



## Lay Pastors Ministry Inc. USA

(In the year of 1978)

Melvin University originally goes back to 1978. According to Dr. Melvin's first book, CAN THE PASTOR DO IT ALONE?, on page 12 write: ..

For eight years an increasing number of lay people have been pastoring the members of College Hill Presbyterian Church (CHPC) in Cincinnati, Ohio. In September 1978, we conducted a pilot project in which five lay people each began pastoring five to ten families. Since then, the number of lay pastors has grown to 85 pastoring units (131 individuals) pastoring 500 of our families. Our goal from the beginning was to provide adequate pastoral care for every member of CHPC by calling forth and equipping lay people gifted by the Holy Spirit for pastoring. It has been an exciting experience for us who have developed this ministry. The excitement has not been without problems, disappointments, struggles and a lot of hard work. However, the effectiveness of the pastoring makes it all worthwhile. We have been privileged in every Equipping Seminar, where we train lay people to be pastors, to include clergy and lay people representing several denominations, many states and Canada. Several churches have used our Equipping Manual and/or our video tapes and have adopted or adapted our model. This model is proving itself in small churches, as well as large.



## Lay Pastors Ministry Korea

(In the year of 1999)

LPM Korea formally started in July 1999. I have prepared for 2-3 years before formally launching. I trained a couple of churches with PACE, and among lay pastors a few people started with me. I can say three stages in our staff, we called ourselves "staff" of LPM Korea. First time, 3-4 lay people came and started together, actually they are founding members of LPM Korea. I trained them at their church and they became our staff. Soon I mean they understood and they think this ministry is meaningful, worthwhile and through this, they might grow so they came and still stay with this ministry for 25 years, for longevity. We met together almost every day and

every week, talking about this ministry, vision, practical strategy for local churches and national level. Through one staff Rev. Lee, another person came to our office, he was working part-time at Christian Newspaper. Actually then he came for an interview with me about this ministry, we talked a lot about the ministry, and finally he became our staff. Through him I can write columns on the newspaper of this ministry every week regularly for next two years, almost 100 times of columns....of course with my photo, so people got to know who I am and what I do for churches. Through his help we can advertise our seminars and conferences.



## **PACE International Seminary, Nagaland India**

(In the year of 2015)

Finally I arrived at Dimapur Nagaland to open the seminary on 15th July, 2015. It was a really hot summer time. Most schools began the semester in June and new students entered by June but our School opened on July 22, a little late. Anyway, this is a historical moment for the Lay Pastors Ministry in the world. While I was staying at Dimapur, I found the realities of what I have heard from Korea: poor country, nominal Christian, mostly Christian, but no job. It was a poor place, less than ten times more than Korea and other developed countries. When they were born, they became Christians so we call them nominal Christian but I found it okay and no problem at all. Only they, who are students in Korea, warned me that their people have no concern of moral issues because they are nominal Christians, but I don't find any serious problem because every country has those problems, even developed countries are worse than them as we know. It is not easy to get a regular job because there are no companies at all, mostly daily workers and ordinary life. Especially because of the distinctiveness of Nagaland, it is not easy to grow economically. They are one of eight states in India and they have been fighting with Indians to be independent for so many years and there were a lot of sacrifices of youngsters. So India doesn't care about their economy, and also India prevents Nagaland from getting help from other countries that's why they couldn't grow economically for many years.



## **LPM Theological Seminary, Kenya Africa**

(In the year of 2017)

According to John Ogillah's article on the NEWSLETTER #2 of Melvin University page 1 writes:

In 2012, While doing my Degree in theological studies, God put into my heart a great burden to complete my Degree and start a school through Lay Pastors Ministry/LPM where Church leaders can advance their studies in ministry. Towards the end of my theological studies at Daystar University, I shared that Holy burden with Dr. Melvin, he told me " John, that's a great burden that God has put into your heart, but let's pray about it" By the way unfortunately, shortly after my graduation, Dr. Melvin went to be with the Lord. I then shared the vision with Rev. Byeong, who's the national Director of LPM Korea. We prayed about the vision and in June 2017, we took a step of faith and started LPM theological seminary, and now we have opened Melvin University here on August 14th of this year. Thank God.



## **Melvin University, Kenya Africa**

(In the year of 2021)

We have done our job in 14 August 2021, through the successful INAUGURATION CEREMONY. That is the mission which was given by God. We have started this vision a year ago, in May 9, 2020. How we have done this mission completed? There are some key concepts in this journey. I'd like to put this way, if we are really hunger for completion of mission, we will make it in the end, just thirsty fish will find the water finally, because if he doesn't, he will die eventually.\* We, John Ogillah and I, started to talk of this vision, to make university, since then, exactly May 9th 2020. Once I send PDF and PPT of Dr. Melvin's materials which I developed with many years, John Ogillah told me its possible to make university, then I responded probably 10 years later, but John said in 5 years enough.... anyway we have done this job a little bit more than a year. What did we have work since then up today? First we have focused on the only in this

mission in our daily life. I mean ONE thing we had live with, that's MAKING UNIVERSITY in this world. We have worked just like almost crazy, daily and monthly, actually every single seconds, we thought of it, talk about it, etc.

As you look at every successful ministry, and every successful ministry organization has their long history. The University of Melvin has approximately 45 years (1978-2023). That is not short time of period. Some are failed in the process, and some successful as you guess. I am sure you, each of you, will doing ministry in the future, or some are on the way already, and it will take long way to reach at your goal, finish line, landing spot. How do we go? In short of my saying, "keep on going." and "Keep on going" That is the answer what I have leaned. God bless all of your future. ■