I. Gospel Outreach Director Visits Philippines (Part 3)

II. Karen Bible School - Three Years And Growing III. Death of Thailand’s Komol Tan IV. Philippines Approves New Adventist Medical School ~~~~~~~~~~ IMPORTANT MESSAGE ABOUT FED E-NEWS

We are changing the way we distribute the FED e-News. Soon it will go out only via Yahoo Groups. The old distribution method worked well in the beginning when there were few subscribers and the editor was 20 years younger! Now, with thousands of subscribers, the old system is both time-consuming and burdensome for me (nearing age 93) to send out the newsletter each week.

You already received one invitation to sign up to the FED e-News Yahoo group. We will send out one more round of invitations to join the Yahoo group. Please accept the invitation if you wish to continue to receive this newsletter. Alternately you or any interested party can join by sending an email to the following address: <fed-subscribe@yahooogroups.com>. If you are already receiving the newsletter via Yahoo groups, you need do nothing further. After the next round of invitations have been sent, the FED e-News will go out only to addresses that subscribed to the Yahoo Group.

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I. Gospel Outreach Director Visits Philippines

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I am currently in the Philippines on my annual visit to the workers for Gospel Outreach (GO) and the SULADS. The next few reports will be from these workers. . . .

Report from Southern Luzon Mission: February 11-13

I left Butuan Wednesday morning and arrived at the Southern Luzon Mission office in Legazpi about 2:30 pm. After a quick lunch, Pastor Joven Hitosis, the GO coordinator for SLM, took me to San Francisco to visit our GO worker there, Raymundo Baisa. Raymundo has raised up a church with about 13-15 attending each Sabbath. He has been diligent in giving Bible Studies and has a nice church building. He has been working there for 5 years and the mission administration believe the church is mature enough to survive after the GO worker leaves.

Directly from there we returned to Legazpi and went the opposite direction to the town of Tobaco. Two GO workers, Greg Olivan and Edgar Pardo are working together to hold an evangelistic cottage meeting. Greg is a young man not yet married. Edgar is a bit older and has a family of six children ranging from 8 years to 18 years. They have only been working since November but already there have been some prepared for baptism which will take place after an evangelistic campaign in March. These men have a lot of potential and we look forward to great reports from them in the near future.

It was late and I had a long day so we returned to the mission for a night’s rest. Thursday morning, February 12, got started with a breakfast with a group that are training for medical evangelism. Mrs. Garrado is the leader of this group. During breakfast, the conversation turned to working for the deaf and she expressed great interest and desire to work for the deaf in Legazpi. She does not know sign language or much about the deaf but she has a great desire to learn and to work for this unreached people group in this area. I advised her to contact Lychel Gabuco, our deaf worker in Manila for information and direction. Mrs. Garrado knows Lychel’s father and knows who Lychel is so that should not be a difficult situation. We shall see what might come as a result of the conversation.

By 7:30 am, Pastor Hitosis and I were on our way to Tobogon to the north. We arrived there about 12:30 and were greeted by Bobby Nacario, the GO worker in that area. While He has been working for 4 years, GO has been in that area for 5 years. I learned that Bobby has about 65 members attending church services regularly. He has had about 100 baptisms but some have moved away and of course a few have dropped out.
Of interest is Fidelia, a lady who came out of the Catholic church where she was heavily involved in the church and joined the Adventist church. She has been successful in winning her family as well as three other families to the Lord. She is currently taking the medical evangelism training in Legazpi. She is in her mid to late 60s but has great energy and enthusiasm for the Lord.

Another interesting item is a blind lady who has become an Adventist there and has influenced another family to also accept baptism. They were not interested at first but our lady persevered and through the power of the Holy Spirit, she prevailed. Bobby has trained the leadership there to take over the church and has trained them to be missionaries in their own right. This church will continue to function well after Bobby is transferred out.

