

Silverlinings for Literature

March 2007

Geneva Silvernail—Asia-Pacific Regional Literature Coordinator

PARTNERING ACROSS THE REGION



David McEwan, Hitoshi Paul Fukue, Kim Seung Won, and Mark Eugenio are serving as the editorial committee for a contextualized *Articles of Faith* book. David McEwan, coordinator, reports that the editing committee is compiling all the papers and discussions introduced at the Asia-Pacific Theology Conference last August in Manila. The timeline shows that all sections and a book cover should be ready for final editing and publishing by the end of April, 2007.

Chul-Hwan of Korea reported that an NMI offering of \$3,180 had been sent for *Books for Pastors—Tools for Ministry*. “Praise the Lord for Korea’s participation in this world wide project!” responded Natalie Ward, Asia-Pacific Regional NMI coordinator. “God is moving on His people—may this resource be used for His glory and the advancement of His Kingdom!”

“In New Zealand, we have services in Korean (2 groups), Samoan (4 churches), Telagu (1 South India) service and Chinese (1),” Neville Bartle reports. “Australia also has a number of Greek speaking churches.” They will be collaborating with various countries in getting the best literature possible.

Grace Tia, administrative assistant to the regional literature coordinator is editing *Members Handbook for the Church of the Nazarene* by Neville Bartle to coordinate the numbering and changes with the *2005-2009 Manual of the Church of the Nazarene*. (Email gsilvernail@apnaz.org for an updated copy.)

The Asia-Pacific Wesleyan Holiness Women Clergy/Leadership Conference convened on the campus of Asia-Pacific Nazarene Theological Seminary on January 29 to February 1, 2007. Each participant received a certificate of continuing education credits designed and printed by the regional literature office. The office also assisted in providing baskets to go with the sermon of Dr. Nina Gunter: *How Big Is Your Basket?*



A BOOK ON THE TABLE



Leaving my suitcase unopened on the table, I pulled open the heavy drapes and looked out on the city of Chiang Mai. I could see the tops of houses, hotels, businesses, and temples. The one thing I missed seeing was a church or a steeple or even a building with a cross. None were in sight.

On a nearby table lay a book. A note on the book stated that 7 million copies of *The Teachings of Buddha* are available in forty-one languages and have been distributed and placed in hotels in over 50 countries around the world.



The book was a silent, yet forceful, reminder to me that Buddhism is the national religion of Thailand. About 95% of Thai citizens are Buddhists. About 4% of the population, mainly living in the south of Thailand, is Muslim. The remaining 1% is Confucians, Hindus, Taoists, and Christians. Almost 2,000 are

members of the Church of the Nazarene.

“If your knees are showing, there are wraps to make you more modest,” the tour guide explained as we approached the temple area. “Before entering the temple area, take off your shoes first outside. There are no seats; people just sit on the floor. However, to be respectful, you must sit with your legs tucked under your body making sure your feet are not pointing at anyone. And of course, it is important that your head should be lower than the Buddha image or any monks present.”

I walked through the beautiful temple area adorned with gold, flowers, and bells. I watched people young and old worshipping and being blessed by the monks.



I wished I could have given them a Bible or literature in their own language and explained to them that they could have a personal relationship with a living God. But I was their guest this day. I could only observe and pray silently for them.

Literature can change the lives of people. Let us publish materials in the languages of the people of our region so that a Christ-like difference will occur in their lives.

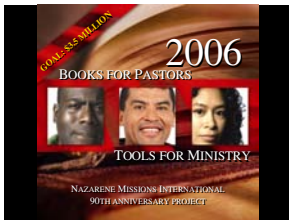
ARTICLES OF FAITH AND THE MANUAL —ON-LINE!

For the first time, the *Manual of the Church of the Nazarene* will be available on-line for anyone, anywhere in the world, to read in multiple languages.

The General Assembly of 2005 mandated that the General Secretary's office make the *Manual* available on-line in English. However, the General Secretary has gone beyond that simple directive. He is working with our region to place every possible language version of the *Manual* on-line.

In addition, the Church's *Articles of Faith* are also being made available. In the near future, these resources in Asia-Pacific languages will also be available on-line. You can see these versions at <http://nazarene.org/ministries/gensec/display.aspx>.

If you have not sent electronic copies of the resources available in your language, please send them right away to gsilvernail@apnaz.org to be placed on-line.



2007 BOOKS FOR PASTORS UPDATE

The first shipment for *Books for Pastors* should arrive any day.

English-speaking students at Asia-Pacific Nazarene Theological Seminary (APNTS) and in the Philippines, Fiji, Samoa, Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu will be the first recipients. Next year *Books for Pastors* will concentrate on those countries or fields needing books to be translated and printed.

The first order included: *The Lion Handbook to the Bible*, *How to Read the Bible for All It's Worth*, *Theology of the Old Testament: Testimony, Dispute, Advocacy*, *The Master's Plan of Salvation*, *Your Church Can Multiply*, *Foundational Issues in Christian Education: An Introduction in Evangelical Perspective*, *Biblical Preaching*, and *Effective Pastoral Counseling*. Texts will be d according to lists approved by the Asia-Pacific Regional Course of Study Advisory Committee (APR COSAC) on August 10, 2006.

On Tuesday, March 13, Geneva Silvernail and Floyd T. Cunningham in the Philippines and Bob Woodruff in Australia met by video conferencing to discuss the Asia Pacific pro forma and funding. "We need more stories and pictures," reminded Woodruff, "the stories are our accountability to the General Church. Perhaps with stories and pictures being promoted, individuals, churches, and districts will continue to give funds for *Books for Pastors*."

✓SEND NOW!

1. **Your mission statement and strategic plan for 2007**
2. **A story and photo from your field about a literature project or a changed life of someone who read one of your publications.**



NEW PROJECTS IN ASIA-PACIFIC

Park, Cheol Woo has written a textbook: *Introduction of Old Testament for Laypersons*. Professor Park is teaching Old Testament at Korea Nazarene University.

Missionary George Miller is seeking copyright permission for songs to be placed in a hymnal for the Solomon Islands.

Field Strategy Coordinator of the South Pacific field **James Johnson** recently visited Samoa and found there are books and lessons being translated and written for publication. "I brought with me a list of projects they have completed," he reported, "and will prepare these on the correct forms to send in for reimbursement."

Literature coordinator **Lisa Lehman** reports that the Southeast field will be translating the *Manual* in all main languages on their field except Lisu. Lisu will be translating the *Members Handbook for the Church of the Nazarene* by Neville Bartle.



Dr. Mark Sakamoto has begun translating the *Manual* in Japanese. The most current translation is 1976 and it is not complete according to Dr. Sakamoto.

Jin-Ah Kim at the Korean NPH office reports that the final editing of the *Manual* in Korean is being completed and will be on-line in the near future.

Philippine literature coordinator **Violly Lartec** and **Ilde Detalo** are collaborating with *Books for Pastors* in providing the *Manual* and other books reprinted in the Philippines.



STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR LITERATURE COMMITTEES 2007

Many of you have already started working on your 3-5 year plan or goals. Below are goals some of you have already discussed with the regional office. You may want to include them in the strategic plan of your literature committee:

1. Clear all backlog of projects up to year 2005 by canceling, deleting, or completing any projects on record.
2. Establish a mission statement, 5-year strategy, and a priority of books.
3. Select a secretary and carefully preserve all records. Send a copy of minutes to the RLC and World Mission Literature.
4. Develop a plan for writing, translating, publishing and distribution in cooperation with the RLC and *Books for Pastors* project guidelines.