

mission post

From Everywhere to Everywhere

volume 14 • number 4



Wise Choices



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Cover: Traditional King's Parade, South Korea.
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Send all editorial correspondence to:

Adventist Volunteer Service Publications

12501 Old Columbia Pike

Silver Spring, MD 20904-6600 USA

Email: AVSpublishations@gc.adventist.org

Fax: 301-680-6635

Website: www.adventistvolunteers.org

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P o s t c a r d

Dear Friends,

I am writing to you from Hong Kong, where my husband and I are spending a year volunteering at Kowloon Sam Yuk Secondary School. We serve as English teachers and help with student ministries. We decided that we wanted to experience a different culture and when we heard of this opportunity, we prayed about it and everything fell into place very easily. We have been here for six months now, and although there are things we miss about home in Australia, we are loving the change of pace and all of the different things that we are able to experience.

A typical day consists of waking up at 5:30am to make it to school on time, where some days, we have staff worship and other days, student worship. Then we go to various classes to co-teach with a local teacher, focusing on spoken English. During recess and lunch we are available to help with students' homework or play games to help them practice their English skills. I think I have played more games in the last six months than I have in 27 years! We are also involved with the school's English Ambassador Program, which organizes different English-focused activities for the whole school. Every Sabbath, we are in charge of an English Sabbath School class, and we are involved in a small youth group, which encourages and helps young adults with their conversational English.

We also have the opportunity to go with some of the senior students on a school trip to Beijing over Easter, which will give us a chance to see some iconic places in China.

We have met so many lovely people and have made so many memories that I would encourage anyone that has the opportunity to volunteer to just go ahead and let God lead you where He needs you. You will never be disappointed and you will have a stronger relationship with Him. 🙏

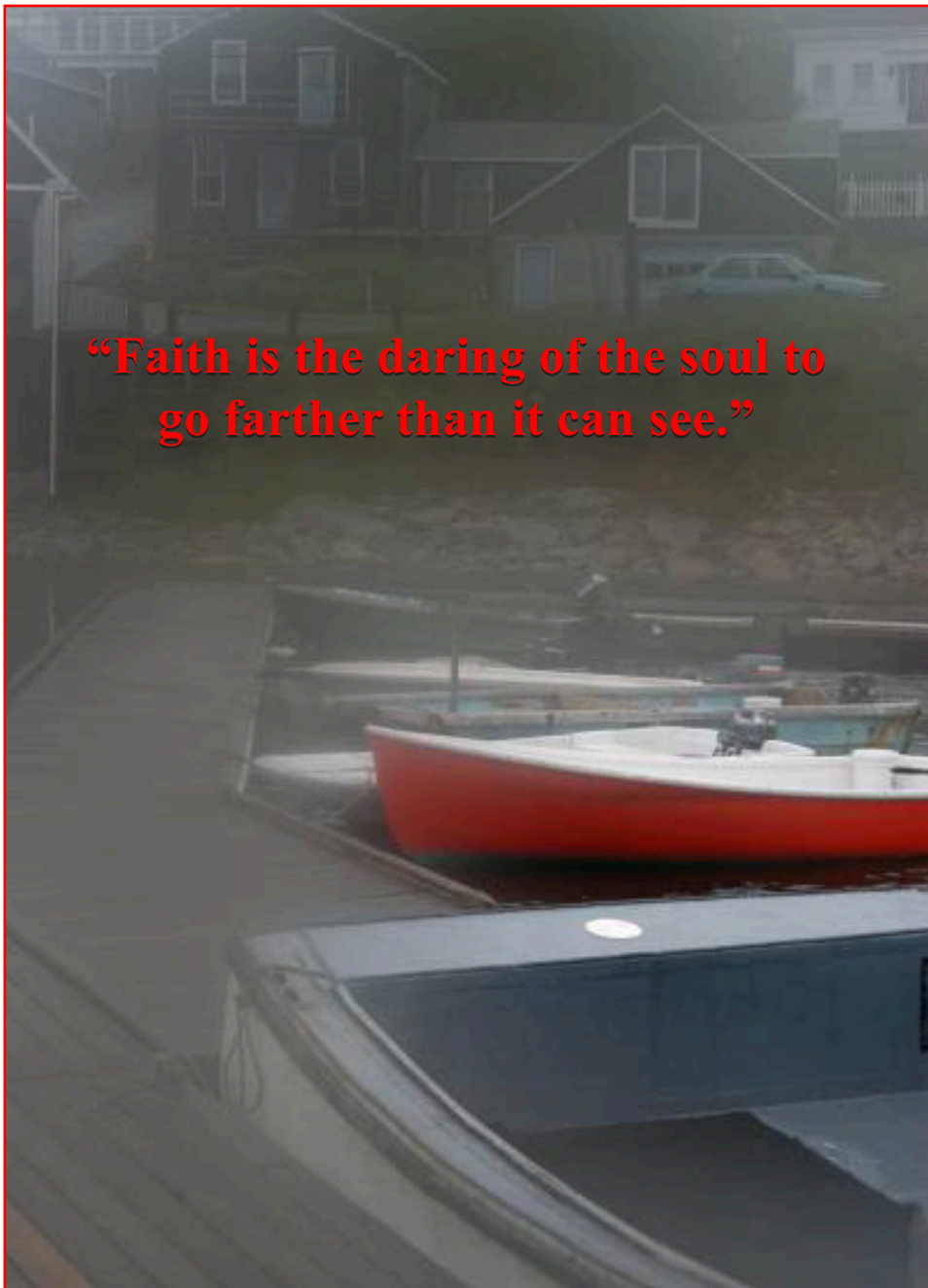
In Christ,
Jenni and Josh Catton



Josh and Jennie at Amah Rock on a day they went hiking with their small group.



R e f l e c t i o n s



“Faith is the daring of the soul to go farther than it can see.”

Stonington Harbour, Maine, USA. Photo courtesy of Russ Gibbs

—By William Newton Clarke



editorial

John Thomas | Editor, Mission Post | Associate Secretary, General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists® | Director, Adventist Volunteer Service

Wise Choices

1 Kings 11:6 records that “Solomon did evil in the sight of the Lord.”* At the beginning of his reign, God spoke to Solomon, promising that if he would obey His commands, his days would be lengthened and he would receive all the blessings that his father David had received. God had already given him wisdom and promised that if Solomon would walk in His statutes and keep His commandments, God would be faithful to His word and dwell among the children of Israel. After the dedication of the temple, God appeared to Solomon again and promised to “establish the throne of [Solomon’s] kingdom over Israel forever...” (1 Kings 9:4-5). This means that God would pour out his unlimited blessings and protection consistently on Solomon’s family kingship forever. So what happened that caused Solomon to do evil in the sight of the Lord?

It all comes down to choices. God had told Solomon he would be blessed if he followed God’s instructions. If Solomon chose to disregard what God had commanded, then there would be the removal of the blessings God had promised, plus the bad things that God would allow to come to Solomon, his family, and all of Israel. It seems so foolish

to us that the wisest man in the world chose not to follow God’s plan. Instead, Solomon loved heathen women and started worshiping idols, knowing that this was contrary to God’s commands. His position, power, and prosperity caused him to stop relying on God. Self-sufficiency and the pleasures of life led him to rely on himself. He needed nothing and had everything to offer, rendering God unnecessary.

