



India

Progress in the Word and in Spirit

Our King Lives and Rules Our Hearts

*By Simeon Mamidi, Pastor
St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Hyderabad, India*

The season of Lent is a great opportunity for the Lutheran Church in India and the busiest season for all pastors to proclaim the good news.

All the churches in the Lutheran Mission of Salvation - Hyderabad conduct a church service every day. The church members invite their friends and other relatives to the church during this season. It is not necessary that the people who are invited to one of these services are all Christians, and therefore it is a great opportunity for the pastor to be able to communicate and preach the Gospel taking advantage of this opportunity. It is the Lord who is working through all of this, to motivate the members to bring new people and for the pastor to preach the Gospel and the Lord again to do His work in the hearts of these new people.

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July 2023
Mission
News &
Helping Hands
Evangelical Lutheran Synod
Board for World Outreach
Sharing the Gospel in
South America and Asia

From the Editor
Rev. Thomas Heyn
Board for World Outreach
Administrator



This month's issue features a report on the work we support in Hyderabad, India. The Lord blesses this important work being undertaken in this land of idols. We hope you share the author's excitement about the possibilities and opportunities the Lord has laid before us. We appreciate your prayers for the work in our world fields and your financial support that makes this work possible.

"Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation" (Mark 16:15).



This year, we had a total of **184** baptisms and **72** confirmations, but let me tell you how the Lord has worked and blessed St. John's Lutheran Church. This church is the present headquarters of the Lutheran Mission of Salvation - Hyderabad where President

and Pastor Rev. Solomon Mamidi shepherds the congregation.

This year, we had a total of **184** baptisms and **72** confirmations...

On October 15, 1994, the church was dedicated and we began ministry at St. John's, the headquarters in Hyderabad. At that time, we had one Christian family, Pastor Solomon's family, with a two-year-old child and a nine-month-old baby girl. One Christian family and 95% of the members were idol followers. They knew nothing. They were all in darkness, in bondage, far away from

the truth. Their hearts filled with fear, they never knew grace and salvation. In such a situation, the Lord shined His Light and brought these people from darkness to light and showed His deeds are marvelous and worthy to be praised. **Today, 100% of the members are baptized in Christ who now lives and rules our hearts, now and forever.**

Note Several building projects in India are ready to be completed that will provide homes for worship and will help in the training of future workers. These projects require over \$160,000. One congregation recently gave \$80,000 for these projects as a "challenge gift". Can you help provide for the remaining \$80,000 to complete these projects? Your gift of \$50, \$500, \$1,000 or more will help in this effort.



News

From Other Mission Fields

Peru The Peruvian pastors encounter opportunities for outreach in the jungle churches. Pastor Gutiérrez regularly visits the congregation in Cajamarca. We look forward to the time when the third story addition to Martín Lutero School can be completed.

Chile Pastor Mario Gálvez presented his paper on equipping lay members for evangelism at the June international convention of the Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference in Seoul, South Korea. It was well received and generated interesting discussion by pastors from various world churches.

Korea The pastors continue to look for outreach opportunities. Pastor David Choi is especially engaged in finding ways to reach out to the Mandarin-speaking Koreans in and around Seoul.

Australia We anticipate that Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Brisbane, Australia, will become an official field under the BWO at this year's synod convention in June.

Latvia Four men are now enrolled in seminary studies. Pastor Ugis Sildegs presented his doctrinal paper on civil government and the church at the June international convention of the Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference in Seoul, South Korea.

Czech Republic Summer activities, like VBS (Vacation Bible School), are underway at Martin Luther School in Pilsen.

Ukraine Administrators Nick and Kerry Laper returned to the U.S. for several months to regroup and plan for future work with Gift of Life. They continue to focus on finding an administrator to replace the Lapers when they retire within the next twelve months. All counseling centers are open and providing services. The medical and dental mobile clinics are on the road offering their services. Although the war with Russia is a challenge for the work of Gift of Life, the Lord continues to bless this work for his glory and the blessing of many.



How Can You Help?

Pray for each of the mission fields, for the national pastors of these churches as well as for the members of their congregations who live where the Gospel of Jesus Christ is not always welcome. May God work all these challenges for the good of his people, as he has promised.

Please—prayerfully consider a gift or regular donation for the work in the various fields. Every field, and some more than others, has many needs where God's people can provide much needed assistance. You may designate a gift to a particular field or project on the memo line of a check. You may also go to els.org and click on "Donate" in the top banner on the right-hand side or simply scan the QR code below which will take you to the donation page.



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