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1. Barbara S. Wyman <barbwy26@gmail.com> June 10:

   It is with interest that I have been reading tributes to Beth Robinson.
   We have known them for many years, and the girls are near our daughter Emily's age, so they were at VHS at the same time.

   I remember in 1968, after Emily graduated from Auburn Adventist Academy, we and the E. J. Beck family were caravanning back to Andrews U. for Frank & Ed to study there for the summer. We started out from Walla Walla on a Thurs. and camped along the way. On Friday we headed East, with an appointment to spend Sabbath with Robinsons at Mt. Ellis Academy in Montana.

   We didn't get to their place until near midnight, Friday, much to our chagrin, but Robinsons graciously took us in anyway. So, we have many other memories of interacting with them.

   It is good to know that SDA Karens are being shepherded by the Koreans.

   It used to be that many Karens were getting educated in English; but I suppose that their repressive government domination didn't continue that privilege. May God bless that MANY MANY refugees from Burma, in many cities of USA.

2. Irene Wakeham Lee; Coalmont, Tennessee

   Letter to the Editor
   ADVENTIST REVIEW on line. June 15, 2012

   "Outnumbered"

   "As one who spent several decades as an Adventist single, I am writing in response to Stephen Chavez' article "Adventist and Single" (Adventist Review, May 17, 2012). He failed to mention one significant element in the total picture: the fact that Adventist women sharply outnumber Adventist men.

   "This means that some Adventist women are faced with the choice of marrying a non-Adventist, an option often open to them, or remaining single.

   It's hard to think of any good reason for an Adventist man to remain involuntarily single.

   "Devastated by a broken engagement at the beginning of my senior year in college, a couple years later I found a richly rewarding career in teaching.

   By that time all the otherwise eligible men I knew were already married. I urgently wanted not only a husband but also a family, but in my long-ago youth, unlike today, you were expected to have a husband before birthing a baby.

   "When I finally married at age 70, I could enjoy not only step-children but also step-grandchildren and more recently step-great-grandchildren.

   "So to the Adventist spinsters with whom I fellowshipped for so many years I say, just be patient. In time you may acquire a husband already trained in everything a man needs to know about how to make a wife supremely happy."

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II. The Mike Porters Move Ministries to Maryland

   Michael Porter <michaelp@qhministries.org> June 11:

   Greetings from Maryland,
Our journey over the past several months has been interesting with Karen becoming the assistant secretary for the General Conference and my resigning from Quiet Hour Ministries to move us to Maryland. I've enjoyed driving a truck pulling a large trailer, two cars and flying an airplane across the country over the last several months. No, the airplane was not mine, but one donated to a ministry.

For the last couple months I've been a stay-at-home house-husband! If it weren't for the family budget, I think I could get used to not going to work outside the home every day!

The stay-at-home idea did not last long as I have just returned to what I consider the best place in ministry (local congregation) on June 2. I have now preached my first two sermons at the Baltimore First Seventh-day Adventist Church (actually in Ellicott City, MD). The church has been without a pastor for 14 months so the members are very appreciative of finally having pastoral leadership.

It's been almost 24 years since we left the pastorate in Auburn, California for Sri Lanka, heading in the ADRA direction, followed by leadership roles in the Middle East and Quiet Hour Ministries. It doesn't seem possible that the years have rolled by as they have!

Our new contact information is:
Michael and Karen Porter
6711 Park Hall Drive
Laurel, MD 20707
Home: (301) 498-3470
E-mail: <karenjporter@gmail.com>
E-mail: <mporteratp@gmail.com>
E-mail: <74617.3707@compuserve.com>

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III. Thailand Mission News Items
--from the May, 2012 "Shining Light in Thailand," TAM's newsletter

1. Youth and Bible Camps

A. The Thai Mission and the Southeast Asia Mission held a mission-wide youth camp March 18-22 at Sriacha, Chonburi Province. Besides the mission officers, department leaders and pastors, 270 young people attended. The climax of the camp was the baptism of 3 young people.

