

Adventist CROSSROADS

Seventh-day Adventist Mission
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Delegates at the 7th Triennial Session

Seventh - A Difference

John Ho, Communication

Seven is no magical number neither mystical nor sacred as held by some. However, anyone who has attended past triennial sessions would have indeed found this seventh one not the usual run-of-the-mill meeting, more like extraordinary to say the least.

A very visible difference was a number of new faces from the youth representation who added a refreshing dimension to the delegates representing their churches and entities. This was no happenstance but a deliberate effort to encourage an untapped source of feedback on the challenges facing our church this triennium.

The atmosphere was genial and somewhat marked by eager anticipation. Even when difficult issues were addressed which seemingly led to locking of horns these soon vanished. Generally a spirit of cooperation marked the discussions of the two days.

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Some who had the unenviable task of serving in the nominating committee were heard to remark that they found their task rather enjoyable and smooth-going. Sixty delegates representing 14 various local churches and church agencies met on May 27, 2006 at the South-east Asia Union Mission auditorium.

At the opening of the Saturday session the mood was set right with an encouraging devotional from the Union president, Bill Townend. For the rest of the afternoon reports of the past triennium work were reviewed. The delegates voted to adopt the vision: "Tell the World - The Journey of Hope"; the mission: "We exist to proclaim the the everlasting Gospel of Jesus Christ to all people by all the disciples of Jesus Christ"; and the Core Values: a) "Unity", b) "Quality of Life", and c) "Growth." The business part of the session occupied the rest of the evening until ten o'clock.

The following day was taken up largely by the work in the various committee. The nominating committee elected departmental directors and the elective members of the mission executive committee and the boards of other mission entities. The credentials and licenses committee classified and accredited regular denominational employees. The plans committee met in tandem focusing on four main areas of concerns: 1) Nurture and Revival, 2) Equipping and Training, 3) Evangelism, and 4) Youth Outreach.

Four subgroups were formed to address each of these



But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

2 Corinthians 12:9-10

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areas and set goals. The resulting work would be further reinforced and implemented by the various local church boards:

1) Nurture and Revival

- 70% of active members had personal devotion.
- A 65% score achieved for Natural Church Development (NCD).
- 55% of attending church members were involved in small groups.
- 70% of active members returned tithes.
- 40% increase in ministry involvement by active members.

2) Equipping and Training

- 50% of attending church members were equipped and trained for church ministries.

3) Evangelism

- 40% increase in church attendance.
- 500,000 outreach contacts made.
- 176 baptisms resulted.

4) Youth Outreach (focus on students and single young adults)

- A mission youth committee set up.
- 60% increase in attendance for youth small groups.
- Every youth has brought at least one non-Adventist youth to church or small group.

The following were elected as departmental directors subject to acceptance (hn):

Children Ministry/Family	Sherine Perera	(ht)
Communication	John Ho	(pt)
Education	John Ho	(pt)
Global Mission	Danson Ng	(pt)
Health & Community Service	John Cheang	(ft)
Ministerial	Gration Perera	(pt)
Public Affairs/Religious Liberty	Danson Ng	(pt)
Personal Ministry/Sabbath School	Berson Simbolon	(pt)
Shepherdess	Rolando Hernawati	(hn)
Spirit of Prophecy	Mark Chan	(pt)
Stewardship	Mark Chan	(pt)
Trust & Wills/Philanthropic	Peter Foo	(hn)
Voice of Prophecy	John Ho	(pt)
Women Ministry	Corinna Cheang	(hn)
Youth	Charlie Oh	(ft)

(ft) full-time (hn) honorary (ht) half-time (pt) part-time

The following were appointed as members of the youth committee:

Charlie Oh	SAM Youth Director
Frances Lim	Thomson Church
Thomas Ang	Thomson Church
Suresh Kumar	Chuan Hoe Church
Rudy Low	Maranatha Church
Joelle Goh	SDA Community Church
Melvin Pan	SDA Community Church
Calvin Tampubulon	Balestier Church
Shannon Tan	Balestier Church
Jeffrey Lonon	Jurong English Church
Elaine Phua	Jurong English Church
Gary Tang	Adviser
Johnny Kan	Adviser
Philip Ko	Adviser



Seating of the delegates



Musing over the agenda



Some prefer the spaciousness



A section of the youth delegates



Presenting the statistics



Sitting through reports