

NORTHERN ASIA-PACIFIC DIVISION www.nsdadventist.org

NEWS&VIEWS



January / February 2025



10 DAYS OF PRAYER
January 8-18, 2025

*But When
You Pray*

WWW.TENDAYSOFPRAAYER.ORG
PUBLISHED BY THE GENERAL CONFERENCE MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION



Tell Jesus All Your Needs

Kim YoHan, President
Northern Asia-Pacific Division

The Almighty God loves each of us so deeply and is waiting to give us the very best. At times, we are overwhelmed by the burdens of life and suffer greatly. We grieve over the illness and death of loved ones, struggle with difficult tasks at work or the pain of unemployment, face financial hardships, and feel discouraged due to challenges in our life struggles.

However, our loving God waits for us to bring all these struggles to Him, to lay our sorrows before Him, and to receive the strength and power He provides. Yet, instead of praying, we often become preoccupied with finding solutions. We talk to others, share our pain, and seek human ways to resolve our issues, but those problems often remain unresolved.

God is waiting for us to bring our burdens to Him. Through her inspired writings, Ellen G. White said the following: “There are few who rightly appreciate or improve the precious privilege of prayer. We should go to Jesus and tell Him all our needs. We may bring Him our little cares and perplexities as well as our greater troubles. Whatever arises to disturb or distress us, we should take it to the Lord in prayer. When we feel that we need the presence of Christ at every step, Satan will have little opportunity to intrude his temptations.

It is his studied effort to keep us away from our best and most sympathizing friend. We should make no one our confidant but Jesus. We can safely commune with Him of all that is in our

hearts” (Testimonies for the Church Vol 5, 200, 201).

When we come to God, He listens to all our circumstances and, according to His most perfect will, answers our prayers in the best way and at the best time. What we must do is fully devote ourselves to the Lord, surrender ourselves to Him, and remove all impurities and sins from our lives that stand between us and God. When we do this, God will hear and answer our prayers.

Hudson Taylor said, “When we work, we work. When we pray, God works.” That’s true. When we try to solve the things we cannot fix on our own, those problems will not simply disappear. We cannot move the towering mountains that block our path. But God can move those mountains — and even if He chooses not to, He will give us the strength to climb over them.

Ellen G. White again said the following: “We come to God by special invitation, and He waits to welcome us to His audience chamber. The first disciples who followed Jesus were not satisfied with a hurried conversation with Him by the way; they said, ‘Rabbi, ... where dwellest Thou? ... They came and saw where He dwelt, and abode with Him that day.(John 1:38, 39). So we may be admitted into closest intimacy and communion with God. “He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.”(Psalm 91:1). Let those who desire the blessing of God knock and wait at the door of mercy with firm assurance, saying, For Thou, O Lord, hast said, “Everyone that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.”(Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing, 131.)

Do you have problems that seem impossible to solve? Come to the Lord and pray. Not only will God resolve all your concerns, but He will also fill your heart with happiness, gratitude, and praise. God truly loves you. Even more than parents desire to give the best to their children, God longs to bless you and give you what is best for you. God will answer you in His way.



NEWS & VIEWS JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2025

INSPIRATION
2 Tell Jesus All Your Needs

COVER STORY
4 Spiritual Journey with 10 Days of Prayer at NSD

Focus
6 Japan Union Conference Year-End Meeting 2024
8 Taiwan Conference Year-End Meeting
10 Nepal Section Hosts Historic Second Year-End Meeting

DEPARTMENTAL & REGIONAL NEWS

12 Ted Wilson Visits Foreign Missionary Cemetery in Yanghwajin
13 Jacob Ko Ordained for Pastoral Ministry at Paju International Church
14 JUC Youth Congress Returns After Nine Years
15 Hiroshima Saniku Gakuin's Musical Ministry in Imabari
16 1st Annual Walking Festival a Resounding Success
17 A Century of Grace Celebrating 120 Years of Adventist Mission in Korea
18 Christian Living Book Series Empowers Women Across KUC
19 Parenting Guide School in Pakistan Inspires Families
20 Pastors' Wives Program Strengthens Partners in Pakistan
21 PKU Dedicates “Michael Asks Why” to Inspire Children’s Faith
22 Empowering Pakistan Leaders Through Certification Programs
23 Pakistan Ordination Ceremony Honors 12 Pastors
24 First Elderly Program of 2025 Brings Faith and Fellowship in Ulaanbaatar
25 Sri Lanka’s Dual-Language Devotional Launch
26 Faith and Fellowship Strengthen Pastors’ Wives in Sri Lanka
28 Honoring Orphans and Vulnerable Children in Nepal
29 Stewardship Training Strengthens Faith and Mission in Pokhara
30 Massage and Hydrotherapy Seminar in Nepal
31 Lifting Up Communities in the Far Corners of Nepal

MISSION PROJECT
32 Dedication Service for PMM and PCM Missionaries
34 A Young Missionary’s Story

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.



On the Cover
Hands of NSD staff encircle
The Ten Days of Prayer.


**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,
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 Choi HoYoung
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, Ashir Illyas Khan, Philip Ko,
Ganbaatar Gan- Erdene, Rontgen Bala, Binod
Dahal, Malith Nilanka Perera
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**

10 DAYS OF PRAYER

January 8-18, 2025

JOIN AT WWW.TENDAYSOFPRAAYER.ORG



Spiritual Journey with 10 Days of Prayer at NSD



Park GyeonGyoo
NSD News Reporter

The Northern Asia-Pacific Division began the new year with a spiritually enriching 10 Days of Prayer, Jan. 8-18, 2025. During this time, participants sang “Sweet Hour of Prayer” as a theme song every morning, and each departmental director took turns leading the sessions. Later, participants shared prayer requests and spent time in collective prayer, fostering a deeper connection with God and each other. A significant aspect of this year’s program was its overlap with the training period for Public Campus Ministries missionaries, who also actively participated. For many of these young missionaries, the 10 Days of Prayer provided essential spiritual preparation before embarking on their mission work.

This year’s devotional readings centered around the theme “But When You Pray,” written by Dr. Pavel Goia, editor of Ministry magazine.

A highlight of the week was the “Secret Prayer Friends” program. Throughout this period, they prayed for their chosen friend, focusing on their unique needs and seeking God’s guidance and blessings. Some participants



NSD members prayer in group.

expressed their care and gratitude by offering small gifts or words of encouragement on the final day.

One attendee shared, “Praying for my secret friend helped me become more aware of their needs and taught me to love more deeply through prayer.” The program not only emphasized intercessory prayer but also provided an opportunity to foster deeper understanding and spiritual

connections among participants.

The prayer week emphasized moving beyond merely presenting personal needs to God. Instead, participants were encouraged to hold onto God’s promises and grow in faith. A key message from the devotional materials was, “Prayer is a time to strengthen our faith and a process of being transformed into God’s image.”

Through this process, attendees gained insights into shifting their focus from their weaknesses to Jesus Christ. This shift led to profound spiritual changes and a greater awareness of God’s purpose and blessings in their

lives. One participant remarked, “When I fix my eyes on Jesus instead of myself, I experience a deeper spiritual transformation.”

The 10 Days Prayer concluded with a renewed sense of faith and hope. Attendees left the event inspired to embrace the coming year with spiritual vigor, trusting in God’s plans and blessings. This year’s event once again proved that prayer is not just an event—it’s a way of life, shaping believers to walk more closely with Christ throughout the year and beyond.



Japan Union Conference Year-End Meeting 2024

Toshio Shibata
JUC Communication Director



Northern Asia-Pacific Division leaders and Japan Union Conference leaders join together to commemorate the 2025 Year-End Meetings.

