

MYANMAR UNION CONVENTION AND 115th **ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ

It is my joy and privilege to greet you as you celebrate 115 years of God's faithful leading of the Myanmar Union Mission. We congratulate you for all that has been accomplished by God's grace. The work that has been entrusted to God's people is of the utmost importance: "...to cooperate with God and Christ for the saving of souls," (CS p. 85) showing the world the tremendous love God has for mankind. It's a blessing to see how God's Holy Spirit has led in the past, keeping and guiding the Myanmar Union Mission forward to where it is now. I have prayed for God's richest blessings over your extensive outreach and growth and that you continue to be a great blessing to those around you.

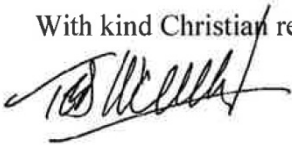
All heaven rejoices with you for persevering on your journey to this point and for celebrating Christ's salvific love. *"One soul saved from error, and brought under the banner of Christ, will cause joy in heaven ... A soul saved will, through his godly influence, bring other souls to a knowledge of salvation, and thus the work will multiply, and only the revealings of the day of judgment will make manifest the extent of the work."* (CCh p. 189)

Each member of the Myanmar Union Mission is a valued member of the worldwide Seventh-day Adventist Church family. As we share our faith in Jesus and prepare to meet Him very soon, we know that it is a great privilege to serve the Lord at this crucial time in earth's history. We are witnesses to the unfolding of the Great Controversy theme as it comes to a climax. Every member's involvement provides strong outreach to the surrounding communities representing God's love in homes, schools, work places, churches, communities...everywhere God leads.

During your 115th Anniversary celebration, you will be looking back to acknowledge the marvelous way the Lord has led, and you will be looking forward to God's proclamations of hope and promise. God has blessed you greatly, and the world church is grateful for all that the Myanmar Union Mission has done to advance God's work. We praise God for what He is doing for you and through you.

May God continue to bless you as together we look forward to Christ's soon return!

With kind Christian regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ted N. C. Wilson', written in a cursive style.

Ted N. C. Wilson
President



. His Everlasting Mercy and Faithfulness

Praise God that we can celebrate this momentous occasion to commemorate the milestones of God's great faithfulness for His work in Myanmar! It is with much of my anticipation that we look back to cherish together these challenging yet rewarding past years to fully appreciate the present, and to inspire us to work for His glory in the future. This 115th Celebration makes us reflect and praise God for the admirable spirit of the self-sacrificing pioneers, the tremendous support of the leaders, pastors, members of the Church and continuous contribution of the supporting ministries, agencies, and God's blessing and provision upon our church in Myanmar.

Like the Early Church at Pentecost (Acts 2:42-47), effective churches grow and multiply mature effective Christians that willingly and actively engage in strategic evangelism and serve those outside the church community. This is because they were of "one accord" and are united in their love for the Saviour and for one another, under the inspiration and guidance of the Holy Spirit. I give my heartfelt appreciation that you have embraced the Reach the World initiative through "Total Member Involvement" (TMI). You are God's lampstand giving "light to everyone" (Matthew 5:16) and "It is the privilege of every Christian not only to look for, but to hasten the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ" (COL 65).

And His faithful leadings are not yet over. His leadings shall continue until "the light of the glorious gospel of truth shall shine" in all of Myanmar. As you look to the years ahead, "with confidence in Christ as your Leader" be assured that "We have nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history" (LS 196).

May your life and good works as of a Christian of the Seventh-day Adventist Church continue to inspire and impact the life of others and to "Keep on serving until Jesus comes!"

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Saw Samuel Paul'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Saw Samuel Paul
President



Dear Beloved Faithful Believers and Friends,

God's grace is so great and sufficient for everyone living on this world! So let us take a moment of thinking how many years that Everlasting Gospel message, which is three angels' messages and the true Sabbath, entered into to the country of Myanmar (Burma) - it has been already 115 years! It can be said that everyone who accepts the gospel message has **Faith, Joy, Salvation, and Peace**. Because of sharing the message of God's grace offers salvation to everyone, of accepting the three angels'

everlasting gospel messages, a total of 31570 believers have been brought into the churches within 115 years of ministries in Myanmar. It is not just bringing people to churches; but organizing a total of 233 churches and 106 companies to accommodate the souls during worship hours to have a fellowship with Christ, Our Loving Saviour too. God has chosen us to be the lamp that gives light to people in this country. With the perception of giving light we received to others, our Seventh-day Adventist Church not only could open 84 schools for primary education level, 9 schools for secondary education level, 1 seminary for college level, but a training center for community health promoters' that to be able to offer true Christian education to the youth of the future generation. Furthermore, a Publishing House has been materialized, and books and literatures have been produced for ministries in places where there is no evangelist can be sent but testimony or book distribution can be done. In addition to these, in order to spread out the gospel message country-wide, messages on evangelism have been broadcast in different languages - Myanmar, Kayin (Pwo, Sagaw), Chin, Kachin, Shan and Mon languages - through the Adventist World Radio program, and these voices have been reached to the places by using effective technical skills and methods where there is gospel message has never been heard before. It is also a program to give the privilege of rebuilding our faith by nurturing, discipling, and retention our lifestyles to a new life of each believer. So where there is no evangelist can reach, messages are reaching there now. In the past years, due to the political regime change, though the missionary hospital and schools had been nationalized and stopped functioning for the activities, praising God for providing several new schools are now open for teaching. Hoping and believing by counting God's grace that there can be a new big sanitation center in place of the previous one in the near future.

In Myanmar Union Mission of SDA, there are 321 workers serving in the ministries by joining various departments, working together with church members, both office and fields respectively. In the previous times, because of God's guidance and much more blessings, we are filled with a feeling of being blest and having joyful hearts. Therefore, let us praise His Name by counting His blessing given to us through all these years (115 years). Let us invite the Holy Spirit to dwell in us for serving in His Ministries while worshipping together here. Let us worship together while waiting and watching for Christ's return. What a joyful experience and privilege of being gathered together in the eyes of God at this 115th year celebrations!

Saw Timothy

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Saw Timothy', with a stylized flourish at the end.

President of MYUM

NOVEMBER 8, 2017 WEDNESDAY, 6:30 - 8:30 PM
OPENING CEREMONY & EVENING DEVOTION

Prelude	Instrumental Music
Entry into the Hall	Delegates
Flag Salute and Myanmar National Anthem	Tin Lay
Announcement of 8th MYUM Convention Commencement	A One Thein
Welcome Remark	Shine Tha
Opening Song	Theme Song
Opening Prayer	Connally Hla
Special Song	HOSSANA LADIES
Special Song	MUAS Choir
Introduction to the AYY Greater Region Prime Minister	Tin Lay
Speech	Mahn Johnny (Prime Minister, AYY Greater Region)
Special Song	UMAS Choir
Introduction to the Speaker	Thang Lam Mung
Message	Connally Hla
Closing Song	No.2, SDAH 214
Closing Prayer	Paul Tanbaunaw
Special Song	AYAS Choir
Message	Thang Kang Lo
Special Song	Three Angels Vocal Band
Closing Song	No. (21), M 83, SDAH 286
Closing Prayer	Churchill Thoung

Announcement – Claudius Brown

Pianist – Muan Tawng and Esther Po

NOVEMBER 9, 2017 THURSDAY, 7:30 - 8:30 AM
MORNING DEVOTION

Entry	Platform Participants
Opening Song	No. 3, M 140, SDAH 358
Opening Prayer	Hla Kun
Special Song	CMAS Choir
Introduction to the Speaker	Shwe Thet Oo
Special Song	MUAS - Mizo Seminar
Message	Khin Maung Latt
Closing Song	No. (4), M 141, SDAH 359
Closing Prayer	Saw Keh

Announcement – Kai Khan Khual

Pianist – Zaw Lin Oo and Sharon Thein

NOVEMBER 9, 2017 THURSDAY, 10:15 AM - 12:30 PM
MESSAGES FROM THE MYUM DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS

Welcome Remarks	Sein Tun
Special Song	Three Angels Vocal Band
Opening Prayer	Sein Tun
Message	A One Thein
Special Song	AYAS Choir
Message	Sernay Nyunt
Special Song	UMAS Choir
Message	Kai Khan Khual
Closing Song	No. (5), M 55, SDAH 202
Closing Prayer	Rozama

Announcement – Alvin Po Po Hla

Pianist – Garry James and Moe Sandar

NOVEMBER 9, 2017 THURSDAY, 1:30 - 4:30 PM
MESSAGES FROM THE MYUM DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS

Welcome Remarks	Alvin Po Po Hla
Opening Song	No. (17), M 16, SDAH 86
Opening Prayer	Alvin Po Po Hla
Special Song	SEAS Choir
Message	Claudius Brown
Special Song	CMAS Choir
Message	Lalrawngbawla
Special Song	MUAS Karen Seminar Choir
Message	Surachet Insom (Director, AWR ASIA Pacific Region)
Closing Song	No. (6), M 251, SDAH 625
Closing Prayer	Andrew Tin

Announcement – Saw Keh
Pianist – Juliet Nyein and Wilson Po

NOVEMBER 9, THURSDAY, 6:30 - 8:30 PM
EVENING DEVOTION AND ASI & SPECIAL NEEDS PROMOTION

Welcome and Scripture Reading	June Naw
Opening Song	No (7), M 142, SDAH 361
Opening Prayer	Sohila Shine
Special Song	AYAS Choir
Message	Kent Sharpe
Closing Song	No. (8), M 152, AY 11
Closing Prayer	Ohnmar San
Special Song	CMAS Choir
Message (ASI)	Zaw Dan (ASI)
Special Song	SEAS Choir
Message (Special Need Ministry)	Lalrawngbawla
Closing Song	No. (9), M 59, SDAH 213
Closing Prayer	Hau Go Thang

