More than a hundred children besides adults attended the first ever Children’s Convention which took place at the National Service Resort and Country Club from September 2-4, 2011.

Children ages 7 to 15 came from our local churches. Scores of adult volunteers, in various roles such as care coordinators and program coordinators ensured the smooth running of the day-to-day program. Participating speakers during the Convention were Children’s Ministries Directors Dr Linda Koh, and her associate Dr Saustin Mfune from the General Conference; Dr Miriam Andres from the Southern Asia Pacific Division; Mrs Sim Sew Moi from the Southeast Asia Union Mission. The theme was “Walking with Jesus” with emphasis on building faith and relationship with Jesus, handling peer pressure, engaging in creative prayers, making right choices, developing habits of good stewardship and spending quality time with God. A combination of methods such as workshops, hands-on learning, drama and puppet shows were employed to impart vital information in a way the children could comprehend and learn.

During the “777 Prayer Kids” time the children gathered in small group sessions every morning at seven o’clock and learned how to spend time alone with Jesus to develop a quality prayer life. This synchronises very well with the urgent call of the global Church for “Revival & Reformation.”

Climaxing the exciting time of learning, praying and playing together was a baptism service held during a beautiful sundown worship at the beach. Six children decided to take their stand for Jesus. Chelsea Chen (14), a non-Adventist girl who attended the convention shared this thought: “I really enjoyed the camp. It was fun and I got to know more people from the other churches. I really hope we can have the camp next time but even longer. Before my brother and I went, I thought we shouldn’t go because we don’t even know anyone from the Adventist Church. My tutor, Pathma Regu, suggested to my brother and I that we go and in the end we ended up liking it. The best part was making new friends and we learnt more about God.” Chelsea and her brother are now attending the Thomson Chinese Church.

Pathma Regu, Children’s Ministries Leader (Indian Company), commented: “It was a wonderful experience. It felt like being in one big family. I enjoyed interacting with other church members and especially the children. The most rewarding part for me was to see my students, Chris and Chelsea Chen, making new friends and discovering Jesus. On the first night at the Convention, Chelsea said that she was a little bored. On the following night she expressed that she wished she could stay for a week! Chris could be

Happiness is team-work

Enthusiasm written on their faces

Hands-on learning

Action with singing
The light rain fell on the slated driveway from a grey sky. Today was Pathfinder and Adventurer Day, 17th September 2011. Did it not occur to God that we wanted it to be special today? The windshield wipers swish swashed back and forth rhythmically as I drove onwards to Thomson Road Chinese Church. As we got nearer to our destination I noticed that the road ahead was dry! The rain had stopped. Yes, God had indeed heard the many prayers.

At 4:00 p.m. Pathfinders and Adventurers from all our Singapore clubs started streaming into the canteen. Led by the energetic Orion pathfinders, we had a great time singing, culminating in the song ‘Jehovah Jireh’.

The parting message by the SAC Pathfinder director to all was, ‘Let your light so shine be-fore men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven.’ Matthew 5:16.

Pathfinders and Adventurers throughout the year. A special customized plaque of appreciation and thanks was presented to MG Jimmy Wee as the out-going youth director amidst cheers, whistles and camera flashes. A welcome was extend-ed to the newly appointed associate SAC youth director, MG Charlie Oh, and SAC Pathfinder director, MG Teon Thau Ming.

After dinner the Adventurers and Pathfinders ran off for another round of games followed by all club directors much to the excitement and applause of everyone.

The entertaining message by the SAC Pathfinder director to all was, ‘Let your light so shine be-fore men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven.’ Matthew 5:16.

The church which was first established on 3 November 1951, joyously celebrated its 60th Anniversary on 5th No-vember 2011. Very early this year the various organizing committees went to work in earnest to make all the necessary preparations led by Senior Pastor Mark Chan. It culminated in a wonderful worship service followed by a sumptuous fellowship lunch not to mention a gala dinner the next night.

