Tokyo 13
10th Anniversary of Golden Angels
Inauguration of the Nanjing Seventh-day Adventist Church, China, Oct 22-24, 2013

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NORTHERN ASIA-PACIFIC DIVISION
THE MOST CHALLENGING FIELD

NEWS VIEWS

Inauguration of the Nanjing Seventh-day Adventist Church, China, Oct 22-24, 2013
The new year of 2014 is dawning. Another unpredictable year is about to unfold before us. There may be numerous new challenges in our daily Christian life. Evangelism and church growth may become more difficult. By trusting in the Lord’s guidance, however, we will continue our life journey towards our heavenly home, and do our best to accomplish the gospel commission.

The Second Coming of Christ is one year sooner now. We need to hasten His coming by preaching the gospel to every nation, tribe, tongue and people. Evangelism is our mission as the remnant people of God who are living in the last days.

Jesus said in Matthew 24:14, “This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come.” The end of time will come, and Jesus will return to take His people home to heaven when the gospel work is finished in the entire world. Then, how, and how soon, will it be accomplished?

Jesus clearly said to His disciples, “but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth” (Acts 1:8). The followers of Jesus should receive the power that will be granted them when the Holy Spirit has come upon them. Without this celestial power the gospel work can never be finished. Therefore, Jesus commanded His disciples not to leave Jerusalem but to wait for the power of the Holy Spirit that the Father had promised them (Act 1:4). We also desperately need to receive the power of the Holy Spirit in order to accomplish the gospel work.

One day, Elijah took Elisha and walked together with him toward the Jordan River. When they arrived at the Jordan, Elijah took his garment, rolled it up, and struck the water with it. Then the water was divided, and there was made a road in the river. The two of them then crossed over on dry ground.

When they had crossed over, Elijah said to Elisha, “Elisha, the Lord is going to take me from you today. Tell me, what I can do for you before I am taken by the Lord from you. If you need anything, tell me before I depart from you” (2 Kings 2:9, paraphrased). It was a golden opportunity for Elisha. Elijah was a man of God. He was a man of power. He had performed many miracles. Now he is telling Elisha to ask him for anything he wants.

Elisha needed many things, especially for the schools of the prophets he was taking care of. But he answered Elijah, “Let me inherit a double portion of your spirit.” Elisha did not ask for money. He did not ask for new buildings. He did not ask for new school facilities, and equipment. He did not ask for material blessings. But he asked for the power of the Holy Spirit.

While he was working with the prophet Elijah, he clearly saw that the Holy Spirit was always with him, and the Holy Spirit was the source of power for Elijah. Now thinking of the enormous task he should undertake after the departure of his master, Elisha was asking for a double portion of the Holy Spirit.

We also need a double portion of the Spirit to finish the gospel work in the last days. May this be our earnest prayer as we enter the new year of 2014!
News & Views is published bi-monthly by the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Its mission is to share the news of mission activities and views of the mission of the NSD with the world church so that the Second Coming of Jesus Christ will be hastened.
Nanjing Seventh-day Adventist Church is located on a busy thoroughfare in one of China’s vibrant, modern cities. It was inaugurated with a special series of events October 22-24, 2013. The congregation used the celebration of the opening of the new building to also reflect back 169 years to October, 1844, when the Seventh-day Adventist movement was begun. The inauguration events were attended by 800 members and friends. And many pastors from across the country gathered to share in this time of celebration.

Not unlike the early pioneers of the church, members in Nanjing have faced times of disappointment when it appeared that their dream to build a church at the current central location would be blocked. Their earnest prayer and perseverance overcame many obstacles. Led by Pastor Lin, Qing Kuan, a young, energetic pastor from Wenzhou, Zhejiang province, in faith they embarked on this ambitious building project by faith.

The building is designed like a diamond or gem with multiple facets. This unique architecture has attracted the attention of thousands of Nanjing residents who have passed by the church during its construction. The floor space of the modern facility is 4,000 square meters and was constructed at a cost of 3.5 million US dollars. Given that many Seventh-day Adventist congregations in China must rent their church facilities, this church building is a source of inspiration for what can take place with God’s blessing when a congregation moves forward guided by a strong vision.

Another special feature of the church is its newly installed German pipe organ. It took skilled technicians a full month to install the beautiful instrument. As part of the inauguration ceremony, the church’s 100-voice choir was accompanied by the pipe organ as they sang Handel’s “Hallelujah Chorus.” This was the first time of most of the congregation had ever heard a pipe organ played. It is hoped that future concerts focused on praising God will become a strong outreach ministry.

One opening event on the evening of October 22 featured various musical groups including children, college students, soloists, and the church’s choir. Every seat in the sanctuary was occupied as those that attended were treated to a sacred musical program in honor of God and His goodness. This was followed by an inspirational message presented by Elder Robert Folkenberg, Jr. who spoke in Mandarin. He reminded his hearers, “From the beginning we have been people of hope,” He then challenged them by saying “We want to see Jesus face to face. I pray that all of you have this hope in Jesus.”

October 23 was the day for the main program to open the new worship facility. The Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) President, Dr. Jairyong Lee, delivered the inaugural address in which he appealed for a rededication to God by all of the participants. He said, “When we
dedicate this church to the Lord, my brothers and sisters, let us rededicate our lives to Him. This is the dedication of the Nanjing Seventh-day Adventist church today! It will be the dedication of each and everyone of us today!”

Following the dedication worship service, an inauguration ceremony of the church building took place that included government officials from the Bureau of Religious Affairs for Jiangsu province as well as officers of the Three-Self Movement for Nanjing City. The program included musical pieces from the church’s choir, congratulatory speeches from the invited dignitaries, and an official ribbon cutting.

In the afternoon several special features were presented including a congratulatory message from Elder Ted N.C. Wilson, President of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. In his video message, Elder Wilson stated, “I want to give you wonderful greetings from your brothers and sisters around the world and congratulate you in the Name of the Lord and thank God for the dedication of your church.”

The 50 ordained pastors who were present for the celebration were invited to the platform to participate in a service of “Church Mission Proclamation.” Each pastor wore a red scarf and joined in the reading of the church “Mission Statement.” An Alumni Association was established for individuals who studied at the Sanyu China Training Institute in Nanjing. Of the 13 alumni who were present most were in their 80’s or 90’s.

At the conclusion of the main day’s events, a two-hour concert featured talent from Nanjing and other parts of China. The dress, musical pieces, and traditional folk dances reflected the ethnic beauty of various parts of the country. The “Descendants”, a music ministry group from Mongolia, were featured participants.

Thursday morning, October 24, marked the closing of the three-day celebration. NSD Treasurer, Ken Osborn, challenged the still nearly full church to remember that unless the church is built with Jesus as the Chief Cornerstone (I Peter 2: 6) it, like many other institutions and even civilizations, will crumble and disappear.

Through this time of celebration for the new church in Nanjing, China, many hearts were encouraged to praise God. His leading was apparent as the story of how His people have been led was recounted. There was a shared sense of thanksgiving for how God has guided His people. They have seen their dream come to reality through the building of a beautiful sanctuary for His presence.

We each are invited to rededicate ourselves to the mission of spreading the gospel, we, too, have the assurance that God will bless our efforts enabling us to achieve great things for Him.
The Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) appointed new Pioneer Mission Movement (PMM) missionaries who decided to dedicate themselves to world evangelism according to the Commission of Christ. On November 2, 2013, the NSD held a dedication service for the 12th batch of PMM missionaries at the Taereung Church.

The eight pastors who were called to be PMM missionaries are WonYong Lee (Taiwan), GwonHo Huh (Taiwan), HyungWoo Nam (Japan), Gwangryul Kim (UT), Sekwang Seo (Hong Kong), Donglyeol Lee (Kosovo), Jeffrey Chan (Korea), and Aiki Saito (Korea). The dedication service included an introduction of the new PMM missionaries, appointment plaque presentation, Word of Commitment by the new PMM missionaries, the great commission for mission, and the mission statement reading.

Pastor Geoffrey Mbwana, General Conference (GC) Vice-president, gave a sermon emphasizing the gospel work which is the commandment of God, and the solemn mission given to us. “If we gain freedom and salvation by being freed from the chains of sin through the precious blood of the Cross, we must work for those who cry out for salvation. What we must deliver in a mission field is not our voice, but God’s message which will set us free. Don’t be afraid to stand in thorny bushes, or amongst scorpions. Be God’s servant who will preach the Three Angels’ Messages to the ends of the world.”

Dr. Jairyong Lee, NSD President, gave a plaque of appointment to each missionary and encouraged them. “The most glorious duty in this world is to be a missionary. Completely
dependent on God who entrusted this great mission, and go forward in accordance with His will to accomplish world evangelism.”

Representing the newly appointed PMM missionaries, Pastor WonYong Lee spoke the Words of Commitment. “Even if there is indifference from the people in the field, and a cultural barrier is in our way, we will dedicate our whole heart for the Lord.”

