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I. New Church in Dehu Road
   Vara Prasad Deepati" <vdeepati@aiias.edu>
   GOOD NEWS--Meetings at Dehu Road
   I am happy to inform you that 1000 Missionary Movement is planning to establish a SDA church in Dehu Road, particularly for Telugu people. This week (Aug 17 to 20) they are doing some revival meetings. I thank God that I have the privilege of sharing God's word in these meetings.
   I am sure you still remember those Sabbath afternoons when you used to visit our friends there, sing and share the word of God. It's over three or four decades that we have been involved in ministry there. But for unknown reasons we do not have a church there as yet. Our Spicer students have been going there week after week faithfully and Spicer church has been helping with their travel expenses.
   The 1000MM is keen on establishing a church there. Needless to say that everything now very challenging. Any information needed regarding this we will be glad to give you. Any assistance you desire to give towards this worthy project will be highly appreciated. Please do pray for this place.
   After the meetings, a missionary will be placed there to continue the work.
   Let's pray in a very special way for this very important event in this area.
   May our good God richly bless you as you continue to be a blessing.
   Pastor Deepati Vara Prasad, PhD,
   Spicer Memorial College

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II. Southern Asians Celebrate in Loma Linda Area
   George P. Johnson <geoprasad@aol.com> August 17:
   The Loma Linda Southern Asia Adventist Community Church celebrates its 9th anniversary on August 27, 2011 at First Lutheran Church, 1207 W. Cypress Ave., Redlands, CA 92373.
   Our celebration will include:
   Vespers: Friday, August 26 @ 7:30 p.m.
   Sabbath School: Sabbath, August 27 @ 10 a.m.
   Divine Service: Sabbath, August 27 @ 11:15 a.m.
   Pastor Karl Haffner, senior pastor of the Kettering Seventh-day Adventist Church and mission strategist for Kettering Health Network, will be the featured speaker during the weekend worship & celebrations. A potluck follows the divine service. All are welcome.
   For further information, please contact:
   Pastor Sam Shadrach (909)810-3424 or George Johnson (909)917-6150
   E-mail: pastor@sasdacc.org and srshadrach@hotmail.com OR geoprasad@aol.com
III. Church Growth in Nepal

Umesh Kumar Pokhare <umsan@wlink.com.np> August 9:

On 4th August we had a very blessed day for the Gathaghar Seventh-day Adventist Church, in Katmandu, Nepal. Seven people were baptized in the Dolalgath river (70 Km from Katmandu). It was a rainy day and we started our journey at 3 PM from Katmandu and arrived the Dolalgath at 4:30; the river was on high speed because it was raining. There were 25 people with us including Pr. Chuck Jenson, Director of the Nepal Field, and Mrs. Cathy Jenson.

Pr. Jensen prayed for the candidates and Pr. Nasseb Basnet confirmed the candidates and they were baptized by Pr. Umesh Kumar Pokhare and Pr. Nasseb Basnet. The water was cold but our candidates were warm and after the baptism ceremony was over, newly baptized members were not eager to come out of the water. We shook their hands and Pr. and Mrs. Jenson congratulated each newly baptized members and we left the place by thanking the Lord for everything that He had done for us.

Five years ago there were hardly more than a dozen members in the Gathaghar Adventist church. There was no proper place to sit on Sabbath but with God's blessings and guidance now we have more than 200 members. Now we have comfortable benches to sit on. The children’s Sabbath school is held in different room and attendance is growing and more and more children are coming from Hindu families. . . . Kindly remember this church in your prayers.

IV. Remembering Rajeev Shamgar Rao

Falvo Fowler <FowlerF@gc.adventist.org> August 15:

Rajiv was one of my first students at the Hosur school. When I met him later in his life I was relieved to know my teaching hadn't scarred him in any noticeable way. Rajiv was in a perpetual good mood and was always helpful. When my wife told me about his death, all I could see was this schoolboy who laughed more than anything else. And that is what I will remember about him.

