Congress Strengthens LEs for Another Year

by Tercio Marques | Publishing Director, SAD

Two unions in the South American Division (SAD) held union-wide literature evangelist (LE) congresses at the end of this month, with the theme “Enviados para Salvar” (Sent to Save). The first congress was held in the North Brazil Union (NBU) January 20–22, with about 200 delegates. The second was in the Central Brazil Union (CBU) January 23-26, with more than 500 delegates.

The congresses were attended by LEs, publishing leaders, and administrators from those two unions and their local conferences. Programs were designed to prepare and motivate publishing workers to do more and achieve more in terms of mission. Highlights included:

- Devotionals focused on revival and reformation
- Messages and presentations geared toward the literature evangelist’s calling and mission
- Emphasis on the program “Rescue Mission,” created and presented by SAD
- A dedication service for newly licensed and credentialed LEs
- Recognition of literature evangelists with outstanding achievements.

The highlight in the CBU congress was the baptism of 11 customers from the Central Brazil Union territory.

Twelve literature evangelists among the delegates had more than 40 years of service. Combined, they had more than 500 years of service for the church. About 35 LEs who attended the congress are also local church elders.

The main speakers at both congresses were Howard F. Faigao, General Conference Publishing director, Joao Vicente Pereyra, Brazil Publishing House vice president for marketing, and the SAD Publishing director. Marcos Souza, NBU Publishing director, and Marco Aurelio de Pinho, CBU Publishing director, coordinated the events.

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More than 500 leaders and LEs attended the LE congress in the Central Brazil Union.
The distribution of *The Great Hope* took a new dimension in the East Central Conference (ECC) in the Eastern Nigeria Union. Last October, an Orthodox church member received and read a copy of *The Great Hope*. He was so impressed and excited that he wondered what he could do to show his appreciation to God for placing the book in his hands.

Though he was not yet a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, he decided to donate a plot of land to the church, insisting that nothing be built on the land except a church building. The conference plans to use the land according to the wishes of the donor. Incidentally, the community where the land is situated does not yet have a Seventh-day Adventist presence. Conference administrators believe that God will soon provide means to begin constructing the worship center.

The dividends of printing and distributing *The Great Hope* are having far-reaching effects. Physical and temporary blessings trickle down, and eternal blessings will be inestimable as thousands and millions will find their way through the pearly gates into eternal glory.

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*A Plot of Land for *The Great Hope*

*by Abraham D. Obaya | Publishing Director, WAD*

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East Central Conference (ECC) administrators believe God will provide funds to build a church.

From left: Onyinyechi E. Ogwo, treasurer, Enyinnaya K. K. Uguru, president, and Onyebuchi P. Nwankpa, secretary.
Something big is happening in New York City. It is called NY13, a comprehensive evangelistic initiative designed to involve each church member, pastor, departmental director, and church administrator in the greater metropolitan New York area. However, it is much more than a single evangelistic event. It is a divinely inspired vision of an ongoing evangelistic process.

The Atlantic and Columbia Unions and the Greater New York, Northeastern, New Jersey, Allegheny East, and Southern New England Conferences that comprise the Greater New York/New Jersey area are uniting their efforts to reach the 20 million people living in this metropolitan area.

NY13 involves varied outreach approaches, including health, family life, and youth ministries, personal Bible studies, small groups, literature ministry, community services, lay evangelistic meetings, and much more.

NY13 envisions each church as a dynamic soul-winning center, where pastors have a passionate commitment to reaching lost people, and church members are equipped and trained for service.

During NY13, approximately 400 evangelistic meetings will be conducted in the metropolitan New York area. Hundreds of churches and thousands of church members will be involved. Pastors are leading their congregations in prayer vigils, earnestly petitioning heaven for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Lay members are giving Bible studies. Small groups are being organized. Health and family life ministries are being launched. Literature is being distributed. Young people are becoming actively involved. Lay evangelistic meetings are being planned, and evangelists and pastors from every division of the world will attend an International School of Evangelism in New York in June.

The Holy Spirit is moving. Something unusual is taking place in New York. The massive evangelistic outreach in New York City is part of the Seventh-day Adventist Church's "Mission to the Cities" initiative. Church leaders at every level of church organization have identified 630 major cities worldwide to focus their evangelistic energies and resources on in the next three years. This comprehensive evangelistic approach blends biblical principles with the practical, divinely inspired counsels of the Spirit of Prophecy to reach people living in these urban centers with Jesus’ end-time message of hope for our time.

The mission is His and He invites us to participate in His mission with Him. There can be no higher honor and no greater privilege. Let’s pray for the fulfillment of the messenger of the Lord’s promise: “When the cities are worked as God would have them, the result will be the setting in operation of a mighty movement such as we have not yet witnessed (Medical Ministry, p. 304). May that day come soon, and may we experience the mighty outpouring of the Holy Spirit in New York and the great metropolitan centers of the world."