Past experience has shown us that making the choice to serve as a volunteer is the first step to a positive life change. Giving up all that you have to go and serve others creates an environment in which God can get involved. So many volunteers express the urgent and sincere need for God’s help even before they arrive at their destination. This need increases throughout their assignment and even after they return home, if correct choices are made. Solomon felt the need for God’s blessing at the start of his reign, but lost that need and wandered away from God. Volunteers can also return home where friends and familiar routines cause them to backslide in their reliance on God.

Let’s all learn a lesson from Solomon’s story. Let’s develop good habit patterns by making right choices—choices that

deepen our reliance on God. May it not be said of us that we do evil in the sight of God. Jesus tells us in Revelation 22:12, "And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with me..." This reward is for those who have chosen to follow God all the way. May it be said of you, "...Well done, good and faithful servant... enter into the joy of your Lord." (Matthew 25:23). 🙏

*All verses taken from the New King James Version



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Ebeye – Story on page 13



Hong Kong – Story on page 4



Volunteering Again

By Gail Schatzschneider

I never dreamed of becoming a volunteer, especially to India. We had just retired and I had planned on staying home after serving eight years in Pakistan as overseas missionaries at the Karachi Hospital.

However, here I was, heading north on an Indian train in the pouring rain of the monsoon season. Not only that, the train was slowly crossing a bridge that was flooded with water from the wide river that was now overflowing the track. Only later did I learn that this was the only train to get through for two months! Maybe God had a special retirement plan for me after all.

My husband had gone ahead of me to serve as a volunteer administrator in the Nuzvid hospital – Giffard Memorial

Hospital – in India's eastern state of Andhra Pradesh. The principal of the School of Nursing had already come to him with a number of requests. He had told her, "Wait until my wife gets here; she'll take care of it!" Husbands often do that!

One of these requests was to counsel the students in the School of Nursing. The principals helped me find a small, unused room in the hospital, and with table and chairs, we announced to the students that the counseling office was open. To my surprise, my first clients were the two principals! After that came students with difficulties that mirrored the problems that college students have in the United States.

A young Hindu student wanted to become a Christian. How should he tell his parents? And how should he stop smoking? A beautiful, young Hindu student nurse wondered why the male students kept teasing her. It was her first year in a Christian school with male students. They soon became her friends.

But the most tragic were the young men and women who had survived suicide attempts. Sometimes they had family arguments over their education and were discouraged from continuing. One young



lady had jumped in the cooking fire. She survived, but was badly burned.

I enjoyed teaching Psychology and Bible classes as well. As the school year came to a close, I encouraged the principals to plan a week of spiritual emphasis at the beach. The students were very excited, as most had neither seen the ocean with its huge waves, nor heard the sound of the surf. With much screaming and laughing they overcame their fears after a few days of being there. Sometimes six girls would be hanging on to me at one time, in the breaking waves. Pastor Simon Siew of Singapore spoke to our group that week for evening vespers around the campfire. Everything was peaceful and serene as the sun set.

The following year the same Hindu student nurse that I had counseled earlier, requested to be baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist Church. I asked her what had influenced her to make this big decision. She told me, "The trip to the beach!"

Would I volunteer again? Yes, of course; and I did for six more years. ●

Gail Schatzschneider, originally from the United States, accompanied her husband as they served in Administration positions in several different hospitals all over the world. They served at the Community Hospital of SDA in Trinidad from June of 2003 to December of 2003. Next they served at the Giffard Memorial Hospital in Nuzvid, India, from June of 2005 to December of 2005. They then served at the Malamulo Hospital in Malawi, Africa, from September of 2007 to December of 2007, returning again to serve from September of 2008 to December of 2010. Gail also served as a Teacher and Counselor at Malamulo Hospital from January of 2009 until December of 2010.



Swetha, between her parents on the day she was baptized.



Gifford Memorial Hospital School of Nursing Bible Camp at Machelipatnam, on the Coromandel Coast in the Bay of Bengal.



Gifford Memorial Hospital Student Nurses in front of their dormitory.



Thailand



A Fateful Encounter

By Kindra Moore

As I closed my eyes that night, there was no way I could have known or prepared myself for what God had in store for me the next day.

The hour was early, and what I had thought to be a dream was, in truth, the helpless cries of a woman outside my door. As I wiped the sleep from my eyes, I peeked out the window to behold a scene which, before this moment, I had only witnessed on television. A terrified woman, with a black eye, struggled as a man attempted to pull her back into their apartment. As English and Thai floated in the air, I began to understand what was going on. The landlord arrived and tried to push the man back with one hand and pull the woman away with his other hand. Before I knew it, I was dressed and heading out the door.

When I stepped outside, my own lack of hesitation surprised me as I removed the man's hand from the frightened woman's arm and guided her to the safety of my own room and locked the door. Her shaking body and sorrowful tears nearly broke my heart. I felt so inadequate and unprepared for what was transpiring right here in my living room. By now, my older sister, Megan, was awake and pacing back and forth, trying to figure out what we

would do next. I did the only thing I could, which was to hold the woman in my arms and rock her back and forth, speaking words I knew she didn't understand, but hoping she would feel their warmth.

With my poor knowledge of the Thai language, I was unable to understand the words of the man outside my door and window as he banged and knocked at them relentlessly. With nothing inside the room to protect us but the stick part of our mop, the fear of him breaking in was ever present. Though I had never met the woman before, there had been issues with this man prior to this incident, and we feared that he was dangerous. The silence from outside brought new fears to our minds. Was he getting a weapon? What if he had a gun? Was he capable of breaking in and trying to take her away by force? I began to wonder exactly what I had gotten us into. Thankful for our phone, my sister and I called on the assistance of our parents even though they were thousands of miles away. Through Skype, my mother gave us words of wisdom, caution, and most importantly, of faith in the one true God. A God that knows all, that sees all, who would never leave us nor forsake us in our time of need. After a moment of prayer, my strength and determination returned.

I knew not what the next moment would bring, but I did know that I would not have to face it alone.

After much contemplation, we decided to call on Pastor Steven Groom to assist us. He was well versed in Thai, and we felt that maybe he could help in alleviating some of the woman's fears, as well as some of the man's aggression. We waited patiently until he arrived; in the meantime, the woman's shaking body calmed and her heart-wrenching cries quieted to small sobs and trickling tears. When Pastor Steve arrived, it felt as if a little pressure had been lifted from my shoulders. Neither hungry nor thirsty, Da (which was her nickname) explained what we had already figured to be true. She was in an abusive relationship, and that day, she had voiced her intention to leave, which is what had caused the man to blacken her eye and bruise her body.

After much consideration, we felt that it would be best for Da to go to our mission

school, where at least she wouldn't have to stiffen in fear at every motor bike that approached the apartment building. While at school, her composure seemed to change, and she became more open to talking. The problem then, was that she was only willing to talk to me. After much persuasion, she finally yielded to the council of the wife of the mission church's pastor, Mrs. Songkrahn. They talked for a long while, and afterwards, we said a prayer asking for God's guidance in the situation at hand.

As morning turned to evening and evening to night, I found myself unable to concentrate in any of my classes or tutorials. My mind was completely fixed on Da as she slept in a room nearby.

After my last tutorial, around 8 o'clock, I cleaned my classroom and prepared myself for whatever might come next. Megan and I decided that we would still go to the midweek worship and hoped that

maybe Da would learn a little about our heavenly Father, whose yoke is easy and burden is light. After worship another problem arose – where would Da sleep for the night? I had opened our home to Da if she so desired, though Megan and I felt that with her husband being right next door, our apartment wasn't the best place for her to stay. Despite the pastors' offers of shelter, she insisted on staying with my sister and me.

