



# EAST WEST INTERKNIT™

SEE WHAT GREAT THINGS THE LORD HAS DONE!

*"Give thanks to the Lord, call on His name:  
make known among the nations what He has done." 1 Chronicles 16:8*

March 2019

## PARTNERSHIP AT WORK – GIFTS IN KIND

### Your gifts facilitate the training of Christian workers

We receive new requests for books continuously from those engaged in training future Christian leaders. Some of the schools have fewer than 100 books available for use by their students and their collections may or may not include books on all the subjects needed for a theological education. Thank you to those able to donate books and to those able to provide funding to ship them where needed.

**A Bible School in northeast Myanmar (Burma)** sent the following note:

*"The main focus of our ministry is training nationals to become effective church planters and ministers among the unreached people groups of Myanmar. Our vision and goal is to train and equip as many national workers as possible through our training center. What is exciting and pleasing is that the students begin to see the need for missions and they are becoming more and more committed."*

EWI responded to their request for books just over a year ago. We have been able to provide nearly 300 books in that time for the benefit of their students. They have shared the following specific needs:

- ✦ Greek and Hebrew Bibles, lexicons, and basic grammars. If you are no longer using your copies, students in Myanmar would be blessed to receive them.
- ✦ Please pray that they will be able to add dormitory space to accommodate additional students.
- ✦ Please pray concerning the rising persecution of Christians in Myanmar, especially in the region of this school.

On our visit in 2000 to **Olive Theological Institute (OTI) in south India** we learned of the great need for books in their library which is used by staff and students alike. The 2,500 or so volumes of gently used books we have sent OTI since our visit have helped to prepare many graduates for service. The majority of those who graduated in February will be field missionaries, some will be village evangelists, and others will be teachers in mission schools. Persecution of religious minorities, especially Christians, has increased dramatically in India with the majority of attacks going unpunished. Please pray for these students as they go out into hostile territory.

**A ministry that launched a north Indian Bible institute also runs a child development center** serving kids from the ages of 3 to 18. The 150 CDC kids come from very poor homes. The director said, "Many come here just for that one meal of survival. So by God's grace we have been able to provide them mental, spiritual and physical food." EWI provides books for the Bible Institute as well as for the children's programs.



**The February 16, 2019 graduation ceremony at Olive Theological Institute celebrated the accomplishments of approximately 28 graduates.**

With the advent of the hot season in April most schools in India close until some time in June. Now is the time for annual exams for which many of our partners ask for prayer. It is also the season for graduation ceremonies. The invitations we have received from several Bible schools and seminaries extend an invitation to attend but more importantly they ask us to pray for those entering full time ministry. Please join us in praying for the graduates as well as those engaged in summer outreach ministries.

## PARTNERSHIP AT WORK – IN INDIA

### The Priority of Prayer at Bethel Mission

The 11<sup>th</sup> annual 21 Day Early Morning Prayer Campaign was held at Bethel Mission in February. More than 100 auto-rickshaws were hired each day to transport those coming from a distance. An average of 800 meals were served following each morning's service. Pastor Frank reported that many non-Christians attended each day and that "new souls are coming into the church" as a result of the campaign.

Prior to the start of the campaign Pastor Frank wrote, "In today's scenario, without prayer, we would not be able to achieve anything as the enemy is clamping down so heavily upon us through the stringent laws established by the administration. We want our church to be a praying church that God's favor be upon us as we take the Good News reaching the unreached in our region."

Following the 21 day campaign Pastor Frank traveled several hundred miles in order to visit some of the other mission churches and provide some "small assistance" as he was able.

#### Please Pray -

- ✦ For the 85 children in their children's homes as they prepare for annual exams in April.
- ✦ For the work of their free medical clinic as they treat the poorest in their community. Praise God for the doctors and other volunteers who serve.
- ✦ For health, strength and safety as Pastor Frank continues his travels to visit and encourage additional Bethel Mission churches.



