



# Good Shepherd Mission News

Keeping you connected  
with the  
Good Shepherd Mission  
Puttur, India

Christmas, 2015

Volume 9 Issue 3

## In this issue:

- Christmas appeal
- What your generosity can accomplish
- Trip Reflections

## Next issue:

- Spring time in Puttur

## All Donations should be sent to:

GSM Puttur  
c/o Patrick Durkin,  
Treasurer  
2365 Silent Rain Drive  
Colorado Springs,  
CO 80919

We are a 501c3 and  
donations are tax de-  
ductible according to  
IRS regulations

Remember **100%** of  
your donations go to  
India in support of  
the mission — **ALL**  
administrative costs  
are covered by the  
Board Members

## It is CHRISTMAS time!!!

### Special Thanks to everyone who supported GSM in 2015:

Christmas is a very special time at the mission. Please know that even if you are not able to give a large donation, even \$5 to \$10 dollars can do a world of good and bring food, shelter, clothing and healthcare to those who would otherwise have to go without. Consider sharing your blessings large or small with those in need in Puttur. **Honor the one born in a manger in poverty by helping brothers and sisters also struggling in poverty.**

***Thanks to you, a difference is made at the mission.***

### Please specify where your generous donation should be directed:

- ◇ This time of year we have a **special appeal** for donations for the orphans and the elderly so gifts of food and clothing can be purchased
- ◇ You may also give to our other fundraising efforts below

### Other fundraising efforts:

- ◇ The Hospital and Centers focus on:
  - ◇ Cataract surgery (costs \$25 to perform a cataract surgery for an individual)
  - ◇ AIDS and TB care
  - ◇ Women health issues
  - ◇ Medication at the hospital (costs only \$250/day to keep the hospital stocked with much needed medication)
- ◇ The Hospital and Centers need miscellaneous funds to cover:
  - ◇ Building maintenance
  - ◇ Repair and purchase of medical equipment
  - ◇ Salaries of the doctors and nurses
  - ◇ School tuition for student nurses and lab techs in training

### What the hospital has accomplished between November 2014 and September 2015:

- ◆ Outpatient Services — 13,380 individuals served!
- ◆ Cataract Surgery — 220 people can now see!!
- ◆ General Surgery — 140 people now have a better healthier life!!!
- ◆ Medical Camps — 4,640 people treated!!!!

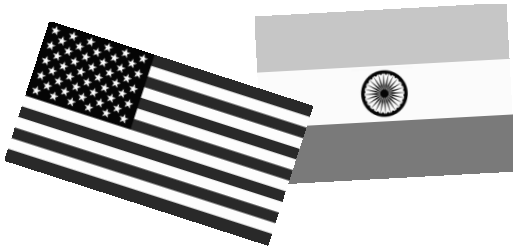
**Your generous support helped make this possible!!!!!!**

The cost of this newsletter is paid for by an Anonymous supporter of Good Shepherd Mission Foundation

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Thank You for Supporting GSM Foundation

"You cannot do a kindness too soon  
because you never know how soon it  
will be too late."

— Ralph Waldo Emerson

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This is what your Christmas generosity helped happen at  
Christmas 2014



The children were provided with clothing. The girls received two sets of clothing; The old people, GSM staff, boys/girls and evangelists were blessed with clothing.



On Christmas Day we provided food to 700 people (not including mission children or old people).



The children were given bible quiz/games and each was also given the gift of a plate.

Kolladam was blessed with donation for children and staff being blessed with clothing.



Last years quote:

"We make a *living* by what we *get*, but we make a life by what we give"

