

**Saints Hear Conference in Georgian for the First Time**

On October 9, 2011, a congregation of 35 Saints gathered to watch general conference—and to hear it in their native Georgian for the first time. Prior to October, the approximately 50 active members in the country had the option of listening to conference in either Russian, Armenian, or English. However, there were many who spoke only Georgian, so interpretation being offered in that language was a significant event.

“I was so happy to be able to hear President Thomas S. Monson’s address to us in Georgian,” said Lela Tsnobladze. “It makes such a difference when you hear conference in your native tongue.”

**Church Responding to Typhoon Damage in the Philippines**

Following Typhoons Nesat and Nalgae in the Philippines in late September, which affected nearly 200,000 people, the Church

***Saints in Lagos, Nigeria, participate in the All-Africa Helping Hands Day on August 20, 2011.***



PHOTOGRAPH BY EBBERE EVANS

Area Welfare Department initially responded with 600 sacks of rice, which were delivered in Pampanga. The Social Action Center of Pampanga of the Archdiocese of San Fernando Pampanga, a partner nongovernmental organization, handled the distribution of the donated rice.

Catholic and LDS volunteers worked hand in hand to repack and distribute the rice donation to the 352 affected villages in Pampanga.

**African Members Participate in Fifth Day of Service**

For the fifth consecutive year, members in Africa participated in All-Africa Mormon Helping Hands Day, a cooperative effort between the Africa Southeast and Africa West Areas. On one day each year, the members in these areas perform service of various kinds in their local communities. This year’s event was held on August 20, 2011; reports of some of the projects are available at [news.lds.org](http://news.lds.org). ■



PHOTOGRAPH BY CRAIG T. OLSON

**Elder Ballard, Elder Jensen Visit Members in Mexico**

During the weekend of September 10–11, 2011, Elder M. Russell Ballard of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles and Elder Jay E. Jensen of the Presidency of the Seventy met with members and missionaries in Cuernavaca, Mexico. Elder Ballard asked members to embed the gospel in the hearts of the people of Mexico through spiritual experiences. “There is too much mental acceptance of the gospel without experiencing a spiritual acceptance,” he said. “Deep conversion of the spirit is necessary for our members to introduce to their hearts what they agreed to in their minds.”

**Elder Oaks, Elder Andersen Visit Peru, Bolivia**

In August 2011 Elder Dallin H. Oaks and Elder Neil L. Andersen of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles traveled to Bolivia and Peru in South America. Elder Andersen’s messages included