The Pioneer Mission Movement, which was launched in 2003 as a part of the NSD’s global mission movement, has promoted overseas mission work, and led the development of mission work in northeastern Asia.
The Religious Liberty Conference and Prayer Meeting for Religious Freedom in North Korea was held at Sahmyook Central Church with 400 attendees on October 1, 2013. The Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) Public Affairs and Religious Liberty (PARL) hosted, with the Korean Union Conference (KUC) PARL arranging the event. It was organized to reinforce the importance of religious liberty, and to pray that the door of religious freedom will be opened in North Korea, which is one of the most closed countries in the world.

Dr. John Graz, General Conference PARL Director, gave a special sermon. “Religious liberty is the gift of God, a part of human dignity, and a basic human right. However, 75% of the world’s population is unfortunately living in countries that have no religious freedoms. Let us give thanks to God, and the Korean Government for allowing it.”

Dr. Jairyong Lee, NSD President, encouraged the attendees. “There are about twenty-three million people who must hear the gospel of Jesus Christ in North Korea. Since the Korean Peninsula was first divided, we have continued to pray for the mission work in North Korea, nearly about 60 years. We are very happy to gather together to pray for North Korea today.”

“It is a very well-timed meeting. Please earnestly pray with one accord, for the day that the Three Angels’ Messages are strongly, and quickly delivered,” said Dr. DaeSung Kim, KUC President.
Pastor DongJun Kim, President of the North Korea Mission Committee in the USA, explained in his report on North Korea mission, that American churches’ mission projects like supporting K-project, in his report on North Korea mission. “Because freedom of religion is not allowed to our brethren in North Korea, they are living in spiritual darkness without knowledge of the living God. I hope God works in His special way so that the North Korean people can have freedom of religion.” Attendees prayed together for religious freedom in North Korea, Christians in North Korea, and for North Korean defectors’ faith and their lives. Mrs. InKyung Park, who has been working for the faith of underground church members in North Korea, and defectors for last 10 years, gave her testimony, moving the attendees’ hearts. There was also a video report on the North Korean mission, as well as a special music performed by the Voice of Prophecy choir.

SukHee Han
NSD Communication Director
Making Happy Families for Mothers and Daughters-in-law

Of all the different kinds of human relationships, perhaps the most difficult is the relationship between a mother and daughter-in-law. This is particularly true in the Asian cultures. Therefore, the Korean Adventist Women’s Association (KAWA), under the Korean Union Conference Women’s Ministries, began to hold seminars for mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law for the first time at the KAWA Happiness Center last May and June. The meetings were presented for eight weeks; a weekly program which in all totaled 16 hours. The seminar leader was Young Ja L. Nam, Counsellor and Director of KAWA Happiness Center. Over the course of the weeks and months, many people started to show interest in this seminar.

The Pusan KAWA held their own four hour intensive seminar under the subject, “Making a Happy Family for Mothers and Daughters-in-law” at the Pusan Central Church on November 17th. Around 40 women and one gentleman (a father-in-law) participated and received training. A number of women shed many tears as they opened their hearts, and shared their life stories. They acknowledged that their experience was encapsulated in the Word of God found in Psalm 32:3. “When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.” By the end of the seminar, they vowed to make a greater effort to be happy with their in-laws. We hope and pray that the Pusan Adventist women will obtain a higher level of happiness than ever before through this seminar.

Pastor Lee, Keunwan Has Been Elected as the New President of Okinawa Mission

During the annual board meeting of the Japan Union Conference (JUC), Pastor Lee, Keunwan was elected as the new President of Okinawa Mission. It was reported that he is the first Korean national to be elected as a president of a conference or mission outside of Korea. After finishing his military duty in Korea, he started his studies in one of national universities in Japan.

After his graduation, he sought to start his business career at one of the prestigious Japanese trading companies. He was “head hunted” by a Korean steel enterprise, and achieved a successful career in business. During this time, he and his family were faithful Baptist church members, but he was always seeking a better religious experience. When he first attended the Seventh-day Adventist church through the evangelical effort of Net 98, he thought the Lord had finally shown him the way to live the rest of his life. He entered Japan Missionary College as a Theology major, and changed his career from business to the Lord’s ministry. He and his wife have a grown daughter, and son. Pastor Lee has been in Japan for 33 years, and his career as a pastor started in 2002.
Korean Pathfinders’ Festival Ends in Great Success

The Korean Union Conference (KUC) Youth Ministries Department held a Korean Pathfinders’ Festival at Taegang Sahmyook Elementary School on October 27, 2013. There were 773 guides and pathfinders from 46 churches officially registered, and more than 900 attended the event.

Although there was a contest more than a decade ago, it was the first time to gather pathfinders for such an event. A total of 14 booth activities, including surviving in the wild, rappelling, and golf, were presented by Pathfinder Guinness giving the participants unforgettable memories. Participants fully displayed their skills that they had honed. East Central Korean Conference (ECKC) Pathfinder club gave a first-aid demonstration, and West Central Korean Conference (WCKC) performed drum and bugle corps. Middle West Korean Conference (MWKC) displayed a marching drill. They were very impressed by the drill of the Taiwanese pathfinders during the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) Pathfinder Camporee. So much so that some pathfinder leaders even went to Taiwan to learn the marching drill this last summer.

“As I see American Pathfinders, I thought it may take more than 10 years for Korean Pathfinders to be developed like them. But I feel that we made a remarkable improvement today,” said Pastor HoYoung Choi, KUC Youth Director.

The most outstanding feature this year is that lay leaders hosted pathfinder events by themselves. Pathfinder leaders played a key role in the summer conference camporee, as well as this event. There are 276 Pathfinder clubs, and 6,400 pathfinders in Korea. Taking this opportunity, KUC is planning to hold a Pathfinder Festival every year.

ECKC Holds a Silver Camp for the Elderly

The Family Ministries Department of the East Central Korean Conference (ECKC) held the first Silver Camp at Yangpyeong Camp of the Gyeonggi English Village from October 26 to 27, 2013. About 260 people over the age of 60 attended this event which was themed, “Life is Beautiful.” They were divided into 22 small groups according to their age group, and then presented various programs.

The first activity was “my autobiography” which had them draw a graph by growth period (such as childhood, teen years, youth, middle age, and old age) to look back upon their life. Participants also liked the “Photo-taking in School Uniform” program. It was a short time, but they felt like they went back in their school days. The most touching program was “Letter-writing to a Spouse or Child.” The letters were filled with words they usually do not say or they want to leave. For example, “Thank you for having the same faith,” or “Let’s attend church together and be saved.” It showed that their mind is always worried about their family and children.

“The ECKC will help the elderly reflect on their life, and finish it well, as their life was breathlessly devoted to their family,” said Pastor SeonHwa Jeong, Family Ministries Director of the ECKC.

The next camp will also be prepared with more specified and specialized programs such as “Healthcare in Old Age,” and “Financial Management in Old Age.”
From October 31 to November 4, 2013, the Annual Council of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) has brought together in Ilsan, Korea, 80 church administrators and leaders from the various levels of organizations. These leaders represent the General Conference (GC), Unions, Conferences, Mission/Field, local churches, and institutions for church business and mission works in the NSD territories.

Prior to the Annual Council meetings, on October 29 the officers from the NSD, Chinese Union Mission (CHUM), Korean Union Conference (KUC), Japan Union Conference (JUC), Taiwan Conference (TWC), and Mongolia Mission Field (MM), met with the NSD officers to share and discuss about many different agenda items for enhancing the gospel mission. On October 30, they visited the NSD departmental directors for interviews on each departments work.

“Urban Ministry-Mission to the Cities” was highlighted at the Council on Evangelism & Witness on October 31. Pastor Gerson Santos, GC Urban Ministry Director, impressed participants with presentations on some successful urban mission models, and stories. He emphasized that our churches should be a “Church for the City” that commits itself to seeking the Shalom, the flourishing of the city, loving the city, and proclaim the truth of Scripture with passion, clarity, and boldness. Currently there are 125 cities with more than 1 million people in the NSD territories: China 88, Japan 18, South Korea 11, Taiwan six, Mongolia one, and North Korea one.

During the year-end meetings, the reports from departments, institutions, and special mission projects were presented to the delegates, and they voted for approving annual budgets, policy changes, the appointment of three officers for the Mongolia Mission (MM),
and adopting the GC mission initiatives. As the Mongolia Mission Field is being re-organized to the Mongolia Mission, new officers were appointed. Elbert Kuhn as President, Bold Batsukh as Secretary, and Joseph Allan Deblois as Treasurer. The MM constituency meeting will be held on November 18, 2013.

The newly introduced global initiatives are as follows:

1. **Global Leaves Initiative**
   To distribute 1 billion books, magazines, tracts, etc., between June 2010 and June 2015.

