



NEWSLETTER

HERMON LIVING WATER MINISTRIES

Foundation for evangelism and social work in India

Newsletter no. 31

December 2008

Dear HLWM friends

India is in the news nowadays. You read about the terror attacks in Mumbai, the persecution of Christians in the state of Orissa resulting in many deaths, burning down of houses, even of churches and a children home, and Christians hiding in the jungle without food or clothing.

After all this negative news, we are happy to inform that HLWM volunteered to help.

We could raise more than € 11.000 as first aid to the refugees. Good news is also that we started a program to support helpless old age people in the village of Pathapadu. The new children home in Saripalli is now fully furnished, the building of a vocational school is progressing rapidly and our November women conference on Community Health was a success.

Preparations are going on for the annual convention from 16 till 26 February 2009 in the coastal area of Andhra Pradesh, where we work among the outcasts. During that time we will inspect all HLWM activities and visit a number of villages for that purpose.

The conference is a big festival visited by thousands of people from nearby and far. It is normally held on the campus of our children home in Kalipatnam. This time, however, on the campus grounds of the new children home in Saripalli, where also the vocational school is being built and a new church building is nearing completion.

After 10 years, it will be the first time that the founders of HLWM : Adrian and

Frances will not participate in this trip and that the team of visitors will be led by the new chairman : Ron Feith. We know that all co-workers and the children in the children homes, elementary and secondary schools as well as the teachers in the bible school will miss them.

We pray that the Lord will touch again many hearts during this forthcoming conference.

Emergency help for persecuted Christians

The persecution of Christians in various states of India has a big impact in our HLWM area . It has been relatively quiet in our province, but our people have much fear. As you know 50.000 Christians in Orissa had to flee and are living now in the jungle under



terrible circumstances. Ill-treatment, mutilation, rape, destruction of property, looting and setting fire to homes and churches is done by fanatic Hindus. And the police does not interfere. Our director Joseph Komanapalli together with other Christian leaders urgently



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YOUR SUPPORT MAKES THE DIFFERENCE

We wish you all
a happy Christmas
and God's blessings in 2009



Working visit to India

As the new chairman I visited India from 27th of October until 4th of November to strengthen my connections with our HLWM leaders Joseph and Geetha Komana-palli. We discussed the present situation and future plans. Of course, I used this trip to meet again the children, bible women, evangelists, bible school students and all co-workers. In Pathapadu I saw the newly started program to provide shelter and food for the aged. It was so good to see that our nurses care very well for these old people. A hut had been built for two disabled old men, who now have a proper roof to keep them dry. These nurses also help people having HIV/Aids. Unfortunately HIV is on the increase in India, so that we pay much attention on advising the people how to prevent and treat this disease.

The new children home in Saripalli is completed. All bedrooms have been furnished with new bunk-beds. Tables and chairs were given a final polish. Also the medical section is operational and I attended a consulting hour for the villagers. About 20 elderly men and women and mothers with small children came and received medical care from our nurses.

The construction of the vocational school goes on rapidly. The concrete framework is finished complete with roof and the walls are being erected. Floors have been laid and the carpenter is making the window-sills, doors and windows on the spot. Tuition to students could probably start in June 2009. It was good to see all the work and discuss at ease and alone with Joseph and Geetha the problems which come with running the ministry. More than ever I am impressed with their devotion and the dedication of all local co-workers to this ministry.

requested donations to help our suffering fellow Christians in Orissa.

Since emergency aid is not our prime task, we hesitated at first to use part of our own financial reserves until we were confronted by the verse from Matthew 25 : 40 "Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me".

Boldly we applied for a special offering in our churches in Zwolle, Dalfsen, IJsselstein and Frankfurt. Some other private people also donated. All this resulted in a wonderful total of € 11.146,46 as per 1.12.08.

In the meantime parcels with food and clothing each with a value of € 30 per family are transported to the stricken area. At the very beginning we were not allowed entrance by the police, but the first aid is now on the way and we will keep you informed about developments. Be assured that each Euro donated for this purpose will be used for this emergency situation.

Women's conference by a team from St. George's Anglican Church in Singapore



Since 8 years Dr. Annelies WilderSmith-née van Halem with a team of 7 ladies from Singapore has been contributing to the welfare of the outcasts by teaching CHE (community health education) : hygiene, prevention of contagious diseases as HIV, supporting the building of latrines, eye camps, a medical centre, nurses, social

workers, donation of sewing machines etc. This year the convention took place from 22 until 29 November explaining the tasks of women in their families and in the community to more than 800 women. They could share their sorrows and heard the gospel during a 2-day conference.

A new CHE leader for our Indian team of social workers has been appointed.

This year's trip was strenuous because of excessive rainfall so that the roads were nearly impassable. The planning for next year is to have a team of eye specialists and dentists to visit our mission area.

This year, the founder's wife Frances van Halem took part in the Singapore outreach for the first time and ministered to the people in our mission area in India. Normally she is joining the outreach from Holland in February each year.



Finally

We are happy when we see new names on the list of contributors who support HLWM for our work in India. Unfortunately no addresses of donors are mentioned on bank statements for privacy reasons. Naturally we should like to thank those donors and keep them informed about developments by our newsletters. Therefore we invite you to give us your email address and/or house address. An e-mail address helps us to keep printing and mailing expenses as low as possible.

Once more we should like to stress that all donations are used to nearly 100% for our projects in India. Travelling and other costs are paid by ourselves. HLWM has been awarded the RfB certificate, which confirms to donors that their contributions are used for the purpose indicated.

Ron Feith

