I. Letters
   Jeremy Ethan Tidwell

II. Chinese Hope Channel Satellite Contract Signed

III. The Johnstons' Revisit to Korean University

IV. Southern Adventist University Professor & Japan's Disaster

V. Japanese Woman--Brand New at 95!

VI. Ekamai International School Accreditation

VII. Week of Prayer at EIS

VIII. Health Seminar at Hacienda Heights Church

IX. A SULADS Story--The Great Joy of a Believer

X. Durian Again?

~~~~~~~~~~~~

I. Jeremy Ethan Tidwell <jeremy_ethan@yahoo.com> May 24:

    My first recollections of Dr. Lamberton were of sitting in his dentist chair and he with sharp tools in hand ready to investigate my teeth. Yes, Dr. Lamberton was my dentist growing up in Chiang Mai, and a great one too, especially for a kid like me who was terrified of the dentist. I remember Dr. Lamberton as a very caring individual to his patients as well as to those around him. I saw him most recently last year when I was traveling through Chiang Mai and was surprised at the good health he appeared to be in. It was rumored that he still took on the occasional patient at his clinic, too! My thoughts and prayers are with Dr. Lamberton for a speedy recovery!

~~~~~~~~~~~~

II. Chinese Hope Channel Satellite Contract Signed

    John Ash <jwash@chumadventist.org> May 26:

    An exciting chapter for Hope Channel and the Adventist Church. Praise the Lord.

    Now the real work begins...(as if it hasn’t already!)

    Because of our need for programming I start a new TV series today called "Ancient Tales for Today" ---an English instructional program: 365 Bible stories told to atheistic, postmodern Chinese young people. (That's a trick!) Each story is only 315 words long. The program is the most technologically "hi tech" that we've done so far. Each episode is one story and we anticipate it all to happen in 28:30 (half hour program).

    By the way I continue to create new episodes of "The Old Principal" --- it averages two or three half-hour episodes a week. This is a more standard approach to present values for short stories. It's also English instructional. Never before in the history of the Adventist church have we intentionally made TV broadcast into China. What AWR is doing from Guam for SW Radio will now be done in fully available TV for the Adventist Church in China and to reach the 1.3 billion people of that great nation. Praise the Lord for his Grace and blessing in leading his people in this fashion.

