Jakarta Adventist Ministry Chorale at the Singapore Adventist

Fundraising Concert!
Horace Hutapea, Jurong English

Founded some years ago by Jannus O. Hutapea, its current president and by occupation a director of Legal & Corporate of PT Holcim Indonesia, the Jakarta Adventist Ministry Chorale better known as JAM Chorale gave a rousing performance at the Singapore Adventist Chinese Church on April 27 and 28, 2007.

The Chorale comprises 54 singers and musicians who come from 24 Seventh-day Adventist churches in Jakarta, Indonesia. Many are graduates of the Universitas Advent Indonesia and the Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies in the Philippines.

It is a church supporting ministry in Indonesia assisting the Indonesian Unions in the ministry of evangelism, education and health believing that these three fundamental ministries will speed the work of the gospel across the vast territories of Indonesia.

They have taken upon themselves in November 2005 to raise funds for public evangelism work in the South Sumatra-Sulawesi Minahasa territories. They managed to fundraise some S$14,000 or 15% of the then public evangelism budget. The public meetings reaped 1,878 souls for the Lord.

The recent concert in April raised funds for the evangelism work in Palembang, South Sumatra. With the support of the members from the Singapore churches some S$19,000 was raised.

Public meetings are planned to be held in Palembang, South Sumatra in June 2007. There are 24 cell groups meeting every week in that locale. With the fund raised the local churches there are praying for a good harvest of souls that will signify a big leap in their soul-winning effort for the next ten years.

The organisers expressed their thanks for allowing JAM to extend to the Singapore churches the blessing of participating.

. . . the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings . . .

Isaiah 61:1 (KJV)

“One glimpse of His dear face, all sorrow will erase”
What started off as shopping for a family holiday package at a travel fair sprung the idea of participating in a health exhibition. That is the way our Lord leads and opens doors beyond our imagination.

I was at a travel fair last year and somehow the Lord impressed me to stop by a booth set up by Ezyhealth (Singapore) Pte Ltd. I introduced myself and my work with the Adventist Community Services (ACS). In the course of the conversation the executive informed me they would be organizing a health fair in April 2007 and invited the ACS to participate.

I had always dreamt of involving the ACS in a mega exhibition and this became a reality in April 2007.

Our team of volunteer medical doctors and laypersons presented interesting and insightful health-and-wealth talks on the whole of Friday and Sunday. They are Dr. Tan Pik Yee, Dr. Calvin Chin, Dr. Dicky Ng and Mr. Freddie Kee.

About 500 people attended our health talks and each also walked away with a free bun sponsored by Five Loaves. The feedback was very positive and encouraging. Ms. Diana David from Genesis Restaurant presented a food demonstration. ACS also presented Health Age, a computerized program that required participants to answer a set of lifestyle questionnaires. The program will then generate on the spot a report of their health age and recommendations to improve their health. This proved quite a draw for almost 100% of all the people who passed by our booth. More than 1,000 agreed to participate in Health Age. Some two hundred enrolled in our health correspondence courses.

We are thankful for the opportunity to serve the community. Thanks to church members who volunteered long hours to man the booth and the panel of speakers and generous sponsors. The Adventist-laymen’s services and industries (ASI) sponsored Dr. Dicky Ng from Penang. The buns were donated by Newstart Health Food. Genesis Vegetarian Health Food Restaurant sponsored the food demonstration and Ezyhealth Singapore Pte Ltd waived the $5,000 rental of the booth space.

The Church was invited to participate in the Yuhua International Women’s Day on March 11, 2007 an event organized by the Yuhua Women Executive Committee in celebration of International Women’s Day.
Thirty lay members attended the 3-hour training on March 25, 2007. Participants were later treated to a vegetarian dinner sponsored by ACS. The Jurong English Church will be launching its Eight Weeks to Wellness program for the community on June 17, 2007.

With consistent training it is hoped that lay members will be prepared to share the health message with the community.

