

New Lifer News

Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service
Dec. 24 @ 7 p.m.



Church office closed
Dec. 24, 25, 31 & Jan. 1



Last month a team of people followed the Lord's leading by going on a mission trip to India. We've asked each of the members of this team to write an article about their experience. Over the next few weeks, the articles will be sent out in the new, weekly version of the New Lifer News. Here's the first one, written by Pastor Dave Troyer:

Thank you for your prayers for the India Mission Team. There were four of us who went— Ann Bare, Suzie King, Jim Peugh, and David Troyer.

I believe you partnered with us in a very effective outreach. There were seeds sown that will surely bring a harvest. We believe we were able to encourage Pastor Stifan, the Indian pastors, and the people there.

The mission trip was great. It was non-stop services and ministry. There was never a dull moment. Before we left, we requested prayer for good health, good rest, and good ministry. God answered those requests in a powerful way. No one got sick, even though we ate South India food made in primitive villages where the sanitation wasn't good. We did use hand sanitizers often and we didn't drink the water. But no one got sick and that was a great blessing. We also rested well and ministered in six small churches over the nine-day itinerary. We also laughed and had a lot of fun.



Ann Bare, Suzie King, Dave Troyer, Jim Peugh

We were impressed with the impact of Pastor Stifan Sanganahalli and his ministry. He is the real deal. He has oversight for 120 leaders (52 pastors), many churches (including a 250 person church in Hubli), and a Bible college that trains new pastors. They have two or three training times per year, that they use to teach on the Word, prayer, spiritual warfare, gifts of the Spirit, evangelism, preaching, renewing the mind, intercession, and the power of the Spirit.

Pastor Stifan preached his first evangelistic healing crusade in Kazipet, India from Nov 11 to 15, 2009. Be praying for the outreach to this country. India is one of the most unreached areas of the world. Only 2.5% are Christian and half of them are Catholic. There may be 1% (1,360,000) who are born again believers. India is poor, under-resourced, and in bondage to many idols from their culture.

However, thousands of people are coming to the gospel crusades and many are receiving Christ. They have seen hundreds coming to faith and the local churches are being transformed. Whenever the crusades come to town, it results in the churches growing by 50-60% in number. People are converted and followed up by the churches. This is a dynamic impactful ministry and it has made a difference in Southern India.

Pastor Stifan’s vision for ministry is very compatible with the New Life vision. We have a history of interest in church planting. That’s because we know that **new** churches and **new** sites have the greatest impact on **new people coming to faith**. He is also training up new leaders for the work of ministry. That again is an area that New Life is highly involved interested in. We want to learn and grow so we have an impact on the kingdom of God.

One of the exciting moments of the trip was the graduation service. There were 14 young men and women who graduated and one middle-aged man. It was exciting to see that young people were starting their ministry and to know that they would make a huge difference on India for the rest of their lives. These young people were very excited about the gifts that they received from New Life. Each of them received a watch and \$25 to start out in ministry.

We got to see the church that New Life helped build in Maripudi. (see photo at right) We provided \$8000 Faith Promise Mission giving to have the church constructed. Pastor Samuel Raj is providing leadership for this



church and the building is being well-used. It is a growing and dynamic church. We also saw six motor-bikes that New Life has provided, so that pastors can go out and care for people.

One verse that impacted me a lot on this trip was Matthew 24:14 NIV. “This gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.” Jesus wants to reach India, and he wants to use us to do it. God has an end-time harvest that He wants from this great nation. And we get to be a part of what He is doing there to save many souls.

Thanks again for your prayers and support. It enabled us to make a difference in this part of the world.



(above) A picture of the pastors, women and children in Maripudi. This was during the day while the men are in the fields, and the children are in school.

Upcoming Mission Trips

- Manaus, Brazil - March 5th -14th, 2010
- Koscierzyna, Poland April 30th – May 9th, 2010
- Zacatecas, Mexico - September 9th - 16th, 2010
- Santarem, Brazil - November, 2010

For more info contact Dennis Sohn