B. The Karen Zone organized the Karen Youth Bible Camp at Kanechue Dormitory, Melamart, Dt.,Tak Province April 3-8 for 540 Karen youth. The Karen people belong to one of the largest of the Hill tribes in Thailand. The climax: 10 young people were baptized

C. Once a year the Hmong Church members organize a Family Bible Camp. This year on April 4-8 it was held at Kaokar High School, Petchaboon Province. The theme of the Camp was "Be Faithful to the End." Over 350 men and women attended, and 8 precious souls were baptized.

D. After the Hmong Bible Camp, the Hmong Youth Department organized the traditional Hmong Youth Camp in Phong Dt. in Phayao Province. There were 470 young people in attendance, and 22 were baptized on the last day of the camp.

2. Mela Khlo Girls' Dorm Destroyed by Fire.

The Mela Khlo School, located near the Thai-Myanmar border, was started by Miss Helen Hall and the Girls' Dorm was completed about 10 years ago. Last year Miss Hall turned the school over to the Thailand Mission. The dorm was financed and built by Australian and Japanese volunteers.

On the evening of December 9 last year, while the students were all attending worship, the girls' dormitory caught fire from an unknown reason, and the building and all its contents were totally destroyed. There are now 63 girls with no place to stay.

The Thailand Adventist Mission plans on building a new dorm but still lacks funds. The project needs about US$3,500. Please continue to pray for [and support financially] the Mela Khlo School.

3. Pastor's Wife Killed in Motorcycle Accident.

"We were saddened by a very recent tragedy that happened in Surat Province, Southern Thailand. Ratana, wife of our Phuket Church Pastor, Kungwalpai Poodjing, went to visit her parents in Surat during the Thai New Year Songkran
Festival. While she was riding a motorcycle to the bus station for herself and her daughter to return to Phuket, a pick-up hit the motorbike, and she passed away on April 18, 2012. Please pray for Pastor Kungwalpai and his daughter as they face this great loss in their family.

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4. Thailand Adventist Mission Opens Renovated Office Area
"During the recent workers' meeting in Bangkok, the Thailand Adventist Mission held the grand opening of the newly renovated ground floor. The renovations included a new library, a display of Mission Health Food products, handicraft products, the Home Health Education Service office, SDA Language School office, and Mission Archives. Thailand Mission spent about Bht 600,000 for the renovations."

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IV. Religious Liberty Event in East Indonesia
"Government, Faith Leaders Recognized"
--from the June 21st ADVENTIST REVIEW
"A recent festival of religious freedom cements the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Indonesia as a leading proponent of free expression of religion in the country."
"Some 2,000 people gathered at the Aula Mapalus Kantor Gubernur Sulawesi Utara auditorium in Manado on May 5, 2012 to recognize the combined efforts of government and faith groups in preserving freedom of belief in the Southeast Asia country.
"Interest in religious liberty has grown in Indonesia since the Adventist Church first held a festival of religious freedom in Jakarta two years ago, church religious liberty advocates said. . . .
"'We thank the Seventh-day Adventist Church for leading out in expressing our thanks to God and to the government for the religious freedom we enjoy in Indonesia, and particularly here in North Sulawesi,' said J. Pangala, the leader of the Pentecostal Church in Indonesia.

"Deputy governor of North Sulawesi Roy Roring echoed Pangala's appreciation. . . .
"Holding a public event organized by the Adventist Church demonstrated the positive relationship the church has promoted among faith groups in Manado, said East Indonesia Union Conference president Noldy Sakul who organized the festival. Religious groups represented at the event included Hinduism, Confucianism, Buddhism, Islam, and Christianity."

