



EAST WEST INTERKNIT™

OH GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD FOR HE IS GOOD

"I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel...." Philippians 1:13-5a (NIV)

January 2016

PARTNERSHIP AT WORK – IN SOUTH INDIA

Bethel Mission, Proclaiming Christ and Serving the Poor

During the holiday season each year Bethel Mission church plans many special events to demonstrate the love of the Lord to widows, pastors, workers and children of the mission in addition to ministering to hundreds of the very poor in their area. By early December they had raised nearly \$2000 to use for the this purpose. Then, when three of their pastors serving near Chennai lost everything in the floods that devastated that area, the mission used some of their resources to bring aid to these families. Pastor Frank sent a note of thanks for your prayers and the gifts that allowed East West InterKnit to provide just under \$2000 to help meet many of the special needs during this time. A brief summary of the special holiday activities provided by Bethel Mission follows:

- ★ More than 700 widows received new saris and were treated to a festive meal, some on December 4 and another group on December 23. These were organized by the Women's Welfare Ministry of the mission.
- ★ On December 15th all 45 mission pastors met for a special gathering and each one was given an article of clothing and a financial gift for the benefit of their families.
- ★ On December 20th 500 children, including those from three children's homes, attended the Children's Festival. Many guest from various religious communities also participated. Every child who attended received gifts and treats.
- ★ On a separate occasion all children's homes children received two new outfits, a special meal, and little Christmas gifts. Groups from the church went from house to house singing carols and distributing over 100 outfits to poor youth in six different areas of the community.
- ★ On December 23rd a special morning prayer service was held to pray for Pastor Frank and for the ministry.
- ★ On the 24th hundreds packed the church for the Christmas Eve candlelight service. Many more had to sit outside and watch the service on a screen.
- ★ On December 25th the mission prepared and served a dinner for over 800 poor and destitute individuals from the community.
- ★ Four hundred youth attended a praise and worship service held on December 27th. After the service they were served a special meal.
- ★ The New Year's Eve service which ended at 2:00 o'clock a.m. was also fully packed. Bus service was provided for those living far from the church.
- ★ Finally, on January 1st church members distributed hundreds of loaves of bread in nearby slum areas.

Thank you to those whose prayer and financial support helped to make this possible!

PARTNERSHIP AT WORK—IN KENYA

Nairobi Great Commission School (NGCS)

East West InterKnit learned of NGCS when Dennis Okoth, formerly of Bethel Seminary in Minnesota, returned to Nairobi as President and contacted us concerning the need for library books to support their programs. Since then we have shipped them approximately 3300 volumes. NGCS can accommodate 35 students at a time. It offers a two-year Advanced Diploma to qualified students. Students who complete the program successfully can transfer all credits to Daystar University in order to work toward a Baccalaureate degree. If the student is not interested or qualified to enter the Advanced Diploma program, he or she can earn an advanced certificate. This is also a two-year but less challenging program than for the Advanced Diploma. The goal is to send out students trained to serve as pastors and missionaries.



Bright Angels Christian Academy (BACA)

As many as 250 children in Oduwo Village are served by Bright Angels Christian Academy (BACA), founded by EWI partner Julian Orimbo. The Kenyan Department of Education is requiring that the school provide additional classrooms, books and other materials, along with qualified teachers. We have been privileged to provide funds to allow for the completion of several classrooms otherwise funded primarily by the locals. We have also supplied boxes of children's story books as required by the Kenyan Department of Education. EWI is hoping to be able to provide a partial scholarship for a teacher so that he may earn the required teaching certificate. The two-year course costs approximately \$850.00 per year. In addition to overseeing the school, Julian provides daily care and food for 43 children. EWI provides monthly supplements to ensure that the children receive adequate nourishment.

Julian also works with the church in Oduwo, which grew dramatically in 2015. There were 58 baptisms. The photo here is of the December 29th group. The local youth group grew from 38-52, the Sunday school attracts 288 children and the adult membership is now at 170. In addition, two daughter churches were planted in 2015 with a total membership of about 90 individuals. This growth has created a need for additional trained leaders.