When we returned home, all was quiet, and after preparing a bed for her for the night, we prayed for an uneventful night. As I closed my eyes to sleep, once again I realized how crucial it is to prepare one's heart, body, and soul each day, so as to be the best instrument for God's use.





When we woke the next day, the bed where Da had slept was empty and the covers were neatly folded on top. She went back to him. Somewhere within me, I had known she would, but even still, when people ask me if I would do it all again, I confidently say "Yes!" Matthew 25:40 reads, "Verily I say unto you, inasmuch as ye have done unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done unto Me."*

Jesus was once asked, "Who is my neighbor?" And Cain once asked, "Am I my brother's keeper?" Through this entire situation, I have learned that a neighbor is not always literal and a brother is not always by blood. We don't know what each day will bring, but we should still rejoice in the fact that no matter what trial comes our way, Jesus will be right there in the fire with us, guiding and protecting us. It's written, "No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper."** As for the situation with Da, the lesson of "letting go and letting God" has resonated throughout my entire being. I can only do so much, but not God; He is not restrained by our humanity, because with God ALL things are possible. For this truth, I give Him praise, for He alone is worthy to be praised.

Never again will I look at a situation and think how big it is, but rather look at the situation and tell it how big my God is. 🌟

*Verse taken from the King James Version

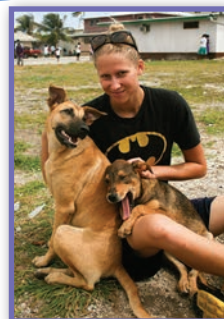
**Isaiah 54:17 King James Version

Kindra Moore is originally from the United States. She served as an ESL Teacher at the SDA Language School in Ubon, Thailand. She served from April of 2011 until April of 2012. Kindra feels that "God's words can't be said if we don't say them," and this motivated her to become the hands and voice of Jesus, so that others might see Him working through her, and know His merciful love and kindness.





Marshall
Islands



Lonnie and the dogs: this is a picture of my dog Lucy and another dog named Puppy that adopted me.

Letting God Take Control

By Lonnie Kotanko

Yokwe!* A year and a half ago, I decided to take a year off and be a volunteer. Well to be

perfectly honest, God decided that I was going to be a volunteer. I had planned to do it eventually, in the future, but God had other plans for me. In February of my sophomore year, I was going to school at Andrews University and working as a Resident Advisor in the dorm. My plan

was to continue there for another year. Then, there was a chapel program one week that changed all my plans. I don't remember the speaker, or even what he spoke about, but what I got out of it was that I needed to ask God to be in control in my life. I prayed a simple prayer asking God for His control in my life. During the next few days and weeks, I was bombarded with information on how to be a volunteer, so I reluctantly accepted and began the process.

Everything went fine, and by the middle of the summer, I had found my call and was on track to go. I would be serving as a Tutor at Maxwell Adventist Academy in



Awaiting Baptism - members of the community awaiting baptism in the ocean after the "All Islands of the Sea" evangelistic series. We had thirteen people accept Jesus this day.



Picnic Swim - adults don't often swim with children. I found this out when I joined my kids in the water and they got so excited that they almost drowned me.

Kenya. I had lived in Kenya for two years as a kid, so when I saw that call, I knew it was where I wanted to go. Since it was what I wanted, I didn't think about it or pray about it; I just went. Long story short, I made it all the way to Kenya and then realized that it was not where God wanted me. Then I heard from a friend about the situation on Ebeye, in the Marshall Islands, and asked God if he wanted me there. He showed me that He did. They really needed teachers there. Even though I had never thought of serving on one of the islands, I was finally at peace with where I was headed. A month later, I left Kenya and ended up on Ebeye, prepared, or so I thought, to teach Kindergarten and Preschool.

Well, for those of you who don't know anything about Ebeye, which in my experience is almost everyone, let me fill you in! Ebeye is part of the Marshall Islands, which are located in the Pacific Ocean between Hawaii and Japan. Ebeye is like no other island out there. It is a mile long and there are nearly 15,000 people living there. It is nicknamed the "Slum" or the "Armpit of the Pacific," and it really is! Everywhere you look, there are little shanty houses, stray animals, and children. My friend, Daniel, was already serving there with two other volunteers that year.

They actually needed seven volunteers, but because Ebeye is not really a popular place, most people forget about it. It was exactly what I wanted and needed, and I am so glad God worked on me and got me there.

When I got there, I wasn't sure what to expect, which is probably a good thing because my expectations would have been dashed. As any veteran volunteer knows, when you sign up for a job, it ends up being only one part of your actual job. Future volunteers: be prepared to do a lot more than what's in your job description, and embrace every opportunity! I had 28 Kindergarten students in the morning and 22 Preschool students in the afternoon. I was also given two assistants to help me manage my kids. Not only was my classroom pretty small, very hot, and short on supplies, but none of my students spoke English! The first two months were tough. But then things changed; they just seemed to click.

Again, I gave control to God and asked Him to use me in the best way to teach those kids. One thing I know is that when you give God control, He will not let you down. Even though we still didn't speak the same language, it was as though we could understand each other. Of course there were still rough days, but those

were vastly outweighed by the good days. My kids started listening, writing, and drawing better. They really began to improve and I got to know and love them. We worked our way through the alphabet, practicing verbally and writing every day. They started to understand their numbers and by the end of the year, they were all able to do double-digit addition and subtraction. Some of them even started sounding out letters and making attempts at reading.

By the time graduation came around, I was able to pass 25 of the 28 kindergarteners, and one of my kids even got accepted to the American public school on the nearby military base (they only accept two Ebeye students a year)! At graduation, I got to watch my beloved cherubs march, sing, and get their diplomas. And the best part was knowing that they were ready for first grade.

They loved singing about Jesus and listening to Bible stories. I am so proud of

my kids in Ebeye. I had 50 little persons looking up to me with love and adoration every day. They learned so much and I know that they will do great as they grow. All of that love, joy, pride, and success took place because God was able to use me. It was God leading and acting through me, and I am thankful every day that I let Him take me all the way to Ebeye. God is so good, and if you let Him take control, He will bring you/give you so much joy. 🙏

*Hello in Marshallese

Lonnie Kotanko, originally from the United States, served as a Kindergarten and Preschool Teacher on Ebeye, in the Marshall Islands. She served from September of 2011 to June of 2012. She strongly feels that God is calling her to the mission field and she is eager to follow His call. She loves sharing how God has blessed her and how He can bless others.

Local Kids - there are thousands of kids all over the island. Most of them are quite happy and love getting their picture taken.





South Korea

Watching God Work

By Raymond Allen

My decision to serve in Korea took about four to five years to make. I first read about the mission in Korea and immediately embraced the idea, but I had many excuses and reasons as to why I couldn't make the move. At the time, I was gainfully employed and didn't know what to do with my home or how I would maintain paying my bills if I decided to move to Korea. Even while I was contemplating all these difficulties, God was working it out for me and moving things into shape.

In August of 2009, I decided to take a vacation to Hong Kong. The day I turned in my request for vacation, I was

told by my supervisor that the company was laying off workers because of the economy, and that I was one of the first to go. I accepted their decision without any regrets because I felt that God had a hand in it. I took my planned vacation, and for the next year, I stayed home, living only on unemployment income; but all my bills were paid and I was never without food.