As mentioned, GO has had workers in this area for 5 years. According to policy, the work in the entered areas must now be turned over to the administration of the mission for nurture and supervision. Four of the GO workers are older men and since their contract with the mission expires in March this year, the mission does not intend to renew the contracts for Raymundo Baisa, Jose Dayson, and Nestor Dato. They will be replaced by young theology graduates who will be assigned to new areas where there are no Adventists. Bobby Nacario still has one year on his contract but he will be assigned a new territory. The Mission is thinking that Bobby will be taken is as a regular worker and pastor when his contract is ended.

Pastor Hitosis expressed his appreciation for the contributions made by the GO workers. He stated that they are very valuable to the mission especially for the expanding of the work into new areas. My observation is that the men have done a good work and the fruit of their labor will continue to grow and thrive under the district pastors of the various areas.

May God continue to bless Southern Mindanao Mission as they spread the Good News of Salvation to the people in this area.

II. Karen Bible School - Three Years And Growing

Leading to the Light <rawlings@leadingtothelight.org> Feb. 25:

We are thrilled to share this progress report of how God is advancing His work on the Thai/Myanmar border through our Karen Bible School.

Leading to the Light, with the generous support of its donors, was able to fund a ten month Bible/Medical Missionary training. Over the course of the year, sixty-five of the Education Opportunity Foundation workers and students enthusiastically attended. After returning to their posts, more than half of them immediately implemented the training into their evangelistic work and experienced an increase in blessings and power for God's work.

Saw Poe Lwe Shared:

"After returning to my post, I started a small health center with our church members so we can help the people in our village. Two villagers who did the things we taught them, accepted God's healing methods as the reason for their improved health and decided to be baptized and follow God's word."

Some Results of Our Ten-Month Training:
- 5 small health centers started in rural villages
- 2 baptisms
- 3 new workers
- 65 joyful people equipped to use the health work as an entering wedge for the gospel

In the last half of this course, many of the students were given an opportunity to step out of their comfort zone by entering into unreached villages. Ying divided the class into teams and sent them to different local villages to practice what they were learning in class. Each team was to leave our school grounds Friday morning and not return until Saturday night. This meant that they would need to make friends in order to have a place to eat, sleep, and worship. They learned that the medical missionary work was the key that opened the door to many hearts.

Saw Mynso Reported:

"In the past we only taught about the Bible. Many people didn't like that and would leave. Because we studied at the Karen Bible School with pastor Phamor, we now know that medical missionary is the way to open people's hearts. We help anyone who is sick in the villages and teach them how to be healthy. Now the villages welcome us to come and teach them about health as well as about the Bible."

God blessed and more students are on fire for using the health work as the entering wedge. All testified that God's methods are superior. They found that the villagers were seeking them and were much more receptive. All have
returned to their villages with more confidence and enthusiasm for sharing the gospel. Several have committed to full time mission service.

Some Results of The Three Month raining:

- Established an S.D.A. primary school with fifty students in an un reached area by using health as the entering wedge
- 5 New Workers
- 4 Students receive a scholarship from Aenon Health Care in Malaysia for further Bible/Medical Missionary training
- Plans to establish a permanent location for our one year training program

This year will mark the launch of a full time Bible/Medical Missionary Training Center for the Karen people. We made a decision to stop renting our previous school site and develop a nearby property that the Thailand Adventist Mission has had for years.

Saw Ler Gay Said:

"I believe that everyone who comes to the Karen Bible School will receive a great benefit and education on how to reach souls for God's kingdom. I decided that when I get back to my post, I will start a health center so others can benefit and learn about God's plan."

Education Opportunity Foundation will invite 15 students to participate in a ten month leadership training program beginning in May. These students will be our future E.O.F. instructors in various lines of Evangelism.

Not all of the E.O.F. workers are able to travel to our Karen Bible School. Many teachers have small children and cannot be separated. Our desire is for these graduates to be able to go to our remote jungle schools to live and teach the word of God.