Remembering "Banda"

Raj Attiken <rattiken@ohioadventist.org> August 14:

The announcement appearing recently about the death of "Banda," the gardener-caretaker at the Sri Lanka Union Office, prompts me to write these few lines. There are many humble people all around us who are remarkable in their own way who, though often unrecognized, do their work and serve multiple generations with a loyalty and dedication that men and women in the higher stations of life would do well to emulate.

The interactions that my wife and I had with Banda were primarily during the two years we lived on the premises of the Union Office. His unsolicited acts of kindness helped make our stay there comfortable. We felt safe with Banda around, since he made it his business to protect the property. Knowing that my wife did not speak or understand Sinhala, he seemed to take special interest in watching out for our welfare. We recall how the warm string-hoppers that he would often buy for us from the nearby café would arrive wrapped in newspaper, with some of the newsprint transferred on to our breakfast! Clad in a checkered sarong and with his lips evidencing his addiction to chewing tobacco, he would greet us each morning with a hearty smile. The few rupees we often gave him were probably used to support his other addiction - betting on horses!

I regret that I didn't make the effort to learn about this man. I don't know anything about his family, whence he came from, or who he left behind at his death. To my knowledge, he lived and served for fifty years on the campus of an Adventist Church and office, yet never publicly embraced our faith. I want, however, to believe that something that he saw and experienced while he lived among us for fifty years gave him an attractive picture of our God who understands all hearts.

Thank you, Banda, for serving with loyalty and faithfulness!

[Raj is the long-serving President of the Ohio Conference of SDA.] ~~~~~~~~ V. Lowry School Class of '71 Plans Reunion

[Sorry that this announcement came in too late for last week's newsletter.]
Joysingh Charles <joysinghc@aol.com> August 15:

Lowry '71: 40th Reunion Celebrations in Maryland. A group of students, who completed their SSLC in 1971, will be celebrating their 40th year Reunion in Maryland, USA, from August 19-20, 2011. Lowry '71 was formally organized in 2007 by those residing in the US. The group celebrated its 37th Reunion in August 2008 in Maryland, which was attended by nearly 15 classmates and their families, mostly living in the US, Canada and UK. The group has undertaken a few projects-child sponsorship for education, partial financing for church building, providing song books for Lowry Memorial church.

The class of '71 was comprised of 40 students who attended Lowry Memorial Higher Secondary School (old name) from 1968-1971.

Following are the events of the Reunion:

Friday Vespers (August 19) will be held in Sligo Elementary School: 8300 Carroll Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912; Sabbath Services (August 20) will be in Calvary Seventh-day Adventist Church/Epiphany Lutheran Church, 14411 Old Columbia Pike, Burtonsville, MD 20866. Pr. John Curnow will be the Divine Service speaker. Potluck lunch will follow after service.

Everyone who had the privilege of attending or working at Lowry Memorial Junior College (new name) is cordially invited to attend the Sabbath services at Calvary Seventh-day Adventist Church and be blessed. Pr. and Mrs. Curnow will be our guests of honor.

Officers: Beulah Manuel, President; Meshach Paramanandam (cell 301 787 9445), Vice-President; Suhasini Karipalli (301 421 1821,Secretary, Joysingh Charles, Treasurer (301 693 4797).

VI. Southern Asia Represented through Sabbath School

Falvo Fowler <FowlerF@gc.adventist.org> August 15:

It is now official! After years of chasing down Sabbath School publications from Southern Asia, we now have Nepali and Tamil online at <http://www.sabbathschoolpersonalministries.org/article.php?id=78>. The Nepali is translated by Bhaju Ram Shrestha and the Tamil by Marshall Isaac.

