Chinese Union Mission Advances in Publishing
by John X. M. Zhang | Publishing Director, Chinese Union Mission, NSD

The Northern Asia-Pacific Division and Chinese Union Mission (CHUM) invited Howard F. Faigao, General Conference Publishing director, to present a Publishing Ministries Training Seminar in Hong Kong, January 13-16, 2014. The three CHUM administrative officers and Publishing director and the three Hong Kong-Macao Conference administrative officers and two Publishing directors attended the training seminar, alongside 12 Publishing leaders from China.

Faigao emphasized God’s plan for the Publishing Ministry from its beginning to the present. He also spoke about the end-time role of the written Word. After acknowledging the current condition of the Publishing work in CHUM, leaders were challenged to circulate literature “like the leaves of autumn that will cover the earth with its wonderful enlightenment.”

More than 200 literature evangelists (LEs) work throughout eastern and northern China. Leaders from China shared their Publishing experiences, as well as their challenges and concerns, especially regarding leadership and supplies of literature. Union officers, led by CHUM president Robert S. Folkenberg Jr., indicated that they will emphasize the Publishing Ministry in China, and conduct training to raise the professional standards of LEs and develop new publications.

The last day of the seminar focused on the urgent need of literature and the Publishing Ministry in China. Upon realizing the challenges and great potential for literature evangelism, participants recommended that a specialized Editorial Publishing House be established in China for the Publishing Ministry.
South Philippine Union Builds Dormitory for LEs
by Vivencio R. Bermudez | Publishing Director, SSD

In a city like Davao in the South Philippine Union, Southern Asia-Pacific Division (SSD), housing for new literature evangelists (LEs)—especially student LEs who serve during summer vacation—is a perennial problem.

The Davao Mission addressed this challenge by building a dormitory for literature evangelists. January 10, 2014, marked the ground-breaking ceremony of this project.

Howard F. Faigao, General Conference Publishing director, attended the event, together with SSD, union, and local mission leaders. This building has space for an ABC/HHES office and a meeting place for daily devotionals and instruction.

More than 200 LEs and leaders witnessed the ceremony and participated in a one-day revival and fellowship experience. The project, another breakthrough for the Publishing Ministry, will cost approximately US$100,000.

In the Southern Mindanao Mission, a new building has just been completed. It is a Publishing and Spirit of Prophecy Center. It also accommodates the ABC/HHES office and a meeting place for literature evangelists. The spirit and morale of LEs and leaders has been boosted through these new, beautiful buildings.

TOP: Ground-breaking ceremony for the LE dormitory in the Davao Mission, South Philippine Union.
MIDDLE: The Publishing and Spirit of Prophecy Center building in South Philippines.
BOTTOM: Union Publishing leaders and LEs who attended the ground-breaking ceremony and LE fellowship meeting.
J. J. Parkers defines revival as “a work of God by His Spirit through His Word bringing the spiritually dead to living faith in Christ and renewing the inner life of Christians who have grown slack and sleepy.” He further adds, “Revival thus animates or reanimates churches and Christians to make a spiritual and moral impact on communities. It comprises an initial reviving, followed by a maintained state of reviveness” (Bill Hull, Revival That Reforms, 1998, p. 29).

The marks of genuine revival include (1) a sense of the presence of God and the truth of the gospel; (2) an awareness of sin that leads to repentance; (3) a heartfelt embrace of the glorified, loving, pardoning Christ; (4) an intensifying and speeding up of the work of grace; (5) many conversions; and (6) community involvement in the revival (Ibid.).

While we recognize that revival cannot possibly happen without the Holy Spirit, we also know the Holy Spirit as the Author of the Bible (2 Peter 1:21). So, the Holy Spirit uses the Bible to bring revival, and the study of the Bible prepares the way for the Holy Spirit. This works both ways—a circular effect. Jesus said: “The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life” (John 6:63). Studying the Bible helps us see that all genuine revivals are related to an increased study of the Word of God.

What Is Revival?

by Jonathan Kuntaraf | Sabbath School Director, General Conference