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I. Death of Beth James Robinson

1. Ruth Sipkens <ruthsipkens@gmail.com> May 22:
Beth James Robinson, wife of Art Robinson and daughter of the late Edgar and Florence James, died at 7:30 this morning. Beth has been ill and in a coma for several weeks. It's a blessing she can now sleep in Jesus. Beth grew up in China where her parents were missionaries. She and Art served many years in both Southern Asia and the Far Eastern Divisions: Lakhapana Training Institute in Sri Lanka (Ceylon), Guam Adventist Academy, Far Eastern Academy, and several schools in the U.S. including Seattle Junior Academy and Mount Ellis Academy in Montana.

2. Judith (Judy) S. Schwarz <sjschwarz@bresnan.net> May 22: It is with sadness mixed with joy that I let you know that my precious mother passed away today, May 22, 2012 at 7:40 AM, Mountain Standard Time.
   She was the best mom and grandma our family could have asked for, and to the end, she was a strong and independent woman, choosing to die in her own time.
   Yesterday we helped celebrate dad's 87th birthday. Mom was not able to be there, due to her lingering illness and medicated condition. Afterwards, Steve and I stopped in to see her last evening. Mom was in a drug induced sleep. She had received morphine every four hours for the past 2-3 weeks, to ensure that she was not in any pain. We have had warning and have been expecting her to die for the last 10 and a half weeks.
   This morning one of the care providers went in to see her around 7:30 and noticed that she was not breathing normally. They immediately went to get dad, who arrived in her room just as she was taking her last breath. She died peacefully in her sleep. She waited to get well beyond dad's birthday How like her to not want to "ruin" dad's birthday.
   May is a memorable month in our family. Our Julianne was born, dad's birthday, mother's dad, Edgar James, died on dad's birthday, mom and dad and our niece, Jana, both have wedding anniversaries on the 26th, and Jana was born on the 29th! Now we add mom's death on the 22nd.
   Mom fully trusted in Jesus as her Savior. She was a missionary from before her birth (her parents were missionaries in China, home on furlough at the time of her birth), and to the end of her ability, she tried to serve the people who took care of her. We are assured of seeing her when Jesus comes back. For her it will be an eye blink, as the Bible promises. It is us, for whom the wait will be long --or maybe not so long!
   We are planning a simple memorial service for mother sometime in the next few weeks. She will be cremated, and we will find a time that our Jon & Lauren can be here --maybe even after school is out for Jon in June. Julia has let me know that she and Gordon will not be out for the service. Julia has a hard time traveling and doesn't like to grieve in public. We respect her wishes. We don't know about her girls yet. We will let you know when the service will be, so you can remember her life that day. Our plan is to have a celebration of her missionary heart for God! Thanks for your love and prayers through this tough journey for her and for dad and our families!

Judith (Judy) S. Schwarz
1025 N. Orchard Avenue, Lot C
Cañon City, CO 81212
719-275-0917

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3. D. L. Ebenezer <dalebenezer@gmail.com> May 25:
Pastor Robinson, Judy, Julia & family:
Please accept our deep sympathy on the passing away of our beloved Mrs. Robinson. I knew her personally from my student days in Kottawa. She was my teacher and guide in many ways. Her passing away leaves a void that would be difficult to fill. We now await Christ to come and resurrect Mrs. Robinson and others who are resting to join the redeemed. With deep sympathy, Eben

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4. Christopher Edersinghe <singingaswejourney@att.net> May 25:
Mrs. Beth Robinson (wife of Pastor A.W. Robinson) will be sadly missed by her family, as well as the many former Lakpahana students who will remember her as one who was always sensitive to their needs. The Robinson’s served as missionaries in Sri Lanka between 1949 and the mid-1960’s. During most of that time they served at the Lakpahana school, where Pastor Robinson was Principal. While the Robinsons were at Lakpahana they did much to develop all phases of the school program. Their positive influence was also felt by those who lived in the surrounding community. She is survived by her husband, their two daughters and their families. Both their daughters were born in Sri Lanka.

