

LONGKUMER UPDATE

OCTOBER 2016

Greetings Dear Friends,

Praise the Lord we have made it back to India and are getting settled back in ministry with our colleagues here. We arrived to our belongings packed in storage in our still virtually unfurnished home, so with just a few days before leaving for Bangkok to meet our new Executive Director, we began unpacking, sorting and attempted some settling. Immediately upon our return from Bangkok we acquired some furnishings, set up a kitchen and enjoyed our first meal prepared in our home with the Intern, a graduate student from Eastern University, PA who is staying with us till early December. Thankfully, we got her room set up just in time!

It has been encouraging to meet with our partners in ministry and see how the work of God continues to increase. We had a 10 day trip meeting our partners based in Balasore, Odisha (Bengal, Orissa, Bihar Baptist Churches' Association, **BOBBCA**). We conferred with their leaders from the associations scattered throughout those states and worked with them on many issues confronting the churches. We then traveled to a new area (for us) to minister in a thriving, mission-minded, training/sending church in the state of Jharkhand. We do hope to be involved in training programs with them in the coming year. A highlight of our ministry trip through these states was a day spent with new believers of the "Ho" tribe in a remote jungle village. Through your gifts to our ministry we have been able to contribute toward the construction of a community center that services three nearby villages. Even though the building is not yet completed, believers gather for worship and fellowship. Eventually, there will be staff who will go to homes in the morning to bring children to have breakfast and prepare for school. They will also come to the center after school for tuition classes and a snack. *Please pray for BOBBCA as they faithfully work to see this ministry vision fulfilled.*



NEIGHBORHOOD MINISTRIES

The work among this unreached population in Assam continues to thrive. In August and September 30 new believers were baptized. Through your gifts to the House Church Project we will be providing two week discipleship training programs in November and December. Please pray for these new brothers in sisters in Christ. Pray for their growth, protection and provision.



An arduous journey yielded bountiful blessings!

Katie, along with Rev. Toshinano, Co-ordinator of the IMS Womens' Forum and Baptist Womens Fellowship of North East India (BWFNEI) President, and Amy, her intern from Eastern, made the 15 ½ hour road trip from Dimapur to Pasighat, Arunachal Pradesh to minister at the BWFNEI Triennial where 300 women from all the CBCNEI conventions gathered. I, (Katie) am always impressed by the work of these women leaders. It was an honor to encourage them to "Rise & Shine", to be a light exposing and standing against injustice and oppression, to continue to be the Light in the midst of darkness. These women have overcome great obstacles to develop fruitful ministries in the development of women of their regions. In addition to addressing spiritual needs, they provide education, economic development, ministry to widows and orphans, HIV/AIDS impacted families and much more. It is a privilege to partner with these courageous, hard-working women. *Please pray for them.*

INDIA MISSION DECLARATION UPDATE. Two years after the historic gathering of International Ministries Partners in India at the **INDIA MISSION SUMMIT 2014** in Kohima, the implementation of the Declaration challenge is underway with the formation of the **Commission on Religious Liberty, Commission on Anti-Human Trafficking, Forum on Women** and **Forum on Youth**. Each with a Coordinator and committee members representing the various partners, they meet frequently and are initiating their respective 5 year ministry plans. Encouraging progress is being made with awareness seminars, training programs concrete initiatives established, such as a Legal Aid Cell at CBCNEI and networking among legal professionals and church leaders to assist victims of religiously motivated attacks.

UPCOMING MINISTRY

NOV. 10-11: Awareness Seminar on Human Trafficking conducted by IMS Commission on Anti-Human Trafficking; Guwahati
NOV. 24-28: "Partnership in the Ministry" Seminar with national women leaders on the role of women in ministry, conducted by the IMS Womens Forum; Chandipur, Odisha (*We will be involved in both these programs*)

PLEASE DO UPHOLD US & OUR INDIAN PARTNERS IN PRAYER

Grace for us all, that we would know the presence, wisdom and guidance of the Lord in all we do.
Protection as we travel and minister
Provision: At present we are at 91% of our required Personal Support Goal
Our Family: for our children & grandchild and Katie's parents in the U.S.

THANK YOU!!

We are so very grateful for your partnership in ministry! When the people we work with here express their thanks for our service, we respond that it is by the Grace of God and the Generosity of His People that we are able to be here. It is a privilege to serve the Lord and be a part of His Kingdom building in this part of the world. Thank you for joining us in mission!

OUR INDIA ADDRESS

At last! We have an address!
Padum Pukhuri
P.O. Box 24
Dimapur Bazar 797116
Nagaland, INDIA

Snippets of Longkumer Life

P. O. Box Trivia Test

- How many trips to the local post office does it take to get a Post Office Box?
(a) 2 times (b) 5 times
(c) 8 times (d) 3 times
- What is the average travel time (by car) to reach the Post Office, 3.2 Km (just under 2 mi) from our home?
(a) 5-10 minutes (b) 10-20 min
(c) 30-45 min (d) 1 hour
Ans. (b'z q't)

ADJUSTMENTS

Returning to India during the "dog days of summer" was not ideal, but by God's grace we endured daily heat indexes up to 115+ degrees (usually 100 degrees temps with 80-90% humidity). I'd forgotten how it feels to live in a sauna, being constantly dripping with sweat. Thankfully, the weather's changing. The other day we had wonderfully refreshing clouds and were feeling chilly, I dug out a wool shawl for our intern and then checked the temp, it had dropped to 89 degrees but with humidity only 75%! A welcome cold front!