    Brad Thorp
    HOPE Channel
    12501 Old Columbia Pike
    PO Box 4000
    Silver Spring, MD 20904, USA

~~~~~~~~~~~~

III. The Johnstons' Revisit to Korean University

    Madeline Steele Johnston wrote the following for May 14 in "Love Our Land," the women's morning devotional book for this year:
"The Bible admonishes us to recall history, remembering God's dealings, and teach our children the lessons thereof. We know God better when we see His work throughout a period of time, and we can build on the past wisdom and pitfalls.

"I'm writing from Sahmyook University in South Korea where my husband has come to teach for one semester--50 years after we first came here as missionaries. At that time this was a two-year institution for pastoral training, with 150 students. Before we left, it became a four-year college. Now it is a doctorate-granting university with nearly 6,000 students and many departments. Few countries have changed so much. Students today have little idea of how their parents lived, how their families were forever split by the Korean war. The college was so poor that twice the president came to the two missionary families and asked for a loan so the cafeteria could buy rice for that day. Now the university is prospering.

"Back then, missionaries were almost the only ones with cars. We'd pick up anyone waiting for a bus as we drove on errands, heading past rice paddies on the one-lane dirt road into Seoul. Today, there's a six-lane highway surrounding the high-rise apartments, businesses, and universities. Sahmyook's 10 shuttle busses steadily traverse to nearby subway stations, part of an efficient seven-line system. Space for parking student and faculty cars on campus is tight.

"We had an old crank-handled army telephone, connecting only within campus. Korea today has wireless Internet access everywhere, more cell phones per capita than any other country, and most people on the subway wear ear buds.

"Growth on campus has necessitated many new buildings. Leadership is Korean, with foreigners mostly teaching English. Required to accept some non-Christian students, the university hires one chaplain for every 20 students. Each year many are baptized. The Korean church sends missionaries to Japan, China, Taiwan, Mongolia, and elsewhere." . . .

IV. Southern Adventist University Professor & Japan's Disaster

"A month before the tsunami hit Japan, Sharon Pittman, PhD, professor of social work [at Southern Adventist University] was in Tokyo teaching a one-week intensive class that prepared university students for disaster response.

"For practice, students responded to a scenario of a volcanic eruption that displaced 10,000 individuals. They had to run an assessment of the situation, chose how to respond within the first 24 hours, and develop strategies for ongoing assistance.

"Little did Pittman's 21 students know how valuable the training they received would become.

"In the wake of the March 11 tsunami, most of the students from the class are actively volunteering their counseling, organizational, and needs assessment skills in northern Japan.

"The students actually got to practice the stuff that we were teaching them,' says Pittman.

"An international social worker, Pittman has instructed more than 400 relief workers and helped build ADRA's original disaster response training program 15 years ago.

"'It is so much fun for me teach things that are relevant to real life--something that students use to serve others, says Pittman.'"

--from Southern Union's "Southern Tidings," May, 2011 ~~~~~~~~~~ V. Japanese Woman--Brand New at 95!

from Advent Mission's "Front Line," 2nd Quarter, 2011

By Kikue Takagi

"During the 8 years following my husband's death, my life was lonely. I lived by myself; my relatives lived far away and my friends had died. Then suddenly, with a knock at on my door, everything began to change.

"Last year two Seventh-day Adventist Christians, Mr. Yoshida and Mr. Nakam, visited me. They talked and prayed with me and invited me to visit their church.

"For years I had worshipped my ancestors, but I was looking for something to make life more meaningful. I wanted to visit the Adventist church, but I wondered if the members would accept me. 'Of course, they'll accept you!' the men said. 'They will love you as their mother and sister.'

"'Then, let's go!' I said.

"When I went to the meeting, I hesitated at the door. Then a young woman took my hand and greeted me. Pastor Lee Sung Hoo gave me a warm welcome as well. All my doubts fled and I felt at home. I felt the love immediately!

"I found just what I needed. I felt like a child discovering something new. At 95 years of age I was baptized.

"Until I gave my heart to God, I hated my husband for being unfaithful while he was alive. Now I was filled with happiness, supported by God's word and the love and prayers of my church family.
"The only regret I have is that I didn't meet Jesus sooner. If I had known about the church, I would have known the happiness long ago. Now that I know Jesus, I want to spend the rest of my days with Him and die trusting Him. My greatest delight is to go to church each Sabbath."

[The pastor who warmly welcomed Kikue Takagi at the Amami SDA Church is Pastor Lee Sung Hoo. When Pastor Lee left his home in Korea five years ago to serve as a Pioneer Missionary Movement pastor in Japan, the Amami church had about 10 members. Under his servant leadership, membership has grown to more than 30 with many more people preparing for baptism. This is phenomenal growth for an Adventist church in Japan! Mrs. Kikue Takagi, now 96, is sharing the love of Jesus with her community.]

DID YOU KNOW? Tokyo, Japan is the largest city in the world with a population of 36,700,000. The runner-up, Delhi, India has only 22,100,000.

VI. Ekamai International School Accreditation
   Lee Chin Beng <leec@eis.ac.th>, editor
   Ekamai International School Newsletter
   The Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) completed their four day visit to Ekamai International School in March 2011 and left with a very uplifting report. They looked at our self study and the goals that we had set for ourselves. They re-affirmed the goals and we have also drawn a new six-year action plan with the adjusted school improvement goals as recommended by the visiting team. Accreditation plays an important role in developing and maintaining the high quality of education in EIS as it certifies that an institution meets established criteria or standards and is achieving its own stated objectives.
   The campus is periodically reviewed to insure that the educational standards as set forth by WASC continue to be met. It was a rigorous examination of how institutional resources, structures, and processes are aligned with scholastic outcomes. The result of the accreditation visit will be announced in June this year. EIS has also been accredited by Adventist Accreditation Association (AAA) and the Office of National Education Standards and Quality Assurance.