Announcement – Saxon Shwe
Pianist – Esther Po and Muan Tawng
Translator – Gavin Johns

**NOVEMBER 10, 2017 FRIDAY, 7:30 - 8:30 AM
MORNING DEVOTION**

Entry	Platform Participants
Opening Song	No (9), M 59, SDAH 213
Opening Prayer	Rawlson Johnny
Special Song	Retiree Group
Introduction to the Speaker	Kenneth H. Suanzanang
Message	Muller Kyaw
Special Song	Three Angels Vocal Band
Closing Song	No (11), M 177
Closing Prayer	Do Hen Pau

Announcement – Kap Lian Thang

Pianist – Zaw Lin Oo and Sharon Thein

NOVEMBER 10, 2017 FRIDAY, 10:15 - 11:30, AM
MESSAGES FROM THE MYUM DEPARTMENTAL DIRECTORS

Welcome and Scripture Reading	Saung Wai Wai
Opening Song	No. (12), M 62, SDAH 218
Opening Prayer	Yin Yin David
Special Song	AYAS Choir
Introduction to the Speaker	Cho Cho Paul
Message	Orathai Chureson
Closing Song	CMAS Choir
Closing Prayer	Cho Cho Paul

Announcement – Kai Khan Khual

Pianist – Garry James and Moe Sandar

Translator – Gavin Johns

NOVEMBER 10, 2017, FRIDAY
115TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION CEREMONY

WELCOMING PARADE - 2:00 - 5:00 PM

Yangon Attached District (YAD) - First Station
Central Myanmar Mission (CMM) - Second Station
Ayeyawady Adventist Mission (AYM) - Third Station
Southeast Myanmar Mission (SEM) - Fourth Station
Upper Myanmar Mission (UMM) - Fifth Station

VISITATING PROJECTS AND CENTER

Boys' Dormitory
International Children Care (ICC)
Girls' Dormitory Building Project
Religious Building Project

OPENING CEREMONY OF ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Entry to the Worship Hall	Honor Guests
Welcoming Band	Master Guide
Welcome Remarks	Timothy Paul, MYUM President
Introduction of Guests	Kelly Lyan, MYUM Secretary
Opening Prayer	Kap Lian Thang, UMM President
Introduction of the Speaker	Timothy Paul, MYUM President
Special Song	Myanmar Union Adventist Seminary Choir
MESSAGE	Ted Wilson, GC President
Closing Song	No. (1), M 21, SDAH 100
Closing Prayer	Alvin Po Po Hla, CMM President

Announcement - Kai Khan Khual
Pianist - Juliet Nyein & Wilson Po
Translator – Connaly Hla, MUAS President

NOVEMBER 10, 2017, FRIDAY
VESPER WORSHIP PROGRAM - 7:00 - 8:30 PM

Welcome	Suak Khaw Ngin, MUAS Church Pastor
Opening Song	No. (1), M 21, SDAH 100
Opening Prayer	Kyaw Myint Naing, SEAS Principal
Introduction to the Speaker	A One Thein, MYUM Youth Director
Special Song	Upper Myanmar Adventist Seminary Choir
Scripture Reading	Hau Go Thang , UMAS Principal
MESSAGE	Saw Samuel, SSD President
Closing Song	No. (11), M. 177
Benediction	Min Lwin, AYM Principal

Announcement - Gavin Johns

Pianist - Esther Po and Muan Tawng

Translator – Kalumu Paul, Academic Dean, MUAS

NOVEMBER 11, 2017, SATURDAY
MYUM 115 YEARS OF MISSION JOURNEY
SABBATH SCHOOL PROGRAM - 8:00 am - 10:00 am

Praise and Worship	Kham Khan Khai and Group
Theme Song	No (1), M 21, SDAH 100
Welcome Remark	Shine Tha
Opening Song	No (13), M 144, SDAH 366
Opening Prayer	Thang Kang Lo
Lesson Study (15 Minutes)	Thang Lam Mung
Song of Praise	MUAS Choir
MYUM 115th Mission Journey Part I	Video Show
Song of Praise	-
MYUM 115th Mission Journey Part II	Video Show
Song of Praise	-
MYUM 115th Mission Journey Part III	Video Show
Song of Praise	-
MYUM 115th Mission Journey Part IV	Video Show
Song of Praise	-
MYUM 115th Mission Journey Part V	Video Show
Song of Praise	-
Announcement for Mission Offering	Kai Khan Khual
Mission Offering Collection	selected
Song of Praise While Offering Collection	SEAS and UMAS Choir
Offertory Prayer	Andrew McChesney/Kai Khan Khual
Closing Song	No (14), M 147, SDAH 369
Closing Prayer	Maung Maung Htay

Announcement – Kap Lian Thang
Pianist – Garry James and Moe Sandar

NOVEMBER 11, 2017
DIVINE SERVICE PROGRAM - 10:15 am - 12:00 am

Welcome & Calls to Worship	Bienvenido Mergal/Khai Khan Khual
Doxology	“The Lord is in His Holy Temple”
Invocation	Ted Wilson, GC President
Opening Song	No (11), M 177
Pastoral Prayer	Saw Samuel Paul/Timothy Paul
Offertory Sentence & Prayer	Max Langi/Cally Thein
Offertory Music	Combine Violin Group
Scripture Reading	Johny Lubis, SSD Vice-President
Special Song	MUAS Choir
Introduction to the Speaker	Kevin Costello, SSD Associate Secretary
Message	Ted Wilson, GC President
Hymn of Dedication	No (15), M 112, SDAH 330
Benediction	Rudy Baloyo/SSD Secretary
Response	“We Have This Hope”

Announcement- Connally Hla

Pianist - Muan Tawng and Esther Po

Translator – Connally Hla

NOVEMBER 11, 2017, SATURDAY
MYUM 115th YEARS ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
RECOGNITION AND APPRECIATION - 1:30 - 4:00 PM

Praise and Worship	Zaw Lin Oo and Group
Theme Song	No (1), M 21, SDAH 100
Opening Prayer	Kap Lian Thang
Special Remark	Nancy Wilson, GC Transition Ministry
Special Song	Three Angels Vocal Band
Special Remark	Jacinth Adap, SSD Under-Treasurer
Special Remark	Jim Rennie, CEO of CII, USA
Special Song	THE AGENT
Special Remark	Andrew McChesney, Adventist Mission Editor
Special Remark	Myun Jung Lee, BAUM President
Special Song	THE VESSEL
Special Remark	Yew Lip Sin, SSD ASI President
Special Remark	Somchai Chuenjit, SAUM President
Special Song	MUAS – Zomi Seminar

HONORING RETIREES
4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Entry	Platform Participant
Special Song	UMAS Choir
Honoring and Appreciation Talk	Ted Wilson, GC President
	Saw Samuel, SSD President
	Victor Din, BACA
	Timothy Paul, President, MYUM
Honoring Retirees	Cho Cho Paul and Group
Special Prayer for Retirees	Ted Wilson
Announcement	Connally Hla

COMMITMENT CEREMONY - 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Opening Song	No (15), M 112, SDAH 330
Opening Prayer	Timothy Roy, BAUM Secretary
Introduction to the Speaker	Kelly Lyan, MYUM Secretary
Theme Song	No. (1), M. 21 SDAH 100
Commitment Message	Rudy Baloyo, SSD Secretary
Commitment Prayer	Johny Lubis, SSD Vice-President

NOVEMBER 11, 2017, SATURDAY
ADVENTIST YOUTH WORSHIP AND SOCIAL PROGRAM

AY WORSHIP PROGRAM
7:00 - 7:30 PM

Praise and Worship	Selected Youth from MUAS
Welcome Speech	Ka Paw Moo
AY Theme Song	Pass It On
Opening Prayer	A One Thein
Special Song	Tuang Khek & Group
Introduction to the Speaker	A One Thein, Youth Director
MESSAGE	Jhony Lubis, SSD Vice-President
Closing Song	We Have This Hope
Closing Prayer	Htay Min Tun

CULTURAL PERFORMANCE & TESTIMONIES
7:30 - 8:30 PM

Cultural Performance (1)	-
Testimony	Upper Myanmar Mission
Cultural Performance (2)	-
Testimony	Central Myanmar Mission
Cultural Performance (3)	-
Testimony	Ayeyarwady Mission
Cultural Performance (4)	-
Testimony	South East Mission
Cultural Performance (5)	-
Testimony	Yangon Attached District
Cultural Performance (6)	-
Response	“We Have This Hope”

RESPONSIBILITY SHARING FOR MYUM CONVENTION AND 115th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Advisors:	Timothy Muna Paul, Wesley Doe, Muller Kyaw
Director:	Kelly P. Lyan
Assistant Directors:	Khin Maung Latt, Htay Min Tun, Tin Lay, A One Thein
Treasurer:	Cally Thein
Assistant Treasurers:	Lergay Kyaw, Laymoo Kyaw
Music, Instrument & Song Service:	Sernay Nyunt, Cing Sawn Lun, Lay Wah, Juliet Nyein, Hau Go Thang, Aung Myint Tun, Sharon Thein, Than Than Aye.
Organists:	Esther Po, Muan Tawng, Zaw Lin Oo, Garry James, Sharon Thein, Moe Sandar.
Video & Camera:	Thang Pau, Hay Htoo, Kapaw Moo.
Security:	Tin Lay, Roger Moore, Titoe, Isaac Ke, Win Naing Oo, Ehsarkhris.