2. **World Mass Distribution Day**

3. **Reaping God’s Harvest - GC Evangelistic Initiative**
   To reap God’s Harvest with encouraging all Seventh-day Adventist Church employees and every member to be actively involved in some form of evangelistic outreach to lead someone to Christ between July 2014 and June 2015.

4. **It’s Time – The Urgency of Urban Mission**
   To engage the collective resources of the global church in establishing a Seventh-day Adventist presence, and needs-based ministry in cities of 1 million or more that have no Adventist congregation, and, in all other cities of 1 million or more, to improve the ratio of members and worshipping groups to population.

5. **Comprehensive Health Ministry**
   To embrace and follow Jesus’ mission of loving service with providing the physical, mental, social, and spiritual needs of their communities. From January 2014 to the year 2020, a three step plan will be implemented to (1) re-enforce the importance of Comprehensive Health Ministry (January 2014-2015), (2) equip church leaders and members (2015-2016), and (3) reach the community through Health Ministry (2016-2020).

   “Why do we have all these initiatives? It is to turn everyone back to the Bible, because the “END” is approaching fast!” said John Tomas, the GC Associate Secretary and AVS Director, at the opening of worship time.

   Geoffrey G. Mbwan, GC General Vice President, appealed to the attendees for the urgency of the Mission to the Cities at the morning devotional presentation. “IT IS TIME for Urgency of Urban Mission! Let us shout loud and clear “Jesus is coming soon!” We are faced with a challenging mission to the cities. More than 500 cities with a population of 1 million, and 237 are in the 10/40 window that we are living in now. There is an average of one Adventist to 89,000 people, 100 cities with less than one Adventist to 20,000, 45 cities with less than 10 Adventists, 43 cities without a single Adventist!” Mbwan added a strong emphasis that “Jesus wants the cities to be saved.”

   Huge challenges are bringing opportunities to us, but sometimes the fear can interfere with our mission work. The NSD President, Jairyong Lee, encouraged delegates, saying, “Let us not be afraid of anything in the world except God. If we feel a fear, at that moment trust in the Lord! Even though Jericho’s wall is so high, we can conquer it by the power of the Holy Spirit.”

   In conjunction with the Annual Council, at the beginning of the Sabbath on Friday evening, November 1, a special event, “Religious Liberty Conference & Prayer for North Korea” was organized by the GC, NSD, and KUC Public Affairs & Religious Liberty (PARL) Departments, taking place at the Sahmyook Central Church in the compound of the Seoul Adventist Hospital in Seoul. The vital importance of religious freedom was emphasized by the GC PARL Director John Graz, and other speakers. Also, the Dongdaemoon-gu District Mayor Ryu, Duk Yeol attended and gave special remarks to the audience.

   Following the night, on Sabbath morning, November 2, the Pioneer Missionary Movement (PMM) dedication service was held for eight pastors who are going to be sent to six foreign areas including Korea, Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Kosovo, and other regions. The PMM families will serve from the year 2014 for six years, spending the first year in local language study in their assigned foreign countries.
CHUM

CHUM and HKMC Sponsor Pastoral Couples Events
By Choy Leng Cheong, President of HKMC Shepherdess International

Time flies! We are already approaching the end of 2013. In the second half of this year, we prepared three activities for our shepherdesses and their families. On September 14, we invited Mrs. Audrey Folkenberg to share with us on “How to Setup an Altar of Prayer.” On November 17, we joined with the Chinese Union Mission (CHUM) and the Hong Kong-Macao Conference (HKMC) Families Ministries to hold a seminar, and lunch buffet for couples in Hong Kong. The theme was “Be a Lifetime Lover.” Dr. Sally Phoon, Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) Families Ministries Director, and her husband, Dr. C. Y. Phoon, were invited to be the speakers. Couples may lose the “falling in love” feeling after they have been married for many years. We provided an opportunity for them to refresh their loving relationship which should be a lifelong experience. They also reviewed, and signed a marriage pledge. All who attended were blessed.

We had our officer election, and a relaxation seated massage shared by Mrs. Jenny Tay on November 30. We were so happy to be getting together. We pray that by next year, the wives of the pastors, and the female ministers will join hands together to walk in the Lord, and advance the ministries of Shepherdess International (the Ministerial Spouse Association).

KUC

Fifty-three People are Baptized at Sahmyook Health University College

Sahmyook Health University College hosted an Autumn Mission Week from October 28 to November 2, 2013. In cooperation with the Korean Union Conference (KUC) Media Center, the college helped students understand the Adventist faith. Every chaplain preached the gospel with a different topic each day. Visual media on books, films, historical events, philosophers’ ideas, and social phenomenon were especially utilized to deliver the message.

Faculty and students started the day with worship, and relay prayer was going on. Various booth activities attracted students.

On Sabbath, the Oulim Musical Team, and singers performed, so that students could experience Adventist culture. As a result of the mission week, 53 students were born again in Christ.
**KUC**

**General Meeting of the Council of Korean Private University Presidents is Hosted by Sahmyook University**

Sahmyook University (SYU) hosted the 11th Annual General Meeting of the Council of Korean Private University Presidents on October 11, 2013. The Council of Korean Private University Presidents is a consultative body that promotes sound and balanced development of college education through mutual cooperation among 157 private colleges in Korea. It was established to enhance global competence of Korean higher education through continuous development, so that private colleges can contribute to national growth.

In the meeting, many different opinions on some major issues such as structural reform according to the reduction in the number of students, and government funding for private colleges, were given. Attendees discussed financial problems, new profit creation plans, and how to attract international students. There was also Question & Answer time with Mr. NamSu Seo, the Minister of Education, for 40 minutes.

Welcoming attendees, Dr. SangRae Kim, SYU President, introduced the foundation background, and educational philosophy of Sahmyook University. “This year is the 107th anniversary of the university, and it has implemented a whole-person education based on Christian values that aim for balanced education between intelligence, morality, and body. We try to present a vision for the future, and the world, to students,” said Dr. Kim.

**NSD**

**2014 Global Youth Day**

The General Conference (GC) Youth Ministries Department voted to adopt a “Global Youth Day,” and chose March 15, 2014, as it marks the beginning of the Youth Week of Prayer. The Global Youth Day is the day to recapture identity, a sense of belonging, and the mission spirit through “One in Compassion.” Hence, the Northern Asia-Pacific Division Youth Ministries Department is planning to start a broad-scale good practice movement in cooperation with Union and conference youth directors. The Korean Union Conference, and East and West Central Korean Conferences will have a Seoul Youth Union worship at Sahmyook Central Church on March 15, 2014, and all participants will donate blood in the afternoon. They will also participate in actual community services such as patient visitation at the hospital, and tract distribution on streets to share the meaning, and purpose of Global Youth Day.

For more information on 2014 GYD activity, please visit www.facebook.com/GlobalYouthDay
While the world church stressed the importance of big city evangelism, voluntary lay people sowed the seed of the gospel in the capital area of Korea. Following the example of Apostle Paul, 250 members of the Korean Self-Supporting Mission Association participated in a city mission rally for big city evangelism in order to accomplish the greatest mission of Christ from September 29 to October 2, 2013.

Those who came from about 100 churches all over Korea, left their livelihood and personal affairs behind, and joined the Seeding Evangelism. Through their effort, about 360,000 evangelistic booklets and tracts were distributed. They rose with passionate hearts like Gideon’s 300 soldiers. They started the day with a devotional at 5:30 a.m., and participated in distribution of tracts in the morning. After lunch, they continued with house visitation, and street evangelism in the afternoon. The number of tracts each of them distributed a day was between 300 and 500, on average. It was not an easy task, but they shared the good news of salvation with joy. In the evening, they reported their activity, and shared experiences and testimonies. The prayer meeting then quit for the day.

“It was an opportunity to realize that mission fields are still vast. We hope Adventist members can have a passion for the mission through this kind of activity,” said participants.

The Korean Self-Supporting Mission Association had a revival meeting and a mission report session at the Deer Mountain Retreat Center from October 11 to 13, 2013. With the theme of “Mission Revival and Preparation for the Second Advent,” this meeting took place with about 250 members of the association, and Seeding Evangelism applicants from all over Korea in attendance.

During Sabbath School, Mrs. SoonHee Kim testified about her experience on Seeding Evangelism. “As it is a watchman’s duty to warn people with a trumpet, we as the Remnant in this last day have a duty to accomplish the gospel work,” said Mrs. Kim.

Pastor ChiYang Moon, Korean Union Conference (KUC) Executive Secretary talked about the role and importance of witness, citing 2 Corinthians 2:14. “We are the fragrance of Christ. Our fragrance can deliver life or death to others,” said Pastor Moon.

On Sabbath afternoon, participants practiced the Seeding Evangelism in the nearby area. The seed of the gospel was sown through their house visitation, and street evangelism.