The Japan Union Conference (JUC) Year-End Meeting took place Nov. 25-27, 2024, bringing together church leaders to reflect on the year's achievements, discuss challenges, and set a vision for the future. The meeting was attended by seven officers and directors from the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD), whose insights and guidance were deeply appreciated.

A key highlight of the meeting was the series of inspired devotional messages delivered by the three NSD officers. Their words of encouragement and spiritual counsel provided a strong foundation for the discussions that followed, reminding all attendees of the importance of faith, mission, and unity in advancing the work of the church.

During the sessions, Pastor Kim SunHwan, NSD

Adventist Mission director, introduced Loud Voice 2025, a mission initiative launched by the Northern Asia-Pacific Division. His presentation effectively conveyed the vision and objectives of this initiative, ensuring that all attendees gained a clear understanding of its purpose and potential impact. The JUC leadership expressed strong support, recognizing its significance in strengthening evangelism efforts across Japan.

Another key component of the Year-end meeting was the presentation of evangelism reports from the Union, Conferences, and institutions. These reports highlighted the progress made throughout 2024, shedding light on successes, challenges, and opportunities for growth in the coming year.

The most significant events in 2024 were the successful



NSD president, Kim YoHan (left) and Executive Secretary Hiroshi Yamaji

hosting of three nationwide congresses, which played a crucial role in revitalizing the spirit of dedication and commitment among church members.

The All-Japan Women's Congress and the All-Japan Possibilities Ministries Congress were held for the first time in seven years, providing a long-awaited opportunity for members to reconnect, learn, and be inspired.

The All-Japan Youth Congress, which had not been held in nine years, was another major event that brought together young people from across the country. This gathering reignited enthusiasm for ministry and mission among the youth, reinforcing their commitment to faith and service.

In terms of church growth and financial recovery, the reports indicated positive trends compared to pre-COVID-19 levels:

Tithing has almost fully recovered, reflecting the

continued faithfulness of church members.

Worship attendance has rebounded to 80% of what it was before the pandemic.

Baptisms are currently at 60% of pre-pandemic levels, highlighting the need for a stronger focus on evangelism.

As JUC looks ahead to 2025, there is a strong commitment to intensifying evangelism efforts across Japan. The leadership recognizes that revitalizing church growth and outreach remains a major challenge, and they are dedicated to finding innovative and effective ways to spread the gospel. It is their hope and prayer that, through initiatives such as Loud Voice 2025, the mission of the church will gain momentum, bringing more people to Christ and strengthening faith communities throughout the nation.

With renewed enthusiasm and unwavering faith, the Japan Union Conference moves forward, trusting that God will continue to guide and bless their mission in 2025 and beyond.



Taiwan Conference Year-End Meeting 2024



Philip Ko
TWC Communication Director



NSD leaders and TWC leaders together for the Year-End Meetings.

The Taiwan Conference Year-End Meeting officially began on Dec. 10, 2024. This year, the meeting adopted a new interview-style report format, incorporating videos and interactive Q&A sessions to create a more engaging atmosphere. Additionally, a special hymn session was introduced. Alongside reports from directors and department secretaries, key agenda items were actively discussed. As 2024 came to a close, challenges still lie ahead, and it is hoped that in the coming year, colleagues will continue to work together in unity to fulfill their mission.

Before the meeting officially began, a Korean PMM pastor led a special hymn in Mandarin, English, and Korean. Following this, the morning devotional was delivered by Northern Asia-Pacific Division President Kim YoHan, who emphasized the importance of unity in the last days. Citing the scripture, “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me” (Philippians 4:13), Kim reminded colleagues that only through unity can they work together effectively.

After the morning devotional, Taiwan Conference

President Pastor Ke Shiguang presented the annual report, followed by the first round of district directors’ ministry reports. Directors from the Taoyuan-Hsinchu-Miaoli District, Pingnan District, Bunun District, Paiwan District, and Rukai District shared testimonies of God’s grace through brief presentations and video clips. Subsequently, reports were given by Robert Johnston, principal of the American Adventist Elementary School, and Taiwan Conference Executive Secretary Ke Feili, who used various church statistics to analyze challenges, stating that the best way to solve problems is to confront them directly.

After a short lunch break, the meeting continued with reports from the Education Department, Stewardship Department, Spirit of Prophecy Department, Youth/Campus Ministry, and Adventist Mission Department. Highlights included the Education Department’s senior retreat in Kenting, which led to four baptisms; the Stewardship Department’s first-ever “Golden Bell Awards,” with 55 church members participating; the Spirit of Prophecy Department’s continued efforts in promoting

Ellen G. White’s writings through book clubs; and the Youth/Campus Ministry’s outreach in nine schools, where they connected with 450 seekers, leading to 11 baptisms this year.

Following a round of discussions, the second session of district directors’ reports began. Directors from Taitung District, Greater Taipei District, Pingzhong District, Amis District, and Atayal District shared ministry highlights from the year. Amis District Director Wu Yiqun expressed special gratitude for the Taiwan Conference administrative team’s immediate response to the aftermath of the April 3, 2024 earthquake and for the prayers and support received from various groups.

Following this, Dr. Chen Jieli, principal of San Yu High School, shared how he used “black rice” to promote indigenous education on campus. Taiwan Conference Treasurer Shen Enchuan presented the financial report, followed by the ASI Lay Ministry report. Additionally, Auditor He Shichuan highlighted issues encountered during audits, reminding district directors to communicate these important details to church members.

Finally, reports were delivered by the Sabbath School/Personal Ministries/Literature Ministries department, Women’s/Children’s/Family Ministries department, Community Services department, Health Ministries

department, and the Ministerial Association. The Sabbath School department introduced the “Expansion and Contraction” plan to revitalize Sabbath School programs. The Women’s Ministries department not only shared their annual ministry highlights but also reinforced the message, “I am a woman; I can be used by the Lord.” The Community Services department presented the first-ever “Mountain-Sea Cycling” event for senior citizens, while the Health Ministries department shared their collaboration with the Youth Department on a hiking expedition to Jiaming Lake.

As the meeting drew to a close, Xu Zhongling from Lunbei Church presented a touching special hymn, “Make Me a Blessing”. Her beautiful voice led everyone into a consecration service. At this moment, Pastor Ke Shiguang encouraged the workers with Isaiah 40:31:

“But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength;
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.”

Pastor Ke urged all church workers across Taiwan to build upon the evangelistic efforts of the latter half of the year, inviting God to continue leading them in unity and perseverance until the very end of time.



Nepal Section Hosts Historic Second Year-End Meeting

Umesh Kumar Pokharel
Nepal Section President



Nepal Section officers welcome NSD officers.



From left, NS Treasurer Lee MyungHun, NSD Executive Secretary Hiroshi Yamaji, NS President Umesh Pokharel, NSD Treasurer Kim TaeSeung.

The Nepal Section of the Seventh-day Adventist Church held its second Year-End meeting Nov. 21–22, 2024, in Dhulikhel, Nepal. The gathering brought together leaders from across the country, including representatives from Scheer Memorial Adventist Hospital (SMAH), ADRA Nepal, and various supporting ministries. Each organization shared detailed reports on their activities and accomplishments over the past year.

The leadership team of the Nepal Section played a central role in the program. Nepal Section President Umesh K. Pokharel, Executive Secretary Kim HaeSeong,

and Treasurer Matthew Lee attended the meeting, alongside all department directors, who presented comprehensive reports on evangelism, education, health, and social outreach efforts.

The event also saw strong support from the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD). NSD President Kim YoHan, Treasurer Kim TaeSeung, Executive Secretary Hiroshi Yamaji, and Health Director Dr. Jacob Ko were in attendance, underscoring the importance of the Nepal Section's work and the ongoing collaboration between regional and division leadership.