During my period of unemployment, I drove a friend to North Carolina and while there, I again found an invitation to serve in Korea. I wrote the email address down, but for several months I could not find the piece of paper I wrote it on! I also inquired about it, but no one knew



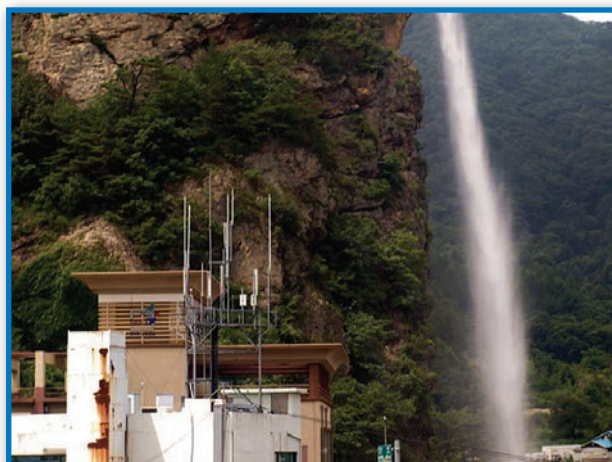
June 2011 - newly arrived teachers and Korean students at the main institute

the contact information. It was not until about March of 2011 that I found the paper – under my bed! I immediately went to my computer and sent an email, and within 12 hours, I received a reply and information on how to get the process going. The person I spoke with told me that the earliest I would complete the process to serve in Korea would be August of that year. I followed her instructions and began my work to get to Korea.

The Lord was working during this process, and what they thought would take five months took only three months. All my paperwork was done by the first week of June. I was requested to join the Language School in Korea at once and I agreed. My decision at this time was to close my home and pay my mortgage online while I was in Korea. I had copied my house key and given it to a friend to look over my place while I was away, but the week before I left, God stepped in and worked out a plan for me. Without even asking Him, I received an email from a friend, asking me if I knew of anyone in my area with a room to rent. Her daughter was doing an internship in my area needed a place for nine to ten months. I told her that she could stay in my condo as I was leaving for Korea. So the Lord worked out a plan to take care of my mortgage by sending someone to help me. God will work things out for us when we willingly offer ourselves to His service.

Journey to Korea

I left Florida on June 19, after a farewell from my Fort Lauderdale church family. Even though I was a bit sad, I knew that God was leading. I arrived in Korea after 18 hours of traveling. Tired



Water falling from the mountain after a heavy downpour

from a sleepless trip, I was then taken on a bus ride from Incheon airport to Hoegi where the Academic Office is located. Training began the following morning and lasted for two weeks. The introduction to my institute wasn't as extensive as I had expected, but I believed that God was going to work wonders, so I settled down to the task. Junggye was my next stop and it was also my last, because I'm still there!

Over the last nine months, I have learned so much, and even though this was not my first introduction to Asian culture, I still experienced culture shock. The things I was accustomed to in the

Party time at the end of term in February 2012





west were nonexistent here in the East, but I knew that God had brought me here and would see me through. I was shocked to see how widely alcohol is used and accepted by all. Young girls freely talk in class about their nights of drinking. Young boys can be seen standing on street corners smoking. Despite all that, I decided to do my best while serving as a volunteer.

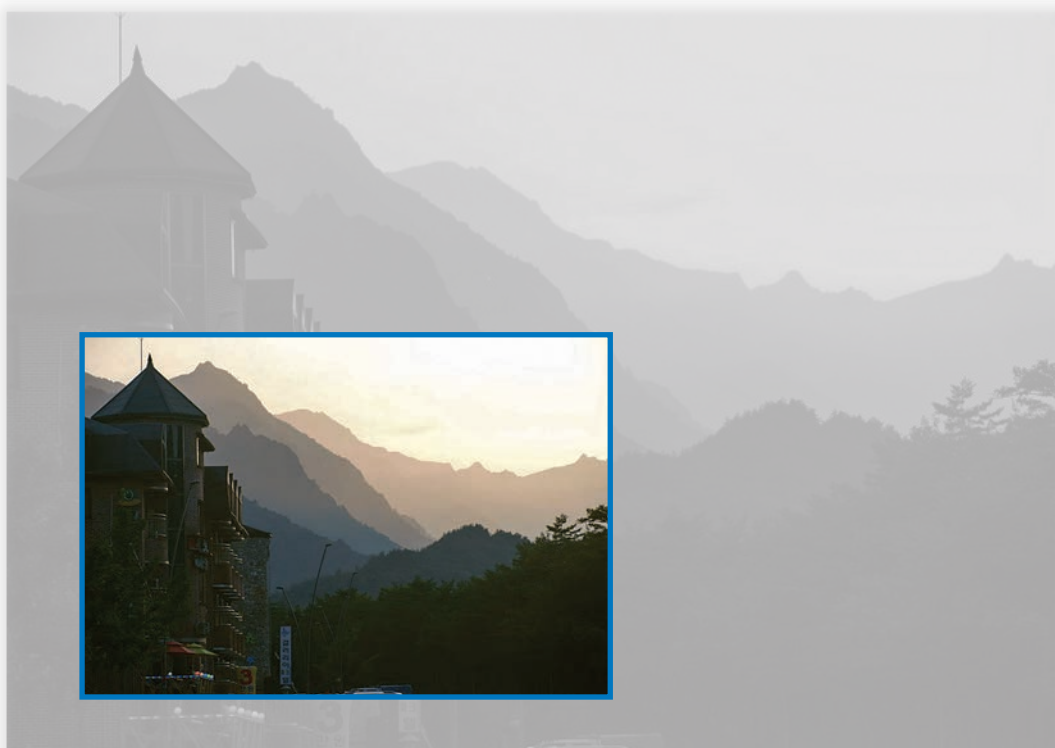
My Joy in the Field

During my time in Korea, I have seen where God is doing wonders. There is an open defiance for belief in God, so I didn't expect to find many that were interested in Him. However, I have been pleasantly surprised with some changes that I have seen. So many instances come to mind, but I will mention three.

During the fifth term of last year, a student joined my religion class. I'll call

him Stone. When he joined my class, he told me that he had been raised Buddhist, and had very little knowledge of Jesus. He told me that he heard about God, but because his parents were Buddhists, he never tried to find out more. During class, I asked Stone who he would turn to when he had a problem. He told me that he would either work things out for himself, or he would go to the mountains to get away from everything. I suggested that he try talking to Jesus, because He would always hear him. A few weeks after class had started, Stone told me that he was ready to try my suggestion, and that he believed God would help. I have not seen him since that class, but I continue to pray for him.

I met another student in my Language class and we became good friends. I'll call her Lisa. I started to forward to her emails that were religiously themed, that spoke



Sunset over the Sorak Mountain in Korea



Party at the end of term in August 2011

of God. Lisa told me that she had never had a religion, but my messages had set her thinking. She told me that her mother-in-law had been trying to get her read the Bible but she never did. Now she said, "I didn't know that the Bible is such an interesting book!" Lisa was so interested, that she even signed up for a Religion class when there was no available English class. One day she told me, "I believe prayer has special power. I want to be somebody who prays for others!"

During Mission Day this year, I received a card requesting Bible Studies from one of my students. I'll call her Glory. She was yet another young girl who had not given a second thought to believing in God. She told me that she knew nothing about the Bible, but was willing to study, so I offered to help her. Every time we set a date to begin our study, something would happen to prevent it. She was tied up in appointments, or came down with a bad cold, but she was determined to study

and didn't give up trying. Now, finally, we are studying the Bible on Mondays and Fridays for an hour. Glory told me that she believes in only herself, and that belief in Jesus is just like believing in any other god, like Buddha. She told me that she drinks sometimes only to be able to fit in with her friends. I told her that she can say no to alcohol in the same way she refuses to take drugs. Because this was such an issue, I started our study with our belief in the body being the temple of the Holy Spirit. Glory is very interested and is continuing to study the Word. Please pray for these people and for the work here in Korea. The challenges are great, but I know God is greater. 🙏

Raymond Allen, originally from the United States, is serving as an English-Religion Teacher for the SDA Language School in Korea. He began his service in June of 2011 and will continue serving through August of 2013. Raymond was motivated to become a volunteer by his love for serving people and helping them to see Jesus.