Concluding the meeting, Elder BongJu Lee, the President of the Association said, “We will continue to reinforce some insufficient parts through more organized and detailed plans. I hope more people can join the mission-related work, and especially the Seeding Evangelism.”
The year-end board meeting of the Japan Union Conference (JUC) was held at the Tachikawa office of the JUC, which is located in the Tokyo area, on November 24-26, 2013. It was reported that most of the functions of the JUC, which had been based at the Yokohama office, were moved to the Tachikawa office. This was due to the oldness of the Yokohama building, and the necessity of more efficient communication among the administration and departments. Six officers and department leaders from the Northern Asia-Pacific Division, including its president Dr. Lee, and one representative from the General Conference Auditing Service, joined the meeting. They contributed to the discussion during the session, and encouraged the delegates by sharing the Lord’s words during the devotion hours.

The result of Tokyo 13 was reported, saying that the baptismal goal of 100 will be highly possible to be achieved by God’s grace. The report encouraged the delegates very much, and they thanked the Lord. Throughout the session, the priority of evangelism was emphasized, and conferences, missions, and institutions responded positively to the call for mission. The three days of session closed successfully.

JUC Officially Implements Seven Foundations of Evangelism

The Japan Union Conference (JUC) approved Seven Foundations of Evangelism which should be implemented into the plans and outreach efforts in the representative levels of administration. Originally the idea was born out of the discussion at the JUC consultation with the General Conference (GC), Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD), and other leaders, on March 12, 2013. The Vice President of the GC, Dr. Ryan, took the initiative of summarizing the discussion, and shaping the form of these foundations:

1. We are committed to Church growth.
2. The program has to be a Japanese initiative.
3. This consultation meeting is not a one-time meeting.
4. Bible Study and Prayer should be our first initiative.
5. Every Church member in Japan has a job.
6. Use the One-to-One simple method.
7. Do first things first: the church members need to create a network.

The JUC continued to discuss the seven foundations, and translate them into Japanese. Eventually, at this year-end meeting, we approved the foundations.

JUC Secretary and Communication/ PARL Director

Inada Yutaka

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On Monday evening, November 18, 2013, the sanctuary of the Central Ulaanbaatar Seventh-day Adventist Church was full of joyful Mongolian Adventists, and their guests. Each face - young ones, young adults, and elderly - was shining in anticipation of a historic celebration of the 20th anniversary of the first baptism in Mongolia.

Through exceptional music, video testimonies, and reports, God’s goodness was recounted. The program began with a musical concert by The Descendants. A pastors’ quartet and other singing groups offered their praise in music, too.

There were also video testimonies from some of the early Mongolian Adventists as well as a video that reviewed the history of Adventist mission work in Mongolia. Past Directors, Dale Tunnell, and Paul Kotanko joined the event through video messages.

During the event Pastor Altanbaatar Buyant was ordained to the gospel ministry of the Adventist church with his wife, Bolortuya, and four boys at his side. Mission President, Elbert Kuhn, lead in the solemn service. David Ripley, Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) Ministerial Association Secretary, shared the pastoral ministry charge. Dr. Jairyong Lee, NSD President, offered the ordination prayer.

One guest, Cathie Hartman was honored for her service, along with her husband and family, as the first missionaries to Mongolia. She gave a personal greeting in the Mongolian language. Other guests came from the NSD.

A message by current Mongolia Mission President, Elbert Kuhn, encouraged the congregation to continue mission outreach to claim the nation of Mongolia as warriors for the gospel army. He invited the 34 Mongolian pastoral workers to the front, and then led a season of prayer asking the Holy Spirit’s guidance as the pastors lead their churches in witness to their communities. Each pastor was asked to write their vision for growing the church on a piece of paper. The pastors indicated that they will work to baptize 600 new members in 2014. To close the celebration the congregation stood in united commitment to personal witness, and they sang the NSD International Mission Congress (IMC) theme song “We Are Standing.”

1 : Jairyong Lee, NSD President (R) gives special remarks
2 : Mongolian Adventists on the stage dressed with traditional costumes
3 : Pastor Elbert Kuhn (center), Mongolian Mission director speaks to the participants
4 : Pastor Altanbaatar buyant was ordained during the event
The Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) has created a children's offering device based on a similar resource shared by the Southern Asia-Pacific Division (SSD) (thanks Miriam!) to teach children about stewardship. We recognize that God has trusted us with many treasures—our abilities, time and the treasure of money—a treasure that we can share with God and others. When children learn from as young as 2 years-old to share what they have, the sin of selfishness can be banished, and a spirit of generosity nurtured in these disciples of Jesus. Our goal is to help our children establish a life-long habit of following God’s commands, thinking unselfishly of others, caring for those who are less fortunate and being a compassionate disciple of Jesus Christ. The rewards are tremendous just as He has promised in Malachi 3:10.

This device, funded jointly by the NSD Children’s Ministries Department, and Stewardship Department, was introduced at our NSD mid-quinquennial meeting for Children’s, Family and Women’s Ministries directors held on Jeju Island on September 1-2, 2013. It has four pockets with four flaps—the first one contains instructions to the parents how to use the device. Into this first flap, users can insert the name or picture of the child with the title, “My Love Offering to God.” The second pocket is meant for tithe; the third for offerings, and the fourth for a special mission contribution towards a specific project of the local church. The versatility of the see-through flaps allows for our leaders to print their own labels in whichever language they choose.

As soon as our Children’s and Women’s Ministries Director, Purevdulam from Mongolia, received samples of the device, she very promptly started with her own children at home. She also shared the device with another mission director, and they taught their children about stewardship. Since she had only a few of the devices, she decided to begin with her own family, and as God blesses, they can testify to His goodness. The offering devices are still being prepared for shipment to every union in the NSD, and I am certain that once they arrive at the churches, the children and families will be blessed many times over as promised in Malachi! Do pray for our children that in giving, they may overcome the basic sin of selfishness; that in generosity, they can become like their Father in Heaven.

Gospel Leaping Over a Fence of a Military Camp

Toegyewon Church in the West Central Korean Conference, tried to deliver the gospel to a nearby military camp. A smoking and drinking prevention program for soldiers was implemented by the Toegyewon Church at the church, on October 26, 2013. There is about a 15 year relationship between the church and the troops which has brought such a great consequence. As the church and the troops have been using the same access road, it made them naturally closer to each other. The church has given some help on troop organization day, and Christmas for soldiers’ welfare. Also, many good Adventist books like the Spirit of Prophecy were donated to the troops through the sponsorship of the Publishing Ministries Department of the East Central Korean Conference.

In addition, the church has served six troops near the Toegyewon area with medical and dental checkup service, foot massage, and free bread. It also served the community with house repair service in cooperation with the soldiers.
The Korean Union Conference (KUC) held its annual council meetings in its auditorium on November 12, 2013. Around 100 representatives from the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD), Korean Union Conference (KUC), five local conferences, and institutions, attended to deal with agendas. During the meeting, each department of the KUC reported their activities for the year, and plans for the next year. In addition, each institution such as medical, educational, food, publishing, and language school, reported the current condition of operation.

In the opening remarks, Dr. Jairyong Lee, NSD President, introduced the NSD’s major projects such as 1000 Missionary Movement (1000MM), Pioneer Mission Movement (PMM), HisHands Mission Movement (HHMM), and Mission Day, as well as their present situations, and said, “Mission is not a theory, but a practice. I really appreciate the Korean Adventist church for its positive cooperation for global gospel work.”

“There are many difficult problems before us. The compiled figures, or statistics, show that the church is slowly declining. Mission work should not be stagnant any more, but be placed on a solid base,” said Pastor DaeSung Kim, KUC President. The participants then had a special prayer meeting, and prayed for the Seeding Evangelism in each church, an increase of baptisms and tithes, children and youth ministries, spiritual revival of Adventists, operation and mission work in hospitals and language schools, church leaders, the presence of the Latter Rain, Jesus’ coming, and the nation and its leaders.

by Sukhee Han - NSD Communication Director
Chuncheon Sahmyook Elementary School Wins the Grand Prize at the “Beautiful Education” Awards


Outstanding features of the school are self-directed and creative learning, character education through the KOCE (Kind, Order, Clean, Etiquette) Movement, field experience study, nature class, development of potential and capacity of students through various after school programs, efficient English education, sound educational environment through construction of multi-purpose building and remodeling of facilities, emotional and spiritual education through manual work, activation of music and physical education through the 111 Movement (1 student, 1 musical instrument, 1 sport), and the students parents’ positive participation in local community service.

“The school is doing its best to make students happy. Based on the beautiful Adventist educational philosophy, beautiful teachers and faculty will continue to produce beautiful individuals on this beautiful campus in order to make the world more beautiful.” said Mr. YoungDong Kim, the Principal of the school.

Voice of Zion Choir Performs Handel’s ‘Messiah’ for the Gospel Work in Wuxi, China

Messiah, the oratorio of Handel that describes the life, the passion, and the resurrection of Christ, echoed in the Sahmyook University. One thousand audience members watched the performance of the Voice of Zion choir, and were moved by the sufferings and joys of Christ’s life. The performance was organized to support the mission work in Wuxi, China.

