leaders of MM.





# “A Time of Renewal and Service” Mongolia Mission Holds Church Leadership Meeting

On Feb.16-18, 2024, more than 80 church leaders from 33 churches and meeting places across Mongolia gathered in Ulaanbaatar for a special meeting organized by the Mongolia Mission, in collaboration with the General Conference and the Northern Asia-Pacific Division Ministerial Association. The meeting, held at the Aurora Hotel, was a time of retreat, training, fellowship, and commitment for the elders, deacons and deaconesses who serve the church in various capacities.

The meeting featured presentations by Pastor Anthony Kent from the GC Ministerial Association and Jonas Arrais, director of NSD's Ministerial department, who shared encouraging messages and practical topics such as conducting visitations, organizing church programs, principles of elders, deacons and deaconesses, and leadership principles. The participants also had the opportunity to ask questions, share experiences, and learn from each other.

The meeting was not only a learning experience, but also a spiritual one. Many of the attendees traveled for almost 24 hours on the road to reach the venue, but they did not regret their journey. They were inspired by the messages, the testimonies, and the fellowship of their fellow church leaders. They also renewed their commitment to serve God and His people. One of the participants, an elder from a remote church, said: “This meeting was a blessing for me. I learned a lot of new things that I can apply in my church. I also felt the

presence of God and His love for us. I am more motivated to work for His cause and to support the mission of the church.”

The meeting was part of Mongolia Mission's vision to equip and empower its church leaders and members to fulfill the gospel commission. The mission also plans to hold similar meetings for other groups of church workers, such as pastors, teachers, and youth leaders, in the future. Many thanks to Pastor Jonas Arrais who envisioned and supported this meeting.



**Bold Batsukh**  
MM Ministerial Secretary



Decon, Deconess of MM, Pastor Anthony kent (left) from GC ministerial association and Jonas Arrais, NSD ministerial secretary(center).

# Sri Lanka Mission and Himalayan Section —New Challenges, New Hope

On Feb. 19, 2024, the Northern Asia-Pacific Division approved the elections of Pastor Jung HyoSoo(photo above) as president of the Sri Lanka Mission and Pastor Kim HaeSung as secretary of the Himalayan Section.

Pastor Jung HyoSoo, had previously served as the president of the West Asia Field (Iran, Turkey, and the northern portion of Cyprus). Pastor Kim HaeSung had previously been the director of Adventist Mission in the Himalayan Section. Both are Pioneer Mission Movement (PMM) missionaries.

Sri Lanka is a small island nation off

the southern tip of India, with a population of 22 million people. The religious makeup of the country is: Buddhism (70%), Hinduism (12%), and Islam (9.7%). The Christian population is 7.4%. The Sri Lanka Mission operates 35 churches and 21 meeting places, with an average attendance of 625 out of a membership of 3,312.

The Himalayan Section covers the country of Nepal, known as “the roof of the world.” It is a mountainous country with a population of 31 million. The religious distribution includes: Hinduism (81.2%), Buddhism (9%), Islam (4%), and Kirat (3%), with Christianity accounting for one percent of the population. The Himalayan Section oversees 26 churches and 82 worship places, with an average attendance of 4,312 out of 9,400 members.

Recently, activities of various organizations and evangelistic groups have led to increased exchanges with Korean churches. In particular, Nepal was selected as one of the countries supported by the Korean Union Conference Adventist Mission Trust Project, leading to the establishment of a “Vocational Training School and Urban Center of Influence” in Kathmandu. Although there is a degree of religious freedom in Nepal, proselytization is not allowed under the “anti-conversion law.” However, voluntary conversion by locals does happen.

