I. Indonesian College Celebrates 50 Years of Growth

II. California Chinese Church Celebrates Anniversary III. Music at a Thai Festival IV. Printing "Desire of Ages" in Thai V. SULADS Story -- The Dream of Datu Dagancina Beraque ~~~~~~~~~~~~~ I. Indonesian College Celebrates 50 Years of Growth

from Edward Higgin's Seasonal Letter, December 2014

"October 2015 will be a significant reunion to be held in Indonesia. It will be the 50th anniversary of Mount Klabat University. It is where we participated in the birth and early growth during very turbulent political, economic and social times. September 30, 1965 witnessed the attempted coup of the Communists to take control of the entire country. Our very first day of registration was scheduled for the next Sunday. Should we move ahead? We did; and registered 27 students. Fortunately the coup failed. By the blessings of God and dedicated workers the University has developed into one of the finest in the entire country, with around 3000 students enrolled. Our graduates are sought after by a variety of employment organizations. Proudly we note that there are at least four graduates currently employed full time here in Berrien Springs by Andrews University in the area of Business. We have had the privilege of attending several of these anniversaries, and God willing, we octogenarians will share in the festivities of the 50th in October 2015 along with some of our children who grew up among the campus coconut trees and bamboo.

There is still a vision of mine that I feel needs to be fulfilled for our University. That is the development of a School of Music for the campus. Perhaps now is the time to work to see this become a reality. Indonesian youth love music and a number have trained here in the States and elsewhere who very well could join the music staff and train future teachers in elementary and secondary schools and colleges to lead further into an experience and love of quality music and performance. If any of you readers have caught a similar vision and would like to have a part in this initiative, you could be a real blessing. (His e-mail address is higginshiggins00@gmail.com)

[ Evelyn and I were privileged to be on the staff of Mt. Klabat College 1974-1977 in those formative years.]

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

II. California Chinese Church Celebrates Anniversary

Newsletter and Church Bulletin for Chino Valley Chinese SDA Church - January 10, 2015

Today is a Special day. We want to welcome everyone, both present and former members, to our church's 5th Anniversary. Our Church was organized as Hacienda Heights Chinese SDA Church on January 9, 2010. It is also the 9th anniversary when we had our very first fellowship service on the 2nd Sabbath in 2006 with just a handful of members. God has led us all the way through good and challenging times. We are not just celebrating our past but continue in our mission to serve both our Chinese immigrants and locals with Jesus as the Center of all our activities sand relationship. Let God be glorified. There will be a Celebration Dinner immediately after the anniversary service. We invite everyone to the dinner.

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

III. Music at a Thai Festival

by Christopher Sorensen in current Adventist Frontier Magazine

There are days when you just shake your head and laugh at the doors God opens. Last week we had one of those days.

A teacher from the local district events planning committee asked our music school if we would like to perform by the lake near our school during the Loi Krithong festival. A free marketing event? Of course we, accepted. We and our students began
practicing songs and trying to think of what we would do for a stage and perhaps a sound system. We originally thought a few boards on blocks with a couple of speakers borrowed from the church would suffice. But not quite sure, we contacted Richardo friend, Nguan. He said, "If you want to make a positive impression, you need a real stage. If you want people to pity you and donate a few dollars, then play on boards." He helped us contact a stage owner, and before we knew it, we had a semi-professional stage set up with about 20 large speakers, stage lights, and even stage smoke! Overkill, you say? Not at all! Here in Thailand, events must be done big or not all.

As it was, we planned too small. For just opposite our stage was another stage rented by a local university. It was at least three times as big and twice as loud. There were some times in our musical program that our audience had to read our lips and take it on faith that we were actually playing our instruments, because we could not be heard at all though our speakers were turned up full blast!

However, during the breaks in our competition's bedlam, the lovely music of Peace Music Academy was heard, and many people stopped to listen. We made many contacts that night, and gained some new students as a direct result. We also learned some valuable lessons about what it takes to make a good impression here in Thailand--a big stage, big speakers, big faith, good program, and, yeah, good ear plugs.

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

IV. Printing "Desire of Ages" in Thai

Dede Van Buren <Dede@Jesus4Asia.org> Jan. 16 Jesus for Asia received some exciting news this week: the Thailand Adventist Mission (TAM) is ready to start printing the Desire of Ages book in Thai.

Yay! We are excited! This will be the first printing in 20 years! You have invested almost enough money to print 5,000 copies, which is half of the total number originally requested. We just need an additional $5,600 in order to complete the printing. The TAM would like to start running the presses as soon as possible, so we are hoping and praying they can go forward with what we already have. Letter from the TAM:

Greeting from Thailand Adventist Mission!

