North American Pacific/Asian Disciples Ministries 2014

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NAPAD Board of Directors

John D. Roh (Moderator), Deanna Scobbie (Moderator-elect), Shirley Kinoshita (Secretary/Treasurer), Janet Casey-Allen (Immediate Past Moderator), Aaron Park (Member at large), Salesa Fatu Faalau (Member at large), John Woo (Member at large), Chungseong Kim (Member at large), Yeahwa Choi Lee (Member at large), Ron Degges (CGM Representative), Susan Gonzales Dewey (CRM Representative), David Lalthawm Lian (Representative to General Board), Sharon Watkins (General Minister & President), Jinsuk Chun (Executive Pastor)

NAPAD Ministry Team

National Ministry
Jinsuk Chun, Executive Pastor

Ethnic Ministry
Lian Jiang (deployed) – Chinese Minister
Saitumua Tafaioalii (deployed) – Samoan Minister
Lianchinkhup Taithul (deployed) – Zo Minister

Women Ministry
Soo Yun (deployed) – Women Minister

Youth Ministry
Mayon Marcelino (deployed) – Youth Minister

Regional Ministry
Younglan Kim (deployed) – NAPAD Representative of Regional Ministry Team of Pacific Southwest Region
Youngjun Yang (deployed) - NAPAD Representative of Regional Ministry Team of Pacific Southwest
Daniel Lee (deployed) – Regional NAPAD Minister, Northern California-Nevada Region

Mission of NAPAD
The North American Pacific/Asian Disciples of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) affirms the cultures and heritages of Pacific/Asian peoples within the historic and living Christian faith. As part of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), we join with other Disciples in the total mission of the church, to recognize and promote the gifts and presence of North American Pacific/Asian Disciples in the life and work of the Church.

**Purpose of NAPAD**

1. To participate in God’s mission through the various expressions of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada.
2. To contribute to the wholeness and unity of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada.
3. To advocate for Pacific/Asian Disciples within and outside the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada.
4. To share the gifts and traditions of Pacific/Asian Disciples with the wider church.

The NAPAD ministry in the year 2012 has continued to thrive in accordance with the Disciples identity, “…a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world…” The ministry of NAPAD is faithfully on the frontline of accomplishment of the four mission priorities of the Church: Becoming a Pro-Reconciling and Anti-Racist Church; New Church Establishment; Congregational Transformation; Leadership Development.

**I. Becoming a Pro-Reconciling and Anti-Racist Church**

There were only eight NAPAD churches in 1992, but after 20 years of indefatigable work, there are about 100 churches in 2014 which consist mostly of 18 different ethnic and linguistic groups: Burmese, Cambodian, Chin, Chinese, Chuuk, Filipino, Indian, Indonesian, Japanese, Karen, Korean, Laotian, Mongolian, Montagnard, Samoan, Tongan, Vietnamese, Zo. Together we gather to form a community of faith working towards racial and ethnic inclusivity in all expressions of the church. NAPAD is committed to be “a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world.” Our 2020 vision is to have 200 pro-reconciling and anti-racist NAPAD congregations. As a mission centered community, NAPAD holds evangelical passion, radical inclusiveness, and responsibility to the world.

**1. The 18th NAPAD Convocation**

The 18th Biennial NAPAD Convocation was at the University of Chicago. Its theme was “Sing the Lord’s Song in the New Land” (Psalms 137:4). New Board of Directors was confirmed and elected the following: John D. Roh (Moderator), Deanna Scobbie (Moderator Elect), David Lalthawm Lian (Representative to General Board), Shirley Kinoshita (Secretary), Salesa Fatu Faalau, Chungseong Kim, John Wu, Yeahwa Choi Lee, Aaron Park (Members at Large).
Convocation invited two special keynote speakers: Dr. Russell Moy and Dr. Russell Yee who have done extensive research in the field of Asian-American worship. Lonna Owens, Vice-President for Financial Development of the Division of Home Missions was appreciated for her integral leadership and support in assisting NAPAD accounting processes. At Convocation, NAPAD hosted several international guests who are mission partners with Global Ministries. Among the guests, Rev. Dr. Minhieu Cheon, Director of International Relationship of the Presbyterian Church in the Republic of Korea (PROK), who spoke about the mission partnership between Disciples and PRORK. While at Convocation, NAPAD seminarians who received NAPAD scholarships such as the David Kagiwada and Soongook Choi scholarships were recognized and honored. Convocation was a time of learning, fellowship and spiritual nourishment through worships, keynote, workshop sessions as well as cultural night.

