

Spring 2012

# New Life Children's Home and School **Reaching India's Future Generations**

### **COTR Graduation 2012**



Jyothi Aluri graduated from the seminary this year. At graduation, the learning has just begun. All graduates receive a gift of books to seed their future library.

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**Rev. Roger & Monika Baumgartener** Email: cfimin@christforindia.org Weidenstrasse 5 CH-4143 Dornach Website: www.christforindia.org

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT Celebrating 30 years of God's faithfulness!**



We just completed our Annual Pastors Conference, Seminary Graduation, and Alumni Reunion, gratefully commemorating 30 years of God's faithfulness on campus. Thank you for your prayers! We had a great time celebrating, encouraging, networking, and praying for one another.

A special thanks to Pastor Michael and Ruth Edwards and Pastor Roy and Barbara Phillips for hosting me and opening ministry opportunities for CFI UK. Special thanks to Rev. Knut and Ursula Ofen in Germany for hosting and representing CFI Germany. I want to welcome aboard Rev. Roger and Monika Baumgartner for their heart to help represent CFI Switzerland.

The theme for this festive time was 'Unity in the Spirit'. Seminary alumni from all over India and many parts of the world testified about how they are serving in various areas of ministry and the marketplace.

As I listened to them share about how God was using them, I was amazed at how fruitful they are! A seminary graduate from 1985 has planted over 600 churches in unreached north India, with 100 of them having over a thousand members. Praise God for His faithfulness and fruitfulness in reaching the lost of India and planting churches in unreached areas!

In addition, the seminary alumni held their general body meeting where they elected new officers and state/area representatives for the association.

The Annual Pastors Conference was a time of sharing and encouraging pastors who came from all over India. Many took days to get here, walking or riding on buses and trains to attend the conference. As they shared their testimonies, we learned how many are facing deep persecution, how God is strengthening them, and how they are serving despite the difficult challenges they and their families face each day. These men and women are making a difference in India and leading many to Christ. I had the privilege to pray for, encourage, and support them.

Dr. David Shibley, Pastor Dale Evrist, and Reverend Gene Brunk from the USA and Drs. Gladwyn and Helen Turner from Australia, all shared the Word of God, spoke into their lives, and challenged them to plant new churches and win more for Christ. The highlight of the Pastors' Conference was when we commissioned nine new evangelists from different parts of India to go and plant churches in unreached areas.

Graduation was held on Saturday and was attended by many. The building was full of family, friends, and well-wishers of the students and ministry. We had a total of 45 graduates, including the seminary, Telugu training, and women's computer and sewing certificates. This is the highlight of the year as we send forth new laborers into the harvest field!

Thank you again for continuing to pray for and financially support Christ for India, making all of this possible! We are eternally grateful.

My mom, Mrs. Mary Titus, sends a special greeting to all our prayer and financial partners. Mom is doing well and is still involved in all areas of ministry. Please continue to uphold her in your prayers. Johnson, Helen, and family send you their love and greetings. Please continue to pray for them as they take on more responsibilities in the ministry.

Again, we appreciate your support, love, and prayers.

Training thousands to reach the millions, Jameson Titus

## **MEDIA CENTER UPDATE**

Work on the Media Center continues. The air-conditioning unit is now installed and the duct work is being completed. The sound proofing is completed and all the wiring and 3 phase power is complete. We praise God for the near completion of this project, as we have faced many unexpected challenges. Some of the difficulties we are working through are the shortage of qualified, skilled laborers, the lack of supplies available in our area, and qualified engineers. A special thanks to the Pogue Foundation and the Gottlieb Foundation for their investments into the Media Outreach Training Center. Lord willing, in the next few months we will be buying and installing the studio equipment. Please pray for this project as it nears completion.

# Meeting their needs, one soul at a time

Although I am not involved in children's ministry, when I walked thru their class-rooms, observed their school work, and saw how children of ages 4, 5, 6, and beyond were grabbing the opportunity to change and improve, I was won over. The smiles of the little kids as they showed me their excellent work would win the heart of anyone!

CFI provides meals in the dining hall for all levels, from small children to seminary students. It was neat to watch the young kids enter in an orderly manner for dinner, clean their plates and cups, and then put them away when they were finished.