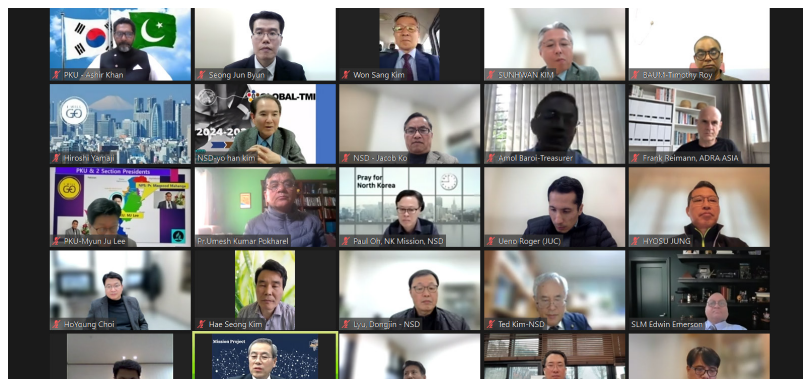
The Northern Asia-Pacific Division is expecting the missionary work in these countries to be further activated through the new allocation. The Division stated, “We will further expand exchanges and support for Sri Lanka and Nepal, enhance relations, and strive to more powerfully spread the Three Angels’ Messages locally. We hope that the overseas expansion of Korean missionaries will continue to increase, thereby growing their influence in the world church and expanding missionary touchpoints.”



Pastor Jung HyoSoo, the new president of the Sri Lanka Mission, and his wife.



Pastor Kim HaeSung, the new secretary of the Himalayan Section, and his family.

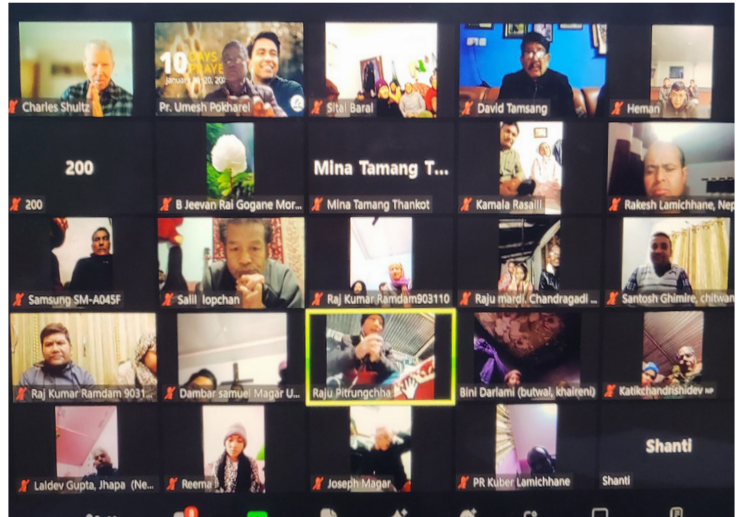




# Spiritual Harmony Echoes Through Himalayan Section

The spiritual landscape of Nepal experienced a profound transformation as various churches came together for the 10 Days of Prayer on Jan. 11-20, 2024. As promoted by the Seventh-day Adventist world church, the prayer session was held in the different churches of the Himalayan Section with the theme, "Priorities of Faith." This unprecedented event not only showcased the rich tapestry of Nepal's diverse Adventist community but also centered around the theme of prioritizing faith in a world brimming with competing demands and distractions.

The churches in Banepa, Dapcha, Gatthaghar, Nagbeli, Gaighat, and many others experienced spiritual unity through these events. Each day, the number of attendees in the churches ranged from 10 to 60 people. Additionally, the Himalayan Section organized Zoom meetings for the event, encouraging all church members who were unable to join physically at their nearest church to participate. To ensure that the children were not excluded from the privilege of sharing the gospel, various churches organized a





Children's 10 Days of Prayer as well. During this time, they were taught to pray and learn Bible stories, enlightening them about God.

This event stood as a beacon of unity and spirituality in the hearts of the Adventist churches of Nepal. By fostering unity, embracing diversity, praying for the communities, and sharing personal reflections, the 10 Days of Prayer exemplified the transformative power of prioritizing faith. As this spiritual event concluded in Nepal, the hope is that the priorities of faith established during these 10 days will continue to guide and inspire individuals in their spiritual journeys, fostering a lasting spirit of harmony and unity.



1. Naretar church participates in 10 Days Prayer.
2. Gathaghar church members attending the event.
3. Banepa church join prayer session for children.
4. Gaighat church experienced spiritual unity through the event.
5. Nagbela church members.



