I. Death of Ada Williams

   Violet Williams Grecian <evioletg@aim.com> July 19:
   My mother Ada Williams died on July 9. She had been getting progressively
   weaker for about six weeks and was under Hospice supervision so we had been
   expecting it. Jacque and I were able to be at her bedside for the last five
   hours of her life and she went very peacefully.

II. Karmatar Water--Maranatha

   from Maranatha's VOLUNTEER, Summer, 2010
   "We had come to dedicate a new Maranatha church in a tiny village in
   central India where the wide dirt street was rimmed with brown clay houses,
   each one offering a camera-full of photos.
   "I slipped away from the group and began photographing just up the
   street. Grandma was there, her hands laced with memories of years planting
   rice, harvesting rice, making meals, caring for children. The woman of the
   house was giving her smallest child a bath in a bright plastic bucket. She
   beckoned for me to come in, but just as I entered the doorway, I heard my
   wife whistle.
   "That meant I was to 'come.' Now.
   "I smiled, promised to return, and dashed back to the church.
   "Our group was sitting in a circle of chairs beside the church. I joined
   them, and Brenda whispered, 'Take off your shoes.' That's when I saw three
   brightly-dressed women with brass bowls and pitchers.
   "One by one they knelt before us and bathed our feet with cool water and
   rubbed them with oil. I felt like the unworthy disciple in Jerusalem's upper
   room.
   "Yes, we did take many photos that day, but the one with the greatest
   meaning is the one that reminds us of Jesus and His International Water of
   Life." -- Dick Duerksen

III. Adventist Books of the Year

   Baxter W. Fanwar <fanwar@spiceisle.com> July 18:
   In approximately six days my wife and I read (separately) two remarkable
   books that proved to be an absolutely delightful reading session for both of
   us. These are Dr. William Johnson's - "Embrace the Impossible," and Pr.
   Gerald Christo's - "Out of the Clay Pit." They are both more or less
   biographical in format and while Dr. Johnson's book deals with world-wide
   issues that arose during his tenure as Editor-in-Chief of the Review, Pr.
   Christo's deals primarily with what we might term the evolvement of the
   church in the Southern Asia Division. Both are fascinating and rewarding
readings. If any of you has not yet read them then do make it a point to buy and read them soon.

While a number of Adventist books have come out in recent years, and I love reading as many of them as I could get, yet these two stand apart and above all the others. They are both tantalizingly interesting, intellectually informative, and, above all, spiritually inspiring. In the secular world they would have been award-winning best sellers. I would strongly and sincerely recommend that these two be considered as -- Books of the Year - 2010.

Thank you, Dr. Johnsson and Pr. Christo! Can we look forward to sequels?

IV. Honoring Dr. John Fowler

L. Chansanga Colney <neiupre@sancharnet.in> July 18:

Dr. John Fowler was an inspiring leader. His life has been a great inspiration to many of us. He has been such a great blessing for the church as a writer, speaker and a dynamic leader. Whenever he came to visit, we were all excited to meet him and hear him speak. He is truly a man who dedicated his talent and committed himself to be use by the Lord. On behalf of Northeast India Union of SDA, I wish him and his wife, God's richest blessing in his retired life as he will continue to serve the Lord in every possible way.

V. Biking Across Meghalaya

Shann Fanwar <fanwar01@gmail.com> July 21:

Leaving For India

Thanks for all the support we have had for this trip and the upcoming "Ride Across a Healthy and Beautiful Meghalaya."

I would like to request your prayers and well wishes as we undertake this adventure. A lot of work and effort has been put into the organization of this ride and we hope that our objectives will be met. I will also try to keep my blog updated nightly once the ride starts...that's if I can still walk!!! The link to my blog is <fanwarfaith@blogspot.com>

VI. Southern Asian Writes Morning Devotional

Percy Florence Edwin Paul wrote the following morning devotional for July 19 found in "Sanctuary," the book written by women from around the world:

"'But the rich, in that he is made low, becomes as the flower of the grass he shall pass away.' James 1:10.

"I was brought up in a rich family, enjoying all the comforts of life. My parents owned a big house, gold. jewels, property, bank accounts--the works. We knew about Christ, and our mother and grandma told us Bible stories and taught us the fear of God. But since we had all the comforts of life, we never bothered about anything. We had no strong hold on Christ.

"A family of orthodox Hindus lived opposite our house. My mother and grandmother taught them about Jesus, and we took their two boys to Sunday School. They loved to attend and wanted to learn more about Jesus.

"But our family situation changed. We lost every thing and were in desperate circumstances. We lost our house, jewels, property, and money. When our family moved to find work, our former neighbors also moved.

"Our family situation went from bad to worse. Though we attended church, we never had the opportunity to attend any big gatherings or fellowship meetings, or to share our testimony. Then we had an opportunity to attend an evangelistic fellowship meeting. We learned to have strong faith in Jesus and to hold on to Him. But we still struggled for each meal every day. However, nothing is too hard for the Lord. Whenever we earnestly sought Him in prayer, we had a bag full of rice, wheat, oil, and all the necessary things. Like Elijah, God provided for us through His people and we never went hungry.

"One day we happened to meet one of our former neighbors, one of the Hindu young men. He said that he was not a Hindu anymore; he was a Christian
pastor. He gave us Bible studies and answered all our questions. When he invited me to church, I accepted and went to Sabbath School with my parents. We stayed for a Daniel and Revelation seminar in the afternoon. It was very interesting, and we began to attend church regularly.