The meeting concluded with a reaffirmed commitment to the global mission of the Adventist Church, anchored by the inspiring motto: “I Will Go.” This declaration reflects the shared dedication of leaders and members to advancing the gospel in Nepal, despite challenges.

Looking ahead, the Nepal Section remains focused on

expanding its reach, strengthening its foundation, and advancing future evangelism initiatives, including the establishment of a permanent office. With God’s guidance and continued support from NSD, the future looks bright for the Adventist mission in Nepal.



1. (From left) Nepal Section President Umeshi Kumar Pokharel, NSD President Kim YoHan, NS Executive Secretary Kim HaeSeong, NS Treasurer Lee MyungHun.
2. Left, NSD President Kim YoHan, NS President Umesh Kumar Pokharel.
3. (Right) NSD Executive Secretary, Yamaji and NS President, Umesi Kumar Pokharel.
4. NSD and Nepal Section leaders.



Ted Wilson Visits Foreign Missionary Cemetery in Yanghwajin



Kim BeomTae
KUC News Reporter



(Left) GC President Ted Wilson, Nancy Wilson, KUC President Kang SoonKi, Magdiel Perez Schultz, assistant to GC President and KUC Executive Secretary Park JungTaek.



GC President Ted Wilson and Mrs. Wilson visit the Yanghwajin Foreign Missionary Cemetery.

General Conference President Ted Wilson and Mrs. Wilson visited the Yanghwajin Foreign Missionary Cemetery in Seoul on Nov. 6, 2020. President Wilson is the first serving General Conference president to visit this site during a trip to Korea. Among those accompanying the Wilsons were Magdiel Perez Schultz, assistant to the president, and Park JungTaek, executive secretary of KUC.

Located in Hapjeong-dong, Seoul, the cemetery is the final resting place of 145 foreign missionaries and their families who devoted their lives to the Korean people during the Japanese colonial era.

They visited the gravesites to honor several prominent missionaries, including British journalist Ernest Bethell, who gave a voice to oppressed Koreans; Canadian physician, Robert Hardie and his missionary family, key figures in the Wonsan Revival Movement; American Homer Hulbert who was known for his deep love for Korea; and American Ruby Kendrick, who dedicated herself to educational efforts and passed away just nine months after arriving in Korea.

President Wilson expressed his admiration for the missionaries' efforts to spread Christianity, particularly their contributions to Korea's independence through both direct action and indirect support during the Japanese occupation.

Despite the chilly weather just before winter, Wilson spent considerable time paying his respects at the gravesites of Loma Linda Dr. George H. Rue (his Korean name was Ryu Je-han), his wife Mae Ames Rue, and Janet

Overbaugh McGhee, Adventist missionaries. Kang SoonKi, president of KUC, explained Dr. Rue's noble life as the first physician to the President of Korea and Mae Ames Rue's contributions as a pioneer of Sahmyook Medical Center.

President Wilson prayed, "As we live in these last days, may we fully surrender our lives to God. Let us follow the selfless example of the missionaries' sacrifices and devotion, and may we be inspired to proclaim the Three Angels' Messages faithfully."

After his visit, Wilson remarked, "The cemetery is beautifully maintained. I can feel the warm hearts of the Korean people and the church in honoring the missionaries' sacrifices. I understand volunteers run the site—truly admirable people—and I am deeply grateful for their dedication."

He continued, "What moved me most was the selfless lives of the missionaries. Dr. Rue's words especially touched me: He always gave his best care, whether treating the President or a rural woman. We, too, must use our daily talents to serve others and share the gospel."

In a later meeting with staff from KUC and the publishing house, Wilson shared his reflections on his visit to the Yanghwajin Foreign Missionary Cemetery, emphasizing, "I was profoundly impacted by the foreign missionaries buried there who dearly loved Korea. They were faithful unto death in bringing Christ's gospel to this nation, which holds great significance in God's plan."

Jacob Ko Ordained for Pastoral Ministry at Paju International Church

Park GeonGyoo
NSD News Reporter

On Sabbath, Jan. 11, 2025, Paju International Church hosted the ordination service for Elder Jacob Ko. The Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) had previously resolved during its executive committee meeting in November 2024 to appoint Ko to pastoral ministry through ordination.

Pastor Ko, who is originally from Taiwan, is a dedicated health professional and church leader. He holds advanced public health and medical technology degrees and has served as a teacher, administrator, and Health Ministries director for NSD.

A family man, Pastor Ko, is married to Violet Su and has three children: Rainbow, Sunshine, and Star. Raised in a pastoral family, he developed a strong commitment to church work early on in Taiwan where he established tribal worship communities and supported Chinese congregations during his academic and professional journey. His leadership has strengthened diverse Adventist communities, including tribal and multicultural churches.

During the ordination service, Jonas Arrais, Ministerial secretary of NSD, delivered a heartfelt message: "God has been preparing you for this day. God has wonderful plans for you. He will empower you to develop effective pastoral ministry through the Holy Spirit."

Following the message, Kim YoHan, president of NSD, offered the ordination prayer: "We ask that the Holy Spirit descend abundantly upon Pastor Jacob Ko. Empower him with heavenly wisdom. Bless him with a strong, healthy mind and body, and grant him spiritual gifts. May Your love fill him, guiding and sustaining him in his ministry."

In the closing commitment prayer, Pastor Ko expressed his gratitude and dedication, saying, "Today, I become a pastor, but it's Your mercy and calling—not my mind, not my effort. Please pour down Your Holy Spirit so I can preach Your word clearly and share Your love with others."

The service marked a significant milestone in Pastor Ko's life and ministry, symbolizing his continued dedication to serving God and His people.



Jacob Ko, NSD Health Ministries director ordained for pastoral ministry.

JUC Youth Congress Returns After Nine Years



More than 100 young people gathered for JUC Youth Congress.

On Nov. 1-3, 2024, the Japan Union Conference (JUC) Youth Congress occurred in Chiba Prefecture, marking its return after nine years. Though there were concerns about participation due to the long gap, more than 100 young people from across the country gathered for three days of spiritual growth and fellowship.

This year's congress was centered on the Youth Department's motto, "The Love of Christ Compels Me." The program featured inspiring lectures by Daisuke Nakadomari, pastor from the West Japan Conference, Toru Hasegawa, pastor from Saniku Gakuin College theology department, and Hayato Shimada, director of the JUC Youth department. On Sabbath, Yutaka Inada, president of JUC, delivered a heartfelt and passionate message to the young attendees.

The key message throughout the lectures emphasized that to spread the Adventist message, one must first seek the power of the Holy Spirit to fill his or her heart with God's love. Just as Paul discovered Christ's love through the cross, participants were encouraged to focus on Jesus and His sacrifice.

An event highlight was the testimony shared by missionaries, Mr. and Mrs. Babienco on Sabbath evening. (The Babiencos are missionaries serving with Adventist Frontier Missions who formerly served in Southeast Asia.) Despite being in Japan for only a year, they delivered their testimony in Japanese, sharing how the love of Christ inspired them to serve in Japan. Their message reassured participants that God can use anyone to fulfill His mission.

The congress offered participants a chance to reaffirm the Mission, Aim, Motto, and Pledge of the Adventist Church's youth group. Through discussions, prayers, and conversations with fellow attendees, many experienced spiritual renewal and gained fresh perspectives on their

Hayato Shimada
JUC Youth Director



The participants enjoyed a delicious meal.

faith. Meeting peers who shared their beliefs was an uplifting and unforgettable experience for some, especially those from churches with few young members.