# Twelve Young Adventists Began Their Missionary Journey, Responding to the Call of God

**Park GeonGyoo**  
NSD News Reporter



Leaders of NSD and 6th batch of PCM

On Feb. 17, 2024, the Northern Asia-Pacific Division held the 6th Public Campus Ministries (PCM) Missionary Dispatch Ceremony and the 5th PCM Missionary Homecoming Ceremony. Approximately 70 individuals attended, including seven newly applied missionaries from the 6th batch and six returning missionaries from the 5th.

Pastor Choi HoYoung, director of the NSD Youth Department, expressed his desire for the missionaries to “Have a meaningful experience, enriched by the Word and songs of praise, and for everyone to be blessed and glorify God.”

In the returning missionaries’ testimony time, Ahn HaYoung from the 5th batch said, “I served at Hsinchu Golden City Church in Taiwan for two years. The love of God I encountered and learned in Taiwan is now an irreplaceable treasure.”

During the letter-reading, 5th missionary Seol YuJin motivated the 6th missionaries, stating, “The God I met in Taiwan guided me with His Word. I believe all will be well because God chose you.” 5th missionary Koo YeonSeo also cheered, saying, “God worked through me, though I am unworthy. If we proceed, Jesus will reveal miracles beyond human capability.”

## MISSION PROJECT

Jacob Ko, director of the NSD Health Department, praised the 5th batch missionaries, “We are so much appreciated for your year of service in Taiwan. Your testimonies exemplify how to be a missionary to young people.”

Sixth batch missionary, Ko EunJin said in a letter to her parents, “Your trust in my decision allowed me to apply as a missionary courageously. I dedicate this year to the mission field to focus on discovering God for myself.”

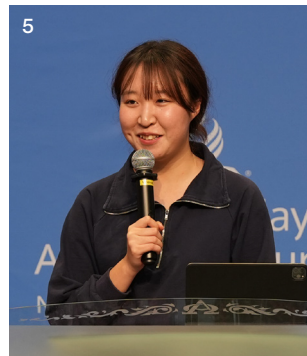
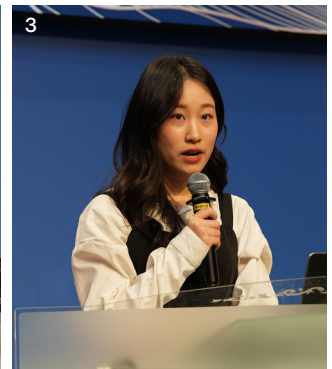
And 6th missionary Kwon SoonBin read a letter to his parents, “Despite feeling my shortcomings, I will trust in God and serve with that faith.” His father, Pastor Kwon HyukMin, responded, “Hearing your reason for going to Taiwan made me realize the Holy Spirit was moving you. I thank God for proving that my past experiences, though imperfect, were meaningful.”

Pastor Kim YoHan, president of NSD, reflected, “Every testimony and letter deeply moved us. I urge the missionaries to possess spiritual vision, listen to the Holy Spirit, have a heart like Jesus Christ’s, be messengers of His Word, and leave behind the scent of Christ’s life.”

Meanwhile, the new 12 missionaries of the 6th batch departed on the 18th of January 2024, after the dispatch ceremony, heading to their respective mission fields.



1. NSD President, Kim YoHan.
2. Koo YeonSeo, 5th Batch PCM.
3. Jo DanYoung, 5th Batch of PCM.
4. 6th batch missionaries take an oath.
5. Seol YuJin, 5th Batch.
6. Jeon JooHyuk, Kim JiYoon, 6th Batch PCM.
7. Jacob Ko, director of the NSD Health Department, and his wife, Violet.
8. 6th Batch PCM dedicatory prayer.





# PMM Missionary Family Homecoming Ceremony

**Park GeonGyoo**  
NSD News Reporter

On Feb. 24, 2024, the Northern Asia-Pacific Division Adventist Mission department hosted a Homecoming Ceremony for the Pioneer Mission Movement (PMM) missionary families. This event featured the families of Park NoYoung and wife Lee MiJin, Jung JiHun and wife Shin EunJu, and Lee HyoSIn and wife Lee EunHwa, with their families. Pastor Kim SunHwan, director of the NSD Adventist Mission department, led the event, where missionaries shared about God and their experiences and testimonies they encountered in their mission fields.