Transportation:	Nang Do Dal, Zaw Min Latt (AYM), Lersay, Tha Tun Aye, Nang Khen Thang, Titoe, Lar Kapaw Tun, Justino
PA system:	Tamay Baw, Thang Kap Kim, Zam Deih Piang.
Registration	Susie Sein, Khin Sandar Tin, Nu Yin Aye, Tin Thandar Tun, Aye Mya Pyu Tun, Aye Mya Wai Htoo, December Aye, Laday Dawn.
Lightning In charge:	Pum Khan Hau, Tun Naing Oo, S' Stephen, Simon, Say Wah.
Food In charge:	Cho Cho Paul, Tun Nay, Aye Aye Than, Moo Kapaw Shee, A One Thein, Du Hein, Myo Zaw Tun, Andrew Tin, Hau Khan Cing.
Health In Charge:	Sernay Nyunt, Mahn Soe Thein, Hla Hla Aye, Htwe Lay, Iris Thein, Lin Lin Thwe.
Night Program In Charge:	Shine Tha, Htay Min Tun, Thang Kang Lo, Suak Khaw Ngin, Tin Maung San.
Accommodation In Charge:	Lay Moo Kyaw, Min Lwin, Soe Naing, Amos Sein, Minolta Po, Lar Shee, Tha Hser, Isaac, Tin Maung San, Mang Sian Tuang, Win

Naing Oo, Kham Khan Khai, Su Mon Htwe,
Kaw Khu Paw.

Communication/News:	Shine Tha, Muller Taw, Hla Hla Myint, Do Lian Thang
Decoration:	Sohila Shine, Ei Ei, Awa Lone Kone, Mya Shwe Wa, Trazer Ohn, Saung Wai Wai, Shine Tha, Myo Naing, Nang Bauk.
Praise & Worship Leaders:	Htay Min Tun, Mang Sian Tuang, Zirsangliana, Sang Pi, Teint Saung.
Theme:	“His Everlasting Mercy and Faithfulness”
Pulpit arrangement Com.	Kap Lian Thang, Alvin Po Po Hla, Saw Keh, Saxon Shwe, Maung Maung Htay, Kai Khan Khual, Claudius Brown.
Translators:	Alvin Po Po Hla, Conally Hla, Gavin Johns.
Booth In Charge:	Rozama, Hla Kun, Khin Maung Yin, Thang Lam Mung, Shwe Thet Oo, Paul Tabaunaw, Hpone Naing.
Hall In Charge, Seat:	Kalumu Paul, Thang Kang Lo, Lergay Kyaw, Nang Khen Thang,
Arrangement & Sanitation:	Thein Dan, Sai Yan Tun, Roger Moore, Tin Maung San, Tin Lay.
Convention Permission:	Tin Lay.
Campus Beauty:	Thein Dan, Awa Lone Kone, Kyi May Win, Birdie Sein, Iris Thein, Wai Nay Aung.

**MYANMAR UNION MISSION
CHURCH MEMBERSHIP
September 30, 2017**

MISSION	Churches	Companies	Baptisms	Membership
Ayeyarwady Mission	62	24	15	7,670
Central Myanmar Mission	30	19	63	4,762
South East Mission	27	18	12	4,996
Upper Myanmar Mission	76	31	62	8,848
Yangon Attached District	38	14	9	5,429
TOTAL	233	106	166	31,705

MYANMAR UNION MISSION

Territory and Statistics

Seventh-day Adventist work in Myanmar began with two literature ministry personnel in 1902. Myanmar Union Mission was organized in 1919 and reorganized in 1938. The territory of Myanmar Union Mission constitutes the Myanmar Union, a part of the Southern Asia-Pacific Division, and is divided into five missions: Ayeyarwady, Central Myanmar, South East, Upper Myanmar, and Yangon Attached District.

Statistics for Union (2017) – churches, 233; membership, 30,920; ordained ministers, 13;¹ college, 1; secondary schools, 9; publishing house, 1.

Statistics for Missions – Upper Myanmar Mission: The Upper Myanmar Mission was established in 1919. The Headquarters is in Pyinoolwin, Mandalay Region; churches, 76; members, 8,544; ordained ministers, 21; Secondary school, 5. *Central Myanmar Mission:* The Central Myanmar Mission was organized in 1967. The Headquarters is in Taungoo, Bagu Region; churches, 30; members, 4,490; ordained ministers, 13; secondary school, 1. *Ayeyarwaddy Mission:* The Ayeyarwaddy Mission was organized in 1919; and reorganized in 1938. The Headquarters is in Patheingyi, Ayeyarwaddy Region; churches, 62; members, 7,542; ordained ministers, 15; secondary school, 1. *South East Mission:* The South East Mission was organized in 1919, and reorganized in 1938. The headquarters is in Mawlamyaing, Mon State; churches, 27; members, 4,921; ordained ministers, 16; secondary school, 1. *Yangon Attached District:* The Yangon Attached District was established in 1977. The headquarters is in Dagon, Yangon Region; churches, 38; members, 5,423; ordained ministers, 12.²

ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORY

Overview

Pyidaungzu Thammada Myanma Naingngandaw (Republic of the Union of Myanmar), formerly known as Burma, is in Southeast Asia with a population of about 52 million people. It is one of the most ethnically diverse countries in the world as it is situated between the borders of modern-day Bangladesh, India, China, Laos and Thailand. Myanmar is known to foreigners as the Golden Land not only for its golden pagodas but also for its rich natural resources. It is a country

boasting emerald green rice fields, a multitude of tropical flowers and fruits and brilliantly painted temples. To its south, about one third of Myanmar's total perimeter of 5,876km (3,651 miles) forms an uninterrupted coastline of 1,930 km (1,200 mi) along the Bay of Bengal and the Andaman Sea.³

“Myanmar's history dates back to the mid-900s BC. Various kingdoms rose and fell until 1824, when Great Britain launched a 62-year war, which ended with England incorporating Myanmar into the Indian Empire in 1886.”⁴

In the 9th century, the Bamar people entered the Upper Irrawaddy valley and, following the establishment of the Pagan Kingdom in the 1050s, the Burmese language, culture and Theravada Buddhism slowly became dominant in the country. In the 16th century, reunified by the Taungoo Dynasty, the country was for a brief period the largest empire in the history of Mainland Southeast Asia.⁵ Early civilizations in Myanmar included the Tibeto-Burman-speaking Pyu city-states in Upper Myanmar and the Mon kingdoms in Lower Myanmar.⁶

The early 19th century Konbaung Dynasty ruled over an area that included modern Myanmar and briefly controlled Manipur and Assam as well. Previously an independent kingdom, Myanmar was annexed by the British Empire into the colony of India. The occupation brought social, economic, cultural and administrative changes to the once-feudal society. The Japanese Empire invaded and occupied the country during World War II but it was returned to British control until independence in 1948; become a democratic nation and then, following a coup d'état in 1962, a military dictatorship. In 2011, the military junta was officially dissolved following a 2010 general election, and a nominally civilian government was installed.⁷

“The name of the country “Burma” was changed to “Myanmar” in 1989 by the ruling military government, officially recognized by the United Nations. But, some national governments, such as Canada, the United Kingdom, and the United States do not recognize this name change because of political arguments.”⁸

Myanmar is 676,578 square kilometers (261,227 sq. mi) in size. Its capital city is Naypyidaw.⁹ There are 135 distinct ethnic groups officially recognized by the Myanmar government. The government does not recognize several ethnic groups as being among the list of 135 officially recognized ethnic groups. These unrecognized ethnic groups are Tibetan, Anglo-Burmese (Eurasians), Burmese-Gurkha, Burmese-Pakistani, and Bengali people.¹⁰ In addition to the majority Bamar ethnic

group, other main groups are the Chin, Karen, Kachin, Kayah, Mon, Rakhine and Shan, which have state territories named after them. The provisional results of the 2014 census show that the total population of Myanmar is (51,419,420).¹¹

Ethnic composition in Myanmar (rough estimate): Burman (Bamar) 68 %, Shan 9 %; Karen 7%, Rakhine 3.5 %, Chinese 2.5 %, Mon 2 %, Kachin 1.5 %; Indian 1.5 %, Chin 1 %; Kayah 0.8 %; and others 5%. Its official language is Burmese. The state religion is Theravada Buddhism 87.9 %. The minority groups practice Christianity, 6.2 %; Islam, 4.3 %; Animist, 0.8%; Hindu, 0.5%; Tribal religions, 0.8 %; other, 1.2 %, and none, 0.1%.¹²

Seventh-day Adventism

At the turn of the twentieth century, a Bama Baptist lady in Mawlamyaing, Daw May mind was shock one Sunday morning when she read in her Bible, “the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God” (Exodus 20:10). . Her forefathers had been the converts of Adoniram Judson, who established the first Baptist Church in about 1827. Her mind was not at peace, because she was not doing what the Lord said. Upon seeking clarification from her pastor, she was told that the seventh-day Sabbath was intended only for the Jews. She was not satisfied with their explanation. In any case, she was convinced that the Bible was correct, and she decided to keep the seventh-day Sabbath without knowing that there were Sabbath keepers in other parts of the world. Thus Daw May became the first Sabbath keeper in Myanmar before the missionaries arrived.¹³

Herbert B. Meyers, who had become a Seventh-day Adventist in Calcutta, India¹⁴ and A. G. Watson entered the country and selling literatures in 1902. They rented a house at 110 Brookling Street in East Yangon and immediately started selling religious books up and down the streets. Meyers’ wife opened a school with eighteen students. In 1904, Maung Maung went to Calcutta, India and requesting to send a missionary. The Church responded his request by sending H. H. Votaws and L. F. Hansens in 1905. These were the first Seventh-day Adventist missionaries to Myanmar. Upon the arriving in 1905, Votaw began evangelistic work in Yangon.