— Winston Churchill

G O O D  
S H E P H E R D  
M I S S I O N

**This past summer we had some folks go to the GSM in Puttur, India in support of the mission.\***

I'm can't even put into words how amazing my trip to India was. The people I've met, the sights I have seen, the things I've learned...all of it will stay with me forever. For me, the best memories of the trip come from my time spent with the kids. Just thinking about their beautiful faces and contagious smiles makes me emotional. While in India, I choose a little boy to sponsor. His name is Sonu and he is possibly the cutest and sweetest four-year old I've ever met. As soon as I saw him, i just had this instant attraction to him, and it stuck the entire time. I can't even begin to explain the connection I felt with him as well as the other children while I was over there. Most of the time, I didn't even know their names, yet it felt like I'd had known them forever. I especially got close to some of the older girls that lived on/near the mission. It wasn't until the day before we left that I met Sandy. She was one of the kindest people I met during the trip, and I found that my hardest goodbye was to her. Except it wasn't goodbye, it was "see you soon!". :) It's hard to believe just how much this trip has impacted my life. While in India, I got an over-welming feeling that I should in some way work with kids. It happened while visiting the beautiful school on Good Shepard Mission, that is run by Bro. Henry's son, Praveen. Seeing all of the kids was such an impactful sight for me, I know that it was a message from God. I'm so thankful for the opportunity to visit Puttur India. It's truly life-changing to see how their lifestyles differ from our own. As I mentioned in my previous writing, most people have so little, but they are so joyful because they have God in their hearts. A piece of my heart will always be with those at Good Shepard Mission, as well as India all around. I can't wait to return. - Carly

I feel so blessed to have been a part of this India Mission Team. I will forever treasure the time we spent at the Good Shepherd Mission and surrounding communities in Puttur. It was a pleasure getting to know Bro Henry and Praveen as well as their other family members and staff at the mission. I am a witness to their God honoring and God glorifying lifestyle! I now have a much greater understanding and appreciation of the depth of their ministry and the impact it's having on children and youth at the mission and in the community. The children at the orphanage are healthy, happy and have hearts for Jesus! The new school that Praveen started is thriving and the children are so eager to learn. I miss the sounds of their laughter and beautiful voices as they shout and sing their lessons. Seeing Carly and the other youth respond to the children at the orphanage and embrace their unconditional love and acceptance was something I will always remember. I thoroughly enjoyed our opportunities to worship together, assist at medical clinics, tour the schools and play with the children. Just as I imagined, I received so much more in return then I could have possibly offered. I will no longer say that they have so little yet are so happy, for in reality, they have so much; the joy and peace that comes from knowing and loving God! A verse that captures this for me is, "His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness" (2 Peter 1:3). Praise God! — Michelle

After about twenty months of preparing to go to India, I was thrilled to finally be making the trip! From the moment we stepped out of the airport terminal in Chennai, the hospitality and joy of everyone at Good Shepherd Mission was absolutely overwhelming and infectious. It was impossible to look children in the eye and not smile due to their enthusiasm and positivity, and it was impossible to look adults in the eye and not smile due to their unwavering conviction in God. Good Shepherd serves so many people in the community, regardless of whether they are Christian or not, and always strives to serve more. The people operating the mission are so driven towards their objective of serving others through their faith in and love for God that one can't help but want to assist them towards that objective. They are truly inspiring, and it is their joy and selfless Christian spirit that I am bringing back with me as I return to Pennsylvania. The trip is undoubtedly an experience that each and every person should experience! - Luke M.

My trip to India was awesome!! The time spent at Good Shepard Mission was so great. Everyone I met was so satisfied and happy with what they had, which was very little. I realized they didn't need much materialistically because they had what really mattered, the love of God in their hearts. When we conducted medical clinics, we saw how hospitals are very different in that they don't have nearly the technology as in the USA. At Bonesetters, the doctors set broken bones with their bare hands and don't use anesthesia. We also visited some schools. The classes were lucky to have a blackboard and desks. At one of the schools, the students had to sit on the ground Indian style all day during school. All the students were very disciplined, attentive and ready to learn, unlike many students in the USA. When we went to the to the local Lutheran church, the Mega Youth Meet, and during the whole trip, we experienced a love for God unlike I have ever felt or seen before. All the people in India love God with such a passion, it is beautiful. During the Mega Youth Meet, which Praveen hosts once a month, over 500 people came to praise God. the worship was amazing. Much of the time on the trip, though, we spent with the children/orphans at the Good Shepard Mission. They were so energetic and fun. The boys play cricket everyday and never lose their enthusiasm towards the game. When we donated new Cricket equipment, they all smiled ear to ear and were shouting with joy; it was incredible to see so much excitement for something. One night we went to see the boys eating dinner and they offered their food to us, saying, "you eat." I was so shocked that the children are so selfless at such a young age. They don't receive that much food, and yet they would give it up for someone else. That gesture is spectacular. After a week of playing with the orphans, I decided to sponsor a boy. I was surprised at how hard it was to choose just one, they all were so enjoyable. I was upset that I had to leave him and all the children after the 12 days. I know I am definitely going to return to India with the Good Shepard Mission in the future, for a piece of my heart is still there. - Ben M.

\*All costs where covered by the individual traveler.