II. Death of Pastor Wellesley Muir
George & Mernie Johnson <georgeandmerniej@cs.com> May 20:
Although most of Pastor Wellesley Muir’s service was in Peru and in the Central California Conference; there will be some who remember him from his two years-- 1994-1996-- as the volunteer chaplain for the Bangkok Adventist Hospital School of Nursing.

Pastor Muir and his wife Evelyn spent sixteen years in Peru as young missionaries. While living there on the shores of Lake Titicaca, he built a boat and began exploring the lake. Seeing the floating islands, he realized that these people needed to know Jesus, too. As a result of his efforts, a floating school was built, and soon there were many people worshipping God on the islands.

Among the attendees at his memorial service yesterday [here in California] were several Peruvians, some of whom were able to receive an Adventist education and become active workers for God as a result of Pastor Muir’s mission school and his years as Youth Director for the Inca Union Mission. Pastor Muir has authored several books -- six already published and one more awaiting publication.

Besides his wife, he is survived by two daughters, Gladys Muir and Gail Muir Giebel (married to Herb Giebel, missionary doctor in Africa and son of the late Dr. Harald Giebel and his wife, Dr. Beverly Giebel of Southern Asia).

III. Remembering Helen and Milton Lee
Dick & Jean Hall <dicknejeh@gmail.com> May 20:
We were in Kuching, Sarawak when Helen and Milton Lee came to hold evangelistic meetings for the Chinese people. Remarks from the Chinese people were like this: "He speaks better Chinese than we do." Helen was quite a photographer with her little 8 mm camera, and one day one of our pet gibbons got loose. I ran out to catch her, and she bit me sinking her fangs into my hand. The only way I could keep her from continuing to bite me was to swing her around me as fast as I could go around and around. I called for help, and the only help I got was Helen and Dick asking me to keep going around and around as fast as I could so that they could get some good movie pictures. They got the pictures all right, before they came to capture the gibbon and tie her up. I wonder where those pictures are today?

IV. Reaching Out to Buddhists
Scott Griswold has written an article for the June, 2012 MINISTRY magazine entitled "Sharing Jesus with Buddhists." Here are the leading paragraphs of the very informative article:
"The comment of my Cambodian friend startled me: 'When I was fleeing during the war, I ran into a Catholic church. There I saw the figure of Jesus twisted on the cross, and I was shocked to learn that Christians worship this man. How could they even respect someone who obviously had such terrible karma?'

"My friend looked at Jesus through Buddhist eyes, assuming His suffering was from something bad He'd done in a previous life. This one man's confusion points us to the millions of Buddhists who either don't know anything about Jesus or have serious misunderstandings about Him."
"Tens of thousands of men shave their heads, don orange robes, and devote themselves as monks to the Buddhist path of good deeds and meditation. They hope, some day, to escape the cycle of suffering and rebirth. Millions of laypeople join in varying degrees. In many Asian countries Buddhism is reviving and growing, and in the West, people are turning to Buddhism in unprecedented numbers.

"Would you like to know how to share Jesus in a way that Buddhists can understand, appreciate, and come to believe in Him? "

[Scott Griswold is director of the Global Mission Buddhist Study Center, Nakhon Luang, Ayuthaya, Thailand.]

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V. Mission Story from Mongolia: "My Sister's Faith"

--from GC Office of Adventist Mission

"My family is Buddhist, the traditional religion of Mongolia. I often visited the Buddhist temple to pray and even learned to chant some Buddhist prayers. I planned to become a Buddhist nun when I finished college.

"Then my younger sister, Mungu, began attending the Seventh-day Adventist church. I told Mungu that her religion was foolish, but she continued attending church and even invited me to go. I began noticing that Mungu no longer stayed out until late at night, and refused to argue over petty issues when I tried to pick a fight. The changes in her life were remarkable.