Pastor Park NoYoung, who served as a 3rd batch PMM in Mongolia and 14th batch PMM in Taiwan, said, "God has bestowed a lot of grace on us. Watching the church stabilize and grow, I realized it was entirely God's grace... The God I met in the mission field wants everyone with me to be happy, regardless of my performance or even if I face difficulties."





## MISSION PROJECT

Pastor Jung JiHun, who worked as a 9th and 18th batch PMM missionary in Qingdao, China, and Myanmar, confessed, “I thought I could achieve something as a missionary, but my experiences in the mission field taught me that without God, I cannot undertake any mission.” He added, “I believe all of us are missionaries who can unite in one voice, no matter our role or location.”

Pastor Lee HyouSin, a 19th batch missionary with ADRA in Cambodia for four years, said, “Evangelism and mission need a point of contact, and effective connections can create significant mission synergy between the church and society. ADRA, a great organization, has shown me the valuable bridge it forms between the church and the world...The God I encountered in the mission field surpasses my expectations and hopes, always providing the best.”

After the missionaries’ testimonies, the Adventist Mission department presented letters of appreciation and bouquets. Then, Kim YoHan, president of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division, offered a benediction, saying, “Their testimonies moved us beyond what sermons could. We’ve heard about the tears they shed in the mission field. I trust God knows all their efforts, challenges, loneliness, and frustrations.” He concluded, “I trust that the fragrance of Jesus Christ will linger in the mission fields they served. Let’s pray for their mission fields, hoping the churches they served will receive blessings and grow spiritually and numerically.”



1. Pastor Park NoYoung and wife Lee MiJin.
2. Pastor Jung JiHun and wife Shin EunJu.
3. Pastor Lee HyoSin and wife Lee EunHwa.
4. AM director, Kim SunHwan prays with the missionaries.
5. A Golden Angels team provides music.



# What Heaven Will Be like

**Jonas Arrais**  
NSD Ministerial Secretary



**“W**hat no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no human mind has conceived—the things God has prepared for those who love him” (1 Corinthians 2:9).

As humans we carry within the fabric of our existence several desires. Among them is the joy of life. We want to live well, to hold on to what is good, and because of this we do not want the world to end. We want to see children grow, we want to reach goals and fulfill dreams. This desire is good and God-given! But anyone who is sensitive will notice that while life may be good for some, it is not good for everyone.

Throughout human history, in our neighborhoods, people die, experience hunger, are abused, and suffer varied forms of oppression. And in this life, whether we recognize it or not, there is injustice, which creates another God-given desire, justice. This is where faith in Jesus within the context of the community becomes relevant.

Faith in Jesus includes the joy of life and the idea that everything that is good must last. Life with Jesus is about joy, celebration, gratitude, singing, dancing, and rejoicing! But faith in Jesus also gives us a desire for justice and the idea that the experiences of injustice in the world shows

that this life cannot be the only one. The blood of those who have died over the centuries still cries out seeking resolution. As a community of faith, we value life and justice because the community is the sign of a Kingdom where life and justice abound.

Heaven is not a place where harps are played by people wearing robes in eternal boredom. Heaven is a place where all good things find their origin. One of my grandsons once asked me what heaven will be like. I told him: “Think of every good thing you can imagine. Every good experience you have had, from playing with me and your parents, to running and laughing in the park, to enjoying the company of good friends, and having ice cream. Heaven is that and more!” Heaven is where we will live in the presence of the God who is the origin and creator of every good thing, and where everyone who responds to grace, and not just a few, will experience the joy of life! This is heaven, and this will be the world when heaven comes down.

So now, my dear reader, as we ponder on these heavenly things, we are to go into life and see the world through that reality of joy, equality, justice, and peace. As believers we are to find our purpose in that very movement of giving people a glimpse of that future Kingdom reality now. A reality of equality, and no favoritism.



# MISSION FIRST!

GET INVOLVED TO REACH THE WORLD

宣教第一 선교제일

You will be my witnesses...  
to the end of the earth

(Acts 1:8)



Seventh-day  
Adventist Church

NORTHERN ASIA-PACIFIC DIVISION