Adventism & Wellness
John Cheang, Adventist Community

Adventism had always been associated with healthy living. This is reinforced with a strategy to train laypersons to reach out to their community with the Eight Weeks to Wellness program.

The training was organized by the Adventist Community Services (ACS) with the assistance of Dr Tan Pik Yee, Director of the Youngberg Wellness Centre.

A Higher Purpose for Women
Corinna Cheang, Women’s Ministries

Level 1B of the Women’s Ministries (WM) Leadership Certification was conducted on May 26, 2007 by the Singapore Mission. The certification program is a series of seminars designed to equip women to serve in leadership roles within the church. It is divided into three levels of study, each with certain core requirements and some electives. A total of 10 seminars must be completed from each level to receive certification in that level.

This time 26 WM leaders and lay women from seven local churches attended. The program began with a worship service. Clyde M Iverson, SAUM treasurer, preached a thought-provoking sermon following a special music presentation by Grace and Clarence.

Topics like Women’s Needs Assessment in the Local Church, A Woman of Worth, Advertising Ministries and Communication & Conflict Management were presented by Jacqueline Fabien, Lilian Lim, and Mark Chan.

The one-day certification provided learning experiences for the women to understand their abilities, refine their skills and empower each to play a greater role in the Lord’s vineyard. There were ample opportunities for fellowship and strengthening of ties. A non-member who attended was glad she learned the role of the Women’s Ministries in our Church.

Kuzma Addressed
Sherine Perera, Family Ministry

Kay Kuzma addressed the members of the Lion’s Club at Lion’s Home for the Elders, Toa Payoh on June 17, 2007. About forty Lion’s Club members attended the meeting. Dr. Kuzma spoke about the “Importance of Family” in the modern era. She was well received by the members. They highly appreciated her persuasive style and insightful interaction with the group.
SAM Family Camp 2007 was indeed time well invested. Sixty-six members from Singapore, 5 families including 30 members from Malacca assembled at A’Famosa Resort, Malacca, Malaysia. Over the course of four days, we heard inspiring gems of wisdom from Dr. Kay Kuzma covering a range of topics such as “Making Family Special”, “The Battle Over Your Child’s Mind”, “Turning the Terrible into the Terrific!” and “How to Cherish Your Mate”. There was even a session entitled “Sex, Lies and the Dating Game” for the singles and young adults. Everyone came away, enriched with greater awareness and skills to enhance family and personal relationships. Dr. Kuzma epitomizes a living example of what she preaches. Her eagerness to share her knowledge and experiences touched many hearts. The love, respect and admiration she has for her husband Jan made a deep impression on the campers. Jan was struck with three massive strokes resulting in his left side being paralysed. Despite this, he is her constant traveling companion and is at every one of her presentations. The “telepathy” between the two was evident as she would make loving references to him and he would respond with a smile or a nod. Despite our packed schedule, we were able to make time to enjoy the resort facilities. We learned to take care of one another, bonded with our family members and made new friends. Thanks to the organizing committee for “Keeping First What Matters Most.”

A Hug, A Kiss and a Kick in the Pants
Ester Gerber, SDA Community Church

A Hug, A Kiss and a Kick in the Pants - as creative as the title of this book are Dr. Kay Kuzma’s ideas to raise kids. Her sensible, insightful ways to deal with discipline captured my interest over 16 years ago when I first started reading her books. Ever since, I wished I could meet her in person. Hard to believe, but that wish has finally come true. I feel extremely blessed having been able to attend the SAM Family Camp 2007. It’s been a tremendously uplifting weekend with Dr. Kay Kuzma and her husband Dr. Jan Kuzma. Dr. Kay is a very vibrant speaker who has immense knowledge and experience in her field. Her warm way of interacting with everyone speaks even louder than her lectures. Her loving care for her wheelchair bound husband clearly shows that she practices what she teaches. That’s something to emulate.