“I appreciate the devotion of the choir which has been supporting the gospel work with concert profits every year. I hope the funds raised from this concert will serve as a foundation of soul-winning work in Wuxi,” said Dr. Jairyong Lee, the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) President.

Pastor Robert Folkenberg also sent a congratulatory message that he is thankful to the choir members, and the Korean Adventist Church for preparing this meaningful concert for mission work in Wuxi.

As Handel’s Messiah includes the entire life of Jesus, pictures related to lyrics were projected on the screen. “It was long, but such a beautiful and touching concert that even my boy was absorbed in it. It was a gracious time to think of the life of Christ again,” said a pastor watching the concert with his little son. Voices of Zion, which performed the oratorio Messiah last year and this year, has a plan to have this concert regularly.

By SukHee Han - NSD Communication Director

January / February 2014 • 21
Time really flies. Some Ten months have passed since I came to Saniku Gakuin College (SGC, President: Katsumi Higashide) from the Northern Asia-Pacific Division. When I came to SGC in March 2013, I was exposed to freezing cold weather. Strangely, staying outside of the house was better, and warmer than inside the house. Simply because, generally speaking, the houses at SGC have thin walls with many windows, and not a very good heating system. But Spring has totally changed my first impression. The whole campus was beautifully colored, and covered with cherry blossoms. I would say that SGC is “a heaven of wild flowers.” The campus is surrounded by beautiful scenery, and an abundance of nature, with small brooks along the boundary line of the school. The school is located in the remote countryside of Chiba prefecture. It’s a very calm and quiet place with less than 300 students, nursing students being the majority of them.

At present, SGC is comprised of a four-year course in the Nursing Department, as well as three other departments with two-year or three-year courses: Theology Department, English Communication Department, and Education Department. The SGC has special plans in the future for the Theology Department. The Japan Union Conference (JUC) and SGC have a plan to upgrade the department from a three-year course to a four-year course plus one Master’s degree program, tentatively Master of Arts in Ministry, in affiliation with Adventist International Institute.
Departmental & Regional News

Dr. HongPal Ha
Dean of Theology Department of Saniku Gakuin College, Japan

It is believed that the master’s program will mainly contribute to reeducating and upgrading the local pastors in the field as well as theology students’ upgrading.

During my stay at SGC for these ten months, I have been much impressed with some activities going on in the school. First of all, all students, and even faculty, are involved in manual labor. Every Tuesday and Friday afternoon, a group of the students are assigned to different areas of the school for cleaning, gardening, and other types of work. Consequently, the school is very clean and neat because of the voluntary activities of the students. The students are replacing the flowers quickly, and skillfully with new kinds of flowers. Thus, we enjoy looking at colorful flowers from time to time. They greet us with smiling faces along with their God-given fragrance. It’s a real blessing.

The second thing that I was impressed with was that there was a group of the students studying the Sabbath School Quarterly voluntarily. This may seem strange to say, but although SGC is an Adventist educational institute, quite a good number of the students are non-Adventist. Therefore, this gathering could be a green light for the spiritual growth in the school. During the school year, we have worship three times a week: Wednesday evenings for Prayer Meeting, then Vespers on Friday, and Sabbath morning worship.

One Wednesday evening I was attending the worship in spite of heavy rain. I thought we would have a handful of students in attendance. When I got to the church, I found it was true, there were only a few students present. But my calculation betrayed me in a moment. Just before the meeting, the students began packing the seats, dressed in their wet clothes. Every Wednesday evening it is our pleasure to see these precious students coming for worship. As long as we have those faithful students attending the worship, our future is hopeful and bright, even though it may be a small beginning.

Japan is a country of great potential. But church growth, in general, seems to be slow, and retarded regardless of the efforts and strategies poured out. Nevertheless, the JUC has a firm assurance that once SGC is spiritually reformed and revived, its impact will be great on the whole of the JUC as well. So, the JUC and SGC are doing their best to revive the school and the church. Please pray for us. God will do His work in this great mission field.

Sahmyook Health University College Hosts the First Vocal Ensemble Contest

The first Vocal Ensemble Contest hosted by Sahmyook Health University College (SYHUC) was held through the sponsorship of the Korean Union Conference (KUC) Youth Ministries Department, at the SYHUC auditorium on October 27, 2013. There were 220 singing teams with 130 members participating in the contest, sharing songs which they have been practicing very diligently. High quality stage and sound equipment was prepared to support them. It lasted over three hours, but the audience enjoyed it very much, and they were filled with grace, and a wonderful impression.

Sahmyook Health University College felt that this contest was a good chance for non-Christian students, and parents to have a taste of the Adventist church.

Dr. HongPal Ha
Dean of Theology Department of Saniku Gakuin College, Japan

Sahmyook Health University College Hosts the First Vocal Ensemble Contest

KUC
With the excited tones of fellow co-workers raising their voices in song, the 2013 Annual Council of the Chinese Union Mission (CHUM) held on December 3-4, 2013, launched its meetings at Sai Kung, Clearwater Bay, Hong Kong Adventist College. The attendees of the Council included three administrators, three directors, and co-workers from the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD), 19 members of the CHUM Executive Committee (including two representatives from China), as well as 22 head of Departments of CHUM totaling 47 people.

The purpose of last year’s Annual Council was to allow the three administrators, and the various departments and agencies, to review and report on their activities for the year. The information was used to assess if each department has reached the goals and directions set by CHUM for 2013-2015, which is for Kingdom Growth. If the goals have been reached, these leaders will receive affirmation for their work. If there is evident space for improvement, constructive suggestions can be brought forward so that improvements can be made. At the same time, the goals and direction of 2014 were also decided upon during the meeting. In summary, the goals of 2013 were well met.

"Kingdom Growth" –

How are we going to push forward?

For us to be able to expand the work of the gospel, we need to first understand the current world situation. We thank God for sending two visionary pastors who can give us an international perspective: NSD President Jairyong Lee, and NSD Director of Global Evangelism JohngHaeng Kwon. They spoke of the world situation and trends, gave spiritual exhortation, and shared the General Conference’s direction for the coming year.

Vision:

To have an Adventist church of considerable influence in each and every city while every believer uses Jesus’ method of witnessing through being a living testimony to those around them. Every believer should also actively participate in a comprehensive evangelism effort.

Goal:

For cities with a population of more than a million people, that have no Adventist churches, we will mobilize resources from our global church to plant an Adventist church, and set up a ministry that meets the needs of the local community. In similar cities that have a population of more than a million, we will strive to increase the proportion of Adventists, and
People from Three Countries Attend a Special Prayer and Revival Meeting in Japan

By Seon Jae, Sung - Tokyo Korean Church

T hree hundred people from Japan, the USA, and Korea prayed together for spiritual revival and soul-winning, and were armed with words for evangelism. Early rain and latter rain are the blessings of nature, and are essential for farming. Thus, Israelite farmers look at the sky for the harvest. As Adventists, we should also earnestly ask for the Latter Rain. Those who eagerly prayed for the mercy-drops of the Holy Spirit on Japan gathered at the Tokyo National Women’s Education Center from November 7 to 11, 2013. There were spiritual messages, praises, testimonies, prayer, discussion, and fellowship in a heavenly atmosphere. Twenty-two came from the USA, while 83 came from Korea, and 188 from Japan. Eleven pastors preached well-prepared messages on “Zion, Ask the Lord for Rain”. Nine witnesses of the living God gave their testimonies. It made attendees deeply feel God’s mercy and grace. It was also a great time to think of our faith today, and to consider the meaning of life that longs for His Advent. Attendees realized that the time when we need to return to God with humbleness, and repentance is ripe.

A meeting with more than 300 attendees is a big event in Japan. Although there were lots of hardships with the venue and time arrangement, speaker invitation, and attendance recruiting, everything went well through God’s grace. While participants eagerly prayed for the Japanese Adventist church, there was hope and an appeal for the establishment of a prayer center for the revival of the Japanese Adventist church. Sister Esther Joo, one of the witnesses, gave USD 3,000 for the project.

We appreciate the positive cooperation of the Japan Union Conference (JUC), support of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division, devotion and sincerity of the staff, and the 300 attendees. The next meeting will be held in the USA.
KUC

The SDA Fair Mission Participates in the Gwangju International Food Fair

SDA Fair Mission, through the auspices of the South West Korean Conference (SWKC), and the Korean Publishing House, participated in the Gwangju International Food Fair from November 14 to 17, 2013. The Mission provided a vegetarian food cooking class, and a natural healing seminar. During the period, about 200 pastors and church members voluntarily served about 21,000 visitors. The cooking class hosted by the West-central Church in the SWKC was crowded with lots of attendees. For the Vegetarian Diet and Health Seminar, Mrs. JeongHee Lee, SDA Fair Mission General Manager, gave a lecture to the attendees. As it says love begets love, those who connect with the love of Christ held this event to let others know about Jesus. The event begat many testimonies, and here are some.