"Mungu often brought books home from church and left them for me to read. I read the books and became curious about what her church teaches. So the next time Mungu invited me to church, I went.

"The people were friendly, and even the church leaders stopped and talked to us. I decided to return to the church. I learned about heaven and hell, Jesus' second coming, and faith in God. I believed what they were saying. I kept coming. My ideas of what Buddhist believe were vague, but these Christians were very clear about what they believe.

"Little by little I gave up my desire to become a Buddhist nun and embraced God's love and claim on my life. My sister and I were baptized together. Our parents tried to talk us out of joining a Christian church. But as they saw the changes in our lives that Jesus made, they let us attend.

"Mungu and I share our faith with our parents and older sister. Our sister believes in God and knows that He has answered her prayers in the past. But according to Buddhist traditions, the oldest child must remain a Buddhist so that when our parents die there will be someone to open the door to the next life. Mungu and I pray that our parents will give their lives to God and give up their beliefs in reincarnation. Then my elder sister will be released from her obligations and can follow God.

"The church in Mongolia is still young and small. Most members are under 30 years old, and many are still in school. The mission offerings help support the growing and maturing church in Mongolia. They have helped to build or buy church buildings, establish a dormitory for SDA students in the capital, Ulaanbaatar, and help buy a youth training center where we can learn to become the leaders of the church in Mongolia for years to come."

[The author, Erdenechimeg Sukhbaatar, and her sister Mungu, are working in Ulaanbaatar.]

VI. Thailand's Chiengkong Church Planting Project

Phamor Phoopichitprai (Aw Gaw Paul) <steverawlings8@gmail.com>

Chiengkong district is in Chiangrai province, located on the Mekong River opposite from Whaysai district in the Borkeo province of Laos, the place where Pr. Dick Hall began his mission in 1960. We use to have church and health clinic here for so many years, but sad to say, now everything has been sold and we have nothing left there. I felt impressed to try to re-enter this city through medical missionary work. Jesus is coming soon, and I believe the Lord will rebuild His church in this city through medical and gospel ministries working since by side. I talked to a lady, Ratri, many time to go back and work there as a medical and Bible worker. She hesitated for a long time, but last month she decided to go back and work there. I believed the Lord will do a miracle through such missionary work.

Please remember Ratri and the Chiengkong church-planting project in your prayers.

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VII. Myanmar Frontier Mission Holds Recruit Training

Saw Thein <savthein2009@gmail.com> May 28:

MFM conducted pioneer recruit training in Meiktla on May 13 to 22. U Tual Za Lam, a pastor who served 15 years in another Christian denomination, and his family joined our church. Pr. Lam and his wife have an Adventist background; they were baptized by Pr. U Bo Khin, Magway Circle leader.
Ten persons attended the training; five of these are evangelists and the rest are nursery teachers. There were three baptisms and communion service led by Pr. U Bo Khin on May 16 evening. (Saya John Yawhan and Saya Saw Nay Soe serve in Shwe Bo and Saya Z. Naung San Aung serve in Meriktila.)

During the training we studied how to confirm our beliefs and how to reach people. Our evening meetings were conducted in the prospects' houses.

Our group presented the health message, and shared the gospel to the people.

At day time with great joy and earnestly prayers during our training we devoted our lives to God. On May 22, our last evening, we had a commitment program; we all committed our lives to serve the Lord.

On May 25 Pr. Lam, Pr. Khin, and Saya U Tun Sein are conducting an evangelistic meeting at a village near Pwint Pyu. Twelve persons are learning the Scriptures and hope to become members of our church. We have a task with goal of fulfilling gospel commission. By your prayers and financial support you can help fulfill the great Gospel Commission in our targeted mission fields. We believe that this year we may be able to begin three church companies: Meiktila, Pwint Phyu and Shwe Bo town.

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