



EAST WEST INTERKNIT™

SHARING AS GOD PROVIDES WITH THOSE IN NEED

"Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers." Galatians 6:10 (NIV)

April 2016

SCHOOL'S OUT!

Dear Friends,

The Bible schools and seminaries in India and in parts of Africa have ended the school year and sent out students and faculty members to serve in ministries and in evangelism. Most of the primary and secondary schools have also closed, not to reopen until mid-June.

For many of us, summer vacation means fun in the sun and lazy days. For some of those we serve, it means intense ministry with the possibility of persecution, back breaking work, less to eat than usual, and heat. The children in the homes run by EWI partners in India and the school children in Oduwo, Kenya face extra challenges during the summer break.

This newsletter attempts to offer some insights into a reality so vastly different from our experience that it is beyond our ability to fully comprehend it. As you read, please consider how you might provide prayer and/or (as you are able) financial support for these brothers and sisters in Christ.

Annette Jones

Executive Director

OUR HAITI PARTNERSHIP: EVANGELIQUE DU NORD D'HAITI (MENH)

Plaine du Nord, Haiti

Pastor Thony wrote recently that funds sent to help pay teachers in the MENH schools resulted in hundreds of boys and girls receiving the spiritual and other benefits of education needed by human beings. Because of this help, hundreds of boys and girls are able to rise up from abject poverty. He added that he could do nothing for them if Almighty God had not chosen to bless his partners so that they could bless these children in Haiti.

EWI continues to provide supplemental assistance for the teachers' salaries and for other needs of the school not met by the minimal school fees that only a portion of the children are able to pay. The majority of the students are considered on scholarship which means the leadership depends on help from abroad to allow them to attend. Our support and that of another group rarely covers all expenses so we send additional funds when they become available.

The MENH clinic known as Centre de Sante Jehovah Jireh is making a comeback since being restored to MENH. They employ as many as 19 people and serve up to 700 in the clinic each month. Pastor Thony reported that the help given to those who have no possibility of going to a hospital opens the door for him to preach the gospel. MENH is trying to refurbish the clinic after much of the equipment was taken by the former manager. They have received a microscope but still need a generator, pharmaceuticals, and paint to repair and clean the entire clinic. EWI will continue to assist in this effort as funds allow.

OUR PARTNERSHIP IN KENYA

Oduwo Village

The Bright Angels Christian Academy (BACA) is situated in western Kenya in one of the poorest regions of the country. The village of Oduwo has a population of about 4,000 adults and many more children. There were few opportunities for children to be educated until BACA was established. They currently serve about 250 children. BACA is financed in part by school fees, occasional help from members of the local community, and with help received from outsiders including EWI. There are many more children who would like to attend but cannot afford even the very small fee. The teachers work without salaries but receive gifts of food whenever possible. Julian, the director, provides something for the children's lunches as often as food is available. Now that the school year has ended the children are asking if they can still get food and Julian reported that she has no answer for them.

The majority of the people work, when work is available, in the sugar plantations. One person cannot earn enough to feed a family so the children are often pulled out of school to work in the fields. When there is no work some compromise their principles and sell themselves. AIDS and HIV are prevalent and account for the many orphans that Julian is supporting.



A special day of prayer was held in February for BACA. It was well attended by parents, teachers, the children, and members of the community. Julian reported that they spent much time in prayer for the work of the school and for provision of the needs of the school.

Julian works diligently to find food for the children and the teachers and to raise support for the purchase of uniforms, shoes and sweaters for the children, and for desks and teaching materials required by the government. EWI partners with Julian to raise prayer support and to provide a supplement ensuring that the children get something to eat.

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Please pray for:

- Julian's health and well-being as she divides her time between the work in Oduwo (serving the school, the church and the community) and as librarian at Nairobi Great Commission School in Nairobi;
- Sources for food at a reasonable cost for the 40 children for whom she is fully responsible and for sufficient food to help the other children and teachers during the school break;
- The church as they attempt to train young people in the church and keep them from leaving for a cult that has come into the area;
- Those who grieve the loss of several church members recently laid to rest.

PARTNERSHIP IN INDIA: JEHOVAH SHAMMAH CHILDREN'S HOME AND MINISTRIES (JSCH)

The JSCH affiliated evangelists continue to reach out into new territory in spite of challenges and attacks. Most serve in small very poor villages. Each conducts church services in 2 or 3 villages every Sunday. About 60 people were added to the churches in 2015 and 22 were baptized. One new evangelist joined the JSCH ministry in 2015. In addition to Sunday services they hold Bible studies, discipleship training, and work with prayer groups as time and resources allow. Two of the older girls in the children's home also chose to be baptized during 2015.