A group of Adventist Youth praise God in a military camp

A group of Adventist Youth praise God in a military camp

One of staff introduces the Spirit of Prophecy books

Giving Counsel on Health and Diet

KUC

Centennial Anniversary of Seoul Sahmyook Elementary School

It has been 100 years since Seoul Sahmyook Elementary School was founded. It is the first school that has celebrated its centennial among the 10 Adventist elementary schools in Korea. The celebration event was held at its auditorium with 400 guests, teachers, staff, students, and parents in attendance on October 1, 2013.

“We really appreciate the efforts of the school personnel who have devoted their lives to the development of the school in spite of numerous difficulties, and hardships in its 100-year history. We also give thanks to God for
“This is unbelievable. Many people come, and easily answer a questionnaire in our booth, while other booths are very quiet. This is the evidence that God is with us, isn’t it?” - Mrs. GwangSook Im, wife of SWKC Sabbath School & Personal Ministries Director

“It is amazing that so many people are crowded around our booth. We witness that the Holy Spirit is working in everything, and I realize that this is the right work for the Women’s Ministries to do. The WM Department will lead this work through next year.” - Pastor HwaYoung Lee, SWKC Women’s Ministries Director

“Although I could not participate in it, I felt the passion of the lay people. What made it possible? It is the evidence that God works together with His people.” - Mr. SeongWoo Lee, ASI President

“It was a really amazing experience. I think this is a good way of doing mission, and I will help it as long as I can.” - Pastor HyunSeok Yoon

“There were opportunities to learn something at all times throughout the fair. I recognized that this is an important work, and it should be extended more.” - Dr. HyungJoon Kim

“I was touched by the positive, and active service of our booth, especially compared to other booths. It was hard and tough work, and needed more detailed orientation before the service.” - HimChan Lee, Gangjin Church

“It was amazing and wonderful how the vegetarian cooking class was prepared, and how the Adventist messages are strongly conveyed at this kind of fair.” - YeEun Lee, Seoul English Language Institute Church

“The more I participate in a fair, the more I have a sense of duty. Words given during the camp training were so graceful, and co-workers were grateful. I was so touched, and I realize the necessity of training.” - GwangGyun Sah, SDA Fair Mission Youth President

“I was so moved in this passionate mission field.” - HyoGyung Kim, Cheonan Jiksan Church

“It was joyful and happy to participate in this amazing mission work. I think a lot about how to explain the gospel well to visitors. I will never forget their eyes, open mind, and interests. I found that Christ was with me.” - JeongMi Gwak, Seogwang Church

“I think this is a good experience that young people really need to participate in.” - HongJun Ahn, Naju Church

“It was my first time to join the camp training and I was so happy. I visited other booths to give them Adventist publications, and rice cakes. It was happy because they liked it so much.” - GwangOk Chun, Naju Church

“I was so happy to show what I do to my friend, and my sister. I think more interests are needed, especially in the provinces.” - OkSeon Ki, Bitgoeul Church

“I really thank God for giving us such faithful co-workers. It was nice to know each other well through prayer, and feed-back. The event gave me lots of good memories.” - JaeOk Lee, Youngam Church

“Somebody suggested this work, and I participated in it without any expectation, but I realized God’s presence and guidance. It was good to come with my husband, and it should be introduced more.” - JiHyun Lee, Seoul Bonbu Church

“I felt the Holy Spirit with this work. I was reminded of the simple truth that all I can do is to just work hard.” - YongSeok Choi, Iksan Sarangbit Church

“I found out what kind of mission it is after seeing for myself. This is a good tool to deliver the gospel, and it will be better if our church administration systematically empowers it.” - JuHyung Lee, Seolak Church

“The volunteer workers who passionately devoted themselves moved my heart.” - Pastor JangHo Shin, SWKC Executive Secretary

* * *

One of the most amazing things is that sponsors support the booth and materials fee worth KRW 57,000,000. We hope the seed of the gospel can be sown everywhere through the fair mission.
120,000 Tracts are Distributed in Tokyo, Japan

By Seon Jae, Sung - Tokyo Korean Church

Tokyo Korean Adventist Church, in cooperation with the Kanamachi Church, Amanuma Church, and the Koganei Church, did street evangelism from November 12 to 15, 2013. They distributed about 120,000 tracts, booklets, and publicized various events each church had prepared. Forty-three Korean volunteer workers worked with the Japanese church members in the distribution of evangelistic publications, and house visitation. Time in the Word, prayer, and testimony each morning, and evening was really graceful and joyful, too. The activity of the 43 people, including an 80-year-old retired pastor, drew other people’s attention. In spite of many inconveniences, they devoted themselves without even a word of complaint.

It was a good experience that “in all things God works for the good.” Japanese church members warmly welcomed their Korean brethren and provided a nice lunch every day. The church district paid for transportation expenses. The Northern Asia-Pacific Division and the Japan Union Conference gave assistance by printing the tracts. It was a short, but very meaningful opportunity to have evangelistic experience, following Jesus’ example.

Mongolia Mission Convenes First Constituency Session

The historic first Constituency Session of the Mongolia Mission (MM) began with a devotional message from the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) President Jairyong Lee on November 19, 2013. Following this call to new mission effort, Elbert Kuhn, Mongolia Mission President, asked Mission Secretary, Bold Batsukh, to call the meeting into business session. He noted that 79 delegates and 13 invitees were in attendance.

Department directors gave reports that reviewed God’s power at work through the activities of the members of the church. One highlight of the Treasurer’s report was the good news that Mongolian members tithe commitment is increasing, and subsidies to local congregations are decreasing. This indicates the increasing strength of the churches in Mongolia.

A Nominating Committee was voted and began its work. Its recommendations for leadership of ministries departments as voted by the Constituency Meeting are...
listed below. Mongolia Mission is thankful for these strong ministry leaders.

- Ministerial Department - Nyamdavaa Dovhinsuren (Evangelism Department, His Hands Ministry Coordinator, Global Mission Coordinator, Sabbath School & Personal Ministry Department)
- Children’s & Women’s Ministries - Purevdulam Jugderjav
- Stewardship & Publishing Department - Bold Batsukh
- Communication - Elbert Kuhn
- Public Affairs & Religious Liberty (PARL) - Bazarsad Sukhbaatar
- Education, Family, Shepherdess and School Ministries - Cleidi Kuhn

Appreciation was expressed to two missionary families that are returning to their home countries. Doug and Coral Camps first came to Mongolia in 2004. Elbert Kuhn, Mongolia Mission President, shared that Doug’s life has been “a living sermon,” and that Coral has “loved Mongolia since her first visit.” Pastor Kang Ha Shik, and his wife will be leaving for further training at Sahmyook University. Their dream is to start a Mongolian congregation in Korea. They served as Pioneer Missionary Movement (PMM) missionaries, and lead the Youth Department and Descendants singing ministry.

In a closing message, Dr. Jairyong Lee, NSD President, stated, “We have shared a historic moment together. We have witnessed God’s blessing. It is our desire to express our appreciation to all the mission leaders, pastors, and church members for their diligent work. We will continue on ‘United in Mission.’ Please pray for your leaders, and the Executive Committee members. Please do your best in soul winning. In such a way we will glorify God as many more people become heirs of salvation.”

By Lynn Ripley
Director of NSD Shepherdess Ministries

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The OYiM (One Year in Mission) Tokyo 13 missionaries are four young missionaries sent to Tokyo, Japan, by the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) Youth Ministries Department in order to support the Tokyo 13 Project. Missionary DongWon Kang is the central figure of the missionary team as he came back after the successful completion of the New York 13 Project. The team implemented intensive mission activities in Japan until December 31, 2013. For effective short-term mission activity programs, they developed their activities in following three aspects.

First, they stayed in the Tokyo Central Church, and the Tokyo Korean Adventist Church. They supported churches in many different ways including tract distribution, HisHands mission activities, Sabbath School participation, helping harvest in church member’s farms, song leaders, recreation, cleaning the church, painting and papering walls, picking up new believers, and a play performance.

In addition, OYiM missionaries operated discipleship training, and small group activities as their own primary mission project. Every Sabbath they implemented discipleship training, and every Monday they did small group activity with the new disciples. The small group started with four members, but now 13-15 members attend every week. As a part of the community outreach program, the Tokyo Korean Adventist Church, and the Tokyo Central Church provide English class and a Korean language class, respectively in that order, to secure faithful young interests.

Lastly, OYiM missionaries promoted their work to local churches. They participated in, and supported special meetings and events of many churches, as the conference, on occasion, served to positively advertise their mission activities. Through these opportunities, they ultimately aimed to inspire Japanese young people. They did promotion at the event hosted by the Japan Union Conference (JUC) Youth Ministries Department on December 21, and at four to five other meetings. Moreover, they held an evangelistic meeting for youth on December 16 and 20, 2013, inviting all young people they had contacted. Pastor NakHyung Kim, NSD Youth Ministries Director, was the main speaker of this evangelistic meeting, and preached the message on “Your Hope.”