I appreciate Pr. Paulasir Abraham's assistance in obtaining copies of the Tamil lessons. I need help from anyone connected with anyone else who can get me the other languages from SUD or any other Division. The General Conference Sabbath School and Personal Ministries department is trying to represent the world church on this page and eventually with our free iPhone/iPad and Android app (keyword "Sabbath School"), both of which currently have all the lessons in English, French, and Spanish. One final plug (and this one for parents and grandparents): we have free weekly Kindergarten animations at <www.vimeo.com/channels/gracelink> that coincide with the week's lesson. It's also available on youtube.com with English and Mandarin subtitles. And it is on our iPhone/iPad and Android apps. And just for the record, I didn't get Tamil due to any genetical considerations. it was the first Indian language sent me.

VII. Help Appeal for Maryland Outreach

Andy Stone <astoron99@yahoo.com> July 31

A unique outreach ministry in Silver Spring, Maryland is in need of people with a passion to share:

1. Inspiring speakers who can present the following topics from a biblical perspective on a regular basis:
   A. Social matters
   B. Health matters
   C. Faith matters
   D. Outreach matters

2. Two pastors

3. Music talent:
   A. Vocalists
   B. Instrumentalists

4. Media talent
   A. AV personnel
   B. Media technologists
All positions to be compensated after a certain period. Please contact me at <astoron99@yahoo.com> for more details.

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VIII. Dorothy Watts' Sunshine Home Grows

--from a recent Asian Aid brochure which we obtained at their USA headquarters in Colledegade:

"Ron and Dorothy Watts went to India and spent 27 years there as missionaries. As a child, Dorothy had dreamed of being a mother, a missionary, a teacher, and an author. All her dreams came true, although not in the way she had imagined. Dorothy and Ron had no children of their own, so they cared for other children and adopted three of them.

"But so many needed care that she founded the Sunshine Orphanage in 1979 for orphans and destitute children. It began in their home at Coles Road, Bangalore, with one baby that nobody wanted. With every drop of milk that Dorothy fed the baby, she prayed and willed it to live.

"God heard her prayer. Soon children began to come and the family grew. The Watts' home was filled to capacity. The big house next door was rented and became home until 1987 when the children moved to the 11-acre property at Kalkere, Bangalore where the present Sunshine Children's Home and School is located.

"The current home only accommodates 50 children and is in need of repair. The new home which will accommodate another 100 children will be located on the same property."

[Asian Aid is providing for this home for 150 children who would often be forced to work, left alone with grandparents, abandoned, or left to die. The new location will give these children hope, practical training, and also support the local area with agricultural instruction and resources.] ~~~~~~~~~ IX. From a New Book About India

A review of a new book, "India, A Portrait" by Patrick French, caught my eye, and an Amazon purchase followed. I have read only the 3-page Introduction, and it included a humorous story. Glancing further, I am sure the rest of the book is more serious, but readers may appreciate this Englishman's view of a typically shrewd Indian businessman.

"An Indian man walks into a bank in New York City and asks for the loan officer. He tells the loan officer that he is going to India on business for two weeks and needs to borrow $5,000. The bank officer tells him that the bank will need some form of security for the loan, so the Indian man hands over the keys of a new Ferrari parked on the street in front of the bank. He produces the title and everything checks out. The loan officer agrees to accept the car as collateral for the loan.

"The bank president and its officers all enjoy a good laugh at the Indian for using a $250,000 Ferrari as collateral against a $5,000 loan. An employee of the bank drives the Ferrari into the bank's underground garage and parks it there. Two weeks later the Indian returns, repays the $5,000 and the interest which comes to $15.41.

"The bank officer says, 'Sir, we are very happy to have had your business, and the transaction has worked out very nicely, but we are a little puzzled. While you were away we checked you out and found you are a multimillionaire. What puzzles us is, why would you bother to borrow $5,000?'

"The Indian replies, 'Where else in New York City can I park my car for two weeks for only $15.41 and expect it to be there when I return?'

"Ah, the mind of an Indian!"

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X. Measapogu Wilson Touching Like Jesus

Carrie Purkeypile's "Touching Like Jesus," in Maranatha's current THE VOLUNTEER:

"Of the more than one billion Indian people, only 2.3% are Christian. The majority of people are Hindu, worshiping literally thousands of gods. Life is a constant effort to please this god or that, hoping for a bit of health or prosperity as a reward. The contrast of a single god who gives rather than takes, who loves and sacrifices for us, rather than demanding sacrifices of us, is new to many.