A new village congregation meets in a home.



Children's Home children on the road to Sunday school

JSCH has seen a need and would like to minister to a group of 30 to 40 lepers if funds can be made available. They need additional megaphones for the evangelists who do not yet have them. They would like to provide musical instruments for the children's home. They also hope to sponsor pastors' seminars, in-depth Bible studies and discipleship programs. Since raising money in India is becoming increasingly difficult due to the influence of non-Christian fundamentalists, JSCH looks to us to come alongside in support of these programs.

A majority of the children in JSCH and in three homes in another part of India return to home villages during the summer break. Their caregivers may not be sympathetic to the gospel message. Pray that the children will be able to continue in the faith in spite of challenges and that they will remain healthy and be ready to return in June for the new school year.

- Pray for JSCH evangelist Prasad as he recovers from an accident.
- Pray for resources to provide for the needs of some of the JSCH evangelists: church repairs and tools including megaphones and musical instruments.

NEWS FROM EWI BOOK PARTNERS

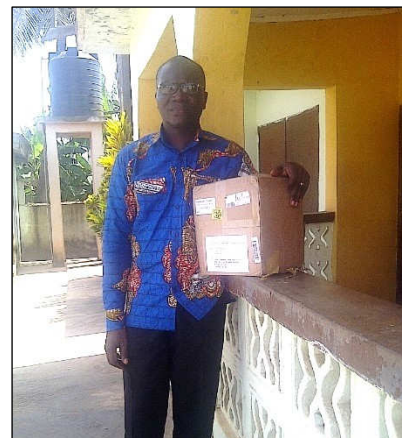
O.T.I., a theological Institute in south India that receives books for their library from EWI, recently graduated 19 students from its M.Div. and B.Th. Programs and all plan to serve as missionaries in unreached areas of India. The faculty and continuing students are also engaged in ministry throughout India during the current hot season school break.

- They ask us to pray for wisdom and discernment as they interview potential students for the coming school year, and
- That God will use those on the field to reach people with the gospel and will keep them safe in spite of opposition.

The president of a Bible College in Kaneshie, Ghana wrote that the books EWI sent them “have helped the school much in our tutorials on theological and practical ministry training. The boxes contained healthy, doctrinally sound, and helpful materials. God bless you all who have made it possible for these free gifts of study materials.” Their focus is on church planting and the Bible college will send their students out soon to launch new churches. They express a desire for volunteers who could come and teach at the school on either a short or long term basis.

Rev. Dr. Anane, president of a Seminary in Takoradi, Ghana received the first box of books sent by East West InterKnit and wrote that they are very grateful for the support given and pray that we can continue. The school has 75 diploma level students and 125 certificate level students all supported with help from local churches and other donors. They have a very small library collection and are in need of commentaries, Bibles, Bible dictionaries, evangelism and theological books in addition to other reference material.

- Pray that we may be able to meet President Anane while in Ghana.



SPECIAL MINISTRY NEEDS THIS MONTH

- Pray for safe travel for Annette Jones and Carla Urban as they leave for Ghana April 21 and return on May 4.
- Pray for the renewing and establishing of good relationships, a new understanding of the needs and concerns of Good News Theological College and Seminary and for the work we anticipate doing to help in the library.
- We are grateful to those who have already given in support of this ministry trip but many expenses have not yet been covered. These include some of the travel expenses, funds for scholarships, for computers, and for library supplies.
- There are many needs at the children’s homes and the schools in Kenya and in Haiti that have gone unmet. We want to help as much as possible to ensure that basic needs are met.
- We have a considerable backlog of books ready to be sent to Bible schools, seminaries, counselors and pastors. The average cost to ship a box of books is approximately US \$50. Please consider a special gift to help us get these study materials to where they are desperately needed.
- Funds to replace stolen equipment from the Haiti clinic.
- We are collecting unexpired over-the-counter medicines to be sent to the Haiti clinic including cold and fever reducers, anti-diarrheal tablets, antacids, pain relievers, and folic acid, along with exam gloves, sterile gauze, suture thread and other non-liquid medicines and materials.

East West InterKnit Newsletter is a regular publication of
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