VII. Week of Spiritual Emphasis at Ekamai
   EIS conducted a Week of Spiritual Emphasis from January 17-21, 2011 with Pastor Nathaniel Tan from Singapore as the speaker. Pastor Nat, an inspiring speaker, is also a singer-songwriter and his talks throughout the week touched the lives of many students.
   "I think this year’s ‘Week’ was very dynamic," said Apisara Sriphan (12D).
   "I was inspired not only by the messages from the Bible, but also by the words of the songs that he sang. Other students had similar emotions. "I feel Pastor Nat was very serious and I was able to feel God’s presence in the room," said Wanavut Nanthasri (11A).
   Michael Ragui (9B) also saw real worth in the program. "I was really touched by what Pastor Nat taught throughout the week. We should let go of ourselves and come to God, asking Him to take charge of our lives so we can experience His bountiful blessings." -- Ekamai International School May, 2011 Newsletter

VIII. Health Seminar at Hacienda Heights Church
   Paul Cho <paulcho99@yahoo.com.hk> May 26
   Hacienda Heights Chinese SDA Church Newsletter
   There will be a Health Seminar on two weekends - June 4 and 5, 11 and 12 at 7:00 pm. This is the first outreach program on this campus and we urge everyone to invite members of the community to the cooking class and health seminars. Most important, we ask the Church to pray for these meetings, the helping hands and those receiving the message. Please see flyer and take some to distribute to the neighbors.
   Cooking Demonstration by Master Chef, Mrs. Esther Choo, will be on Sunday June 5 and 12 at 3:30 pm. She is a successful owner of a vegetarian restaurant in Singapore and also appears on LLBN to demonstrate her cooking skills, knowledge and commitment to healthy lifestyle through vegetarian diet. We are grateful she finds time to lead out in this seminar.

IX. A SULADS Story--The Great Joy of a Believer
   By Roger Galicia Gospel Outreach Evangelist
   Abra de Ilog, Mindoro
Everyone, whether man or woman, is important to God. There is a great need today to reach souls and lead them to the King and Redeemer. I experienced great joy when someone in church told me, "I am happy you came here. Thank you for coming." I am very glad to be called to be an instrument in God's hands to lead people back to Jesus.

When my family and I were assigned to work in Abra de llog to work as an evangelist for Gospel Outreach, I began by studying the local situation. I learned the geographical location, the religion of the people in the area, the names of the leaders in the community and the culture of the people. I then made a courtesy call on the local government officials and proceeded to locate the abandoned Adventist church. To the best knowledge of the South Central Luzon Conference, there were no Seventh-day Adventists in Abra de llog.

I had the names of three individuals who had been Adventists in this town. They were Sister Nita, Sister Nerry, and Brother Armando Panday. Brother Panday was a Manyang of the Katatubo tribe. He had been the elder of the church at one time. I searched for them and with God's guidance, I was able to locate them. In November 2009, we started to meet each Sabbath in my rented house. We continued meeting there until December 2010.

We did not meet in the unfinished old church for our services because we planned to first establish a strong group of believers and then to have a physically lovely church. We wanted to avoid being ridiculed by the Mangyans for meeting in an unfinished and unrepresentative church. We decided to partner with the Philippine Mountain Ministry in the construction of a church near their own village.

By December 2010, we had made contact with others who had been believers in the past. Some of these had been youths at that time and had now married non-believers. We finally decided to clean out the old abandoned and unfinished church. In this way, we hoped to accustom the people to meeting in a church on Sabbaths for the services.

We had a revival seminar December 19-25, 2010 with Brother Rey Bersamin as the speaker. On some Sabbaths we invite members from other churches to join us in fellowship together.

All seem happy to be meeting together for worship in their old church. I noticed Sister Nerry wiping her tears as I was welcoming the visitors from other churches. I asked her why the tears. She continued to wipe her tears and smile at me for a few moments. I watched as she counted on her fingers.

"It has been five years since I worshipped here. It was in this same setting that I remember worshiping and praising God."

She is very happy that her church is again revived. She had believed and prayed that before she died, the church would be firmly established in this town. She quoted from Psalm 23:4, "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me."

Let us pray together that the Holy Spirit will live in the lives of this new and restored members of our church.

X. Durian Again?

Yes! From the May 26 Adventist Review the following paragraph is taken [out of context, of course!] from an editorial entitled "It Smells!" by Gerald Klingbeil:

"Smells have a unique way of linking memory and reality. The first time I smelled durian in Southeast Asia, I thought I smelled death. Many of my friends and colleagues, though, smelled comfort, good food, fellowship and childhood treats. The fruits they had grown up with were durian and mango, while I had been raised with apples and pears. For me the whiff of apples baking in the oven would evoke memories of home, fun and friends."

"I will not disclose, in writing, my current position regarding durian -- I have too many friends on either side of the issue (or should I write 'abyss')?"

On a Personal Note:

We have just returned from our 7th annual trip to serve 2 weeks as host/hostess at the historic Miller Farm in upper New York state. While it was early in the travel season and the gasoline price was extreme, there were still visitors to whom we could witness. And the 2nd Sabbath of our stay there was the day octogenarian "prophet" Harold Camping predicted (as did our William Miller so many years before) that the Lord would come. Sure enough, a large group of local, non-SDA people showed up in picnic mode on Ascension Rock. They did not really expect anything to happen; obviously they came out of ridicule for Camping. But it was an opportunity for us to tell them more about the first Adventist, William Miller.
To remove your name from the mailing list of this newsletter, simply reply to this e-mail and put "REMOVE" in the Subject line.

--
BEGIN-ANTISPAM-VOTING-LINKS

Teach CanIt if this mail (ID 08EOmj7V) is spam:
Spam:  http://www.andrews.edu/spam/b.php?i=08EOmj7V&m=25d4c307c232&c=s
Not spam:  http://www.andrews.edu/spam/b.php?i=08EOmj7V&m=25d4c307c232&c=n
Forget vote:  http://www.andrews.edu/spam/b.php?i=08EOmj7V&m=25d4c307c232&c=f

END-ANTISPAM-VOTING-LINKS