In 7 February 1907, Dr. Ollie Oberholtzer arrived from America and work in Mawlamyaing. Two brothers from Anglican Church, Chit Hla and David Hpo Hla accepted the advent messages. David Hpo Hla

accepted the call to serve in the Church and he was the first Burmese Seventh-day Adventist to be ordained to the gospel ministry.

Until 1909, the work in India and Myanmar was directly under the General Conference as a detached mission. In 1909, it became a part of the Asiatic Division. Then in 1910, territory reorganization took place and an 'India Union Mission' was formed in the following missions: The Bengali Mission, North India Mission, the South India Mission, Western India mission, and Myanmar Mission.¹⁵

Herbert H. Votaw attended the General Conference session in America in 1909 and made a stirring appeal for an educational man for Myanmar. In 1910, Robert B. Thurber was sent out to lead Meiktila Technical School. The General Conference set aside a special fund of \$ 129,959.65 for the Myanmar Union Training School.¹⁶ This School was the first Adventist institution in Myanmar.

The first Seventh-day Adventist church was organized in 1907 in Yangon, with 23 members.¹⁷ "The First Myanmar mission convention was held in Yangon on October 9-19, 1908. In February 1915, the first time in their history that the workers of Myanmar have been favored with a visit from the president of the General Conference, A. G. Daniels.¹⁸

An Australian missionary Eric B Hare established the Karen Mission station in Ohndaw, Karen State in 1915.¹⁹ The India Union Mission was established as the Southern Asia Division of Seventh-day Adventist in 1920. The territory included Pakistan, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, and Bangladesh.²⁰ By 1922 Myanmar Seventh-day Adventists had six churches with 182 members.²¹ "Maung Myat Htoon @ Walter Martin, Ma Thein Ma, Esther, and Ma May were the first fruits from the work of H. B. Meyers. Maung Maung was the first Burmese Seventh-day Adventist evangelist and ordained in 1927, near the close of his service. He was a forceful and dramatic speaker. J. Philips, president of the Myanmar Union Mission from 1921 to 1933, said "U Maung was one of the best Bible students and preachers I have known."²²

"The Church bought a lot on a corner- Voyle Road (later called U Wisara Road) and Stewart Road (later called Mawkwunhtaik Road) in 1928 and put up a three-story office and residence building, headquarters of the Myanmar Union Mission, and a beautiful church for the Yangon congregation on the same compound."²³

"In June 1923, Frank A. Wyman came back again in Myanmar and work for several years in the Delta area – Pathein, Henzada, and Taikgyi. When a property was bought at Myaungmya and headquarters of the Delta Mission was established there in 1927. Tha Myaing, a Karen

gentleman met with R. A Beckner and U Chit Hla and accepted their advent message. They were invited to work in the mission and Tha Myaing was the first Karen Seventh-day Adventist to be ordained to the ministry.

In harmony with the denominational plan of Seventh-day Adventists, the mission work in Myanmar was from its beginning duly organized. For the first few years it was simply a local mission, the Myanmar Mission, and was attached to the India Union Mission, which had its headquarters at Lucknow, North India. The first superintendent of the Myanmar Mission was Herbert H. Votaw. Yangon has long been a multi-racial city with many Chinese and Indians living there. Early in the 1920s work among the Telegus (Indians) was started by Andrews Stephen. The Telegu-Indian Church was organized on the Sabbath of 25 December 1922 with fifteen members.”²⁴

“Charles F. Lowry arrived in 1916 and was appointed superintendent of the Myanmar Mission. Early in 1919 the Myanmar Mission was reorganized into the Myanmar Union Mission. C. F. Lowry was the first president and Larue W. Melendy was the first secretary-treasurer. The territory comprised as follow: Central and Upper Myanmar Mission, Ayeyarwaddy Delta Mission, and Tanintharyi Mission. But, C. F. Lowry’s untimely death cut short his service in that capacity. He died of smallpox in 14 February 1919.”²⁵

Then came the war! Bombs were dropped on Yangon on 23 December 1941. In two days of bombing, more than 2,500 people were killed in Yangon and that many more wounded.²⁶ Thousands began to leave the city. “On Sabbath morning, 21 February 1942, E. B. Hare, W. W. Christensen, J. W. Baldwin, and E. M. Meleen met in the church for worship, then locked the doors and left the city (Yangon).”²⁷ All Church activities were stopped during the Second World War.

Faithful Unto Death: During the war, the Myanmar National Army under the leadership of Japanese began persecuting the Christians and destroying their property, they killed a Seventh-day Adventist’s worker and

some members. Those hero of faithful martyrs were as follow: (1) Po Shwe, pastor and evangelist; (2) Kan Bane; (3) Po Johnsie, (4) Po Be, (5) Po Cho, (6) Po Ngwe, (7) Ba Kyine, (8) Daniel, a student (9) Than Shwe, a student.²⁸

Postwar Developments

Literature was one of the most useful tools to spread the gospel message. “The Myanmar people are fond of reading, and gladly welcome the colporteur. The sales of some of the workers have reached as high as \$300 a month. Strange to say, while other denominations have been work in Myanmar for something like a century, Seventh-day Adventists were the first to sell their books and papers. The first attempt to sell reading matter in the Myanmar language was made in 1911, with a 32-page booklet entitled, “*The Sign of the Times and End of the World.*”²⁹ In 1912, Burmese magazine “*The Kin Saung,*” was started by Robert Beckner. After the war, the new publishing facility “Kin Saung Press” began working in 28 May 1950 with J. O. Wilson as its first manager, Maung Sein as factory foreman, and Saya Saw U as editor.³⁰ The first Seventh-day Adventist literature published in the Karen language was “*Christian Sabbath,*” translated by Mary DeNoyer and Tha Myaing.³¹ The only and first printed book of Ellen G. White in Myanmar before the Second World War was *Early Writings* and was printed in Poona, India.”³²

The Seventh-day Adventist church grew, and by 1939 there were 25 schools, 43 teachers, and nearly 1000 students in Myanmar. Foreign missionaries stayed in the country during World War II until early 1942, when they had to flee to India. Following the war, cross-cultural missionaries returned until 1962, when the military junta took over Myanmar. At that time 26 missionaries left the country.³³

A Shan young man name Sam Gaw, was a British soldier. He met with a British army Chaplain Baldwin in India and read copies of the *Signs of the Times*. He was convinced through these papers and baptized in 1948. He was the first Seventh-day Adventist from the second largest group of Shan people.³⁴ Today only a handful of Shan people are in the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Institutional development

In May 29, 1957, the Union High School was opened in Kyauktaing (Toungoo) with Chit Maung as its first principal. Several schools were opened everywhere, but all educational institutions were nationalized by the government in 1966.³⁵

In 1960, under the direction of W. W. Christensen, a two-year program Seminary was started with 15 denominational workers. In 1991, the Seminary was introduced a four-year curriculum for Bachelor of Arts

in Religion; in 1996, Bachelor of Business Administration and Bachelor of Arts in Education programs were added.³⁶

“In 1947, with funds from a Thirteenth Sabbath Offering overflow, an old hotel was purchased in Yangon and converted into a 115-bed hospital under the direction of Dr. J. C. Johannes.³⁷ The school of nursing was opened on 1 June 1953, with its first class of 17 students.³⁸ “The new wing of the hospital was opened on Sunday afternoon, January 2, 1955, by the Honorable U Nu, Prime Minister of Myanmar. Elder W. R. Beach, Secretary of the General Conference, was attended this opening ceremony.”³⁹ This Yangon Seventh-day Adventist Hospital was nationalized on July 5, 1965.⁴⁰

A voice of Prophecy Bible Correspondence School was opened in Myanmar on March 21, 1951, with Mrs. J. O. Wilson as director.⁴¹ In 1984, Adventist Development and Relief Agency commenced work in Myanmar. It becomes registered with the Ministry of Home Affairs in 1992.”⁴²

“In April 1950, the shortwave Radio station in Goa, India began to carry the syndicated American program, "Voice of Prophecy" for Southern Asia. Eight years later (1958), the Myanmar Broadcasting Service in Yangon, 50 kw. in the 25 metre band, with the American "Voice of Prophecy" began.⁴³ In 1966, Adventist World Radio-Chin and Sagaw Karen started broadcasting.⁴⁴

In 1 April 1965⁴⁵ the government nationalized all the Christian Institutions like schools, hospitals, and training colleges. The military junta perspective was that these private schools especially those run by the Christians constitute a system apart from the government run schools undermine the Burmese culture and does not promote nationalism. Together with this nationalization the foreign missionaries were asked to leave the country. Several people thought that by these measures the Christians in Myanmar would disintegrate and the church would only exist in name as in the Burmese monarchical days. But soon they were surprised to discover that the Church not only survived but flourished by leaps and bounds. The Seventh-day Adventist Church operated several schools from Kindergarten to college level under the umbrella of “monk school – seminary.”

