

the FIN News

Filipino International Network

Volume 10

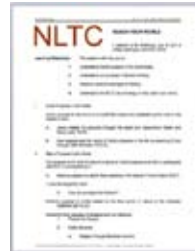
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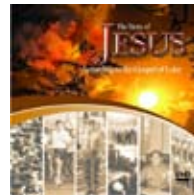
Looking Ahead

Here is an overview of the months ahead ---

1. New Life Training Curriculum – More FIN-initiated and coordinated evangelism and discipleship training using FIN's major partner Power To Change's (Formerly Campus Crusade for Christ) New Life Training Curriculum (NLTC). Hundreds of "multiplying disciples" have been given evangelism and discipleship tools since FIN first started using NLTC over a decade ago. Training seminars are scheduled to take place in several cities with high population of Filipino Kingdom Workers. Diaspora Filipinos – mostly Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs), as well as other internationals participate in these seminars and enthusiastically use the tools to reach their migrant as well as host communities.



2. The Jesus FILM – FIN continues to sponsor the showing and distribution of The Jesus Film to diaspora communities particularly in Africa and Asia. One recent and unprecedented project (for FIN and the Philippines) is the distribution of 143,000 copies of The Jesus Film to every Philippine National Police (PNP) officer, every government leader (congress and senate), and all judges. DVDs will be given personally and individual follow up has been planned.



3. Lausanne Congress for World Evangelism (LCWE) – FIN has partnered with LCWE in establishing the Lausanne Diasporas Leadership Team (LDLT). Please see the back page article for details.



4. Institute for Diaspora Studies (IDS) – IDS continues to spearhead accredited theological and ministry training for diaspora leaders through partnering institutions – Western Seminary in Portland Oregon and Alliance Graduate School in Manila, Philippines. Academic experts in the field of diaspora studies and in missiology continue to provide strategic education for lay leaders, pastors, and missions enthusiasts who are working with diaspora groups.



Please look out for following issues of *the FIN News* in 2009 for updates of these exciting FIN ministries.



“Come near, you nations, and listen; pay attention, you peoples!”
-- Isaiah 34:1

The Advent Season is always a time of remembrance and reflection for us – a time to recall the revelation of the Triune God in the person of Jesus Christ, and a time to review the highlights of the last twelve months, to rejoice in God's work, and to renew our relationships with our ministry partners and friends.

Thank you for being FIN's partner in 2008. Your prayers and practical support has been invaluable. God has used you to build His Kingdom through the Filipinos both near and far.

For the upcoming months of 2009, please continue to remember FIN's training initiatives and vision-casting consultations, as well as extended partnerships. For this issue, we have listed some major projects under way.

From FIN to you – *Maligayang Pasko at Manigong Bagong Taon!* Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! May your time of remembrance and reflection be blessed, and may The Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit be honoured as we call the nations to “listen... [and] pay attention” this Christmas and in the days to come.

The FIN Office

A Little More About the Lausanne Diasporas Leadership Team

The FIN News has reported on FIN's partnership with LCWE before, but has not yet given an in-depth picture into the new Lausanne Diasporas Leadership Team (LDLT). Please pray for the LDLT as they seek to be strategic and catalytic for global missions.

United Nations experts estimate that there are now close to 200 million international immigrants – that is 1 in 34 people! The scattering of peoples on a large scale poses challenges and opportunities for the global Church of Jesus Christ. To respond to this phenomenon, Lausanne Committee for World Evangelization (LCWE) included a new "Diaspora Issue Group" that convened during the Lausanne Forum 2004 in Pattaya, Thailand. Mr. Ram Gidoomal Dr. Patrick Tsang, Mr. Leighton Chin, and Dr. T.V. Thomas led this issue group in producing the Lausanne Occasional Paper 55 *Diasporas and International Students: The New People Next Door*. Then in 2007, LCWE appointed a Senior Associate for Diasporas; and in January 2008, the Lausanne Diasporas Leadership Team (LDLT) was assembled, meeting for the first time in January 2008, Portland, Oregon and hosted by Western Seminary.

The LDLT gathered for its second meeting from October 7 & 8, 2008 in Arlington, Texas, and was hosted by the Southwestern District of the Christian & Missionary (C&MA) – USA under the leadership of Dr. Mark Searing, District Superintendent. In addition to the work of strategy for diaspora missions, the team met to plan for a consultation to take place May 4-9, 2009 in the Philippines. Invited participants to the Philippine consultation would include missiologists and missions practitioners, sociologists, demographers, anthropologists, legal experts, labour recruiters, NGO workers, diplomats, and key denominational leaders/strategists. The invited participants will represent major diaspora networks (e.g. Chinese, Africans, South Asians, Koreans, Arabs, Jews, Filipinos, Hispanics, Latinos, Central Asians, etc.), ministries to international students, military personnel, refugees and internally displaced peoples, traffic peoples, and advocacy & legal field. During the two-day meeting the LDLT met to seek God's face and mind; leading their devotional times was Mr. Cutis Hail, President of e3 Partners Ministry, and Dr. Mark Searing (as previously mentioned).

The LDLT is composed of Dr. Elias dos Santos Medeiros from Brazil, serving as Harriet Barbour Professor of Missions at Reformed Theological Seminary in Jackson, Mississippi, USA; Rev. Khalil Said, Palestinian from Jerusalem, working in Arabic media; Dr. Jehu Hancilles, originally from Sierra Leone, now Associate Professor of Mission History and Globalization at Fuller Theological Seminary; Dr. Greg Woon Young Paek originally of Korea, serving as National Director of Global Partners, USA; Rev. Vergil Schmidt from the USA, currently involved in church multiplication among new immigrants in San Antonio, Texas, USA; Dr. T.V. Thomas, born in Malaysia, serving as Director of the Centre for Evangelism & World Mission, Chair of the North American Council for South Asian Christians (NACSAC), and President of the Fellowship of Canadian Evangelists (FOCE); Dr. Sadiri 'Joy' Tira, originally from the Philippines, serving as LCWE Senior Associate for Diasporas and International Coordinator of Filipino International Network (FIN); and Dr. Enoch Wan, born in China, now serving as Professor of Anthropology & Director of Doctor of Missiology Program at Western Seminary in Portland, Oregon, USA and as President of the Evangelical Missiological Society (EMS). Formerly of Japan, Dr. Ted Yamamori, President Emeritus of Food for the Hungry International, current Senior Research Fellow at the Center for Religion and Civic Culture at University of Southern California, and past LCWE International Director (2004-2006) is serving as the LDLT Senior Adviser.

Look out for details of the Philippine diasporas consultation in the next issue of *the FIN News*.

Did You Know?



According to POPCOM*, an estimated 10 percent of the Philippine population – close to 8 million people – are Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs). That 's in addition to approximately 3 million unregistered migrant workers who are illegally abroad.

*POPCOM – Commission on Population, Republic of the Philippines



Filipino International Network

FIN's Mission Statement: The Filipino International Network (FIN) is a catalytic movement of Christians committed to motivate and mobilize Filipinos globally to partner for worldwide mission.

FIN News is published quarterly by the Filipino International Network. If you would like to receive copies or would like your organization or church to be placed on our mailing list, contact FIN News:

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