2. Anti-racism and Pro-reconciliation Training for participants in NAPAD Convocation

Sponsored by Reconciliation Ministry and National Benevolent Association, NAPAD provided a special program of Anti-racism and Pro-reconciliation for NAPADers who attended the 18th NAPAD Convocation on August 6 to 7. Rev. Sandhya Jha, of the Oakland Peace Center, along with Rev. Yvonne Gilmore, Associate Dean provided leadership as reconciliation facilitators for this training. Rev. April Lewton, vice-president of development and marketing at the National Benevolent Association, was pivotal in coordination and organizing the training program.

II. New Church Establishment

1. The goal of NAPAD ministries is to have 200 healthy congregations by the year 2020. In partnership with Hope Partnership Ministry and Church Extension Ministry and Regional Committees of New Church Development, we have initiated and/or established new NAPAD congregations.

2. Under the excellent leadership of our ministry team, especially of Lian Jiang, Daniel Lee, Saitumua Tafoialli, Lian Taithul, Younglan Kim, and Youngjun Yang, 6 new congregations were established and 9 new ministers have been embraced by ordination or transferred from other faith communions.

3. NAPAD welcomed several five new Chuukese congregations located in diverse geographic areas of Iowa, Arkansas, and Missouri. In addition, the Northern California & Nevada Region received two new Samoan congregations. The NAPAD Reviewing and Nurturing Committee have interviewed and recommended several Korean congregations located in
III Congregational Transformation and Pastoral Care

1. For the purpose of pastoral care and nurture, the Executive Pastor with the Ministry Team made about 150 visits with ministers and 75 visits with congregations. Around 1000 contacts were created by means of email and telephone.

2. The Korean Disciples Convocation (KDC) held its 16th annual conference and retreat on August 4-5 at the Chicago Christian Church, Chicago. Sixty pastors and lay leaders participated in this special event. They had seminars and conferences that build upon personal faith, church spirituality as well as a strong focus on Disciples Identity.

3. NAPAD coordinated and sponsored regional gatherings of NAPAD ministers and lay leaders on congregational transformation and growth.

4. NAPAD sponsored a gathering for the Fellowship of Korean Disciples Ministers of Mid-America (Dongchoon Lee, Moderator) held in Chicago, IL. Participants were ministers and leaders from Korean Disciples churches in Indiana, Illinois, Ohio and Missouri. At the gathering, workshops on church growth and transformation were offered. Additionally, there was a ministerial trip to the Cane Ridge, KY in May.

5. Ghent Christian Church, Ohio continued to develop the united congregation of Anglo and Korean Disciples through multi-racial and cultural ministries.

6. There was an interfaith program which Saegil Christian Church (Burbank, CA) and Hyangrin Church (Glendale, CA) co-sponsored from October 2014 to April 2015. They invited spiritual leaders from neighboring regions to their congregations creating a space for all to share their faith and collaboration to find common ways to contribute to our society together.

IV Leadership Development

1. **NAPAD Mission Center at Disciples Seminary Foundation**
   NAPAD opened its Mission Center at the Disciples Seminary Foundation, Claremont, CA. On its opening day, NAPAD honored the life of Rev. Harold Johnson, one of NAPAD's founders. Rev. Johnson passed away on Sept. 6 at the age of 93. He was known as dearly as the Grandfather of
NAPAD and was instrumental in establishing NAPAD as a community to include on Asians and Pacific Islanders within the Disciples. NAPAD’s Mission Center will be used to host and facilitate leadership and church planning programs. With close cooperation with the Disciples Seminary Foundation as well as the Regions in the West Coast, NAPAD wants to strategically and intentionally develop effective ministries in planting and sustaining NAPAD churches as well as cultivating leaders for the NAPAD community.

2. **Fundraising Event**
   On December 5th, 2014, a fundraising event was held at First Christian Church of Pomona, CA to establish the Harold Johnson Legacy Fund. This fund is set up to support NAPAD’s youth, young adult, and women ministries. The NAPAD Board unanimously agreed that this fund and its uses will serve to uphold the ministerial legacy of Rev. Harold Johnson. More than 50 individuals and churches made donations. The goal to raise $10,000 was met.

3. **Ordination and Graduation**
   Reverend Allison Enari graduated from Vanderbilt Divinity School and was ordained at Eastwood Christian Church, Nashville, TN.
   Reverend Heechang Kang got ordained at Community Christian Church, Lincolnshire, IL.
   Reverend Eli Rolon was ordained at South Broadway Christian Church, Denver, CO.

4. **Scholarship and Internship for theological students**
   1) Scholarships awarded for leadership development: David Lalthawm Lian (Christian Theological Seminary), Heesook Park (Christian Theological Seminary), Teresa Kim Peccinovsky (Vanderbilt Divinity School) with Kagiwada & Choi Scholarships.
   2) Internship grant for NAPAD women students: Jennie Hwang (Brite Divinity School) and Lynnette Li (Christian Theological Seminary)

**Recommended Action:**

The General Board receives the report from the North American Pacific/Asian Disciples and forwards the report to the General Assembly for consideration and discussion.