On December 27th the mother of a BACA class 2 student was raped and murdered in the sugar plantation. According to Julian, the villagers must cross the plantation to access what is



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needed for the community. There are no policemen or patrol cars on the plantation. Many of the villagers work on the plantation just to meet basic needs. Now, because of fear, some have stopped working.

Current Prayer Concerns:

- ★ Approximately \$800 is still needed to cover the cost of training a primary school teacher.
- ★ Resources are needed to train another church leader.
- ★ Please pray for safety for those working on the sugar plantation.
- ★ Please pray for those who have recently committed their lives to Christ.

PARTNERSHIP AT WORK – IN HAITI

Mission Evangelique du Nord d’Haiti, in Plaine du Nord

The MENH sewing school, established a little more than ten years ago, has made great progress in that time. The government recently acknowledged the good work of the sewing school students and examples of their work were featured at a large technical center.

The clinic at Plaine du Nord went through a very difficult period but has now been put under new management under the control of MENH. A former director, not part of MENH, walked away with many of the clinic’s tools. They have asked for help to purchase supplies and equipment to enable them to better serve their patients.

Pastor Thony Paul reported that MENH was recently granted non-profit status allowing them to receive goods for the mission duty-free. They recently received a container full of supplies from an organization in Belgium and did not have to pay any fees. We shipped many large boxes of school and clinic supplies as well as clothing and other materials during 2015. We can now be assured that they will no longer be charged additional fees when the materials arrive.

Please Pray:

- ★ For provision to enable them to replace clinic equipment;
- ★ For Pastor Thony’s daily radio ministry;
- ★ For resources to meet the needs of the MENH schools, which serve more than 3000 children.

PARTNERSHIP AT WORK – IN CHENNAI, INDIA

Hindustan Bible Institute (HBI)

Heavy rainfall during the months of November and December led to flooding particularly in the city and surrounding Chennai in Tamilnadu state, India. More than 400 were killed and over 1.8 million displaced. Although their own campus sustained damage they reached out to help others. HBI ministries set up a medical clinic in one of the neighborhoods and treated over 900 people, many living in fear because of the trauma experienced. As a result of spending time listening to the people, their team makes the following recommendations: the establishment of a child development center, vocational training especially for the women, and a recovery program for those addicted to alcohol.

EWI BOOK MINISTRY & LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

By the end of 2015 EWI was serving 20 separate Bible schools, seminaries, or mission leaders with quality books for the benefit of their ministries and especially for the training of Christian workers. We are receiving many requests for help but are limited due to the cost of shipping. We have added two additional Bible schools in early January. We packed 4777 books in 2015 but shipped a larger number including some carried over from 2014 at a cost of \$6323. About \$300 per month is required in order to keep up with shipping needs.

PARTNERSHIP AT WORK – IN NARSAPUR, INDIA

Jehovah Shammah Children’s Home & Ministries (JSCH)



Sari distribution at a village church

President David sent a preliminary report on December celebrations noting, “These events were a grand success.” About 110 people attended, including the home children and their relatives, non-Christian friends, and JSCH board members. A powerful sound system was used allowing for the gospel message to be heard by hundreds of people in the surrounding area. David also reported that all children did well on their half-year exams. Those who visited their home villages during the holidays have returned and are back in school.



The children’s Christmas dinner



Gift giving at the Children’s Home

East West InterKnit is now able to accept security/stock donations. Those who wish to support our ministries in this way are urged to contact the office at 651-765-2550 or Sage Point Financial (Focal Point) at 651-426-7375.

If you wish to make a contribution using a credit card, you may do so safely using the link for JustGive on our website (ew-interknit.org). You will also find options for giving via Paypal and Amazon Smile on our website.

Tax deductible gifts are given with the understanding that EWI is committed to disbursement of designated funds as requested for the purpose of meeting spiritual and physical needs. Designated funds received in excess of need may be redirected to another area of need.

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