South Korea

A Modern Day Miracle

By Simone Flynn

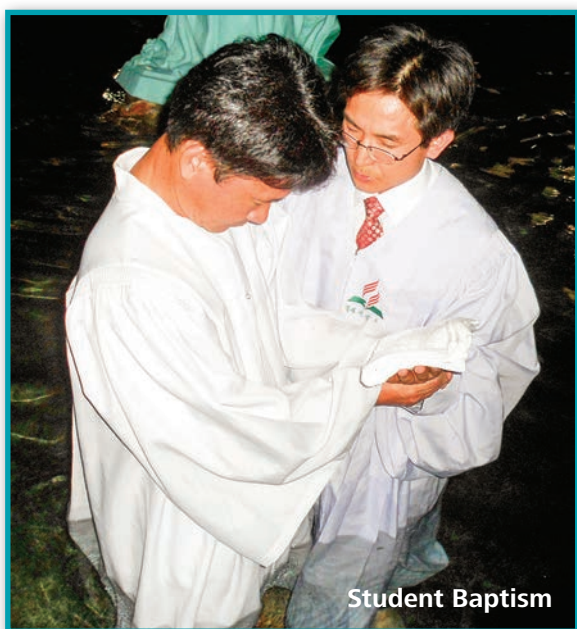
I'm still excited as I reflect back on what just took place about 30 minutes ago. In fact, I walked home from the Suwon Institute praising God through songs and prayer. We were about to finish our early morning class when the lights went out, and all was dark. Some of the students panicked as I reached for the emergency flashlight and guided them through the halls. As the other teachers were guiding their students through the halls, one of our secretaries came walking quickly towards us. In a panic, she grabbed my flashlight, and went towards the Breaker Panel. She did something in

the Breaker Panel without any success, and then she turned to me and said, "We need to pray!"

I called all the teachers into the staff room. As we looked out of the window, one of the teachers noticed that the surrounding buildings seemed dark; perhaps they had lost power too. From my morning devotions, I recalled the miracles that God performed for His people while in Egypt, and all the plagues that affected the Egyptians. In the small land of Goshen, all of God's people were spared from the effects of those plagues. I reminded the teachers of this mighty intervention of God on behalf of his people, and that He could do the same for us today.

We prayed, reminding God of His great might to do amazing things for His people. We reminded Him of His promise to deliver and help us in our time of trouble. "Lord, we believe; please help our unbelief," I said, as we ended our prayer.

We exited the staff room, and to our amazement, the once dark halls and classrooms bright. I couldn't help but say "Praise the Lord" in the middle of the hallway! The secretary, who had returned to the front desk, came running up to praise God with us. Truly, today we saw the mighty power of God in answer to our prayers! "I will bless



Student Baptism



the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth.” *

Here in South Korea, God is not only working miracles in my physical world to show me that His presence is with me; He is working even greater miracles in the hearts of many of my Korean students. As a volunteer teacher, I daily introduce my students to Jesus in all my classes, whether English or Religion. Despite their strong Buddhist heritage, many of my students are accepting the true God of the Christian Bible. This month, at least fifty students were baptized into the SDA faith at our Summer Bible Camp. One of these students is in my religion class. In this class, I explore various topics in the Bible, answer questions, and most importantly, I share the good news of salvation through Jesus Christ. I get excited at their eagerness to learn about the God of the Bible; some have never even opened a Bible before!

Certainly, there is no greater joy than to see transformation of lives through the

working of the Holy Spirit. Teaching and sharing God’s words every day not only has an impact on my students’ hearts and lives, but no doubt, my own love and my faith in God are deepening. I feel more intimate with God as my Savior and Friend. I believe that Jesus is soon to come and it is my desire to do all that I can to help the Holy Spirit win souls for heaven. Please pray for the SDA Language School in Korea – for our students and our volunteers! 🙏

*Psalm 34:1 King James Version

Simone Flynn, originally from Canada, writes from South Korea, where she serves as an English-Religion Teacher for the SDA Language School. She began her service in February of 2012 and will continue to serve through February of 2013. Simone hopes that this article will show evidence of God’s amazing power and grace to transform lives before our eyes.

Hello from Korea





1. Hiking with students—Gwanggyo Mountain
2. Religion Class
3. Missionaries and students outing
4. Missionary's traditional temple tour
5. SDA School and International Church, Suwon
6. Traditional Korean foods
7. Preaching on mission day
8. Traditional King's Parade
9. 1st week in Korea—missionaries and students





Teaching and Being Taught

By Sunil Mall

I served as a volunteer in Dnepropetrovsk, Ukraine. I decided to serve as a volunteer in order to spread the love of God. Once I accepted Christ as my Savior, I experienced peace beyond any understanding, so it has been my dream to share His love, grace, and mercy with others. I wanted to go to a place where volunteers were scarce – a place that needed a great amount of help. I chose Ukraine because it lies within the 10/40 Window.*

My first impression was that teaching an ESL course was the most rewarding experience in the world! It was so great to see my students try to imitate my speech and accent during class. I had originally planned to stay in Kiev and teach there. However, the English Language Center had been blessed richly by God, and had the opportunity to branch out into other cities. The new Center in Dnepropetrovsk opened up with a need for native English speakers, so I moved there to teach. I was the first volunteer at the school, so the staff and I learned a lot from each other. Hopefully what we learned will be useful to future volunteers. Whether in Kiev or Dnepropetrovsk, it was truly an honor to work as a team with the employees. It was like a tightly-knit family, with Christ at the center.

I was able to learn a lot from some veteran volunteers that I had met in Kiev. They showed me our main goal should not be just to teach English; rather, it was to build a strong rapport with our students

and to share Christ with them. When I watched other volunteers lead out in Bible study, Sabbath School, or song service, my heart was warmed, and I realized that Christ was able to work miracles through ordinary college students. We were able to reach out to our students and share those wonderful experiences.

I taught from Monday through Thursday and did Bible studies on Friday. We would begin with song service, and there truly is power in singing. I'll never forget seeing my students sing. They had a great penchant for singing and would go on all night if I didn't stop them! God really blessed our ministry through music. After song service, we'd delve into the scriptures. I would get to have great heart-to-heart talks with the students. We'd read a chapter or two and discuss about God's guidance, involvement, or presence in the situation, and the moral or ethical point being emphasized. There is honestly nothing more gratifying than training up young minds and hearts to see the truth!

Another thing I'll never be able to forget is the fireworks. People liked to set off fireworks for no reason at all. It could be someone's birthday, or a holiday like Christmas or the New Year. But it could also just be any old day, and I'd suddenly hear a big boom followed by all the lights and colors in the sky. It was interesting to see that these fireworks were the professional, heavy-duty kind that we would see on the 4th of July in the USA!

Everyone I came into contact with was so thoughtful. People went out of their way to lend a helping hand. I experienced that with regular people on the streets, and of course the church members were just as inviting and welcoming! Within no time at all, I grew very close to the church members. I still remember the potlucks that we had once a month at the church. For the rest of the month, the volunteers would be invited to someone's house, which was lucky for me, since I didn't cook so well! We were able to eat really great food and enjoy wonderful company!

