

## THE FEBRUARY 2010 MISSIONS UPDATE

contains portions of letters from various missionaries we support. We encourage you to share in the praise and also pray for these special people and their ministries. If these letters spark an interest in financially supporting one of our missionaries or serving on a Missions Care Team, please contact Pastor Dave Wardle at 224-764-4012, dwardle@theorchardefc.org, or a member of the Missions Ministry Team (see back panel).



### Raju and Catherine Abraham/India/ South Asian Concern



*Raju and Catherine serve in India to meet the physical and spiritual needs of people. Raju is also a key spiritual leader in that area of the world. He is now the director*

*of Kachhwa Christian Hospital and Leadership Training Center.*

It has been hectic in Kachhwa with Christmas evangelistic celebrations, training, etc.

- On December 12, Violet and Catherine hosted 100 women leaders for a Christmas gathering.

- Anju runs the school on the Kachhwa campus where she arranged for the children and families from her school to come to a Christmas celebration—over 300 attended.

- On December 19 Sujay Deep arranged a Christmas celebration for the nearby villages – over 400 came .

- On Christmas Eve, T V Joy arranged a program for seekers from the school contacts – over 2,000 attended, filling the campus to overflowing.

- On Christmas Day there was a major evangelistic rally nearby with over 15,000 people in attendance. Many decisions for Christ were made and we praise God that there were no untoward incidents.

In the villages and among the people groups there have been different celebratory evangelistic Christmas meetings. The final details are not all in but all in all over 30,000 would have heard the message of Jesus this season, directly through the hospital or through our partners in the field. This is the largest number that we have been able to reach in the Christmas season in the last 7 years.

In addition, the last eye camp was held for the year in late December– in total over 40,000 people with eye problems have been screened. Dr. Punitha and her team have done 3,353 cataract operations - (from Jan to Dec 2009) All of this has happened as a direct result of your prayer and practical support.



### Joel and Deborah Carpenter/ Tanzania/YWAM



*Joel and Deborah are medical doctors with New Life Clinic*

We had a rough month in November. Deborah's father died on November 6th. We are thankful for all of your prayers and support. Also, I had a bout of severe pain with another kidney stone. Ouch! I am doing much better now. God is faithful!

The medical ministries continue to go well. We certainly have LOTS of patients. Last month, another 4 people chose to put their faith in Jesus!

The Twangoma church-plant is growing and held their first service in their new building in early October. Thanks for your prayers.

We have a group of 16 ladies here from a YWAM Birth-Attendant School, learning how to deliver babies. Some are helping at our hospital & others are volunteering at a local government hospital. Then, they rotate. They're getting some incredible experience. May God use them to share his love with MANY ladies over the coming years.

Deborah is in the process of applying for an NGO-Public-Health job & does not plan to continue working at our mission clinic. We will certainly miss her. May God use her greatly in her new ministry.

We received a donation & have started to remodel a big shipping-container that sits behind the mission clinic, to convert it into a special clinic for disabled children, focusing especially on children with hydrocephalous. Thanks for your faithful prayers & support!



### Josh and Julie Baker/Michigan/ Campus Crusade for Christ



*Josh and Julie minister to students at Michigan State University*

Three days after Christmas, nearly 2,000 young men and women from the college campuses of Illinois, Indiana,

Michigan, and Ohio gathered in Indianapolis for IndyCC, our annual student conference held by the Great Lakes Region of Campus Crusade for Christ (Cru). It proved to be one of Cru's most challenging and inspiring conferences yet. This year, the IndyCC theme was both delicate and personal: "Wrecked into Redemption." As the title implies, IndyCC '09 was all about God's redeeming work in the lives of those who would be willing to be broken by Him—

completely taken apart, shattered, *wrecked*.

Throughout the conference, James McDonald plunged deep into such difficult and uncomfortable topics as sin, our rebellion against a Holy God, and our need for genuine repentance. During the final night it was powerful to see nearly everyone in the whole convention center on their knees together repenting before our God. The Lord really did some powerful work in students' lives over the course of just a few days (and Julie and mine as well!).

On December 30, students got to share God's love with the Indy community. As in previous years, IndyCC students joined local church leaders to deliver boxes of food to poor neighborhoods and prisons, sharing Christ's compassion for the suffering and His message of love. They spoke with nearly 2,500 people: 1,125 heard the gospel, 131 prayed to receive Jesus, and 691 expressed a desire to connect to a local church.

On New Year's Eve, IndyCC students and staff had the opportunity to raise a financial gift for Africa and India. They collected an impressive \$52,900, part of which will be used to share Christ's love with the people of the impoverished African nation of Zambia by purchasing farm land for an orphanage providing them with a sustainable food source. Some of the funds will be used to distribute

resources to help raise educated, Christ-centered Zambian leaders and the rest of the gift will be used to help rescue sexually trafficked women and children in India and the continued development local leaders.

After students had already encountered a Holy God, and experienced His grace, Greg (the country director for Italy CCC) and Charmaine Lillestrand led the students to consider: "Where He leads, will I follow? ...It's not about us, it's about Him... I'm asking you to lay down your life for the King." Greg then challenged the students to commit a summer or a year of their life to ministry. Over half the students, about 1,100, responded! What an impact in just a few days!

Please pray with us that, as our students are processing what they learned at IndyCC, they would allow God to continue His redemptive work in them and use them for His Kingdom on their respective campuses and in their home towns.



### **Missionaries in an undisclosed location:**

We are grateful that all of our team has now arrived in the country and will soon be moving to the new city where we moved this fall. There is currently no church of Jesus Christ here.

In January several teammates invited 50 local farmers from two nearby villages to gather together to learn more about a business venture from an American agricultural consultant who flew in for the occasion. As our team is just getting started with developing the business here in a new location, the seminars provided a perfect opportunity to make contacts with men interested in partnering with our new business. Our prayer is that some of these men would also be interested in hearing the gospel. Ten men have signed up for follow-up. Pray for our teammates as they will be visiting these men in the next few weeks. Also, pray for a successful partnership with a local businessman who is considering a contract with us for this venture. A viable business is important for validating our presence here.

Recently our team has been trained in a story-telling form of teaching the Bible. In a society where we can't readily open a Bible and the people are mainly functionally illiterate, telling

stories from the Bible has been a great way to introduce spiritual truth. We can share a gospel outline (and we still do) about how a person can receive salvation, but if the hearer does not respond, then telling stories from the Bible is excellent for providing opportunities to share more or for gauging first whether someone would be open to hearing God's plan of salvation. We are learning to develop this new skill as we keep sharing.

*If you would like to receive this monthly Missions Update via email, please send your request to: [echeck@theorchardefc.org](mailto:echeck@theorchardefc.org).*

#### **Missions Ministry Team**

Beth Su Anderson, Jon Goreham, Joy Goreham,  
Liz Lightbody, Gary McKee, Sue Ryl, Rich Stienstra,  
Debbie Wardle, Amy Wilson, and Pastor Dave Wardle.



#### **Arlington Heights Campus**

1330 North Douglas Ave  
Arlington Heights, IL 60004  
847.392.4840

#### **Barrington Campus**

(Temporarily meeting at Hersey HS)  
1900 East Thomas Ave  
Arlington Heights, IL 60004

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# MISSIONS UPDATE



## FEBRUARY 2010

**"To glorify God  
by multiplying God-centered,  
Christ-exalting, world-transforming  
believers through the Gospel in the greater  
Chicago area and around the world."**

Mission Statement  
The Orchard Evangelical Free Church