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(Good Tidings)

May 2000

To the Friends of Menno-Clinic, India

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One Barefoot Step at A Time

By Harvey Chupp

Gary Gushwa got a warm welcome when he arrived in Chiluvuru on April 6. The villagers warmly welcomed Gary. However, the 110° weather was warmer than Gary bargained for.

Gary brought back photos and a positive report. The work is on schedule even though to Gary's western mind it seems slow and labor intensive. Barefoot workers have cleaned away the rubble of Olga's home one-bucket at a time in unbearable heat. Gary thought one of the workers suffered a heat stroke but there was no thermometer in the village to check his temperature.

The workers have finished digging the 24 holes for the pillars. These holes are 5' by 5' and 10' feet deep all carefully dug with small picks and carried out in buckets. The goal is to have the ground and second floors poured before the monsoon rains begin in June. Plans are to put on the roof in August following the monsoon.

To Gary the work seemed slow and tedious but deliberate. Progress is being made.

Gary's presence was an important connection for the board. The photo's he brought back, his connection with Olga's mother, and working with Mr. Nekkalapudi Narasimham gave us some much-needed connections. (Narasimham is Olga's cousin who is our on-site liaison.)

Gary returned April 20. Our initial hope was for Gary to stay longer but he felt his presence at this stage of construction wasn't needed, plus the heat was almost unbearable for this fair skinned westerner. The Board is making plans to have another person in Chiluvuru as soon as we feel construction progress merits our presence.

Contributions can be sent to:
Menno-Clinic, India
Emma Mennonite Church
1900 S 600 W
Topeka, IN 46571

Visit our web-site at
mennoclinicindia.mennonite.net

The Menno-Clinic, India newsletter is published quarterly. If you have questions or comments about the newsletter, please contact Ben and Beth Hunsberger at:
benbeth@tln.net
or
write to us at the above address

A Word from the Board

By Larry Miller

Many times when we consider beginning a new endeavor, we try to plan things the way we would like things to happen. However, things don't always go as we planned. Sometimes results are better than planned and at times changes need to be made. My experience has been that as we look back, we can see God's hand has led us through the good and the not so good.

I believe God has been leading us in our planning for the clinic in India. Financial support has been very good. We have not had to make any special pleas for funds to start the building project, yet God has laid this project on peoples' hearts and has provided more than is needed to begin the building process.

Please continue to remember us in your prayers so that together we will change lives and win souls for Christ.

Kansas Connection

By John Murray

On Sunday, April 30, 2000, Subbarao "Doc" Yarlagadda was the keynote speaker for the annual Spring Mission Sunday of the Hesston Mennonite Church, Hesston, Kansas. During the two morning worship services Doc shared the testimony of his journey from Hinduism to Christianity and from an attraction to the violent revolution of communism to a loving and peaceful experience of Christian community. Doc emphasized the importance of our ministry to others in the simple everyday awareness of opportunities to meet the needs of those around us. He also spoke of his sense of call to develop the ministry known as Menno Clinic: India.

Paul Friesen, a member of the Hesston Mennonite Church, shared a story for the children during the morning worship services. Paul grew up in northern India while his parents served as missionaries. He told the story of a man named Luccan who was brought to the mission as an abused, unwanted child. He was adopted by one of the Indian nurses at the mission hospital. As an adult, Luccan became one of the administrators of the hospital. It was a moving story of the power of God to give meaning and purpose to a potentially shattered life through the caring love of God expressed by a few individuals.

In the evening worship service Doc and Menno Clinic: India board member, John C. Murray, shared more specifically about the vision and the current developmental status of Menno Clinic: India. Doc spoke further about his journey of faith in moving from a selfish desire for personal happiness to the discovery of the depth of joy in serving others. Congregational members were invited not only to join in serving others through the Menno Clinic: India project, but also to serve in other ways and to minister to the needs of those around them.

Doc's presence in Kansas also included the opportunity to visit with Dr. Ernest and Betty Mader. Dr. Mader is a retired professor of Agronomy at Kansas State University. They were very influential in helping Doc initially come to the US to get his education and they became "family" for him while he was a student.

The weekend provided great inspiration to the Hesston Mennonite Church. It also provided significant opportunity to connect with several former missionaries to India and with persons who have served in medical missions in other countries.



Financial Corner

Menno-Clinic, India Fund April 30, 2000

Cash	\$136,623.70
Land	<u>11,900.00</u>
Total Assets	148,523.70

Receipts & Disbursements 9/1/99-4/30/00

Donations	26,131.26
Interest	<u>3,487.36</u>
Total Receipts	29,618.62
Expenses	<u>6,305.00</u>
Net Receipts	23,313.62

Menno-Clinic, India is a mission program of the Emma Mennonite Church. Board Members: Greg Schrock (Chairman), Harvey Chupp, Goldie Lambright, Larry Miller, John Murray, Subbarao V. Yarlagadda, and Olga Yarlagadda