We would like to ask for your powerful prayers for the continuous ministries of the OYiM Tokyo 13 missionaries, and the revival of the Japanese Adventist young people.

By NakHyung Kim - NSD Youth Director
Stories of Stewardship

By David Ng - Director of CHUM Stewardship Department

Defining Stewardship

When a person explicitly recognizes and willingly accepts Jesus as his/her personal Savior, he/she usually will go through a ritual called baptism. The ritual, performed in the name of the triune God, buries the person in a watery grave, and washes off his/her sins by the blood of Jesus. Like the dead resurrected from a tomb, the person comes out of the baptismal pool as a new creation, leaving behind his/her sins in the past. In this way, a Christian honors Christ as the Lord of everything, whether it is related to home, workplace, school, church or society. A Christian walks and works with Christ. The demonstration of his/her loyalty is not limited to tithing and Sabbath-keeping. For a Christian, despite his/her skin color, age, status, education, etc., a lifestyle of being partners with Christ and doing His work is the basis and definition of stewardship.

Story 1

Recently I visited a church and shared with the congregation the topic of personal evangelism. There were 187 people who came to the gathering. During the meeting, I was touched by some testimonies of successful evangelism. Sister A, who was a member of a Sunday-keeping church, attended some worship services and Bible studies at the Adventist church. Although illiterate, she was convinced that the Adventist Church is God’s remnant church and holds unique messages from the Bible for the world. She was so eager to share her joy that she picked up her phone and called Brother B, who soon came to the Adventist church with his wife to worship and study. Not long after that, they were baptized. Brother B then invited another couple, Brother C and his wife, to church. The same inspiration captured Brother C and his wife during their Bible studies. Soon, they were baptized, too. In response to Brother C’s invitation, Sister D and her husband came to church. They soon also joined the remnant church. The series of miracles happened because Sister A, although having no education, was faithfully carrying out her duties as a steward of Christ. And I believe there will be more harvest to come.

Story 2

In 2002, Sister Chen and her family moved to another city. As soon as she settled down, she organized some migrant workers into a group for Bible studies and worship services. In the same year, five of the members were baptized. Sister Chen requested the Adventist church in her hometown to send somebody to help her. The next year, Brother Zhang who came to the same city for education joined her ministry. Under the leadership of the Holy Spirit, the congregation worked in unity. Very soon the house in which the congregation was meeting became too small. Then, the Adventists began to rent another facility. In 2006, the local government granted them an official permit to worship as a church. Last year, the congregation raised 2.3 million Chinese Yuan to purchase the facility and made it a permanent church. After a decade of evangelism, the church now has 102 members. On every Sabbath, about 120 people worship together. Let’s remember this group of faithful Adventists in our prayers as they try to pay off the 1-million-yuan loan for the building.

Conclusion

The duties of a steward involve services to others. A steward of God is willing to share what he/she has received from God to bless others. As long as we try our best to be His steward, miracles will happen around us. The Bible teaches, “I can do all this through him who gives me strength” –Philippians 4:13. Another Christian author, David Swartz, writes, “When Christ died on the cross, God’s pockets were empty. He spent it all; He could give no more than all of Himself” – Embracing God.
On December 10-11, 2013, the Fourth Session of the Taiwan Conference, which is held once every 3 years, was held in Taichung, Taiwan. There were 174 representatives in attendance. This is the first Session since the Taiwan Mission became Taiwan Conference, and it is also the first since the Taiwan Conference was placed under the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD).

We were blessed that officials from the NSD were able to participate in our Session. The officials were Jairyong Lee, President; Akeri Suzuki, Secretary; Kenneth Osborn, Treasurer; Stanley Ng, Assistant to the President/China; Barbara Choi, Health Director; and Chek-Yat Phoon, Education/Language Schools director. They guided us through the session process, and energized us through their presentations.

On the first day of the Session, Pastor Lee gave the devotion. He pointed out three things:

1. God entrusted the Three Angel’s Messages to the Seventh-day Adventist church, and Jesus Christ Second Coming is our hope.
2. Mission First: Our church has the eternal gospel to share with people which includes the Three Angel’s Messages.
3. Holy Spirit: We must be filled with the Holy Spirit. Likewise we need to spend our time in prayer just as the early church of 120 people spent 10 days in prayer. The Holy Spirit filled everyone, and there were 3,000 people baptized after the Pentecost (Acts 2:42).

On December 11, Pastor Suzuki shared a message. He quoted Matthew 9:35. “And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.” He highlighted that Jesus’ ministry included the gospel and the Health message. He mentioned that the Health message is the right hand of the gospel. Pastor Suzuki spoke of an experience in which he wrestled with how to support a cancer patient. However, the patient died. But his service to the patient’s family deeply touched their heart. Because of this, all the family members were willing to know Jesus Christ.

Pastor Ng quoted Nehemiah 1:2-3 to encourage the new office members, pointing out three things:

1. Rely on the Lord to become an accessible leader.
2. Be concerned with the needs of people.
3. Face a crisis and solve it.

He encouraged everyone to not only to be self-supporting, but to also support others in the global mission. Finally, the delegates sang the song “Forward Together Kingdom of Heaven,” and decided to share the gospel with relatives and friends until Jesus Christ Second Coming.

The Fourth Session elected three new officers, and several Department heads to the Taiwan Conference:

- President: Steven Wu
- Executive Secretary: Cyrus Shen
- Treasury: Joseph Ma
- Departmental Directors:
  - Sabbath School and Personal Ministries: Jim Hsu
  - Children’s Ministries, Family Ministries, and Women’s Ministries: Paula Kuo
  - Youth Ministries: Tom Sun
  - Health Ministries: Norman Tu
  - Ministerial Association (City church): Raymond Ko
  - Ministerial Association (Indigenous church): Peter Lin
  - Stewardship Ministries: Peter Chou
  - Ministry of Justice: Ken Feng
  - Indigenous Legal Holding Body Executive Secretary/Community Service and Resource Management: Noah Lai
If you ask black people whom they respect the most, they will answer instantly, “Martin Luther King.” But there is another famous and highly respected black person, Malcom X. Malcom hated white people from his childhood. But, at the same time, deep in his heart, he longed to become one of them. He actually tried to become like one of them. He tried many things such as whitening his skin using creams, and dying his black hair to hide it.

But the harder he tried to become a white person, the more miserable he became. He then confessed, “As I tried to become a white person, I gained only more hatred for the white people, and I finally realized that I am such a helpless being. Then one day a marvelous light came to me. And that was an amazing discovery. It was a simple realization that ‘I can never be a white person!’ This is just a simple fact, but at that time it was a great shock to me. So I made up my mind. ‘I shouldn’t try to become a white person, I should live as a proud black person.’ And then, I realized that even though I was a black person, I could become a lofty, and a beautiful person.”

As Malcom X began to become a famous leader among the black people, a famous motto was started, “Black is Beautiful.” This means that, just as much as white is beautiful, so is black. But I would like to share this story with him. “Black is beautiful.” Since I have been working with the foreigners in Korea for several years, I do not look at each person’s skin color. It’s because whether that person is white or black, I just feel they each have their own beauty. I hope that one day, this world becomes a world where inferiority or superiority no longer exists because we are all the same human beings. Because we are all beautiful, and precious.

Happiness and sadness do not come from the color of a person’s skin, but from human relationships. The Bible tells us to “love your neighbor as yourself.” As we value, and take care of our bodies, other people’s bodies are just as valuable. And if we respect others as we respect ourselves, we also would be respected by others. This is the Golden Rule, “Do to others as you want them to do to you.”

We may have different languages, skin colors, and cultures, but we are all the same human beings. In order to live happily, we should not be deprecating ourselves or others in the delusion of superiority.

YoungSoo Kim
Director of Ansan Multicultural Family Service Center
Revival is about a new experience with Jesus. It is about what He can do in our personal lives, in our marriages and with our children. Revival leads us from heartfelt prayer to passionate mission.

During Wednesday morning worship time twice a month, the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) family meets for study, fellowship, and prayer. Our current study material is from the book “Christ’s Object Lessons” by Ellen G. White. David Ripley, NSD Ministerial Association Secretary, has written a study guide for each person to use. (For an electronic copy email: dripley@nsdadventist.org-available in Korean.) The office team is divided into nine small groups based on their native language.

This time of study and prayer has strengthened our relationship with God, given us new understanding of His will for our mission, and closer fellowship with each other. Many of our prayers have been answered in faith affirming ways, and group members have learned new peace in trusting for God’s answers in His time. If your team would like materials for your own Revival & Reformation time, please also see the General Conference Revival and Reformation web site: http://www.revivalandreformation.org/.