Participants also enjoyed a vibrant praise session led by a praise team formed during the congress. Singing praises together created a strong sense of unity. Recreational activities provided opportunities to forge lasting connections, enabling participants to stay in touch even after the event ended.

One participant reflected, "It was a valuable experience to meet others who believe in the same God. I realized that although we come from different places, we share the same Mission from God. This conference helped me reflect on my faith and how deeply Jesus loves me."

The JUC Youth Congress was a blessed gathering, reminding everyone of the power of Christ's love to unite and compel us to action. The organizers pray that those who attended will return to their communities as dedicated disciples, driven by the love of Christ, to live out the Mission and inspire others with their faith.

Hiroshima Saniku Gakuin's Musical Ministry in Imabari



Hiroshima Saniku Gakuin High School Handbell Choir

On Nov. 23, 2024, the Handbell Choir from Hiroshima Saniku Gakuin High School, visited Imabari Seventh-day Adventist Church for a special concert. Twelve students and three teachers participated, delivering a heartfelt and inspiring performance for the attendees.

The event, held on Sabbath, featured a short sermon by the choir's conductor, Mr. Masamitsu Takada, who spoke about the significance of handbells. Following the sermon, the students performed several handbell pieces. They presented four songs during the Sabbath School program and over ten during the worship service, bringing joy and inspiration to the audience.

In the afternoon, the event extended to include local residents, resulting in a larger turnout. Thanks to the distribution of 500 promotional flyers, around 80 people attended the concert. The church's deacons and the leader of the missionary association had personally distributed the flyers to local schools and community groups, inviting many to the event.

Although the choir initially consisted of 14 members, two students could not attend due to personal circumstances. To compensate, Mr. Takada conducted and played handbells during the performance. Despite these challenges, the performance was a resounding success, profoundly moving the audience.

The students expressed their hope that Hiroshima Saniku Gakuin High School would continue to grow and prosper for God's glory, asking attendees to keep them in their prayers.

Hiroshima Saniku Gakuin High School has 105 students and is known for its vibrant musical programs, including a choir, brass band, and handbell ensemble. Particularly during Christmas, the school actively conducts evangelistic concerts at various locations, sharing the message of hope through music.



1st Annual Walking Festival a Resounding Success

Kim BeomTae
KUC News Reporter

The first annual “Hangang River Harmony Walking Festival,” organized by the committee for the 120th Anniversary of Korean Adventist Missions and hosted by the Korea Walking Federation, was held on Oct. 27, 2024, at the Misa Boat Race Park in Hanam City, South Korea.

Themed “Taking the First Steps Towards the 120-Year Era,” the event was conceived to commemorate the 120th anniversary of Adventist missions in Korea. It was the largest of the related anniversary events.

The activity brought together over 7,000 church members, spiritual seekers, as well as walking enthusiasts from across the country and internationally. The routes included a 7K health walk from Junggo Plaza to Misa Riverside Park, an 8K barefoot walk to Hananamu Orphanage, and a 12K walk for longevity through the Metasequoia Path and Misa Riverside Park.

Participants hoped the event would promote a balanced body, mind, and spiritual well-being.

“I exercise regularly, and at church, we also walk once a week as a group,” said Elder Oh ChangJun and Ha YeongShin of Cheongnyangni Church. “But walking in such an event feels even more rewarding today. It’s especially meaningful to walk together marking 120 years since the Adventist message first came to Korea.”

Compass missionary trainee, Lee JuHye said, ‘It’s great to have the chance to walk and converse with family, friends, and colleagues, which we don’t often get to do in our busy lives.’

As many as 53 participants who traveled 500 kilometers from Jeju Island, wearing patches that read ‘Let’s Walk the Beautiful Jeju Together,’ also completed the walk.

“We came to celebrate the 120th anniversary of Korean Adventist missions and support this first Harmony Walking Festival,” said deaconesses Park SeonRan and Kang EunSuk. “We’re happy to be part of such a significant event for the Korean Seventh-day Adventist Church,” they said.

Foreign participants and people with disabilities also enjoyed the deepening autumn atmosphere. Nelly, a young Adventist from South Africa attending Cheongju New Heaven Church, was amazed, saying, “I saw the Pathfinder booth on the way, and it brought back childhood memories. It’s amazing to see people of all ages walking together. The Korean church is so exciting!” Nearly 10 foreign participants joined from this church alone.

Deacon Park SoonHwan from Yeosu Central Church, who took on the 7K course in his electric wheelchair, said joyfully, “Since this is a nationwide event where I could meet Adventists from all over the country, I wanted to participate. It gives me a strong sense of belonging and pride. It’s been a wonderful day.”

Meanwhile, this event was jointly sponsored by the five Korean conferences, and Jeju Region, as well as numerous Sahmyook University and Sahmyook food institutions, and ADRA Korea.



A Century of Grace Celebrating 120 Years of Adventist Mission in Korea

Kim BeomTae
KUC News Reporter



(Left) GC President Ted Wilson, Secretary Erton Köhler, Treasurer Paul Douglas and assistant to President Magdiel Perez Schultz.

Approximately 3,000 members from across the country gathered to reflect on the Korean Adventist Church’s history and thank “Ebenezer God” for His guidance. The event also included the participation of Korean overseas missionaries, who are devoted to global evangelism in challenging environments. Many local church members participated via livestream.

In the Sabbath worship sermon, based on John 12:32, Ted Wilson expressed gratitude for God’s grace over the past 120 years and encouraged the Korean church to remain focused on Christ-centered, Spirit-filled evangelism. “This anniversary is a meaningful opportunity to reflect on God’s leading and energize the church for the final gospel proclamation. However, the greatest anniversary is yet to come when we reunite with Christ,” he said, calling members to a life of dedication.

During the afternoon program, a special plaque of appreciation was presented to Japan Union Conference in recognition of their evangelistic efforts in response to the Korean Adventist community’s plea, “Come over and help us,” in 1904. Similarly, gratitude was extended to the North Colombian Union Conference in Colombia, South America, for sending the first missionary, Pastor William R. Smith, and to the South Dakota Conference in the United States, for their financial support of early mission work. Video messages from their leaders conveyed their heartfelt responses. The Korean Union Conference also honored former union presidents, overseas missionaries, and individuals who contributed significantly to advancing mission work in various fields.

NSD President Kim YoHan, reiterated the division’s motto, “Mission First,” in his congratulatory remarks, saying, “As Jesus commanded Peter, He now commands us to ‘Feed My sheep.’ There is no time to delay. This Sabbath is the moment to spread the gospel worldwide and fulfill the sacred mission entrusted to us with unwavering commitment.”

This event celebrated the rich history of Korean Adventism and renewed the commitment to advancing God’s kingdom with love, truth, and unwavering faith.

Under the theme “Arise, Shine” and the slogan “Glory to God, Love to Neighbors, Truth to the World,” the Korean Union Conference (KUC) held a special event to commemorate 120 years of Adventist mission in Korea.

Global church leaders attended this event, including all three General Conference officers—President Ted Wilson, Secretary Erton Köhler, and Treasurer Paul Douglas—emphasizing the elevated status and significance of the Korean church. Also attending were Kim YoHan, president of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division, Kang SoonKi, president of the Korean Union Conference, and various representatives from NSD territories such as Japan, Taiwan, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and Bangladesh, along with delegates from China, the United States, Russia, and Nigeria.

Christian Living Book Series Empowers Women Across KUC

The Christian Living Book Series for small groups is now ready to inspire and equip women in local churches throughout the Korea Union Conference (KUC). Designed specifically for women, this transformative resource aims to train, teach, and inspire women to live Christ-centered lives by following Jesus' example daily. Already, the series has profoundly impacted the lives of thousands of women and church members.