From 1902 to 1966, the year they were asked to leave the country, “168 overseas missionary families served in Myanmar. When all overseas missionary families leaved the country, the total church membership stood at 3,713.”⁴⁶ After all foreign missionaries leave the country; national leadership began with the appointment of Kalee Paw as

president, Tun Sein as secretary, and Pein Kyi as treasurer of the Myanmar Union Mission in 1966.⁴⁷

Myanmar Union sent foreign missionary: “There are many Karens in the hills of Thailand, just across Myanmar’s eastern border. Leaders of the Adventist mission in Thailand learned that many Karens in Myanmar were receiving the light, so they wrote to the leaders in Myanmar and requested that a Karen couple be sent to Thailand as missionaries. The Union administration has chosen Kalee Paw as a missionary in May 1937 and sent him to the neglected Karens over the border of Thailand.”⁴⁷

“Pein Kyi was sent to Dacca, East Pakistan (now Bangladesh) from Myanmar to serve Secretary-Treasurer as missionary post for 5-years (1958-63)”⁴⁸ Ba Khin was chosen as Youth Ministry Director for Far Eastern Division post for 2 years (1989-1990).⁴⁹

Entered to the Neglected Lands: One of the larger tribes in the hills and mountains of Upper Myanmar is the Chin people. Some scattered farther down in central Myanmar and Ayeyarwaddy Delta region. The first American Baptist missionary couple, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Carson arrived to the Chin people in Chin Hills, on 15 March 1899.⁵⁰

With Arthur Carsons, two Karen Baptist missionaries came to Chin Hills and opened schools on 1902. He formed up the first Baptist Church in the Chin Hills at Khuasak on 17 February 1906. ⁵¹ Even though the “Seventh-day Adventist Church entered and started working in lower Myanmar on 1902, they sent missionaries to Chin Hills, north-west of Myanmar after 50 years on 1953.”⁵²

“On April 3, 1953, the union president, Cecil B. Guild, together with A. E. Anderson, Robert Myat Pe, and Freddie Ba Tin, flew to Kalaymyo for surveying the situation. In 1954 Arthur E. Anderson and family moved to Tiddim and opened the Chin Hills Mission. Zakhuma and Lalkhuma assisted in opening the work in the Mizo villages in Tahan. Ngul Khaw Pau and Rualchhinna assisted the work in Kalaymyo and Tiddim. The work in the Chin Hills moved very rapidly. Five years after the Andersons arrived, 12 churches and several companies have been organized.⁵³ “From January to March in 1954, A E Anderson conducted an evangelistic meeting with the help of Go Za Kham as interpreter. On May 8, P A. Parker, the president of the church in Central and Upper Myanmar Section baptized 26 precious souls.”⁵⁴ Within

sixteen years, “the membership in the Chin Hills has grown rapidly, being at the end of 1969 about 1,100.”⁵⁵

Myitkyina is the provincial town of Kachin State where work was started in the early 60s. Elisha Paul and E Dwe Tha held several evangelistic meetings there. After six decades of waiting, Pe Yee and Tember Chit explored the Nagaland in the far north, and in 1970 a mission station was opened in Homalin. Thangpu was sent there to work among the Naga Hills tribes.⁵⁶

Territory realignment as a result of political pressure

Then in 1986, a major restructuring of unions was necessitated due to the political conditions in India. Pakistan merged with Trans-European Division. Myanmar, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka became part of the Far Eastern Division.”⁵⁷ The ethnic diversity of the country makes modern Myanmar a very difficult place to share the gospel. In countries such as Myanmar, Christians are often misunderstood and are often considered a Western aberration. Adventist writer and church leader, Pe Yee (Hti Lar) challenge the present leaders of the church as follows: “Today present leaders of Myanmar Union Mission need to consider for working among the Telegu and Chinese people in Yangon.”⁵⁸

Myanmar Church Growth Rate

The first Christian mission to arrive in Myanmar was the Roman Catholic Barnabite Mission in 1722. In 1807 the English Baptists opened a mission but the first permanent Baptist Evangelists and mission came in 1813 from America, under Adoniram Judson. At his death in 1850, there were 74 churches and 7,904 baptized members.⁵⁹ For Adoniram Judson, it took only thirteen years to baptize 7,904 people while the Seventh-day Adventist church needed 86 years for 10,000 people. It was because “the missionaries in Myanmar preached almost entirely in English, the language spoken by educated people in the larger town and cities.”⁶⁰

Year	Churches	Membership	Ministers	Duration
1902	Seventh-day Adventist work in Myanmar began with 2 literature ministry personnel.			
1907	1	23	1	6 years to form a church ⁶¹
1948	23	1,052	4	46 years ⁶²
1960	36	2,138	7	12 years ⁶³
1965-				
66	54	3,258	9	6 years ⁶⁴
1983*	105	8,353	11 ⁶⁵	
1987#	122	10,786	21 ⁶⁶	86 years for 10,000 members.
1997+	166	18,223	22 ⁶⁷	
2000	176	20,750	21 ⁶⁸	13 years for another 10,000 members
2017	233	30,920	17 ⁶⁹	17 years for 10,000 member

* The last year in Southern Asia Division

The first year in Far Eastern Division

+ Far Eastern Division divided into 2 Division, Myanmar in Southern Asia-Pacific Division (SSD)

Some Anticipated Challenges

A Professor once asked a question: Can a Myanmar Buddhist be a Myanmar Buddhist Christian? Christianity had been introduced since the 16th Century in Myanmar, yet the Christian population is only 6% of the total population. This 6% of Christians are from the minority tribal groups such as Chin, Kachin, and Kayin. Only a handful of Barman accepted Christianity. Why? Why does the Gospel remain so alien to the people after almost two centuries of its presence in this land? What are the issues and challenges?

“Three Burmese dynasties subdued the tribes and nations around Myanmar and ruled them for centuries. During that time Myanmar had the largest army in South East Asia. King Sinbyushin was victorious over the invading Chinese armies. Their noteworthy historical past gives the Burmese a distinctive national pride. Therefore, they see no reason to listen to the White Westerners.⁷⁰ W. C. B. Purser, a church historian reflected on the Burmese people’s pride in their culture and religion: “The Burman is proud of his race, his literature, and his religion.⁷¹ “The Burmese national pride as a people of history, culture, and religion manifests itself in the form of a superiority complex that

has been a hindrance to Christian mission work down through the centuries.⁷²

Adoniram Judson and other missionaries were suffered terribly in prison and other form of tortures. Although they were men of God, they were not saints and they did not practice the Christian virtue of forgiveness.⁷³ So, “Adoniram Judson himself seemed to have felt that the only means to evangelize to Burmese people—was to annex the country into the British Empire. This is evident in Colonel Benson’s letter to the Governor-General of the British India, quoted by Dorothy Woodman: “This gentleman (Adoniram Judson) avows himself predisposed for war, as the best, if not the only means of eventually introducing the humanizing influences of the Christian religion.”⁷⁴

Myanmar people see Christian missionaries one of those “3Ms” in the process of the British colonization of their country. First White people came to Myanmar as merchants. Then missionaries arrived as chaplains to care for the souls of the merchants. Last, the military came to protect the merchants and the missionaries. Later, these 3M took over Myanmar and made it colony of Britain.⁷⁵

Maung Htin Aung writes: “Since 1885 the British had followed a policy of divide and rule; they deliberately separated the hill peoples from the Burmese. This policy had the full support of the Christian missionaries, who had looked upon the Burmese as their opponents since 1826, and who regarded the British victories as their own. Finding it almost impossible to convert the Burmese Buddhists to Christianity, they turned their attention to the hill peoples, with whom they had some success since those people were still primitive animists. Only a minority of those peoples accepted Christianity.”⁷⁶

“Most Europeans believed that the people outside Europe were not civilized or perhaps not even fully human. For this reason, they killed and mistreated; many people in the countries they colonized⁷⁷....They thought they could rule Myanmar more easily if they separated the ethnic groups from one another, and they also felt that they were protecting the smaller, less powerful ethnic groups from the larger ones. For example, they used Kayin, Kachin, Chin and other minority ethnic groups as soldiers. They used these soldiers to fight Burman rebellions, which caused problems between these groups later on.⁷⁸ Up to these days, Myanmar and tribal people are fighting around the country. The State Councillor Aung San Su Kyi tries to get peace in Myanmar through National Reconciliation Treaty.

Colonization brought religious change. The British government did not protect or promote Buddhism. With them missionaries were entered and converting animists who lived in the hills (Kachin, Kayin, Chin, Kayah). Even though the missionaries were trying to do good things, their activities caused tension between the converts and other people in Myanmar. Therefore, religion is the source of division among the ethnic groups.⁷⁹

The change of the country's name from "Burma" to "Myanmar;" the former capital "Rangoon" to "Yangon," "Bassein" to "Patheingyi," "Prome" to "Pyaw," etc. and name of roads in Yangon city reveals the ever-present anti-western feeling among the Myanmar people.

In 2016, the new democratic government passed four new laws to protect their religion, people and culture. These new laws prohibited the Buddhist to change to other religion and not to marry with other religion. This action brought hatred to the colonialists included the missionaries. The Myanmar Buddhists also considered the tribal Christian as instruments of the colonialists. From the founding of the country to these days, there is fighting between the Myanmar Buddhists and other tribal people. Why could they accept the teaching of their enemies' religion? All these are made by the missionaries. "They came to Myanmar as teachers and preachers not as students. They came as a conqueror and oppressors not as friends. The missionaries try to introduce their new culture into Buddhists. But they failed, as Judson mentioned, "To gain a convert from Buddhism is like pulling the tooth of a tiger."