Sharing Activities in the Office
As a part of the Tokyo 13 mission activities, the Tokyo Chinese Adventist Church conducted an evangelistic series with Pastor Dainel Jiao, Chinese Union Mission (CHUM) Executive Secretary from September 18 to 21, 2013. The topic was “Value of Life,” and Pastor Jiao preached words that opened the attendees’ eyes to the meaning of life, and the reason for living. On the last day, seven interests decided to accept Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. Four among them were baptized on Sabbath. Three other persons continuously study the bible, and will be baptized soon. I gave thanks and glory to God for His grace on this meeting.

Four newly baptized persons shared their personal testimonies. One of them is sister Wen Qin Lin who was a Taoist, and it took six years for her to accept the Adventist faith. Her child and my second daughter attend the same school, so we’ve known each other for a long time. I invited her to the church several times, but she had no interest in any meetings or activities. She was firmly opposed to the Christian faith from the bottom of her heart, but God touched her mind and she began to attend the church, and became the most active member in my church. She was very eager to evangelize her friends, leading many people to the church, and made them listen to the gospel. How amazing and wonderful God’s work is! I thought that she would not be baptized nor become a Christian, but she is the most enthusiastic Christian now! After she listened to the message on “Value of Life” from Pastor Jiao, she made her own decision to be born again. Before the baptism, she testified that what she had believed in is superstition, but now she has found the genuine truth for eternal life through faith in Jesus Christ, and she wishes her family will become Christian soon. When she gave her pledge, she prayed for a sales contract for two companies of her husband. The living God answered her prayer, and she made her decision to follow the Lord.

“With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.” All glory and honor to the Lord. Amen.

Yu, Chan Fu
PMM at Tokyo Chinese Adventist Church, Japan
The Yarmag area is the first inhabited area of Mongolian that can be seen from the Airport. A vast wilderness and Ger -a Mongolian traditional house- residence area are facing each other across the road to downtown Ulaanbaatar. In contrast with the prosperity of one side of the road, the other side of the road is a dark slum area. It is my mission to organize a church here in Yarmag where the poorest people in Ulaanbaatar are barely make a living. Coal smoke from each house makes people experience difficulty in breathing in midwinter, while it looks mysterious from a distance.

However, as light glows in the dark, the mission of the church is to reflect the light of hope to the dark world. I hope a church can be planted in this area. One thing we need in regards to organizing a church is to understand the surroundings, and neighborhood. I realized God’s guidance in looking for the church site, because it is not easy to purchase a building near a school in this large area. The church site is just next to a school where an overseas missionary team from Sahmyook Health University College conducted an evangelistic series last year. Also, missionary NaRa Yoon has been serving several students since August of 2012. This number 60 school is proud of their traditional Mongolian dance and music. The school wins a prize every year. As luck would have it, I met teacher Erica who teaches traditional dance in the school. She may be of help to me in the future. My family has a talent in music and teaching. We want to teach students and to tell about Jesus, the Desire of Ages. So, first of all, we will build an intimate relationship with the students by feeding them, getting along with them, and teaching them the Korean language, music, and health. Then, we will preach the gospel to them, and their family based on the relationship we have built.

Vision for Church-planting in Yarmag, Mongolia

JiHong Cho
PMM at Yarmag Church, Mongolia

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From November 11 to December 23, 2013, the Golden Angels 10th Group had their last mission trip of this year in Taiwan. For more than six weeks in Taiwan they did their best for the glory of God. They were so faithful to the end.

At the Dari Pioneer Missionary Movement (PMM) Church (Pr. SungChul Yoon), they began their first mission with speaker, Pr. YoungIl Choi, PMM Assistant Director. The Golden Angels 10th Group did their best to praise the Lord. They served through many different activities such as street concerts, Korean food class, distributing handouts, inviting people to church, and so on.

After staying one week at the Dari Church, they moved on to the Sintien PMM Church (Pr. SukWoo Kim). Here they had an evangelistic meeting which was specially focused on those who have left the church, and handicapped people. The main speaker was Pr. JangJin Jo who is working as the Assistant Director of the NSD Mission Strategy and Research Center.

The third church that the Golden Angels 10 served at was the Doriou PMM Church (Pr. DaeBok Jung). They also distributed invitation cards to many of the students. There are many schools, including two universities, near the church. Students who joined the evangelistic meeting were from many different countries such as Japan, Korea, Malaysia, and China. The church also prepared a food class with many participants from the meeting.

On the fourth week of their mission in Taiwan, the Golden Angels 10th Group helped with the evangelistic meeting at the Jiayi PMM Church (Pr. HyunChul Shin). The main speaker, Pr. NakHyung Kim, NSD Youth Director, delivered the gospel, and the church had a Korean food class every morning and evening with the people. The Golden Angels missionaries also praise God through their best efforts.

They also served the Taiwan Conference from December 8 to 11, 2013. Through the beautiful praise of the Golden Angels 10, all the people in the conference were so happy and touched. The last two churches they joined were the Pingdong Church, and the Taidong PMM Church (Pr. JaeSong Chun). Pr. Chen was the main speaker of the evangelistic meeting in the Pingdong Church, and Pr. SukHee Han (NSD Communication Director) preached for the Taidong Church from December 15 to 21, 2013.

All the members of Golden Angels 10, the singing missionaries of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division, are still praying that the Lord may bless them to be faithful to the end. They need your prayer support constantly. The mission field is their stage, the Word of God is their song, and one lost soul is the reason that they cry. By the prayers, by the grace of God, and by the power of the Spirit they will be faithful to the end.
Sintien PMM Church members are thankful to the faithful service of G.A.

Jiayi PMM Church members with Golden Angels.

Pr. NakHyung Kim encourages a young people who attend the evangelistic meeting in Jiayi PMM Church.

G.A Missionaries support each evangelistic meeting of the PMM local churches through their best efforts and mission spirit.

G.A visit two universities near the Doriou PMM Church and contact students.

Korean Food Class is a fascinating part of the mission activities.

Golden Angels’ concert is almost packed with many young people.

A precious young people join the baptismal service after the evangelistic meeting.
The mega typhoon Haiyan, which struck the central part of the Philippines on November 8, 2013, recorded the most serious damage in the Philippine’s history. The number of casualties reached 7,400. On November 30, the Philippines news media quoted the Department of National Defense as saying 5,632 died in the central part, which included Tacloban and Samar, and at least 1,759 were missing. However, the figure could rise further as the search operation is still in progress.

I left for the mission field to assure the safety of missionaries serving in the central part of the Philippines, and to survey the damaged area on November 24, 2013. On the bus to the village of Pataz, the mission field of missionary GaEun Cho, I saw the horrifying scene of the disaster through the window. When I arrived at the small village, I could not find the bamboo house where missionary Cho, and her Philippine partner stayed. First of all, I confirmed her safety, and then she shared the details with me.

On the day before the typhoon, she got a call from her partner that it is dangerous to stay at the bamboo house, so be at the church. While she meditated on the Bible at the church, around 10:00 a.m., the wind was rising. Typhoon Haiyan reached Pataz Village at 11:00 a.m., and it blew the roof off in an instant, and tore down the walls of her house. It completely devastated the village for six hours, and it became calm around 5:00 p.m.

“When the typhoon came, I was just afraid. But village people came to the church by ones and twos. Then, I found that we are in the church, and it is the safest place, because God is with us. I was so worried about other villagers who could not come to the church. So, I prayed and that was all I could do.”

As she had hoped, the villagers were all safe after the typhoon. At the moment that her life was threatened, she prayed not for herself, but for others. She said that she could understand God’s heart a little bit, so she wants to serve people with that eagerness.

Sixty-two missionaries are working in the central part damaged by the typhoon, and all of them are safe. They were not afraid of the dangerous situation, but they praised the Lord for His presence. As I return to the campus, I realize God’s protection as shown through their testimonies.
The Yanji Chinese Church, China, held its second baptismal service this year on November 9, 2013. This is the little fruit of the HisHands Mission Movement initiated in June this year. At the baptism, three precious persons accepted Jesus as their personal Savior, and all of them are family of HisHands missionaries. Two HisHands missionaries led their wives to the Lord, and one HisHands family led the eldest family member.

It was the first time in the Yanji Chinese Church’s history to have a baptism in winter. Due to the inferior condition of the church, and monotonous ministries, the church only has a baptism service once a year in the summer time. In addition, the number of baptisms has decreased for the last two to three years. By God’s grace, the church organized a “120 HisHands Mission Team” last summer, and began a HisHands ministries with the passion of the church members under the supervision of the NSD.

At first, it was not a familiar experience, but each missionary believed in God’s calling, and did their best with their devotion and hard effort. The church supported missionaries with regular education and training. Although it was not a great result, they gave thanks to God for encouraging them with this manifest fruit. We also hope the HisHands ministry can be a basis of revival and growth of the church.

At present, about 50-60 members gather on Sabbath at the Yanji Chinese Church, and the church’s four evangelists go to nearby small churches and meeting places.
Happy New Year!

Northern Asia-Pacific Division Workers