As my year of teaching progressed, I saw that I was growing right along with my students. I learned so much from them. I had students of all ages and taught all levels, from the most basic to the upper advanced. Teaching this many levels motivated me to learn and apply different skills. I had no teaching experience before I became a volunteer, so I know without a doubt that God has been with me the whole way, helping me harness any abilities or skills I might have had and cultivating them. I know God will do the same for all volunteers who place themselves in His hands!

I learned many valuable lessons in Kiev and Dnepropetrovsk. One of the most important was the fact that I may not have known whether I was a blessing to someone else, but I learned that no matter what, God will surely work through us if we are willing. With the Holy Spirit's leading, we can impart the love of God to many who are waiting to discover it. Being away from my family helped me learn another important lesson. I learned dependence on God to take care of my needs. I also learned to trust Him to lead, protect, and bless our loved ones who are

far away from us. God is in control of every detail, and we can trust Him to the end.

My goal in writing this article is to encourage the youth around the world. If you have it in your heart to serve God as a volunteer, please pray about it and ask that He will reveal His will to you. The English Language Center has the ability to expand, but they need many more volunteers to make it possible. And if we can't serve, then we can pray. Prayer is essential, and it will keep all of our organizations going. We will continue to pray that God will work through us and that we'll rely on His counsel always. May God bless you! 🙏

* Stretching from North Africa, through the Middle East, and into East Asia, the 10/40 Window is home to more than two-thirds of the earth's population, many of the world's major religions, the largest and fastest-growing cities, some of the world's poorest people, and the fewest Christians. Many living within this region have never heard the name of Jesus.

Sunil Mall, born in Pakistan, moved to the United States in 1993. He served as an English Language Teacher in Dnepropetrovsk, Ukraine, at the English Language Center. He served from August of 2006 to July of 2007. Sunil has a strong desire to serve God in places that are yet unreached. He sincerely hopes that his article might inspire others to serve God as well.



SDA Church in Kiev, two girls (church members) and three missionaries (from right to left: Sunil Mall, Joshua Fickett and Joseph Fernandez).



Unselfish Love

By Dr. Trixy Franke-Colwell



Bill and Trixy

“**D**octor, i de hambok mi plenti!” That is how he began, as he expressed in the local Pidgin, how his symptoms distressed him. The patient was a 44-year-old man. His cheeks and eyes sagged and had that hollow look usually seen in a person who works hard and eats little. He had his best clothes on, yet he wore just a T-shirt and slacks. A belt cinched tight around his waist held up his pants, which were several sizes too big for him. Although clean, he still smelled faintly of the dirt and perspiration that is so characteristic of the farmers here.

The man sat across from me. Between my limited Pidgin and his limited English, we managed to communicate. When he said, “i de hambok mi” he was using the common Pidgin phrase that means to distress, worry, bother, and even cause physical pain.

“At night, doctor, I get cold and I shake. I no sleep fine. I feel hot and then I feel cold. All my skin [body] de hurt me. When I get hot and cold, I have headache.”

As he spoke, he used his hands to indicate that his head, neck, back, arms, and legs gave him pain. He continued describing his symptoms.

“I don’t have appetite. I am weak. I can’t work fine.”

“How long have you had these problems?” I asked. I expected the normal response of two to four days, which is the most anyone can tolerate shaking fevers, headaches and severe body pains before seeking medical attention and relief!

“Two weeks, doctor,” he answered.

I wasn’t sure I understood him correctly. “Two weeks?!” I repeated, incredulous.

“Yes, doctor, two weeks.”

“Why didn’t you come sooner?” I asked.

“Well, doctor, you know how it is. My children go back to school. They need uniforms, and school fees, books, paper, and other things. I have to buy them first. I no get money to go for doctor.”

Although our fees for consultations, lab tests, and medications are priced as low as we can offer and still cover costs, they were still high for him. Consultations cost about four USD and a malaria test costs two USD. Medication is anywhere from one to two USD. It’s not much by American standards. It’s not even much for many of the educated and working Cameroonians living in the cities either. But for a farmer who barely makes enough to feed his family, the costs are expensive.

My heart went out to the man. Having had an episode of malaria with high fever, severe body aches and incredible fatigue,

I could not imagine how he managed to work for the past few weeks. Malaria tends to have a cyclic fever, often peaking every 24 hours – hence the night fever people speak of. He suffered long with these symptoms in order to make sure his children had all the necessities for school. In my mind, it was a sacrifice of love.

I suppose he didn't even think twice though. He was just doing what any Father would do for his children. His children were his priority. Although he was an uneducated, poor farmer, he wanted his children to go to school and do more than farming when they graduated.

As I suspected, the patient's blood test revealed many malaria parasites. I was able to give him medication to cure his malaria and help his fever and pain.

"I thank you, doctor!" He beamed. He accepted the medicine wrapped up neatly in the traditional tiny medicine bags with both hands. Accepting gifts in this way shows respect and great gratitude. It is the proper way to receive a gift. Giving or accepting a gift or money with only the left hand is considered impolite by almost everyone here.

"You are welcome, my friend. I will pray for you. Take your medicine now. You will feel better soon," I reassured the man.

The patient left with a smile.

I pray he has a peaceful sleep tonight with no shaking fevers. May God grant him healing in body and soul. His self-sacrificing love was a demonstration of the kind of love Christ has toward us and wants us

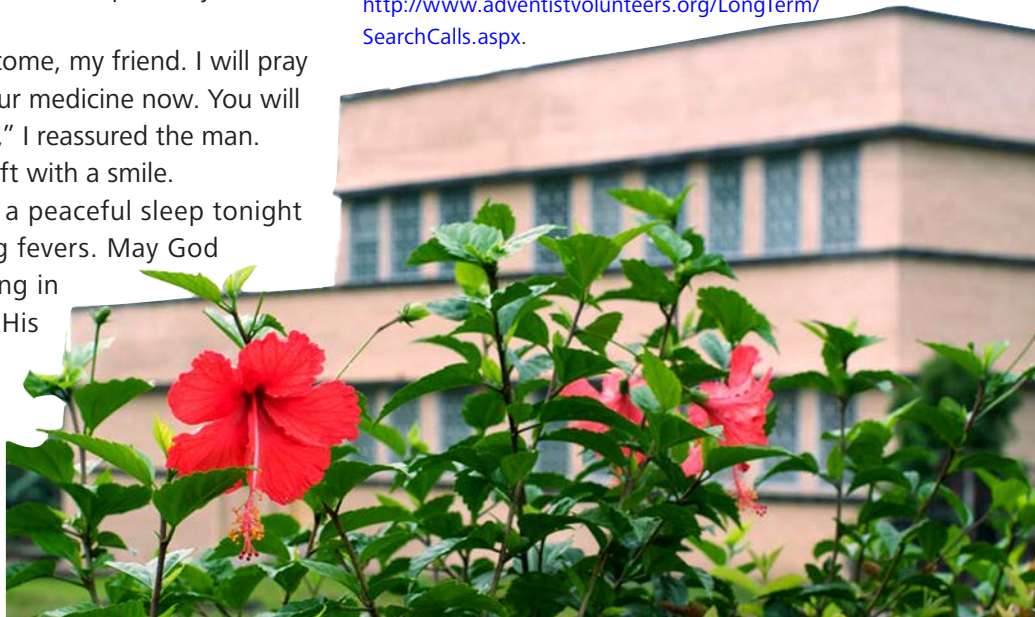
to have for others. I pray that I can be focused on Christ rather than myself, so that I too may manifest the same spirit of love.