"Indonesia is a predominantly Muslim country with a Protestant Christian population of about 6 percent. . . .
--by Gay Tuballes-Deles, reporting from Manado, North Sulawesi, Indonesia
[When we were for three years on the officer staff of North Sulawesi's Mt. Klabat College, as it was then called in the in the 1970s, Adventist churches were almost everywhere in the province of North Sulawesi; we said "When visiting a town in North Sulawesi, you do not ask 'Is there an Adventist church here?' but 'Where is the Adventist church?'"--CHT/Sr.] ~~~~~~~~~~~ V. Historic Note: First SDA Church in Japan 113 Years Ago

"The first Seventh-day Adventist church in Japan was organized in Tokyo with a membership of 13 on June 4, 1899. A few weeks later a monthly periodical, 'Owari no Fukuin' ('The Gospel for the Last Days') was launched and paid for by profits from the sale of health foods. The paper was renamed 'Tiki no Shirushi' ('Signs of the Times') in June 1917.
"Ten years earlier, in 1889, Abram LaRue, pioneer self-supporting missionary to China, made a number of trips to Japan and distributed Adventist publications in Yokohama and Kobe. S. N. Haskell visited Japan in 1890. Writing from Hong Kong on July 16, he reported, 'We baptized one man in Japan. There are others who are interested and we learned that the Sabbath question has been discussed among the Japanese, and there are some of them keeping the Sabbath ('Advent Review & Sabbath Herald, August 26, 1890). The first Seventh-day Adventist missionaries sent to Japan were W. C. Grainger, former president of Healdsburg College and T. H. Okohira, a native of Japan and former Healdsburg student. -- Robert Costa" -- from ADVENTIST WORLD, June, 2012.

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VI. A SU LADS Mission Story 
"Rescued from Darkness"
--by Zaldy A. Cientos, Global Outreach Worker. Gen. Mac-Arthur, Eastern Samar
It was Sabbath morning, the last Sabbath of the month of July. I was walking towards church when I encountered a boy in the street. It was like the Holy Spirit whispered to me, "Approach him and ask him to come and worship with us this Sabbath."
"Can you join us in our worship this Sabbath day" I asked. I was surprised that, without hesitation, the boy come and joined us in our worship.

From that time an eagerness to know him better aroused in me that led me to ask several questions of him and he answered without hesitation.

He is Juner Dado, born on July 2, 1997, in Brgy. Salagan, General MacArthur, Eastern Samar. At the age of five his father, a drunkard, was stabbed and died.

His mother was left as a single parent with 2 sons and 4 daughters. She alone supported Juner and her other children in their studies. But due to financial constraints and with their daily needs Juner wasn't able to proceed to High School after graduating from elementary school.

For two years Juner was not able to go back to school. That led him to join with peers that had a bad influence on him. He experienced from his peers pressures such as drinking alcohol, smoking cigarettes that eventually led him to disregard his dreams and ambitions in life. He was also rejected by his own mother for he was always with his peers and did not even bother to go home.

But when he joined us that Sabbath day it made a great change in his life and a great change for me. I was able to hear his sincere words, "I want to be with you again next Sabbath."

My heart leaped for joy upon when I heard those words from him. I answered him immediately, "Of course you can join with us next Sabbath and every Sabbath after that.

When I knew his interest and eagerness to change his bad ways, I introduced him to Jesus. I offered him Bible studies and he accepted it for three months. And on November 12, 2011, he accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Savior through baptism at LLorente, Eastern Samar.

Now he has found a brand new life in Christ Jesus our Lord. He attends our worship every Sabbath regularly. And it is good news that his mother was happy when she saw that her son totally changed his life.

Now he is planning to improve his status. He wants to continue and finish his studies to achieve his goals and dreams in life. I was happy upon hearing these words and I assured him that he would always be in my prayer that God would send a person who could help him fulfill his desires.

I believe that Juner has a great plan for his life. I also believe that God has a purpose for his existence and He will make work him. May we continue praying for him and for his faith to be firm though the heavens fall. Thank you so much and God bless us all.

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