The challenge of Christian missionaries in Myanmar is how to instill the gospel message in the mind of the Burmese while removing their negative attitudes toward the religion and culture of the gospel. For Christians, Christianity is the truth and the best of all religions and their God is the only true God. But the Buddhists experience their Lords (spirit *nats*) presence in their daily lives and believe their Lord protected them from the invaders hands. So they oppose the Western imperialistic and superior Christianity. What the Burmese really need is a Lord to protect their country, their people and their lives.

There are some challenges to be obtained from the Buddhist perspective: (1) Christians in Myanmar have not found a way to communicate the gospel in a way that Buddhists readily understand. We must show grace and love in action. (2) To make the gospel accessible, it must be presented in Burmese thought forms of life. This does not

mean compromising the Truth; rather it is being sensitive in presentation when providing evangelism tract. (3) Until the Church understands the Buddhist mindset, they will not be able to play a significant part in Myanmar culture. (4)⁸⁰

Executive Officers

Superintendents: H. H. Votaw, 1905-1914; R. H. Thurber, 1915⁸¹

Presidents: C. L. Lowry, 1916-1919; J Phillips, 1921-1926; T. J. Michael, 1927-1928 Interim; J Phillips, 1929-1932; J. L. Christian, 1933-1938; E. A. Crane, 1939-1941; E. M. Meleen, 1942; M. O. Manley, 1946-1951; C. B. Guild, 1952-1961; W. L. Murill, 1962-1965; Ka Lee Paw, 1966-1972; Kyaw Balay, 1973-1987; Thein Shwe, 1988-1990; Ba Hla Thein, 1991-1995; Sandy Dee, 1996-2000; Tin Tun Shin, 2001-2003; Muller Kyaw, 2003-2010; Memory Tun, 2011-2015; Timothy M Paul, 2016 –

Secretary-Treasurers: L. W. Melendy, 1919-1925; T. Killoway, 1926-1928; O. Asprey, 1929-1930;

F. Mainstone, 1931-1936; D. C. Jacob, 1937-1938; Pein Kyi, 1939-1951;

Secretaries: R. Myat Pe, 1952; Ka Lee Paw, 1959-1965; Tun Sein, 1966-1972; Pein Kyi, 1973-1975;

Thein Shwe, 1976-1987; Ba Hla Thein, 1988-1990; Ba Khin, 1991-1993; Sandy Dee, 1994-1995;

V Kipzanang, 1996-1998; Muller Kyaw, 1998-2003; Memory Tun, 2003-2010; Min Lwin, 2011-2015;

Kelly P. Lyan, 2016 –

Treasurers: Pein Kyi, 1952-1956; W. L. Murril, 1957-1961; Tun Sein, 1962-1965; Pein Kyi, 1966-1972;

Ba Hla Thein, 1973-1987; Do Hen Pau, 1988-1993; Muller Kyaw, 1994-1998; Kham Khan Lian, 1996-1998; Memory Tun, 1999-2003; Nang Do Dal, 2003-2015; Cally Thein, 2016 –⁸²

Author: Author: Suak Khaw Ngin was born in Chin State, Myanmar; has been a pastor, teacher, principal, departmental director, and a seminary professor. He holds a Bachelor of Religion degree from the Myanmar Union Adventist Seminary and M.A. Education degree from the Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies, Philippines. He was ordained to the ministry in 2003. Together with his wife, Pau Za Dim, a son and three daughters, he lives in Myaungmya. ngin.sk@gmail.com

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Updated: January 4, 2017.
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81. Pe Yee, *Ibid.* p. 85.
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WORLD STATISTIC FOR 2015

I. MEMBERSHIP AND EMPLOYEES

Churches (June 30, 2016)	82,794
Church Membership.....	19,590, 196
Baptisms and Professions of Faith	2,229,267
Ordained Ministers, Active	19,301
Total Employee, Active	287,121

II. MISSION WORK

Countries and Areas as Recognized	
By the United Nations	237
Countries/Areas which SDA work is established	216
Divisions	13
Unions (Conference, Missions, Union of Churches)	135
Local Conferences, Missions, and Fields	655
International Deployment of Personnel	801
Adventist Volunteer and Youth Service	954

III. EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

Schools Operated by Church	8,208
Colleges and Universities	114
Worker Training Institutes	53
Secondary Schools	2,336
Primary Schools	5,705

	Total Enrollment	1,922,982
IV.	FOOD INDUSTRIES	19
V.	HEALTH MINISTRY (Incomplete Report)	
	Hospitals and Sanitariums	180
	Clinics and Dispensaries	441
	Nursing Homes and Retirement Centers	121
	Orphanages and Children’s Home	21
	Outpatient Visits	18,882,751
VI.	HUMANITARIAN WORK	
	Countries /Areas Where ADRA is Involved	Over 134
	Number of Project Funded	1,306
	Number of Beneficiaries	18,503,456
	Value of Assistance Provided	\$ 222,616,052
VII.	MEDIA CENTERS	16
VIII.	PUBLISHING WORK	
	Publishing Houses and Branches	61
	Languages and Dialects Used in Publications	379
	Languages and Dialects Used in Publications And Oral Work	974
	Literature Evangelists, Credentialed and Licensed	5,120

IX. CONTRIBUTIONS

Tithe – World	\$,284,438,954
North America	\$ 983, 252,919
Sabbath School Mission – World	\$ 76,016,330
North America	\$ 20,813,236
Ingathering	\$ 8,550,494
Total Tithe and Offerings – World	\$ 3,235,877,700
North America	\$ 1,490,075,000

(LEADERS OF MYANMAR UNION MISSION (BURMA UNION MISSION))

Charles F Lowry	President	(1919 Feb. 14- Feb. 1921)
LaRue W Melendy	Secretary-Treasurer	(1919-1925)

Joseph Phillips	President	(1921 March-1926)
T J Michael	President	(1927-1928) During Phillips' absence
Joseph Phillips	President	(1929-1932)
Thomas Killoway	Secretary-Treasurer	(1926-1928)
Oliver Asprey	Secretary-Treasurer	(1929-1930)

John L Christian	President	(1933-1938)
Frank Mainstone	Secretary-Treasurer	(1931-1936)
D C Jacob	Secretary-Treasurer	(1937-1938)

Eugene A Crane	President	(1939-1941)
Pein Kyi	Secretary-Treasurer	(1939-1941)

E M Meleen	President	(1942)
Pein Kyi	Secretary-Treasurer	(1942)

World War II

Myrl O Manley	President	(1946-1951)
Pein Kyi	Secretary-Treasurer	(1946-1951)

Cecil B Guild	President	(1952-1961)
Robert Myat Pe	Secretary	(1952- ?)
Kalee Paw	Secretary	(May 1959-1961)
Pein Kyi	Treasurer	(1952-1956)
W L Murrill	Treasurer	(1957-1961)Assumption (Possibility)

W L Murrill	President	(1962-1965)
Kalee Paw	Secretary	(1962-1965)
Tun Sein	Treasurer	(1962-1965)
Kalee Paw	President	(1966-1972 Jun)
Tun Sein	Secretary	(1966-1972 Jul)
Pein Kyi	Treasurer	(1966-1972)
Kyaw Balay	President	(1973-1975)
Pein Kyi	Secretary	(1973-1975 Jul)
Ba Hla Thein	Treasurer	(1973-1975)
Kyaw Balay	President	(1976-1987)
Thein Shwe	Secretary	(1976-1987)
Ba Hla Thein	Treasurer	(1976-1987)
Thein Shwe	President	(1988-1990)
Ba Hla Thein	Secretary	(1988-1990)
Do Hen Pau	Treasurer	(1988-1990)
Ba Hla Thein	President	(1991-1995)
Ba Khin	Secretary	(1991-1993)
Sandy Dee	Secretary	(1994-1995)
Do Hen Pau	Treasurer	(1991-1993)
Muller Kyaw	Treasurer	(1994-1995)
Sandy Dee	President	(1996-2000)
V Kipzanang	Secretary	(1996-1998 April)
Muller Kyaw	Secretary	(1998 May - 2000)
Muller Kyaw	Treasurer	(1996-1998 April)
Kham Khan Lian	Treasurer	(1998 May - 1998 Dec)
Memory Tun	Treasurer	(1999-2000)

Tin Tun Shin	President	(2001-2003)
Muller Kyaw	Secretary	(2001-2003)
Memory Tun	Treasurer	(2001-2003)
Muller Kyaw	President	(2003-2005)
Memory Tun	Secretary	(2003-2005)
Nang Do Dal	Treasurer	(2003-2005)
Muller Kyaw	President	(2006-2010)
Memory Tun	Secretary	(2006-2010)
Nang Do Dal	Treasurer	(2006-2010)
Memory Tun	President	(2011-2015 Feb.)
Min Lwin	Secretary	(2011-2015 Feb.)
Nang Do Dal	Treasurer	(2011-2015 Feb.)
Timothy M Paul	President	(2016-2020)
Kelly P Lyan	Secretary	(2016-2020)
Cally Thein	Treasurer	(2016-2020)

MYANMAR UNION CONVENTIONS (VENUE HELD AND YEAR)

First Convention:	May Myo, UMM	March 28-31, 1972
Second Convention:	May Myo, UMM	April 22-28, 1981
Third Convention:	Myaung Mya, AYM	Dec. 28,'85-Jan.1, 1986
Fourth Convention:	Siyin, Kalay, UMM	December 8-10, 1994
(Diamond Jubilee of Myanmar Union Mission)		
Fifth Convention:	New Thandaung (13 Miles) CMM	April 2-7, 2002
Sixth Convention:	Pyinoolwin, UMM	March 26-30, 2008
Seventh Convention:	Siyin, Kalay, UMM	March 28-31, 2012
Eighth Convention:	Myaung Mya, AYM	November 8-11, 2017

LEADERS OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH (2016 – 2020).

