

Will you join us in prayer?

Please pray that the Gospel message heard by the children in our Indian schools will take root in their hearts and remain with them throughout their lives. Also that the child-like witness they bring to their parents will open their eyes to see the false teachings of the Hindu religion and the truth of the Gospel.

Pray that the children, faculty and staff of our schools are kept safely on dangerous Indian roads as they make their way to and from their classes.

If you'd like to help:

1. Although public schools in India do not pay especially high salaries, public school teachers can earn significantly more than our schools can pay. Assistance would be greatly appreciated.
2. St. John's school in Guntipalli must provide transportation for students. Therefore, contributions toward the expense of a van would be helpful.
3. Seminary level instruction for 30 men will begin this summer. Their food, lodging and travel for monthly sessions will cost approximately \$6,000 per year. Can you help.

More news from South America and Asia:

The English as Foreign Language program in Chile is expanding! In January, 2017, Chelsea Dietsche plans to relocate to Santiago and replicate there the program she has operated in Linares, Chile for 4 years. We are interviewing candidates to serve in Linares as her replacement.

**FAITH MISSION SOCIETY
HELPING HANDS
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 Evangelical Lutheran Synod
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MISSION NEWS & HELPING HANDS

Lutheran Schools in India

It is very difficult to reach into Hindu society with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The Hindu religion recognizes thousands of gods, so it really is offensive to the Hindu mindset when Christians identify the Triune God as the only true God and Jesus as the world's only Savior.

But one way to penetrate pagan culture is through the education of children. For that reason, the Lutheran Mission of Salvation – India (LMSI) operates three Christian elementary schools! Each is near at least one LMSI orphan home so the children under our care can be further instructed in Lutheran doctrine. Each is populated primarily by the children of Hindu families in the neighborhood. Parents pay a small tuition and nominal fees. No public funding is available, and in fact, sometimes local officials openly oppose the schools because of their Christian affiliation.



St Paul's Lutheran School, Guntipalli

But in each school, Christian doctrine is taught. Children learn the Six Chief Parts of Luther's Small Catechism, Bible passages teaching Law and Gospel and the Apostles' Creed. Individual students and entire classrooms can be heard reciting God's Word. Unlike students in our Christian Elementary Schools in the United States, the children in Hindu families may not find in their homes a loving reinforcement of the lessons learned at school – but at least in their classroom Biblical truth is taught.

The newest LMSI school, St. Paul's Lutheran School, opened in June, 2015. The school is within a compound housing an orphan home and

Lutheran church in Guntipalli, a village in the state of Telangana. 106 students are enrolled in this "English medium" educational program. In addition to classes taught in English, Telugu language is taught, as well as Hindi, the official Indian language.



Faculty and student body at St. Paul's Lutheran School.

Raju, a member of the local Lutheran congregation, is the lead faculty member. He manages the school along with Simeon Mamidi, who earned a Bachelor's of Education degree specifically so that St. Paul's School could be recognized by the department of education.

Simeon is also enrolled at Asia Lutheran Seminary in Hong Kong, where he is studying for Lutheran ministry.

Generous ELS donors were instrumental in opening this school.



Simeon Mamidi is in charge of St. Paul's Lutheran School in Guntipalli.

In Jabalpur, in Midya Pradesh state, St. John's Lutheran School serves 180 children.



New desks have been purchased for St. John's Lutheran School in Jabalpur.

The school is managed by Anita Sidney, who along with her husband, personally borrowed money in order to build the school on property she inherited from her father. The ELS Board for World Outreach provides regular support.

Grace and Truth Lutheran Cornerstone School shares space with Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Rajahmundry, in the state of Andhra Pradesh. The first floor is home to the congregation served by Rev. Kalyan Gollipalli, a 2010 graduate of Bethany Lutheran Seminary in Mankato, MN. On the second floor, 165 students are taught, pre-school through grade 8.



This building houses Good Shepherd Lutheran Church and Grace and Truth Lutheran Cornerstone School in Rajahmundry.