On January 8, 2015, the Administrative Committee met and approved the action below:

To pass a request to Jesus for Asia to approve the amount of Bht 700,000 for printing 5,000 copies of the Desire of Ages at Panich Pranakorn Co, Ltd.

and the amount of Bht 6,100 for re-typing the book. Thank you very much for your support in printing the Desire of Ages in Thai.

Sincerely yours,

Nipitpon Pontteekatasana
Executive Secretary, TAM

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

V. SULADS Story-- The Dream of Datu Dagancina Beraque

As told to Fred L. Webb by Donisia Noos and Nelia Beraque, Kidijay Village, Northeaster Mindanao Mission

Datu Dgancina Beraque was the chief or Datu of Kidijay Village. He was old and all the people respected him. He was truly the leader of his people.

One night, Datu Beraque had a dream. Now most of us forget our dreams but this one stood out in the Datu's mind. He dreamed that a good looking man appeared to him and in a soft voice told him, "You are getting old, Chief. You are the leader of your tribe. This place here in the forest where you live will one day be reached by lowlanders who will teach you many things that they believe is true.

"We have a God in this universe which all of us should serve. People from the lowlands will introduce you to the God they believe and serve. I am going to give you this hint. Never be fooled by their teachings. Every religious group claim and teach that they have the truth from the Bible. But the only Biblical truth which they won't teach is the truth about the seventh-day Sabbath.

"Whatever group that comes to your village and does not teach you about the seventh-day Sabbath, don't accept. They don't have the truth. Also, you must no longer eat the flesh of pigs because they are dirty." Datu Beraque believed the good-looking man was the Holy Spirit. He informed his village of his dream and began a regular Sabbath service in the village.

Some time after this dream, a Pentecostal minister arrived in the village. He began to teach his doctrine and Datu Beraque was convinced it was right. Then the minister introduced Sunday worship.
Datu Beranque interrupted the minister and said, "I will not accept any religious group in my village who does not teach about the seventh-day Sabbath (Sabado)."

The minister was afraid he would lose the opportunity to convert this whole village. He told the datu, "It does not matter at all what day you keep for worship so long as you love God and your fellowmen. What matters most is that you worship Him one day each week. We can worship Him on Saturday if you wish." The datu was convinced so a Seventh-day Pentecostal church was established in Kidihay.

Datu Beranque's grandchildren went down to the nearest town to purchase salt and other necessities on Sunday. The noticed that the Pentecostals there were worshipping on Sunday. This brought questions to their minds. They informed the datu of what they observed and this planted some doubts in the mind of Datu Beranque.

The Northern Mindanao Mission of Seventh-day Adventists under the leadership of Pastor Solomon Mongaya negotiated with Gospel Outreach to have some GO Evangelists in his area. One was Candilario "Larry" Mata, a seasoned volunteer missionary. Larry and his wife were assigned to Kidijay to bring the true Sabbath and the rest of the true doctrines to the people of Kidijay.

When Larry and his wife moved to Kidijay, the found the people quite closed to new teachings. They began making friends with the local people. They planted a garden that was far too large for their own household and gave vegetables to their neighbors in the village. Little by little friendships began to develop.

One day, one man who had become a friend questioned Larry. "I see that you also worship on Saturday. Why do you not join us in our church?"

This was the opening that Larry had been waiting and working for. Using the Bible, Larry gave the man a study on true Sabbath keeping and why Adventists keep the Sabbath. Time passed and others began to request Bible Studies as well.

Several were convicted that they needed to join the Seventh-day Sabbath church as they discovered that the Pentecostals in other places all worship on Sunday. A baptism was held and Larry began building a church. It was well designed and constructed from the timbers of trees that had fallen in the forest. Larry solicited funds and using his own meager stipend from Gospel Outreach, they purchased cement, sand, and corrugated iron roofing. The church was coming along fine.

In November 2012, Typhoon Pablo surprised all Mindanao by passing through the center of the island. Typhoons are so rare in Mindanao that no living person could recall ever having one strike the heart of Mindanao. The storm winds were so strong that it blew the roof off the church and knocked down the concrete walls that Larry had so carefully built. In cleaning up the mess, Larry discovered that some of the corrugated iron roofing was still useable in shorter pieces. He donated that to some of the villagers who had lost their own homes. The Northeastern Mindanao Mission provided roofing sheets for the reconstruction of the church. Using extreme care in the expenditures, the church is being reconstructed.

Meanwhile, Nelia Beraque, who was the wife of Datu Beraque's brother took Bible studies from Larry and was baptized. Later Donisia Noos, the daughter of Datu Beraque was also baptized. Both of these ladies are convicted that the Seventh-day Adventists are worshipping in the true way on the Sabbath and that our beliefs are in line with what the Bible says. Currently there are about 80 persons in the village that have accepted the Adventist teachings and have joined the church in Kidijay. May God's name be praised!

To remove your name from the mailing list of this newsletter, simply reply to this e-mail and put "REMOVE" in the Subject line.