Collaboratively developed by the Women's Ministries directors from the five fields within KUC, the books are carefully contextualized to address women's unique challenges and needs in Korea. Each volume features interactive chapters and practical lessons integrating faith with everyday living, making it an engaging and meaningful tool for small-group study.

The series goes beyond personal spiritual growth, empowering women to share their faith with others. By addressing real-life issues with biblical guidance, the books equip women to be agents of change in their families, churches, and communities. Through its lessons, the series inspires women to grow in faith while positively influencing those around them.

Yoon ChoungSil, Women's Ministries director of KUC, shared her vision for the project, "Christian living is the

secret to empowering women and their families. These books are tools to help women live out their faith and positively impact those around them."

Local church leaders and members have expressed enthusiasm for the series, recognizing its potential to deepen their understanding of Christian principles and strengthen relationships within small groups. Readers have shared testimonies about the lessons' practical applications and the encouragement they've found in sharing their experiences with others.

As the series is distributed across the KUC territory, its impact is expected to grow, helping women live their faith confidently and joyfully. Raquel Arrais, Women's Ministries director of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division, emphasized the broader vision: "By empowering women through Christian living, the church is nurturing a ripple effect of transformation that extends from individuals to families and from families to entire communities."

This initiative reflects the church's commitment to equipping women to live as disciples of Jesus, demonstrating His love and light in their daily lives. The Christian Living Book Series is a testament to the power of faith and community in fostering growth and transformation.



Parenting Guide School in Pakistan Inspires Families

Farzana Yaqub
PKU Children's Ministries Director



Newly baptized children attend the program.

The Parenting Guide School in the Pakistan Union is impacting parents to nurture their children spiritually and guide them toward better life choices. This transformative initiative empowers parents with the tools and inspiration to help their children stay connected with God, fostering strong values and a Christ-centered foundation.

In December, the program celebrated a heartwarming milestone as 40 children in the Pakistan Northern Section chose to follow Jesus through baptism. Parents were profoundly moved and grateful as they witnessed their children publicly commit their lives to Christ. These baptisms stand as a powerful testament to the transformative impact of intentional parenting and the spiritual guidance provided through this program.

Led by Farzana Yaqub, Pakistan Union Section Children's Ministries director, and supported by local church leaders, the Parenting Guide School offered seminars and workshops tailored to meet families' practical and spiritual needs. Key topics focused on teaching parents how to build strong communication with their children, guide them toward making better life choices aligned with God's principles, and maintain their physical health while fostering and nurturing supportive home environments.

Raquel Arrais, Children's Ministries director of NSD, was involved in the interactive sessions, which provided parents with valuable insights into their vital roles as spiritual mentors. Many parents expressed how the training helped them better understand their children's needs and create loving, God-centered homes. Through activities, worship, and Bible lessons, children embraced the theme "I Will Go with Jesus," deepening their commitment to their faith.

Raquel Arrais emphasized the importance of such programs, stating, "Through programs like these, the church is sowing seeds for a generation that will live with purpose and share God's love with the world." As this initiative continues to expand, it is transforming families

across the Pakistan Union by empowering parents to raise children who are spiritually grounded, capable of making wise decisions, and committed to following Jesus.



Pastors’ Wives Program Strengthens Partners in Pakistan

Raquel Arrais
NSD Children’s/Family/
Women’s Ministries Director



On Nov. 30, and Dec. 3, 2024, the Pastors’ Wives Certification Program was held in Karachi and Lahore, with over 85 participants from the South and North sections of the Pakistan Union Section territory. This transformative initiative aimed to equip pastors’ wives with the tools and knowledge to serve more effectively in their unique roles as ministry partners.

Raquel Arrais, NSD Ministerial Spouses Association coordinator, and Kim YoungMoon, Pakistan Union Section MSA coordinator offered practical insights, encouragement, and spiritual guidance tailored to the distinct challenges faced by pastors’ wives.

Key topics included effective communication, spiritual leadership, conflict resolution, and personal well-being. The program also emphasized fostering

supportive church environments and building strong relationships within local communities. Participants actively engaged in discussions and activities, making the sessions lively and enriching. More than just a training event, the certification program provided a platform for mutual encouragement and growth. Pastors’ wives expressed gratitude for the opportunity to connect, share experiences, and gain valuable resources to strengthen their ministries.

“This initiative reflects the church’s commitment to empowering women in ministry, recognizing their vital role in advancing the mission of the gospel. Through programs like these, the Pakistan Union Section continues to nurture leaders who are well-prepared to support and inspire others in their spiritual journeys,” said Arrais.



PKU Dedicates “Michael Asks Why” to Inspire Children’s Faith

Farzana Yaqub
PKU Children’s Ministries Director

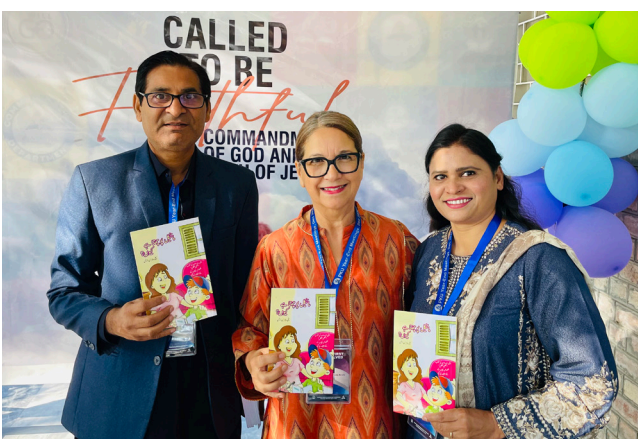
On Dec. 4, 2024, the Pakistan Union Section proudly dedicated the book *Michael Asks Why*, a child-friendly adaptation of Ellen White’s *The Great Controversy*. The book helps children understand the difference between good and evil and aims to guide young minds in choosing God’s side in the ongoing spiritual battle.

The dedication ceremony celebrated the launch of this transformative resource, which conveys profound spiritual truths and engages children through interactive activities. By presenting age-appropriate and engaging complex themes, *Michael Asks Why* provides a strong foundation for children’s spiritual growth and understanding of God’s love.

Farzana Yaqub, Children’s Ministries (CHM) director for Pakistan Union Section, shared the inspiration behind the project. She explained, “This book is a tool to foster our children’s faith while they are young so that when they grow older, they will know the way.” Inspired by Proverbs 22:6, the initiative emphasizes the importance of early spiritual education in shaping a child’s values and lifelong faith.

Michael Asks Why also supports the church’s mission to nurture children as disciples of Christ. By helping young readers understand the story of redemption and the conflict between good and evil, the book empowers them to make choices that align with God’s will.

Parents and church leaders in attendance expressed gratitude for this valuable resource and recognized its potential to positively impact the next generation.



NSD CHM director, Raquel Arrais (Center), Farzana Yaqub, PKU CHM director (right).

Speaking at the dedication ceremony, Raquel Arrais, the Northern Asia-Pacific Division CHM director, highlighted the project’s importance. “As this initiative rolls out across the Pakistan Union Section, it reflects the church’s dedication to preparing young hearts for a life of faith and service. Through *Michael Asks Why*, children are learning about God’s love and truth and are equipped to stand firm on His side in their journey of faith.”

This milestone marks a significant step in the church’s efforts to provide meaningful spiritual education for children, empowering them to grow in faith and live as steadfast followers of Christ.



Empowering Pakistan Leaders Through Certification Programs

Jonas Arrais
NSD Ministerial Secretary



Jonal Arrais, NSD Ministerial Secretary and PKU President Lee MyunJu give certificates to participants for completing the training session.