"When you do things, do not let selfishness or pride be your guide. Instead, be humble and give more honor to others than to yourselves." Philippians 2:3*

*Verse taken from the New Century Version

Dr. Trixy Franke-Colwell, originally from the United States, writes from Cameroon, West Africa, where she is the Medical Director and sole physician at the Buea SDA Health Centre. She began serving in December of 2009, along with her husband Bill Colwell Jr., who works in administration. She graduated from Loma Linda University in 2006 and completed a residency in Family Medicine in 2009.

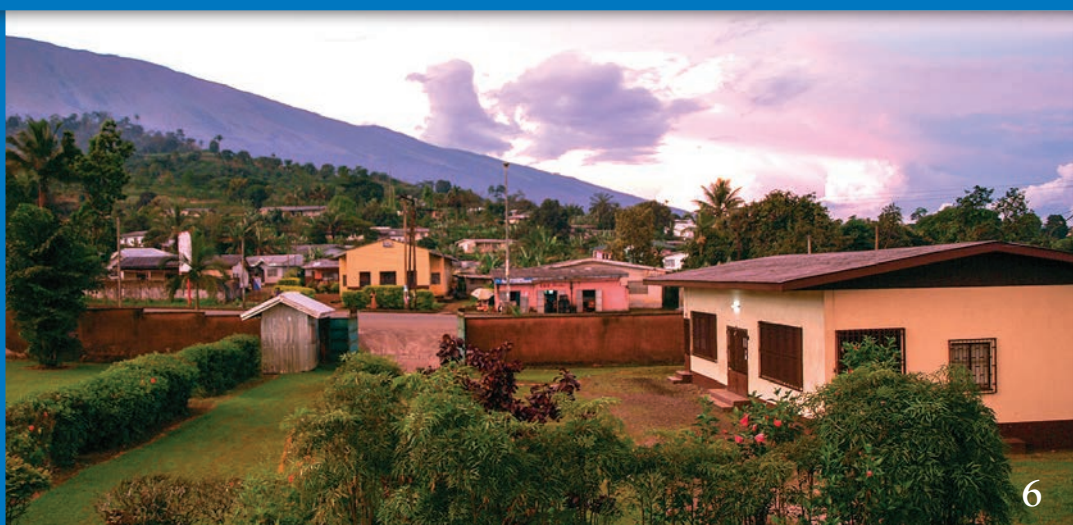
The Buea SDA Health Centre is small, with about ten permanent Cameroonian medical personnel. They operate both a day clinic and a 10-bed hospital with facilities for labor and delivery, as well as operations. Volunteers help support the limited staff in providing quality medical care that demonstrates Christ's love to a population of over 200,000. If you are interested in serving at the Buea SDA Health Centre, please see our website for open positions: <http://www.adventistvolunteers.org/LongTerm/SearchCalls.aspx>.



Buea SDA Hospital

Hello from Cameroon





1. Farmer carrying firewood
2. Buea SDA Hospital
3. Cameroon flag held by the School for the deaf students in an Independence Day parade
4. First baby girl born at our hospital. Mom, dad, Baby Antoinette, and mother-in-law.
5. Hospital Logo
6. Hospital grounds/compound at dusk
7. Brother and sister brought in by father for consult (with Trixy)
8. Left to right: Lea (nurse), Trixy, TeClaire (Pharmacist/Cashier), Regina (Lab Tech)