1. GENERAL CONFERENCE (GC)

President: Ted N. C. Wilson
Executive Secretary: G. T. Ng
Treasurer: Juan R. Prestol-Puesan

2. SOUTHERN ASIA-PACIFIC DIVISION (SSD)

President: Saw Samuel Paul
Executive Secretary: Rudy Baloyo
Treasurer: Max Langi

3. MYANMAR UNION MISSION OF ADVENTISTS (MYUM)

President: Saw Timothy Muna Paul
Executive Secretaries: Kelly P. Lyan
Treasurer: Cally Thein

4. MYUM DEPARTMENTAL DIRECTORS

Family Ministries; Children Ministries: Cho Cho Paul
Women Ministries; Shepherdess International: Sohila Shine
Education: Claudius Brown
Communication; PARL: Shine Tha Dwe
Health Ministries: Sernay Nyunt
Youth Ministries: A. One Thein
Ministerial: Khin Maung Latt
Publishing; Spirit of Prophecy: Lalrawngbawla
Sabbath School; Personal Ministries: Thang Kang Lo
Stewardship: Kai Khan Khual
ADRA Myanmar: Claudio Sandoval
Address: 68 U Wisara Road,
Dagon 11191, Yangon
Phone: 01 – 371757, 371758

5. UNION INSTITUTIONS

A. Myanmar Union Adventist Seminary

President: Conally Hla
VP for Academic: Paul Tanbaunaw
VP for Finance: Lay Moo Kyaw
VP for Student Affairs: Kalumu Paul
VP for Public Affairs & Human Resources: Tin Lay

B. Kinsaung Publishing House

Manager: Hpone Naing
Foreman: Thein Tun
Treasurer: Julia Peter
Editor: Wilson Po

C. Yangon Adventist Seminary

Principal: Saw Lay Wah
Registrar: Mercy Sein
Treasurer: Wesley Doe

6. AYAAYARWADY MISSION

President: Saxon Shwe
Executive Secretary: Thang Lamh Mung
Treasurer: Zaw Win
Address: Pathein – Monywa Highway, Myetto,
Pathein 10011; Phone: 042 - 25583

7. CENTRAL MYANMAR MISSION

President: Alvin Po Po Hla
Executive Secretary: Hla Kun
Treasurer: Tha Tun Aye
Address: 19/180 Bayintnaung Road,
Taung Ngu
Phone: 054 - 23267

8. YANGON ATTACHED DISTRICT

Leader: Maung Maung Htay
Secretary: Khin Maung Yin
Financial In charge: Nang Do Dal
Address: 68 U Wisara Road, Dagon 11191
Yangon.

9. SOUTH EAST MISSION

President: Saw Keh
Executive Secretary: Shwe Thet Oo
Treasurer: Lersay
Address: Mawrawaddy Park; 9-A
Old Court House Road,
Mawlamyine 12011

10. UPPER MYANMAR MISSION

President: Kap Lian Thang
Executive Secretary: Rozama
Treasurer: Nang Khen Thang
Address: "Brightlands," Cherry Road,
Pyinoolwin 05061
Phone: 085 – 22487

11. PRINCIPALS OF SECONDARY SCHOOL (2016 – 2020).

AYAS, Myaung Mya: Min Lwin
CMAS, Taung Ngu: Tin Maung Kyi
UMAS, Kalaymyo: Hau Go Thang
SEAS, Yaybu: Kyaw Myint Naing
YAS, Yangon: Saw Lay Wah
AAS, Tedim: Tuan Khan Nang
PAS, Kalaymyo: Zam Lian Mung
MAS, Myitkyina: Lalrohlua
WAS, Waingmaw: Peter Zone Ying

1. Great Is Thy Faithfulness

1 Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not;
As Thou hast been, Thou forever will be.

**Chorus: Great is Thy faithfulness!
Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see.
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

2 Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

2. Lift Up the Trumpet/We Have This Hope

Lift up the trumpet, and loud let it ring:

Jesus is coming again!

Cheer up, ye pilgrims, be joyful and sing;

Jesus is coming again!

We have this hope that burns within our hearts,

Faith in the promise of His Word.

We believe the time is here,

When the nations far and near

Shall awake, and shout, and sing

Hallelujah! Christ is King!

Coming again, Coming again,

Jesus is coming again!

We have this hope that burns within our hearts,

Hope in the coming of the Lord.

Coming again, Coming again,

Jesus is coming again!

3. Far and Near the Fields Are Teeming

1 Far and near the fields are teeming
with the sheaves of ripened grain;
Far and near their gold is gleaming
O'er the sunny slope and plain.

**Chorus: Lord of harvest, send forth reapers!
Hear us Lord, to Thee we cry;
Send them now the sheaves to gather,
Ere the harvest-time pass by.**

2 Send them forth with morn's first beaming,
Send them in the noon-tides' glare;
When the sun's last rays are streaming,
bid them gather everywhere.

3 O thou, whom thy Lord is sending,
gather now the sheaves of gold;
Heavenward then at evening wending
Thou shalt come with joy untold.

4. Hark! The Voice of Jesus Calling

1. **Hark!** the voice of Jesus calling,
 “Who will go and work today?
 Fields are white, the harvest waiting,
 Who will bear the sheaves away?”
 Loud and long the Master calleth,
 Rich reward He offers free;
 Who will answer, gladly saying,
 “Here am I, O Lord, send me”?
2. **If** you cannot cross the ocean
 And the heathen lands explore,
 You can find the heathen nearer,
 You can help them at your door;
 If you cannot speak like angels,
 If you cannot preach like Paul,
 You can tell the love of Jesus,
 You can say He died for all.
3. **If** you cannot be the watchman,
 Standing high on Zion’s wall,
 Pointing out the path to heaven,
 Offering life and peace to all;
 With your prayers and with your bounties
 You can do what Heaven demands,
 You can be like faithful Aaron,
 Holding up the prophet’s hands.
4. **While** the souls of men are dying,
 And the Master calls for you,
 Let none hear you idly saying,
 “**There is nothing I can do!**”
 Gladly take the task He gives you,
 Let His work your pleasure be;
 Answer quickly when He calleth,
 “**Here am I, O Lord, send me.**”

5. Hail Him the King Of Glory

1. Tell it to every kindred and nation,
Tell it far and near;
Earth's darkest night will fade with the dawning
Jesus will soon appear

**Chorus: Hail Him the King of glory,
Once the Lamb for sinners slain:
Tell, tell the wondrous story,
Jesus comes to reign.**

2. Nations a-gain in strife and commotion
Warnings by the way;
Signs in the heavens un-err-ing o - mens
Herald the glorious day
3. Children of God look up with rejoicing
Shout and sing His praise;
Blessed are they who waiting and watching,
Look for the dawning rays.

6. Higher Ground

1. I'm pressing on the upward way,
New heights I'm gaining every day;
Still praying as I onward bound
Lord plant my feet on higher ground.

**Chorus: Lord lift me up, and I shall stand
 By faith on heaven's table land;
 A higher plane than I have found;
 Lord plant my feet on higher ground.**

2. My heart has no desire to stay
Where doubts arise and fears dismay;
Though some may dwell where these abound
My prayer my aim is higher ground.
3. I want to live above the world
though Satan's darts at me are hurled;
For faith has caught the joyful sound
The song of saints on higher ground.
4. I want to scale the utmost height,
And catch a gleam of glory bright;
But still I'll pray till heaven I've found
Lord lead me on to higher ground.

7. Hark Tis the Shepherd's Voice I Hear

1. Hark tis the Shepherd's voice I hear,
Out in the desert dark and drear,
Calling the sheep who've gone a stray,
Far from the Shepherd's fold a way.

**Chorus: Bring them in ,Bring them in,
 Bring them in from the fields of sin;
 Bring them in, Bring them in,
 Bring the wanderers to Jesus.**

2. Who'll go and help the Shepherd king,
Help Him the wandering ones to find
Who'll bring them back in to the fold
Where they'll be sheltered from the cold
3. Out in the desert hear their cry,
Out on the mountain wild and high,
Hark tis the Master speaks to thee,
'Go, find My sheep where'er they be.

8. Can the World See Jesus in You?

1. Do we live so close to the Lord today,
Passing to and fro on life's busy way,
That the world in us can a likeness see
To the Man of Calvary?

Chorus: **Can the world see Jesus in me?**
 Can the world see Jesus in you?
 Does your love to Him ring true,
 And your life and service, too?
 Can the world see Jesus in you?

2. Do we love, with love to His own akin,
All His creatures lost in the mire of sin?
Will we reach a hand, whatso'er it cost,
To reclaim a sinner lost?
3. As an open book they our lives will read,
To our words and acts giving daily heed;
Will they be attracted, or turn away
From the Man of Calvary?

9. Jesus Is Coming Again

1. Lift up the trumpet, and loud let it ring:
Jesus is coming again!
Cheer up, ye pilgrims, be joyful and sing:
Jesus is coming again!

Chorus **Coming again, coming again,
Jesus is coming again!**

2. Echo it, hilltops; proclaim it, ye plains:
Jesus is coming again!
Coming in glory, the Lamb that was slain;
Jesus is coming again!
3. Heavings of earth, tell the vast, wondering throng:
Jesus is coming again!
Tempests and whirlwinds, the anthem prolong;
Jesus is coming again!
4. Nations are angry—by this we do know
Jesus is coming again!
Knowledge increases; men run to and fro;
Jesus is coming again!