On Nov. 26, 2024, a special certification program for deacons and elders was conducted in Lahore and Karachi under the Pakistan Union Section. The event brought together local church leaders for an inspiring and educational experience designed to enhance their understanding of their roles and responsibilities within the church.

The program focused on both the spiritual and practical aspects of leadership, offering participants valuable guidance on effectively supporting their congregations and contributing to the church's broader mission. Key topics included spiritual

growth, servant leadership, conflict resolution, and the importance of personal commitment to God's work.

Jonas Arrais, Ministerial secretary of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division, and Raquel Arrais, Women's Ministries director for NSD, led the training sessions. They provided insightful teachings and practical tools to help deacons and elders carry out their duties more effectively. Participants also engaged in meaningful discussions, shared experiences, and strengthened their spiritual connections with one another.

The program concluded with a prayer of blessing for all attendees, acknowledging their dedication to their calling. This heartfelt moment highlighted the significance of their commitment to serving their congregations and communities.

The event profoundly impacted the participants, inspiring them to serve with renewed passion and a deeper understanding of their role in advancing the church's mission. This initiative marked a significant milestone in equipping local leaders in the Northern Asia-Pacific Division to serve with excellence and faithfulness.



Pakistan Ordination Ceremony Honors 12 Pastors

Jonas Arrais
NSD Ministerial Secretary



PKU held an ordination ceremony for 12 pastors.

On Dec. 5, 2024, the Pakistan Union Section held an ordination ceremony for 12 pastors, marking a milestone in their spiritual and ministerial journeys.

The event was organized by the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) and the Pakistan Union Section (PKU) Ministerial Association, with three distinguished NSD officers: Kim YoHan, president of NSD, Hiroshi Yamaji, executive secretary of NSD, and Kim TaeSeung, treasure of NSD. Their guidance and words of encouragement added significance to the occasion.

The ordination service emphasized the sacred responsibility and dedication required of pastoral leaders. The newly ordained pastors were charged to serve with humility, integrity, and an unwavering commitment

to God's mission through heartfelt prayers, inspiring messages, and the laying on of hands.

An uplifting moment followed the ceremony as each of the 12 pastors baptized one individual, symbolizing their dedication to the Great Commission. This act demonstrated their commitment to leading others to Christ and highlighted the mission-driven spirit of their calling.

The event left a lasting impression on all attending, inspiring a renewed sense of purpose within the church community. It was a day of celebration, devotion, and hope, as the church welcomed new pastoral leaders to serve with faithfulness and passion.

First Elderly Program of 2025 Brings Faith and Fellowship in Ulaanbaatar



On Jan. 4, 2025, the SDA Ulaanbaatar Central Church in Mongolia, held its first Elderly Program of the year. Forty-three senior citizens attended a day of prayer, learning, and fellowship organized by Oyuntuya Batsukh, Family Ministry director of Mongolia Mission. The program allowed seniors to connect, grow in faith, and embrace healthy living.

The day's activities addressed the attendees' spiritual, physical, and emotional needs. Participants began with prayer groups that fostered a spirit of intercession and unity, followed by engaging Bible games that made studying God's Word interactive and enjoyable. A health talk emphasized the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle while encouraging attendees to prioritize their well-being.

A unique highlight of the program was paired exercises, where participants engaged in fun and active movements. This session promoted physical health and camaraderie among the older attendees, fostering a more profound sense of community and joy.

The event was further enriched by the attendance of three new seniors joining for the first time. In a heartwarming display of unity, all attendees prayed for these new members, asking for God's blessings on their spiritual journey. This moment reflected the program's commitment to inclusivity and evangelism within the community.

In addition to these activities, the program provided a platform for seminars, testimonies, and music, creating

a space where elderly members could share their experiences, learn together, and feel supported in their faith journeys. Many attendees expressed their gratitude for the opportunity to participate in such a meaningful gathering, emphasizing the importance of community and connection.

The success of this initial meeting has sparked excitement for future programs. The next event, scheduled for March 15, 2025, will include an evangelistic meeting to reach more elderly and their friends with the love of Jesus.

"We ask for your prayers for the upcoming program as we continue our mission of uplifting and inspiring our elderly members to 'GO,'" said Oyuntuya. This program exemplifies the church's commitment to valuing and empowering its senior members, reminding them of their significant role in the community and God's work.



Color Your World with Love: Sri Lanka's Dual-Language Devotional Launch



On Jan. 7, 2025, the Women's Ministries department of the Sri Lanka Mission (SLM) celebrated a historic milestone with the launch of the Women's Devotional, produced by the General Conference Women's Ministries department. For the first time, this devotional book has been translated into both Sinhala and Tamil, ensuring accessibility to women throughout Sri Lanka.

This achievement underscores a commitment to spiritual growth and inclusivity for women across the mission. The devotional empowers women to deepen their faith, nurture their families, and actively serve their communities.

Alice Emerson, SLM Women's Ministries director, led this project relying on prayer and faith to see it through. With the mission's support, she ensured the successful printing and distribution of this resource, which will inspire and uplift women from diverse backgrounds.

The devotional encourages women to embrace their roles as followers of Christ. Its theme calls on women to "color their world" by sharing their resources, time, talents, faith, and hope, all rooted in the enduring truth of love, as emphasized in 1 Corinthians 13:13: "And now these three remain: faith, hope, and love. But the greatest of these is love."

Launching this devotional symbolizes the church's mission to equip women to become ambassadors of faith and hope within their homes,

churches, and communities. It fosters unity and belonging by reaching women in their heart languages while bridging cultural and linguistic divides in Sri Lanka.

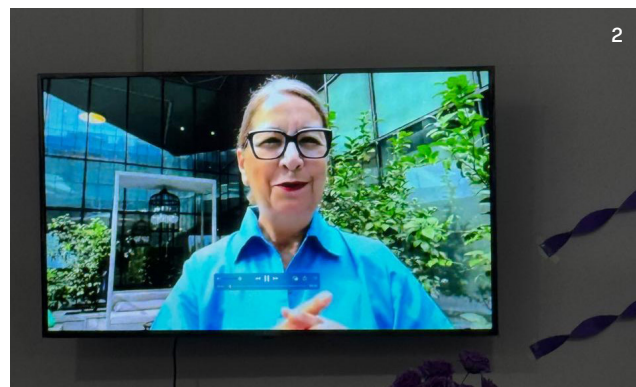


SLM President Jung HyoSoo prays offers a prayer.

Faith and Fellowship Strengthen Pastors' Wives in Sri Lanka

Alice Emerson

SLM Women's and Family Ministries Director



1. Pastoral wives offers special music for the program.
2. Raquel Arrais, NSD Family Ministries Director, encouraged the event through a video message.
3. SLM President's wife, Kim YunJu
4. The participants gather for group prayer.
5. A participant offers delicious meal for the event.
6. SLM President's wife (right), Kim YunJu offers special music.

moments of witnessing lives transformed through God's work and the challenges and struggles they faced along the way. The authenticity and vulnerability of these testimonies created an environment of mutual encouragement and understanding.

Moments of fellowship further enriched the experience, as attendees connected over shared meals, prayer, and heartfelt conversations. These interactions fostered a strong sense of community, building a supportive network of peers that extended beyond the retreat itself.

Facilitators encouraged the attendees to take the inspiration and lessons from the retreat back to their local congregations. The retreat reinforced the church's commitment to recognizing and uplifting the vital contributions of pastors' wives, emphasizing their indispensable role in strengthening ministry families and inspiring local congregations.