The Senior Minister of State, Prime Minister’s Office, the Deputy Minister of Parliament and Member of Parliament, Mr. Heng Chee How was the guest of honor accompanied by some grassroots leaders. The staff and some members of the Handicaps Welfare Association (HWA) which was adopted as the beneficiary of the church’s giving had been invited specially for the celebrations. The Salvation Army Community Centre, our new next-door neigh-bor, was represented by three officials. Associate Pastor Isagani Valencia presented the Sabbath School les-son. The Balestier Church choir gave a thrilling rendition of the cantata, “The Church’s One Foundation.” The Filipino Ministry (FM) presented a rousing “Human Video,” item entitled, “Jesus through the Bible.” Pastor Chan deliv-ered the message for the day – “Jesus Our Solid Foundation.” After a short photo-taking session the congrega-tion of about 300 including visitors, friends and overseas guests adjourned for the fellowship lunch in a huge tent erected for this purpose. There Mr. Heng presented vouchers to some of the visitors from HWA. The highlight was the presentation of a cheque for $10,000 to the vice president of HWA. The amount was raised from the Hymn Festival in September this year. The fol-low ing evening the church held a gala vegetarian dinner at the Hilton Sin-gapore Hotel attended by some 200 church members, invited guests and friends. Pastor Chan and the president of the Singapore Conference, Pastor Johnny Kan, addressed the partici-pants. Everyone had a wonderful time. We thank the Lord God for having blessed and continuing to bless this church so abundantly.

Dr. Johnny Kan, President
Dr. Eric Teo, Secretary
Mr. Roger Wong, Treasurer
Let the Children Come!

Remembering our Creator in our youth

Children Ministries Directors

God Leads in Mysterious Ways

Isagani Valencia

August 20, 2011 is a very significant day for five special individuals. It was special also that heaven rejoiced on this happy occasion. On that day, Dianne Otero, Luzviminda de Guzman, Elizabeth Portitiz Tamano, Ellyn Detablan Magon, and Janeth Daileg Nazareno responded to the call of God by publicly committing themselves to Him in baptism.

For them it was no hasty decision. It was the outcome of the persistent knocking of the Holy Spirit on their hearts door, the patient toil of Pastor Isagani and Bible study team and the endearing influence of the brothers and sister in the church. There is a unique experience for each in how they finally accepted Jesus as their personal Savior.

Dianne is married to Ronald Otero, now a Singaporean, who was born in an Adventist family in the Philippines. Ronald has been a very patient and faithful Adventist witness to her. They have two sons, Ryan and Duane, who are actively involved in ministries. Pastor Valencia started giving Diane Bible study in her home since February this year. She found it very enlightening. It was only after many years of searching and seeking that she finally decided to commit her life to the Lord.

Luzviminda is a helper of Allan Antonio and Melody. They were very gracious to allow Joy Garcia and Pastor Valencia to give her Bible study. Later, she joined the Bible study group of Bong and Eli. Luzviminda asked many questions to better understand the Bible. After much prayer and study she discovered that it is not God’s purpose for her to merely earn a living here but more importantly to find salvation in the Lord Jesus. Thus she has taken this bold step to be baptised.

Elizabeth is the helper of Bernard and Dina Estrella. She had attended several Bible studies from different denominations but is convinced that only in the Adventist teachings did she find the truth as it is presented in the Bible. She is a faithful student and learner under the instructions of Eli and Bong. Elizabeth has never regretted her decision to follow Jesus all the way in baptism.

Ellyn’s encounter with the Lord is really providential. The Filipino Ministry was giving out invitations at the Jurong MRT for the week-end of Evangelism last year. Unbeknownst to them Ellyn was pursued by a migrant worker who persistently asked for her handphone number. Fortunately, she saw this group of Filipinas and decided to asked for help. When the migrant worker saw that she was now with a group, he backed off. The Filipino Ministry members seized the opportunity and invited Ellyn to join them. Soon she attended our evangelism and worship services. She was given Bible study by Pastor Valencia, Eli and Bong. Out of an unexpected encounter Ellyn came to know Jesus as her personal Savior.

Janeth has been attending the Seventh-day Adventist Community Church for more than four years. She had also attended two series of Pastor Mark Finley’s meetings. When Pastor Valencia offered her Bible study she said that she had enough after four years of attending our Church. However, upon further inquiry Pastor Valencia was surprised that no one had encouraged her to make a decision to be baptized! Realising that before him was a potential candidate for heaven Pastor Valencia extended the invitation to make that important decision and Janeth accepted!

We certainly praise the Lord for leading these precious ones to find the truth. Let us join hands in supporting them on their Christian journey.

God knew them in advance and led them.