Some Projected Results of This Years Training;

5 Medical Missionary Evangelists capable of training our teachers and church members in the field.

- Establish and support small health centers in unreached areas of Thailand and Myanmar.
- Host 2-4 Additional Teacher Evangelist Seminars per year.
- Host 2-4 Bible English Camps for village children. Community Outreach
- Student participation in community outreach programs including Health fairs, Cooking Demonstrations, and Prophecy Seminars.

Our new Karen Bible School campus is situated in a rural location and has 8 acres of farm land bordered by a medium sized river. This will not only give valuable work experience for the students, but it will also give the school some self-sustainability. With God's help, this school will produce an army of consecrated workers with a life long commitment to the growth of His kingdom.

The Rawlings Family: Steve, Lynette, Elyssa and Micah ~~~~~~~~~~ III. Death of Thailand's Komol Tan

Lee Ching Beng <leec@eis.ac.th> March 5:

In Memoriam of Mr. Komol Tan, Pioneer of the Adventist faith in Thailand, faithful child of God and blessing to all.

Let us say farewell to a great person. He has been a good son, husband, father, and friend to all of us and he will be dearly missed. He will always be remembered and will forever remain in our hearts. Mr. Komol Tan (Santimalapong) was born on 27 October 1921 as the third generation from the Tan family. Mr. Tan Tien Yee, his grandfather migrated from Guangdong about 130 years ago and became an Adventist along with his family members.

Mr. Komol Tan married Ms. Lily on February 17, 1956 and God blessed them with two children, Dr. Amy Santimalapong and Dr. Effie Santimalapong.

Mr. Tan was raised in an Adventist family and received his Christian education in Thailand and other countries. After finishing his education he joined the church in various capacities such as hospitals and schools in the area of finance. He laid a firm foundation for the church schools, support systems, and other educational institutions around the country.

Mr. Tan served in various capacities within the church such as elder and active Bible teacher. In 1988 he accepted the challenge to build the new Ekamai church building and the project was completed in 1988. His family was supportive in the church project and the Tan family has also given financial support to build the Pitakthai Church in Payao Province.

Mr. Tan was a faithful Adventist whose healthy lifestyle helped him to enjoy a long life full of services. At the age of 92 he was hospitalized after falling down. He returned home for a while but returned to the hospital until he rested peacefully in the Lord on February 27 at about 7:00 a.m.

He is now awaiting the Lord's Coming at which time he will receive his reward to be with Him forever.

IV. Philippines Approves New Adventist Medical School
by Ansel Oliver, ANN, March 5:

The Philippines has granted approval for an Adventist medical school to begin classes in August, making it the first Adventist medical school in Asia and the denomination’s sixth medical school worldwide.

The College of Medicine, located on the campus of the Adventist University of the Philippines in Silang in the province of Cavite, is expected to open with an enrollment of up to 35 students and is designed to serve the Seventh-day Adventist Church’s Southern Asia-Pacific Division.

"We're very excited. They have worked very hard for this day, a dream of more than 30 years," said Peter Landless, Health Ministries director for the Adventist world church. "This creates an opportunity for the entire Southern Asia-Pacific Division to benefit from this school."

The Commission on Higher Education of the Philippines approved the opening of the College of Medicine in December, and the program has also met requirements set by the International Board of Education of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Doris Mendoza, the founding dean of the medical school, said the aim was to train physicians who could effectively witness for God and promote the worldwide mission of the Adventist Church.

The College of Medicine will use Batangas Medical Center as its main teaching hospital for its volume and variety of patients. The college will also partner with Adventist Medical Center-Manila.

The new college will receive guidance from Loma Linda University’s School of Medicine in the United States, which is already partnering with the Adventist University of the Philippines, or AUP, to advise on student admissions, curriculum development, and faculty development.

"Over the past 100 years, Loma Linda has refined a process to select mission-focused graduates who have carried out the healing ministry of Christ and the commission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and their mentoring of AUP and our other new medical schools has been vital," said Lisa Beardsley-Hardy, education director for the Adventist world church.

"To carry out our mission, especially in the underserved parts of the world, we need many more physicians who speak the language of patients and are culturally competent, in addition to being excellent clinicians," she said.

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