By the end of the retreat, attendees left feeling spiritually renewed, practically equipped, and ready to serve God and their communities with greater purpose and passion. This Empowerment Retreat not only strengthened the individual participants but also bolstered the collective mission of the Sri Lanka Mission, ensuring its continued impact and growth.

On Dec. 1-3, 2024, pastors' wives from across Sri Lanka Mission gathered for an Empowerment Retreat—a spiritually enriching and practically focused event designed to inspire and equip them for their unique roles in ministry. The retreat emphasized embracing their God-given calling, placing God at the center of their lives, and preparing for service in their congregations and communities.

Led by dedicated facilitators Yunju Kim, MSA coordinator; Alice Emerson, Women's and Family Ministries director; and Cristhela Pereira, associate director, the retreat offered practical seminars, heartfelt testimonies, and meaningful fellowship.

The retreat's theme, "Embracing Your God-Given Calling," resonated deeply with attendees, inspiring

them to find renewed purpose and strength in their ministry roles. Seminars addressed crucial topics such as the significant influence of pastors' wives within their churches and communities, highlighting their vital role in ministry. Practical strategies for balancing family and ministry were also discussed, helping attendees understand how to support their husbands effectively while nurturing their spiritual, emotional, and familial well-being. Moreover, the facilitators underscored the importance of prioritizing God in everyday life, encouraging a deeper, more personal relationship with Christ as the foundation for sustainable ministry.

A standout feature of the retreat was the testimony-sharing sessions, during which pastors' wives recounted their ministry journeys. These personal stories included



Honoring Orphans and Vulnerable Children in Nepal

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

World Orphans and Vulnerable Children's Day serves as a reminder of the unfortunate reality that many children across the globe are living in dire conditions due to factors such as war, natural disasters, disease, and other hardships. These children, often orphaned or semi-orphaned, are deprived of their basic human needs, such as food, shelter, education, healthcare, and emotional support. The growing number of these vulnerable children poses a long-term challenge, not only for their communities but for the future of the world.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church is actively working to address this issue by supporting orphaned and vulnerable children through various programs. These efforts focus on providing food, shelter, education, and medical care while collaborating with local governments and other organizations to prevent the rising number of such children.

On Nov. 16, 2024, the Nepal Section of the Seventh-day Adventist Church marked a special Sabbath to honor these children. The church organized events for orphans and vulnerable children within and outside the church community. The day included a special church service, followed by distributing gifts and food to these children, emphasizing their worth and



the importance of showing them love and care despite their challenging circumstances.

This initiative was a reminder that children are gifts from God, deserving of dignity, respect, and protection. Their voices may often go unheard, but the Adventist Possibilities Ministries and other organizations are dedicated to bringing attention to their needs and supporting them in every way possible. The observance of this day reflects a collective commitment to improving the lives of these children and ensuring their rights are upheld.



Stewardship Training Strengthens Faith and Mission in Pokhara

The Stewardship Training held at the SDA Church, Pokhara, Nepal, was an enlightening three-day event Jan. 10-12, 2025. It brought together church members from 14 satellite churches under the Pokhara Church. Kim NakHyung, NSD Stewardship director, was the main speaker. The event saw a remarkable turnout, with members actively participating to deepen their understanding of stewardship principles.

The training was organized to reinforce mission work and ensure its continued progress throughout Nepal and was a significant blessing for the congregation. It inspired everyone to engage deeply with stewardship principles and their application in daily life.

Young adult, field pastor and spouse attendees, expressed their gratitude and felt blessed to be part of the event.

One of the most encouraging outcomes of the training was the spiritual transformation it sparked among attendees. Many women experienced a change of heart and committed to following Christ, demonstrating the power of such training programs to bring meaningful change and uplift souls.

A highlight of the event was the baptism and certification ceremony. Over 100 church members



attended the training, and 50 participants received certificates recognizing their commitment to learning about stewardship and deepening their relationship with Christ—eight people also accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior and were baptized. The ceremony was a joyous occasion, reflecting the attendees' and organizers' collective effort and dedication.

The training underscored the vital role of young leaders in the Pokhara SDA Church. Their dedication was evident in the successful execution of this event. Seeing these young officers taking charge and fostering spiritual growth within the congregation was inspiring. The three-day Stewardship Training was a resounding success, strengthening mission work in Nepal and bringing spiritual renewal to many.



Kim NakHyung, NSD Stewardship director leads training.



50 participants received certificates for completing the training session.

Massage and Hydrotherapy Seminar in Nepal

Jacob Ko
NSD Health Ministries Director



The Massage and Hydrotherapy Seminar held Nov. 24–27, 2024, in Banepa, Nepal, marked a new chapter for the Nepal Church’s health ministries. Jacob Ko, director of the Health Ministries of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD), led the seminar and emphasized the importance of holistic well-being, encompassing physical, emotional, social, and spiritual health.

Visiting Nepal for the first time, Ko was warmly welcomed by Umesh Kumar Pokharel, president of Nepal Section, and Sundar Thapa, director of Nepal Section Health Ministries department.

President Pokharel reflected on John 8:31–32, encouraging participants to wholeheartedly embrace Jesus and live as true disciples who find freedom in His truth. Sundar Thapa followed with a message highlighting the seminar’s focus on integrating various aspects of health and equipping church leaders with practical knowledge to serve their communities effectively.

Dr. Ko’s sessions provided in-depth training on health principles and practical techniques for massage and hydrotherapy, demonstrating how simple and accessible natural remedies can alleviate pain and promote healing. His teachings emphasized the potential of these methods to bring comfort and restoration to church members and local communities. Dr. Hector Gayares, representing the Scheer Memorial Health and Educational Trust, contributed valuable insights into integrating health

ministries with the church’s mission. Nurses from Scheer Memorial Hospital further enriched the seminar by offering practical demonstrations, ensuring participants thoroughly understood the techniques.

The seminar equipped 45 church leaders, including pastors, Bible workers, and GO volunteers, with practical skills and knowledge to address health challenges in their congregations and communities. The event provided solutions for regions with limited access to advanced medical facilities by focusing on affordable and natural remedies. It also reaffirmed the Adventist belief that physical healing can lead to spiritual transformation, highlighting health ministries as essential to the church’s mission.

Pastor Umesh remarked, “This seminar offered invaluable health training while also deepening the connection between church leaders and their holistic mission to serve.” He further emphasized, “Dr. Ko’s unwavering passion for the health ministry, coupled with the collaborative efforts of all contributors, exemplified how practical health initiatives can profoundly support the church’s mission.”



Lifting Up Communities in the Far Corners of Nepal

Shanti Lata Pokharel
NS Children’s/Family/Women’s
Ministries Director



On Dec. 1–7, 2024, the Women’s and Children’s Ministries departments of Nepal Section visited East Rukum, a remote and impoverished area in Nepal’s far western region.

East Rukum’s geographical isolation presents numerous challenges. Most residents live in poverty, lacking basic human needs. The community is heavily influenced by ancestral religious practices and superstitions, with nature, deities, and idols playing a central role in daily life. Despite their hardships, the people maintain vibrant cultural traditions and celebrate various festivals.

The region’s harsh climate and barren steppe terrain significantly hinder agricultural productivity. Families rely on a single annual harvest and heavily depend on livestock for sustenance. With no medical facilities in the area, residents often suffer from untreated illnesses, and minor health issues can become life-threatening due to a lack of awareness and resources.

Education remains a distant dream for many children in East Rukum. While primary government schools exist, poverty prevents most children from attending. Instead, they help their families in the fields, care for livestock, or look after younger siblings. Boys often begin working by age 13, leading to high school dropout rates. Social challenges such as child marriage, divorce, substance abuse, gambling, and violence further compound the community’s struggles.