10. All the Way

1. All the way my Savior leads me,
What have I to ask beside?
Can I doubt His tender mercy,
Who through life has been my Guide?
Heav'nly peace, divinest comfort,
Here by faith in Him to dwell!
For I know, whate'er befall me,
Jesus doeth all things well;
For I know, whate'er befall me,
Jesus doeth all things well.
2. All the way my Savior leads me,
Cheers each winding path I tread,
Gives me grace for every trial,
Feeds me with the living Bread.
Though my weary steps may falter
And my soul athirst may be,
Gushing from the Rock before me,
Lo! A spring of joy I see;
Gushing from the Rock before me,
Lo! A spring of joy I see.
3. All the way my Savior leads me,
Oh, the fullness of His love!
Perfect rest to me is promised
In my Father's house above.
When my spirit, clothed immortal,
Wings its flight to realms of day
This my song through endless ages:
Jesus led me all the way;
This my song through endless ages:
Jesus led me all the way.

11. What a Gathering!

1. On that bright and golden morning,
when the Son of Man shall come,
And the radiance of His glory we shall see,
When from ev'ry clime and nation He shall call His people home,
What a gath'ring of the ransomed that will be!

Chorus:

**What a gath'ring, what a gath'ring,
What a gath'ring of the ransomed in the summer land of love!
What a gath'ring, what a gath'ring,
Of the ransomed in that happy home above!**

2. When the blest, who sleep in Jesus, at His bidding shall arise
From the silence of the grave, and from the sea,
And with bodies all celestial they shall meet Him in the skies,
What a gath'ring and rejoicing there will be! [Chorus]

3. When our eyes behold the city, with its many mansions bright,
And its river, calm and restful, flowing free,
When the friends that death hath parted shall in bliss again unite,
What a gath'ring and a greeting there will be! [Chorus]

4. O the King is surely coming, and the time is drawing nigh
When the blessed day of promise we shall see;
Then the changing "in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye,"
And forever in His presence we shall be. [Chorus]

12. When He Cometh

1. When He cometh, when He cometh
To make up His jewels,
All His jewels, precious jewels,
His loved and His own.

**Chorus: Like the stars of the morning,
His brightness adorning,
They shall shine in their beauty,
Bright gems for His crown.**

2. He will gather, He will gather
The gems for His kingdom;
All the pure ones, all the bright ones,
His loved and His own.
3. Little children, little children,
Who love their Redeemer,
Are the jewels, precious jewels,
His loved and His own.

13. O Where Are the Reapers

1. O where are the reapers that garner in
The sheaves of the good from the fields of sin?
With sickles of truth must the work be done,
And no one may rest till the “harvest home.”

**Chorus: Where are the reapers? O who will come
 And share in the glory of the “harvest home”?
 O who will help us to garner in
 The sheaves of good from the fields of sin?**

2. The fields all are ripening, and far and wide
The world now is waiting the harvest tide:
But reapers are few, and the work is great,
And much will be lost should the harvest wait.
3. So come with your sickles, ye sons of men,
And gather together the golden grain;
Toil on till the Lord of the harvest come,
Then share ye His joy in the “harvest home.”

14. Bringing in the Sheaves

1. Sowing in the morning, sowing seeds of kindness,
Sowing in the noontide and the dewy eve,
Waiting for the harvest and the time of reaping –
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.

**Chorus: Bringing in the sheaves, bringing in the sheaves,
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.
Bringing in the sheaves, bringing in the sheaves,
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.**

2. Sowing in the sunshine, sowing in the shadows,
Fearing neither clouds nor winter's chilling breeze;
By and by the harvest and the labor ended –
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.
3. Going forth with weeping, sowing for the Master,
Tho the loss sustained our spirit often grieves;
When our weeping's over He will bid us welcome –
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves

15. Take My Life and Let It Be

1. Take my life, and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my hands, and let them move
At the impulse of Thy love;
At the impulse of Thy love.
2. Take my feet, and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee.
Take my voice, and let me sing
Always, only, for my King;
Always, only, for my King.
3. Take my lips, and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee.
Take my silver and my gold:
Not a mite would I withhold;
Not a mite would I withhold.
4. Take my will, and make it Thine,
It shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart, it is Thine own,
It shall be Thy royal throne.
It shall be Thy royal throne.
5. Take my love, my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be,
Ever, only, all for Thee.
Ever, only, all for Thee.

16. Wholly Thine

1. I would be, dear Savior, wholly Thine;
Teach me how, teach me how;
I would do Thy will, O Lord, not mine;
Help me, help me now.

Chorus: **Wholly Thine, wholly Thine,
Wholly Thine, this is my vow;
Wholly Thine, wholly Thine,
Wholly Thine, O Lord, just now.**

2. What is worldly pleasure, wealth or fame,
Without Thee, without Thee?
I will leave them all for Thy dear Name,
This my wealth shall be.
3. As I cast earth's transient joys behind,
Come Thou near, come Thou near;
In Thy presence all in all I find,
'Tis my comfort here.

17. How Great Thou Art

1. O Lord my God
When I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds Thy Hands have made
I see the stars I hear the rolling thunder
Thy power throughout the universe displayed

Chorus: **Then sings my soul**
 My Saviour God to Thee
 How great Thou art
 How great Thou art
 Then sings my soul
 My Saviour God to Thee
 How great Thou art
 How great Thou art

2. When through the woods
And forest glades I wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees
When I look down, From lofty mountain grandeur
And see the brook and feel the gentle breeze
3. And when I think
That God His Son not sparing
Sent Him to die I scarce can take it in
That on the Cross, My burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin.
4. When Christ shall come
With shouts of acclamation
And take me home, What joy shall fill my heart
Then I shall bow, In humble adoration
And then proclaim
“My God, how great Thou art!”

18.He Leadeth Me

1. He leadeth me: O blessed thought!
O words with heavenly comfort fraught!
Whate'er I do, where'er I be,
still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.

Chorus: **He leadeth me, he leadeth me,
by his own hand he leadeth me;
his faithful follower I would be,
for by his hand he leadeth me.**

2. Sometimes mid scenes of deepest gloom,
sometimes where Eden's bowers bloom,
by waters still, o'er troubled sea,
still 'tis his hand that leadeth me.
3. Lord, I would place my hand in thine,
nor ever murmur nor repine;
content, whatever lot I see,
since 'tis my God that leadeth me.
4. And when my task on earth is done,
when by thy grace the victory's won,
E'en death's cold wave I will not flee,
since God through Jordan leadeth me.

19. Count Your Blessings

1. When upon life's billows you are tempest-tossed,
When you are discouraged, thinking all is lost,
Count your many blessings, name them one by one,
And it will surprise you what the Lord has done.

Chorus:

**Count your blessings, name them one by one,
Count your blessings, see what God has done!
Count your blessings, name them one by one,
*Count your many blessings, see what God has done.
[*And it will surprise you what the Lord has done.]**

2. Are you ever burdened with a load of care?
Does the cross seem heavy you are called to bear?
Count your many blessings, every doubt will fly,
And you will keep singing as the days go by.
3. When you look at others with their lands and gold,
Think that Christ has promised you His wealth untold;
Count your many blessings—*money cannot buy [*wealth
can never buy]
Your reward in heaven, nor your home on high.
4. So, amid the conflict whether great or small,
Do not be discouraged, God is over all;
Count your many blessings, angels will attend,
Help and comfort give you to your journey's end.

20. Don't Forget the Sabbath

1. Don't forget the Sabbath,
The Lord our God hath blest,
Of all the week the brightest,
Of all the week the best;
It brings repose from labor,
It tells of joy divine,
Its beams of light descending,
With heavenly beauty shine.

**Chorus: Welcome, welcome, ever welcome,
Blessed Sabbath day,
Welcome, welcome, ever welcome,
Blessed Sabbath day.**

2. Keep the Sabbath holy,
And worship Him today,
Who said to His disciples,
"I am the living way;"
And if we meekly follow
Our Savior here below,
He'll give us of the fountain
Whose streams eternal flow.
3. Day of sacred pleasure!
Its golden hours we'll spend
In thankful hymns to Jesus,
The children's dearest Friend;
O gentle loving, Savior,
How good and kind Thou art,
How precious is Thy promise
To dwell in every heart!

21. Wonderful Words of Life

1. Sing them over again to me,
wonderful words of life,
Let me more of their beauty see,
wonderful words of life;
Words of life and beauty
teach me faith and duty.

**Chorus: Beautiful words, wonderful words,
 wonderful words of life,
 Beautiful words, wonderful words,
 wonderful words of life.**

2. Christ, the blessèd One, gives to all
 wonderful words of life;
 Sinner, list to the loving call,
 wonderful words of life;
 All so freely given,
 wooing us to heaven.
3. Sweetly echo the Gospel call,
 wonderful words of life;
 Offer pardon and peace to all,
 wonderful words of life;
 Jesus, only Savior,
 sanctify forever.

22. To God Be the Glory

1. To God be the glory, great things he hath done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life gate that all may go in.

**Chorus: Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
 let the earth hear his voice!
 Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
 let the people rejoice!
 O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son,
 and give him the glory, great things he hath done!**

2. O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
to every believer the promise of God;
the vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.
3. Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done,
and great our rejoicing thru Jesus the Son;
but purer, and higher, and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.