"I surrendered my heart to the Lord, and I am now married to a Christian pastor. I am proud to say that the Lord picks up His jewels and makes them to stand as a witness for Him. I believed the might hand of our Lord does marvelous things when we submit our ways to Him."

[The author writes from India, where she is a teacher. She enjoys teaching the youth and mentoring and nurturing girls. Her husband is the director of the Ramnad-Sivagangi region. She has a son who has finished his master's studies and a married daughter who is a homeopathic doctor. She enjoys giving Bible studies and loves to be with children.]

VII. Francis Scott Speaks at Retirees Club

The following is from the Collegedale Adventist Retirees Club's current bulletin:

Francis Scott, one of our club's nonagenarians, gave an illustrated report of his mission service in Sri Lanka when it was known as Ceylon at the June meeting.

His slides gave insights into life in that island nation a third of a century ago and his evangelistic efforts there. Elder Scott was "on leave" from a rehab facility where he has been undergoing treatment for injuries suffered in a fall this past spring. He said he had been urged by his caregivers not to go out, but he told them that he must keep his appointment. Immediately after the meeting he returned to the treatment center. His devotion to duty is appreciated.

Francis is 92 years young.

VIII. Help Send a Pakistani Missionary

JoAnne Lafever <education@gmmsda.org> July 15:

We have great needs here in the Guam-Micronesia Mission this year to fill our positions for teachers and other jobs. We have this young man from Pakistan that is an accountant and we need his expertise in Kosrae, one of our smaller schools and islands. He has the desire to be a missionary and I would like to see Pakistan send a missionary as a way to pay back all of those years that Pakistan benefited from missionaries.

He has no money to pay his way from Pakistan to Kosrae. It would take maybe US$ 3,500 to get him a round trip from Lahore to Kosrae or maybe more.

I am just wondering if some of the SUD folks that are working out side of Pakistan would mind contributing the funds for this capable young man to go to the mission field for at least two years to serve the kids in Kosrae. He will be accountant which the school sorely needs and also teach computers to G. K-9. He is very anxious to go and is just waiting to get the funds. He makes about US$ 90 per month so there is no way he can raise these funds himself. We have only about two weeks to see if we can raise these funds.

School starts there on August 16.

If someone or anyone would like to contribute to this fund, they can contact me at the above e-mail address. I will be happy to arrange the funds for his tickets. Once he gets to Kosrae he will receive a stipend of US$ 200.

IX. Multiplying the Work in North India and Nepal

James Campbell <jcampbellm@sbcglobal.net> July 14:

Janis and I debated a long time before deciding to attend the General Conference Session in Atlanta, Georgia. We had pretty much concluded that we should not spend the money on such an expensive trip; airfare, ground transportation, hotel, meals, etc. Then we were invited to help organize a meeting in which some folk who long to see Jesus come soon, wanted to explore ways to help finish the work in Northern India and Nepal. So we made reservations to attend the first four days of the G C Session. The
proposed meeting was held on Friday afternoon, June 25. Pastor Ron Watts, to whom God provided the plans which resulted in adding over a million members, mostly in the Southern India State of Andhra Pradesh, led the discussion.

We came away from that meeting with a sense of awe as leaders from Northern India and Nepal shared how there are groups of people in almost every part of their vast population who are anxious for the Good News of salvation. We left with assurance that God is ready to do, in Northern India and Nepal, even greater work than He did in South India. What an opportunity, what a challenge. Half of the 1.2 billion people of India live in this territory. That means that 1 in every 12 people on this earth exist there and many of them live in miserable conditions without hope. Each is a precious person for whom Jesus died.

We marvel at what God is doing in Northern India and Nepal— THE MEMBERSHIP IN THE NORTHERN INDIA UNION DOUBLED IN JUST 4 YEARS!! IN NEPAL, 1,444 PRECIOUS SOULS WERE BAPTIZED IN 2009!!

We Praise the Lord, but does God have a plan to do much more, faster? We are still working on the plan of addition. GOD WORKS ON THE PLAN OF MULTIPLICATION!!


Every great advance in God's work has begun with prayer. You are invited to pray that:

* Heaven's highest expectations will be met in the new initiative that is being planned for Northern India and Nepal.
* God will be glorified in all that is accomplished.
* The Holy Spirit will fill our hearts with love for each searching soul.

X. Christo's Memoirs: Internationalizing the GC Staff

As secretary of the division, I was expected to attend the General Conference annual meetings in October along with the president and treasurer. Only the president of the division went to both spring and annual meetings. The departmental directors, though members of the General Conference committee, attended one annual meeting every quinquennium on a rotation basis. Many members of the GC committee were clamouring for the internationalisation of the staff at the General Conference headquarters. At one of the annual meetings, Elder Pierson asked me if I would be willing to serve on the General Conference staff as an associate secretary. I said I would talk it over with Dr. Lowry and get his advice. Dr. Lowry suggested that I should reply in the affirmative and told me in the event that Pastor Pierson's recommendation was accepted, he would like D. David to take my place. During the discussion and the voting process, I got the impression that to the African-American members of the delegation, internationalising of the General Conference staff only meant appointing African Americans. Because of our infrequent attendance at church councils, members from other countries were practically unknown. Anglo Saxons and African Americans, because of their English communication skills were more easily recognised. When the vote was taken Maurice Battle was appointed the associate secretary.

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