Amid these challenges, God has been working to bring hope to the people of East Rukum. Two decades ago,

the message of Christianity reached this region, establishing two Adventist churches. Today, about two dozen believers remain steadfast in their faith, serving as a beacon of hope for their community.

Recognizing the need for continued support, the leadership of the Nepal Section, mainly the Women’s and Children’s Ministries and Ministerial departments, visit East Rukum twice a year. These visits address the community’s spiritual, physical, and emotional needs.

During the December 2024 visit, the Women’s Ministries department organized Bible studies and women’s meetings, teaching vital literacy, hygiene, and health skills. Children gathered to learn about cleanliness, Bible stories, and faithfulness. They also sang songs and received Bibles. Women were given gifts of warm clothing, including shawls, woolen caps, and socks, to support the community through the cold winter. Special meals were prepared and shared with the community, fostering a sense of care and fellowship.

This mission to East Rukum underscores the church’s role as Christ’s hands in bringing healing and hope to those in need. By supporting families in remote and struggling regions like East Rukum, the church continues its mission of sharing Christ’s love and building His kingdom—one life at a time.



Dedication Service for PMM and PCM Missionaries



Park GyeonGyoo
NSD News Reporter



On Nov. 15, 2024, the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) held a dedication service for the 23rd batch of the Pioneer Mission Movement (PMM) and the 7th batch of Public Campus Ministries (PCM) at Sahmyook University.

PMM missionaries called to serve were: Pastors Oh HyoSeok, Seo HyunSeok to Taiwan, and Kim YunHo to the Philippines. The PCM missionaries were: Kim JuEl, Koo Yujin, Hwag HeeEun, Lim HaHeon, and Lim YehHeon. All will be dispatched to Taiwan, where they will begin their work at their designated mission fields.

The event was attended by leaders from the General Conference, including Ted Wilson, president of the

General Conference (GC), and those from NSD and KUC. Special guests from countries including Japan, Taiwan, and Mongolia also joined, lending their support and encouragement to the soon-to-be-dispatched missionaries. Together, they prayed with a shared appreciation for the dedication and sacrifice of the early missionaries who first brought the gospel to Korea.

Ted Wilson encouraged the missionaries in his message, saying, “Every morning, spend time with Jesus, and look to the throne of God, who has called you to your mission field for strength. If you fully surrender to God, He will motivate and encourage you. I hope you will dedicate your future and life to Jesus with a heart that loves God.” He

expressed gratitude on behalf of the global church.

In a welcoming address, Kim YoHan, president of NSD, said, “It is never an easy decision to go as a missionary to a foreign place. I am grateful to those who volunteered in such challenging times. You are never alone. The church leaders and members gathered here will continue to pray and support you while you’re in the mission field.”

Representing the 23rd batch of PMM missionaries, Pastor Kim YunHo shared a commitment message, saying, “I stand here by a holy calling. Though I feel much fear and trembling, I will kneel in trust of God. Remembering that God’s calling is without regret, I will follow Jesus’ path. I will serve with all my heart and return after giving my best.” He requested prayers for all missionaries.

Kim JuEl, representing the 7th batch of PCM missionaries, said, “I am grateful to God for inviting me to the work of hastening the Second Coming. I will cleanse my heart daily with the cross of Christ and offer my heart to the Lord. Following the guidance of the Holy Spirit, I go forth with empty hands, relying only on God, who will use us. Freely we have received love, and freely we will give it.”



23rd batch of PMM with NSD leaders.



7th batch of PCM and NSD leaders.

The God Beside Me: A Young Missionary's Story



As autumn fades and the year ends, many reflect on the events in their nation, church, families, and personal lives. For Ko EunJin, this year has been particularly transformative. In 2024, she added Public Campus Ministry (PCM) missionary to her identity as an Adventist youth. Serving at Xindian Church in Taiwan has filled her with experiences and emotions she might never encounter again, making it an unforgettable chapter in her life.

SHARING 'MY' GOD

"I attended Adventist schools from kindergarten to high school, spending over 12 years immersed in Adventist education. But once I stepped into society, I realized I couldn't even explain the God I believe in. I wanted to become someone who could confidently introduce 'my faith' and 'the God I've met.' I strongly desired to share the love I had experienced with those who didn't yet know the truth."

This aspiration led her to temporarily put aside her future plans and dreams and apply to be a PCM missionary.

During this short period of about a year, her focus was to share the warmth of being in God's church with local youth in Taiwan. She prayed they would treasure the love of God they experienced at church and remember it in difficult times. She also hoped that this would lead them to encounter God personally.

A TIME TO LEARN

What began as an effort to bless others unexpectedly became a blessing for herself. Through the PCM mission work, she learned to rely on God rather than herself. She confronted her pride and self-reliance, realizing she was weak without God. This humbling experience made her more grateful for God's presence and taught her the wisdom and courage to wait for Him to act in His time.

These lessons gave her the strength to persevere through challenges and pray humbly at the foot of the cross in all circumstances, the most significant spiritual benefit she gained from her mission work.

Her life now seems divided into before and after her PCM missionary service. The depth of her faith and her perspective on life have changed significantly. She now understands the immense joy and fulfillment of empathizing with and contributing to others' happiness. Even when the mission felt overwhelming, the sight of young people rejoicing in their faith through her efforts gave her the energy to continue and filled her with happiness.

Looking back, she believes God, who had accompanied her like a shadow throughout her life, called her to be a missionary at the perfect time. Despite growing up in church and attending Adventist schools, her relationship with God had remained primarily her parents' God or the God taught in school. She had made little effort to meet God personally.

However, the God she encountered in the mission field was not a conceptual or educational figure. He was always present, right by her side. The PCM missionary experience became an opportunity to realize how

precious and grateful she was for this faith.

"Perhaps if I had faced challenges in the past, I would have stubbornly tried to overcome them on my own or been someone who let go of God first. But the warmth of God's presence and the Holy Spirit working in my heart led me to this mission field."

"WHY DID YOU APPLY?"

When asked about her most memorable moment during the mission, she reflected on her interactions with others.

"There was one youth I thought would take a long time to accept God—or maybe wouldn't believe. Judging by human standards, I doubted their spiritual journey. But I prayed fervently for the person. One day, that person asked me, 'Why did you apply to be a missionary?'"

Ko Eunjin happily and earnestly explained in broken Chinese the God she had encountered. This was the first time this individual had asked her about faith, and it was a significant moment, as she tangibly felt the Holy Spirit still working in that person's heart.

GOD'S PRECIOUS CHILDREN

Why is global mission work important for Adventist youth today? As a peer facing an era of intense competition and uncertainty, Ko Eunjin sees significance in this work through the lens of her generation's struggles.

"Young people today are prone to relying on themselves rather than God amidst fierce competition," she observed. "But this mindset often leaves them feeling lonelier and more vulnerable, making them more susceptible to emotional wounds from their surroundings."



As someone who shares these struggles, she wishes to teach others how to depend on God. "Helping others understand that they are God's precious creations and teaching them how to love themselves rightly is incredibly important and necessary," she said.

She wholeheartedly recommends the PCM missionary program to her peers. The experiences gained through this work are invaluable. She is confident that the lessons learned during this year will help her maintain her faith and live as an Adventist youth even after returning to Korea. Sharing her faith with others and discussing spiritual concerns has made her missionary journey meaningful.

"If you're considering PCM, take time to reflect on your personal experiences with God and organize them in advance. Once you're in the mission field, you might find it hard to set aside time for deep reflection amidst the busy schedule."



30 Days. 30 Cities. United in Prayer.

A Global Prayer Movement



Join Us Now

www.prayforcities.org