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Church of Christ India Fund
c/o Dave Nance
399 Terry Lane Rd.
Covington, TN 38019



India Evangelism
Newsletter

July, 2023

"...how you turned from
idols to serve the living
and true God."
(1 Thessalonians 1:9)



Church of Christ India Fund

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Rejoice with Those Who Rejoice!

I want to invite you to share our joy at the birth of our latest grand-daughter!

My daughter (who works as my secretary, and with whom many of you have spoken) gave birth to her fourth child on July 1, 2023!

This brings her and Cameron's (her husband, of course) family to 6 people. Their son is 9, their daughter is 6, their son is 3 and now their daughter is newborn.

Her name is Lydia Claire Dickey. She was 6 lbs, 10 oz. and was 19.5 inches long. Both she and her mother are doing just fine!

So please celebrate in prayer with us as another worker in the Kingdom has made her appearance!

The Importance of Song Books

We all know the importance of the Book of Books—the Bible. We naturally talk about it almost every day of our lives as Christians.

Yet we also depend on other books, such as concordances, dictionaries, commentaries and various lesson books.

But we don't talk so much about what is probably the most important book in our Christian life and worship aside from the Bible itself—our songbooks.

We all know that singing is one of the five acts of our worship, based on such

passages as Ephesians 5:19: “speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord.”

You see, for the Lord to shape our minds and souls, it isn't enough to simply hear good sound teaching and preaching. We must press it into our souls, attach it to our hearts.

Nothing does this more powerfully than singing.

As an example, if I ask you to recite the alphabet, who can do so without hearing the childhood alphabet song? If I ask you what letter come after 'K,' how easy is it to say 'L' without starting at the beginning of the song and going until you get to it?

So, our songs and songbooks are vital to our faith. Unlike music in many denominations, in the Bible music is intended to be something that every believer does from his own heart and lips. (Hebrews 13:15 speaks of our singing as the “fruit of our lips.”)

And in doing so we strengthen through repetition, rhythm, melody and harmony the truths that Jesus brought to shape our souls. As Paul asked “how can they hear without a preacher?” (Romans 10:14), we might also ask “how can they sing without a song?”

So, it's important for us to make the Bible available to our Indian brethren.

And I thank God for many of you who send money for just that purpose.

It's also important for us to make songbooks available.

To that end I want to celebrate with you the donation of a long-time supporter of this work who sent us a special donation of \$5,000 specifically to print and distribute song-books to the churches we regularly work with in India.

While our song books for our worship services often cost more than \$15 apiece, in India we are able to purchase songbooks at \$5.50 per copy.

I can't emphasize to you how important these songbooks and gospel singing itself is to our Indian brethren. Here, our ears are filled with radio, tv, podcasts and ear-buds, so gospel singing doesn't occupy our minds as much as it should. But in India, these songbooks are in people's family worship, home devotionals—gospel songs resonate in their minds as they ride the bus, work in fields, labor around home and the other mundane daily tasks of their lives.

Can you help with this project?



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