It is here that the seminary students sharpen their serving skills by serving the younger children and leading their devotions and prayer time. The "curve of change" continues to include all on campus. I loved being around the seminary students who are committed to change their world for Christ. Again, it is in their smiles and the willingness to do anything to make a stranger welcome. I feel for these students who are committed to go forth with the gospel of Jesus to their villages.

Since I was there to help celebrate CFI's 30th anniversary, I was afforded the opportunity to present a couple of sermons, sharing the podium with a number of internationally renowned speakers. It was a great experience for me. However, I probably enjoyed speaking in the Telegu church the most, where people attending sit on mats on the floor and really get involved in the service.

If you are not currently a prayer or financial partner of Christ for India, I encourage you to support this ministry that I have seen first-hand. Jan and I are sponsoring one of these little children. His name is Naveen and he is 4 years old. It was a great privilege to meet Naveen, the child that we are helping to raise, educate, and share the love of Christ.

As an ambassador for Christ for India, I saw an immediate need on campus for new generators. The three they currently have are not operational and cannot be repaired.



Gene Brunk and Naveen. Gene and his wife are is sponsoring Naveen

If you have a desire to know more about this project and how you can help, please call me at 972-771-7221 or email me at gbrunk@christforindia.org.

Love in Christ, Gene Brunk

### **SPONSOR A CHILD TODAY** There are hundreds of children needing hope and a future. Please pray about how you can help.



### Rahul M.

Age: 11 Father: Passed away due to heartattack Mother: Works as a nanny Favorite subject: Enviromental studies Favorite game: Cricket Desired occupation: Engineer



#### Venkata Lakshmi M.

Age: 8 Father: Passed away Mother: Works as an laborer Favorite subject: English language Favorite activity: Singing Desired occupation: Teacher

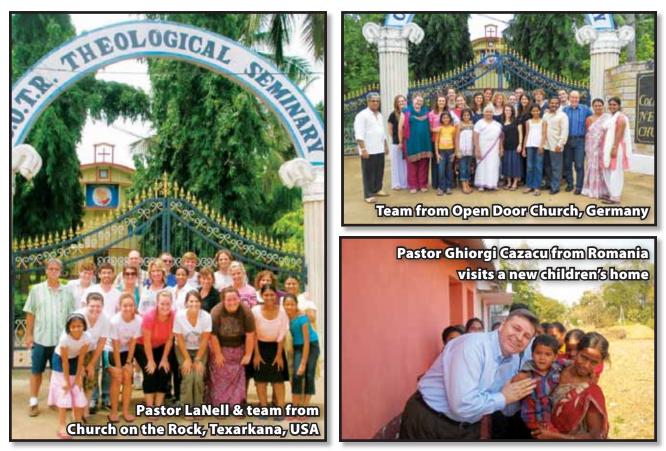


### **WOMEN OF WORTH** We are grateful to Pastor Doug Burnese and Pastor Gary Barrett for their investment in this year's Women of Worth graduating class. These young women have been trained with computer skills, English tutoring, and sewing skills for tailoring. They now have hope and a way to support themselves and their families.

www.christforindia.org

# **Visiting Teams**

We need you! Please come and serve with us on the CFI campus. Contact Jameson Titus for details.



## **TESTIMONY OF A SEMINARY STUDENT...**



Greetings to you in Christ name! I convey my thanks to you for your valuable help, that I could complete my 1st year studies in COTR. I am very grateful to you. I came to COTR to equip myself academically and spiritually to do God's ministry. I have dedicated myself to God and to testify of God's glory. So after my Bachelor of Theology (B-TH) program, I would like to do God's ministry in different parts of the world.

Therefore, I need your valuable help to continue my studies. So far you, helped me so I am grateful to you and I am praying for you. It is my humble request that you please pray for me and my studies.

Yours Faithfully, *Robin Varghese* 

## **TESTIMONY FROM THE FIELD...**



My name is Pastor Joshua Venuthurapalli. I have been a Christian for the past 25 years. God called me to be a pastor in 1987. I would like to share with you my testimony on how I came to be a believer.

I was a ringleader for a gang of youth. I was born and brought up in a Hindu high caste Brahmin family. The Brahmins are priests in the Hindu religion. I was brought up by my mother, since my father died when I was a child. The family consists of my brothers, two sisters, and mother.