"Pastor Measapogu Wilson was born and raised in India and continues to work there. He explains that for many of the lower caste Indians, the simple act of going out to pray with
them is a huge part of successful ministry. To touch someone of low caste in India is avoided at all cost. These people have been shunned and rejected by their own people, and their own religion for many generations. They are of no value in the Hindu system. To find out that an all-powerful God loves them and sends people to help, is more than valuable.

"When you touch and pray, that means Jesus is touching them," says Pastor Wilson. 'They feel when you touch and pray, when you mention their name in prayer, and present him before the Almighty God, they literally feel that God is with them, and there is some kind of transformation, the melting of the hard heart, opening of the feelings to God so God can bless you. So touch makes the difference. Jesus in His ministry touched the people. He mingled with them. And then He ministered.'

"Those who have been to India can attest, these people need hope.
'Everywhere we go in these villages, there are huge needs. There's little orphan kids. There's grandmas taking care of kids that don't have any income. Maybe their sons and daughters have left or died or got sick or whatever. but, there's so much need.' Bruce Fjarli has been volunteering in India with Maranatha for years. He and his family were impacted by the people of India many years ago, and have been prayerfully supporting ministry there ever since.

"After successful evangelistic efforts, introducing thousands of people to Christ for the first time, there is a huge need for support, in the form of pastors, Bible workers and churches. The temple is such a focal point of life in Hindu countries, that Christians gathering in homes, without a public meeting place, are strongly ridiculed. A church building is a reinforcement of their faith.

"With entire villages full of brand new Christians, training the people is so important. Not even basic concepts of Christianity have been a part of their lives. It is truly a new experience. Bible workers are stretched between villages, trying to meet with as many people as possible, but the real training in Christian life takes for a few lucky children who attend Adventist Christian schools. Maranatha has built many large boarding schools in different parts of India, and the teachers there are training the future leadership of India's Christian community, as well as giving and incredible gift to each child.

"'If there wasn't Christian education provided for these kids, they would be stuck in the village. They would be stuck doing the same menial tasks their ancestors have done their whole life,' says Bruce. 'This gives them the opportunity to learn and grow out of that, or go back to it with an education to share in their villages and educate their families and other people in the village.'

'Maranatha volunteer, Robin Marsh, feels the gravity of the situation, too. 'Fjarli academy, and every other school like it, is truly the only hope that these kids have. These kids come from the villages with no hope. They come to that school, and others like it, and they have the opportunity not only to have food and clothes that are adequate, but to get a Christian education. They can be successful in this world but they (also) have the opportunity to be successfully eternally.'

'Bruce's wife, Jacki Fjarli, notes the difference after children arrive and adjust to their new reality: 'They have a purpose in their lives and you can tell it in their eyes.'

'The most important detail might be the miracles that Maranatha volunteers see unfolded every day. 'In this country, anything you do for Jesus, you can't fail,' says Robin.

'The story of Jesus starts with a simple prayer, a story, sharing from the heart. In India hundreds of thousands are still waiting to hear. Others are moving to the next phase of Christian life. Is God calling you to be a part of this great work? Join us on a Maranatha project in India. Touch as Jesus touched.'

To remove your name from the mailing list of this newsletter simply reply to this e-mail and put "REMOVE" in the Subject line.

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BEGIN-ANTISPAM-VOTING-LINKS

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Teach CanIt if this mail (ID 08FnC7bN4) is spam:
Spam: http://www.andrews.edu/spam/b.php?i=08FnC7bN4&m=9bebfdec6d7&c=s
Not spam: http://www.andrews.edu/spam/b.php?i=08FnC7bN4&m=9bebfdec6d7&c=n
Forget vote: http://www.andrews.edu/spam/b.php?i=08FnC7bN4&m=9bebfdec6d7&c=f

END-ANTISPAM-VOTING-LINKS