### The Godavari Delta Mission (GDM) and The Jehovah Shammah Children's Home (JSCH)

The origins of the Godavari Delta Mission (GDM) are traceable to the Open Brethren Movement in England led by such men as George Muller, Robert Chapman and A. N. Groves. Groves visited India and, seeing the need, went back to England and recruited two willing young men, William Bowden and George Beer, who were members of Robert Chapman's church. They arrived in Madras in 1836 and moved to Narsapur in 1837. The primary purpose of the mission was evangelism. There are now more than 300 GDM churches in Andhra Pradesh state with a membership of about 50,000. Among its many accomplishments, the GDM established the Mission High School at Narsapur in 1839.<sup>1</sup>

The late B. Azariah, founder of the Jehovah Shammah Children's Home (JSCH), served as Principal of the GDM Mission High School until his retirement at age 55. He was aware of the hundreds of underprivileged and destitute children, who were unschooled, often malnourished, and without hope, and he felt the call to help. He launched the JSCH at his own expense in 1972 with 49 children. The home grew rapidly as its reputation spread. Azariah established a farm to help raise funds to support the home. When the farm was nearly destroyed by a cyclone in 1999, they could not recover and the land was sold shortly thereafter. Without the income produced by the farm they've not been able to support the large number of children and, as costs increase, the number of children has gradually decreased from a high of 250 in 1999 to about 30 today. As some residents age out new children are admitted each year.

<sup>1</sup> Olive Rogers, *Origins of the Godavari Delta Mission and its Distinctive Tenets* (Narsapur: 1986)

Now led by President B. David Sudhakar, son of B. Azariah, the JSCH, an independent NGO, continues to have a relationship with the Godavari Delta Mission Church in Narsapur. It is the home church of the home's leaders and is where the children attend Sunday school and worship services. The church also organizes Sunday school retreats for the home children twice a year and pays regular visits to the home to counsel and advise.

In addition to caring for destitute children President David and his staff oversee the training and work of as many as 15 village evangelists. Some of the evangelists have only a tenth grade education but, having felt the call to ministry, went through an intense four month training course before being sent out to evangelize, plant churches, and disciple new believers. Each year they attend additional classes offered by other organizations and at least one seminar conducted by the JSCH leaders. They are continuously engaged in door to door evangelism, street evangelism, distribution of literature, and weekly services.



Christmas at JSCH 2018



The children's home is not self-supporting and does look to East West InterKnit for assistance in order to feed, clothe, house, educate and provide medical care for the children. They also seek our help to purchase sound equipment, literature, or other tools for the evangelists.

#### Please Pray –

- ✦ For the evangelists as they share the gospel in their region and face increasing hostility from the majority community.
- ✦ For those who have come to faith and face animosity from both family and community.
- ✦ For the children as they prepare for annual exams on April 15.

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](http://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.

## PARTNERSHIP AT WORK – IN HAITI

### Mission Evangelique du Nord d’Haiti (MENH) Ministries in 2019

Vice President Mathurin Laguerre traveled to Haiti in January and held meetings with the heads of church ministries, the education department, and the healthcare departments.

Those involved in church ministries have been busy. They organized and held a one week camp meeting in February. This took place during a time of serious political upheaval and yet the people came. It was said to be a time of spiritual renewal and of refreshing. President Ebed Paul reported that 52 people committed their lives to Christ during that week. In early March Pastor Franz Payoute, who has served MENH for many years, was selected as head of MENH Church Ministries. He will be responsible to supervise, train, support, and otherwise connect with the 20 MENH churches. They are planning for a “huge spiritual and renewal activity” in July consisting of a march, a prayer meeting, a camp meeting, and a conference as well as other activities.

The MENH medical clinic, launched with the help of East West InterKnit in 2002, is a full service primary care facility run by Dr. Marcellus and an administrator. They offer treatment for conditions such as typhoid, malaria, tuberculosis, diabetes, and all manner of infections. They hope to offer more preventive care and other services when they are able to acquire some of the necessary equipment.

The staff of the clinic sees their work not as a job but as a calling. They are committed to providing the highest quality of care and to continuing to improve. They also make sure that every patient has an opportunity to hear the word of God. There is a need for continuing training as well as a need for better equipment.

One of the newer developments in the department of education is the formation of a marching band. While 60 students are currently learning to play instruments there are many more who would if there were instruments available. They anticipate participating in the May 18<sup>th</sup> Haiti national flag day. They would like to be able to provide band uniforms for this event and would welcome a donation of second hand uniforms.

#### How can you help?

- ✦ Pray for the leadership as they reorganize, train, and supervise mission departments.
- ✦ Pray for Pastor Thony and his wife Marie as they travel to the states for ongoing cancer treatment (Marie) and eye surgery (Pastor Thony) in April.
- ✦ Pray for the pastor of the Plaine du Nord church as he focuses on evangelism and on completing the church construction project.
- ✦ Pray for resources to upgrade some of the clinic equipment.
- ✦ Consider a donation of musical instruments.
- ✦ Consider a donation toward the needs of the July event and toward helping them keep current with school teachers’ salaries.



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