Mr. Samuel, a Christian friend, played a prominent role in my conversion to Christianity. He used to share the gospel with me, but I did not respond. But then one day all that changed. A ringleader of the neighboring locality wanted to eliminate my group. One day I was pursued by our enemies who were seeking to kill me. I found all escape routes were sealed. I started to pray to all my Gods, yet I was getting deeper into trouble. Nobody was with me.

Then I remembered my friend Samuel's words. I stopped, closed my eyes, and prayed to Jesus for the first time in my life. As I was standing there praying, no one was coming near. I opened my eyes and found I was standing alone. I wondered what had happened to my enemies.

I went to my friends and explained everything that happened. Samuel said that the Lord Jesus sent his angels to save me. Finally, I came to know from my enemies that fateful day that they saw very strong people standing along with me. So they went away for safety. I realized that the Lord really sent His angels to save me. I gave up the leadership of the gang and learned more about the Bible.

In 1987, a few months before joining a Bible school, I married Karuna, a Christian girl. We were blessed with a son, Sunil, and a daughter, Ruth. We pioneered this church at Rajyalaxmipuram village. God has been using this outreach tremendously in His ministry. Thank you to all our prayer and financial partners.

**Pastor Joshua** 

## PRAISE REPORT CHURCH BUILDING COMPLETED

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ! We hope you are doing well. The Church construction at Papayyavalasa village, which is sponsored by Pastors Sonny and Christian Conatser, is finished. The building came out beautifully and is being used as a sanctuary for the village, where there is no other church building. Thank you for your financial support to complete this building project. We appreciate your heart for the ministry of God in India.

The new church building was prayerfully opened by Mrs. Mary Titus on 26th October 2011 for the congregation to worship. It was a time of joy for the congregation and villagers alike, because ours is the only church building in the village. Over two hundred people have attended for the opening ceremony.

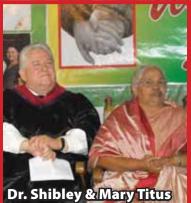


#### Pastor Eliya Y.

# **COTR Graduation 2012**

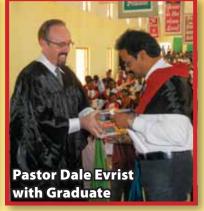
Thank you for partnering with Christ for India. Your prayers and support enable us to send forth laborers into the harvest field. We are grateful for God's faithfulness for the past 30 years.







of Worth Graduate

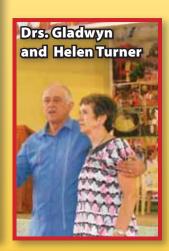


**Christ for India** 

# **Pastor Conference 2012**



Seminary worship team leading praise & worship







Commissioning new evangelists to plant churches in unreached areas



Dr. Shibley addresses the conference



### **Mortimer Update**

I think we are on fairly safe ground if we can understand "normal" to be that which is most typically seen, that which is to be expected most of the time. This leaves open the possibility that God

**could** lead someone to live in a manner quite different than most people, owing to a specialized calling, in a particular location, among a specific group of people... but it would be a pretty rare thing.

For the vast majority of us, there are things that Jesus expects of us – and it is legitimate to say that these expectations are what should typically mark the life of a disciple of Jesus Christ. Unfortunately, what should typically mark a Christian's life is not what is found in the life of the *average* Christian. Think for a moment about this quote:

"Most Christians live such subnormal Christian lives that when someone comes along leading a normal Christian life, he seems abnormal." - Sumner Wemp

Jesus was not as interested in obtaining decisions or gaining members as He was in **training disciples**. *"Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men"* (Matt.4:19), Jesus said. He never called anyone to anything less than total commitment. Following anyone, especially following Jesus, requires effort, requires training, and requires discipline. Godliness is not a matter of simply trying harder, but of training better (1 Tim. 4:7), seizing upon the proper, effective tools for spiritual growth.

I am delighted to report that this is exactly the sort of training that goes on at the C.O.T.R. Seminary. Abundant prayer is normal. Rigorous scholarship is normal. Frequency of worship is normal. Witnessing to the lost is normal. Extreme personal sacrifice is normal. Whole-hearted commitment to Jesus is normal. Aren't these the kind of pastors and Christian workers you would want to see produced from a seminary? If so, won't you please give generously to see that this sort of normal Christian life is carried on in India?