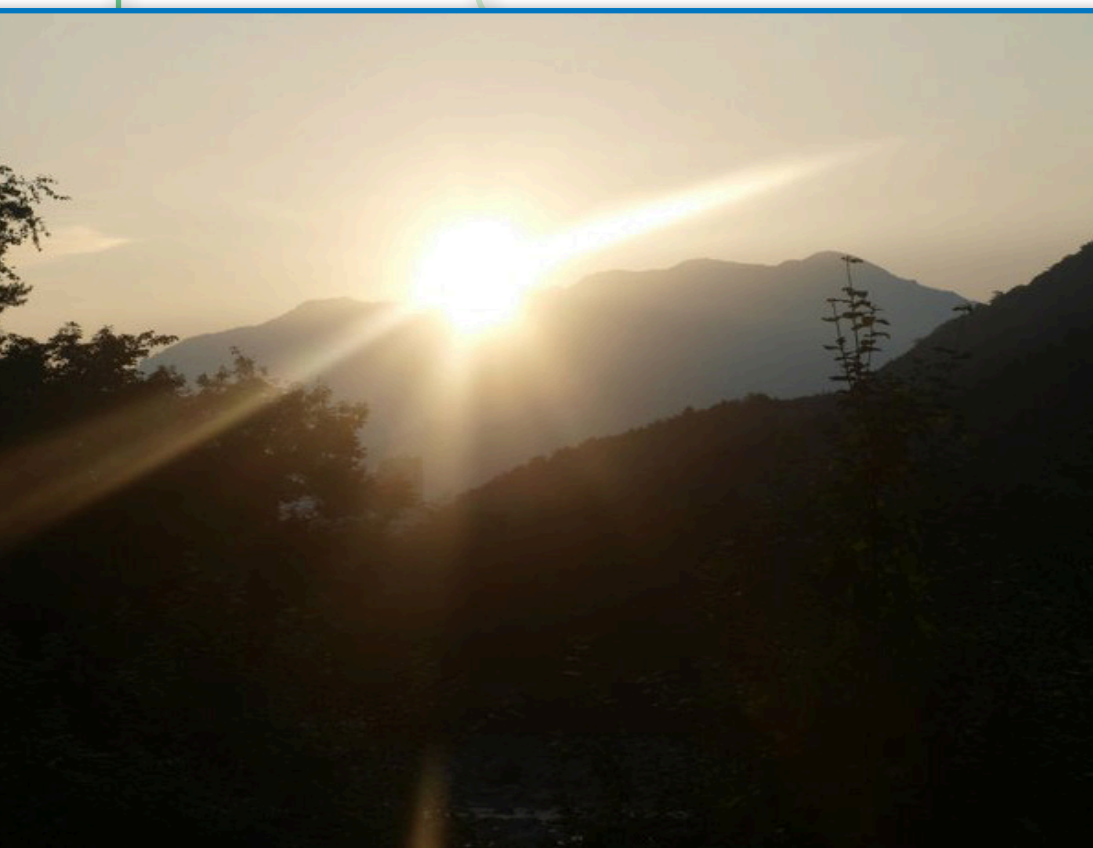


Abbas, Karen Mabel—Reassign as Engl/Bible/Ministry Tchrr, from USA to Korea
Adame, Gisselle—Reassign as English/Bible/Ministry Teacher, from USA to Korea
Antalovska, Viktoria—Guest Administration, from Ukraine Austria
Asatani, Brittany Emiko—Reassign as Engl/Bible/Ministry Tchrr, from USA to Korea
Bacurnay, Wyndel Tan—Pioneer Evangelism Worker, from Philippines to UK
Becerra, Jenner Jackson—Bible Teacher, from USA to Lebanon
Bradfield, Erica Laraine—Secy to Arts Faculty, from USA to South Africa
Bramhall, Ana R—Reassign as 3rd Grade Teacher, from USA to Delap
Brauner, Rebekah Suzanne—English Teacher, from USA to Indonesia
Breen, Ashley Sarah—Reassign as 3rd Grade Teacher, from USA to Yap
Carbajal Cerrinos, Kenny Avelino—Bible Worker, from Peru to USA
Carr, Caislin—English Teacher, from USA to Chile
Caton, Carlene Keilah Onella—ESL Teacher, from Canada to Taiwan
Cho, Joy Eunchung—English/Bible/Ministry Teacher, from USA to Korea
Chung, Kristin Mira—Hosp Asst, from USA to Chad
Clayton, Chett Thomas—Nurse, from USA to Sierra Leone
Cortazar, Leidy Katherine—Marketing/Fund-Raising Asst, from Columbia to UK
D'Gracia, Janice—English/Bible/Ministry Teacher, from USA to Korea
Davila Malca, Walther Kenneth—Bible Worker, from Peru to USA
Davis, Danielle Lenee—Pharmacist, from USA to Malawi
De la Cruz Castillo, Luis Santiago—Bible Worker, from Peru to USA
Densing, Jude Puspup—General Duties, from Philippines to Italy
Dorval, RoseMerlyn—English/Bible/Ministry Teacher, from USA to Korea
Dyer, Melissa Ann—Reassign as Registrar, from USA to Yap
Ebenezer, Talmia Esther—Reassign as 5th Grade Teacher, from USA to Delap
Felix, Andrew—Reassign as High School Science Teacher, from USA to Delap
Fondevilla, Marlin El Coronado—English/Bible/Ministry Tchrr, from USA to Korea
Forbes, Dawn Nicole—Reassign as Engl/Bible/Ministry Tchrr, from USA to Korea
Formanqueviski, Jessica—Pioneer Evangelism Worker, from Brazil to UK
Gilbert, Bianca Yvonne—English/Bible/Ministry Teacher, from USA to Korea
Goh, Cindy Mui-Joo—English/Bible/Ministry Teacher, from USA to Korea
Gumahad, Hernanie Dumanjog—Acct Asst Finc Off, from Philippines to So Africa
Gumerato, Rafael Rabelo—1st Grade Teacher, from Brazil to Delap
Han, Eugenia—Human Resources of SDALS, from USA to Korea
Haney, Tracy Ann—Elementary Teacher, from USA to Nepal
Heinrich, Kendall Arthur—Reassign as 2nd Grade Teacher, from USA to Yap
Hendrie Kupczynsyn, Robin—Architecture Advisor, from Argentina to Mexico
Hinman, Aaron Michael—Elem and Middle Sch Engl Tchrr, from USA to Chuuk
Hogg, Joshua—Accountant, from USA to Taiwan
Katubadrau, Vasiti Liku—Reassign as Kindergarten Teacher, from Fiji to Delap
Kim, Christian Euijun—Asst Mgr, from USA to Kenya
Lewis, Patricia Catherine—Social Worker, from USA to Argentina
Lombart, Rachel Shirley—English/Bible/Ministry Teacher, from USA to Korea
Lugo, Brianna Alexine (Sepulveda)—Eng/Bible/Ministry Tchrr, from USA to Korea
Manning-IV, Leroy Joseph—Reassign as 7th Grade Teacher, from USA to Delap
Manueke, Stazy Samuel—6th Grade Teacher, from USA to Ebeye
Martin, Merl—English Teacher, from USA to Brazil
Mckinnon, Jessica—Grades 6-8 Teacher, from USA to Ethiopia
Midel, David Ricardo—English/Religion Teacher, from USA to Korea
Minchev, Petar Minchev—English Teacher, from Bulgaria to Brazil
Mobley, Joel Nathaniel—English/Religion Teacher, from USA to Korea
Mohammed, George Khalil—Engl/Bible/Ministry Tchrr, from USA to Korea
Moore, Kimiko Jean—English/Bible/Ministry Teacher, from USA to Korea
Morgan, Cassandra Ariel—Asst Teacher for K-6, from USA to Thailand
Musgrave, Tanya Kristin—Web Site Content Creator, from USA to USA
Neil, Jenna—Asst Dean of Women, from USA to Denmark
Nguyen, Sharon Renea—Reassign as Principal, from USA to Saipan
Norton, Brian Michael—Reassign as Teaching Supervisor, from USA to Korea
Ochoa, Cynthia Elizabeth—Reassign as 4th Grade Teacher, from USA to Delap
Olakowski, Sara R—Guidance Counselor, from USA to Egypt

Oliveira, Leticia Barbosa Gomes—Reassign as HS Math Tchrr, from Brazil to Delap
Peterson, Dakota James—Reassign as 8th Grade Teacher, from USA to Delap
Pierson, Mark David—Building Construction, from USA to Ethiopia
Ramirez, Monica Sarai—General Campus Asst, from Mexico to USA
Ramson, Hope—1st Grade Teacher, Saipan
Recinos, Stefany—Engl/Bible Tchrr/Church Planting/Bible Work, from USA to Brazil
Reyes, Promise Joy Castro—Eng/Bbl Tchrr/Ch Plntng/Bbl Wrk, from PH to Brazil
Richards, Tamara Lynn—Reassign as Engl/Bible/Ministry Tchrr, from USA to Korea
Sánchez Cifuentes, Jorge Luis—Physical Therapist, from Argentina to Honduras
Satterfield, Julie-Anne Marie—Nurse, from USA to Malawi
Schlund, Heather Marie—Nurse, from USA to Sierra Leone
Simpson, Jami Lynn—ESL Homeroom Teacher, from USA to Taiwan
Smith, Tearsa Marie—English/Bible/Ministry Teacher, from USA to Korea
Soares, Gerald-Anthony—ESL Teacher and Translator, from USA to Brazil
Souza, Alessandro Simoes—Media and Radio Professional, from Brazil to Colombia
Souza Rueda Ospina, Shirley Esther—Media/Radio Prfssnl, from Brazil to Colombia
Stoltzfus, Luke Z—Bible Worker and Church Planter, from USA to Brazil
Susens, Dennis William—Pilot Quality Mgr/Maint, from USA to PNG
Trecartin, Ross Daniel—Hosp Asst, Bere Adv Hosp, from USA to Chad
Vandenboer, Erik Matthew—English/Bible/Ministry Tchrr, from Canada to Korea
Zamora, Eli Patrick—Reassign as Librarian, from USA to Delap



There is no time or place in
which it is inappropriate to
offer up a petition to God.
—SC 99



Sunset over the Sorak Mountain in South Korea, story on page 16.



volunteer opportunities

Argentina

Communications/Media
River Plate Adventist University

Mongolia

ESL Teacher
Mongolian Adventist Elementary & Secondary School

Brazil

Bible Worker/Church Planter
Northwest Brazil Union Mission

Mozambique

Teacher
Mozambique Union Mission

Chile

Church Day Care Assistant
Metropolitan Chile Conference

South Korea

English Teacher
Korean SDA Language School

Cyprus

Program Coordinator
Cyprus Section

Thailand

Bible Worker/ESL Teacher
Thailand Mission

Ebeye

Computer Teacher/IT Support
Ebeye SDA School

Ukraine

Nurse
Buea Adventist Hospital

Honduras

Teacher
Maranatha Bilingual School

Uruguay

Musician/Orchestral Director
Uruguay Adventist Academy

India

Computer/Website Administrator
Southern Asia Division

Venezuela

English Teacher
Venezuela Adventist University

Listed are samples of volunteer opportunities available at the time this issue went to press. There are currently hundreds of volunteer opportunities available throughout the world, and more become available each day! For the most current information on these and other volunteer positions, visit us online at: www.adventistvolunteers.org. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, contact your division volunteer coordinator for more information. Your home division will process your application. To find your Division Contact, to go www.adventistvolunteers.org, click on "Contact Us."