- Dr. Rick Mortimer, revrick@chrsitforindia.org

## **Projects:** New Generator



CFI has an urgent need for three generators for the hospital, seminary, and children's campus. In the last few months, the three generators we have on campus have stopped working, as they are old and parts are no longer available for these models. These generators have served us for decades and have been such a blessing during the frequent power outages, allowing us to run emergency lighting and fans for the hospital, seminary, and children's campus.

We have priced three new generators in India and the total project cost will be Fr 23,000. These models will have a warranty and parts will be readily available. This is such an urgent need for safety of the children, school, and seminary during the frequent blackouts. Please prayerfully consider helping us buy the new generators.



### **Praise Report:** New Water Well

We have a new water well on the farm! We are grateful to Howard Poole, Bob Brighton, and Don Einam for their labor of love. Don located the perfect spot for the well that will supply much needed water for the farm. Through their financial partnership, we were able to drill a well and have a two-inch pipe installed with a motor to pump the water. Now we have fresh, clean water for the farm and dairy.





### Praise Report: New Ambulance & Bus

We are grateful to God for all our partners around the world who have sacrificially given finances for the much needed ambulance and bus. Thank you again for providing the tools to help the less fortunate and to educate the young children from surrounding villages. Hundreds and thousands will be blessed through the medical ministry and the children's school bus ministry. Thank you for making this possible.



## FARM REPORT



Through Howard Poole and team training our farmers, we are now able to grow more produce using innovative techniques for growing vegetables on roof tops and new processes for seedlings. Along with the new well, we will be able to supplement more of our food needs for the children on campus.

Another major project begun by Howard and team was the waste/ grey water reclamation filter system. We now are able to reuse our waste water through this eco-system, which allows us to reuse the water for plants and vegetations.



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## **Mission Statement**

## **Board of Directors**

Christ for India, Inc. exists to fulfill Christ's great commission to India by training nationals as pastors and evangelists, establishing native churches, providing humanitarian aid, and educating India's future leadership.

## **Statement of Faith**

We believe: The sixty-six canonical books of the Old and the New Testament to be inspired and the infallible and authoritative Word of God. There is one God, eternally existent in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. In the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, in the rapture of the Church at Christ's coming, and His glorious thousand-year rule on earth. The only means of being cleansed from sin is through repentance and faith in the precious blood of Jesus Christ. Regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential for personal salvation. In the identification of the believer with Christ's death and resurrection by immersion baptism. The redemptive work of Christ on the cross provides healing to the human body in answer to believing prayer. The baptism in the Holy Spirit, according to Acts 2:4, is given to believers who ask for it. In the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a Holy life. The Church is the fellowship of all who have become children of God through faith in Christ and have been knit together by the Holy Spirit into one body of which the Lord Jesus is the head. The Church is given the mandate by the Risen Lord Jesus and is under obligation to demonstrate and proclaim the wholeness of the Gospel and its implications to every people.



Monika & Roger Baumgartener

Christ for India in Switzerland partners with Verein Wasser des Lebens.

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Request your free book One Billion Souls Burning, the thrilling biography of Dr. P.J. Titus.





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Use the form on Page 11 in this magazine to make your contribution. Call 07621-770-359 if you have any questions.

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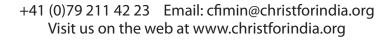


## Christ for India

Rev. Roger & Monika Baumgartener Verein Wasser des Lebens Weidenstrasse 5 CH-4143 Dornach Schweitz



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## **Become an Ambassador for CFI**



Become a prayer partner, a financial partner, serve on the campus, or an ambassador by opening doors for CFI. Email us at cfimin@christforindia.org to find out how.



**You** can be part of India 500 by praying and financially supporting this ministry. Would you join us today by becoming a new financial partner? You can help mobilize and continue to fulfill Christ's Great Commission in India.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

CFI needs volunteers and CFI representatives to help with promotions, mailings and Other ministry needs. If you can help us please contact Rev. Roger or Monika Baumgartener +41 (0)79 211 42 23