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MICS Messenger - September 2011

Henry/McFarland Update:

The Henry's and McFarland's had a very busy four months in the U.S. They preached and reported to churches in 7 States. They met more friends at the North American Christian Convention. Not only were Jay and Ernest busy speaking to churches but Numreta also spoke at a Mother's Day Dinner, and Steve (now 15) preached for Youth Sunday at two different churches.

It wasn't all work though: Jason and Jessica got to participate in some Easter Egg Hunts; Jay, Ernest and Steve got a little fishing in; and Romola and Numreta were able to visit craft shops which they enjoy. Their time in the U.S. is important for informing our churches of the work being done in India, but it is also critically important for the Henry's and McFarland's as a time of fellowship and encouragement from Christians here. When you are the leaders and the ones supporting and teaching others, it's important to have a time of refreshment for yourselves.

They had a safe return to India in July. The McFarland's had to delay their return for two weeks because of health concerns for Numreta. After having several tests, her doctors determined that it was safe for her to travel home and follow up with doctors there. She had no problems on the way home and is feeling better, but is following up with her doctor in India. Your prayers for her continued improvement are always welcome.

Classes began at the Bible college the first week in July (when schools start in India). Some of the students were late getting back to school

because the heavy monsoon rains this year made travel difficult. Many areas were flooded and roads were impassible. However, classes are now in full session.

Jay and Ernest were busy as soon as they got home. Not only were they occupied with the start of the Bible college, but they also visited many churches. And, they are overseeing a new building in the Katni area. Plus, they have been buying goats, chickens and sewing machines. Goats are proving to be hardy and prolific, producing many offspring.



ED's note:

You know, sometimes it is really hard to decide what to put into this newsletter. India's (and therefore the mission's) needs are so great, it can be overwhelming. We don't want to always sound like we are reaching into your pocket. Yet, nothing would be getting done at all without your generosity and God's help.

So, in this issue, we are trying to *show* you where your contributions are going, whose lives you are touching, and what God is accomplishing through you.

It's your hearts and your prayers that we value above all else.

"Teaching the Gospel through service"



Look at What You and God Have Accomplished!

Pictorial Bible Update:

What can we say, again, but thank you! You have provided the funds to have the Hindi pictorial Bible (Book of Acts) published, and it will soon be in people's hands. Now they will be able to see the history of the New Testament church in a way they can understand.



Sanitary Facilities Update:

Toilets may not seem like a big deal, but when you don't have one close by . . . well, you get the picture. We have built (and are finishing) toilets for the church buildings that didn't have one. Thank you so very much for your support of these much-needed facilities.

Widows and Children Update:

With your support, MICS-Bethlehem is helping send 109 children of Christian families to school. Not only are you providing these children the opportunity to go to school, you are also encouraging their families, giving them hope. Your support directly demonstrates God's love and care for them.



Also with your support, MICS-Bethlehem helps 19 Christian widows. With support from MCIS, several of these ladies have learned sewing or weaving so they can provide provide for themselves. Others have found employment on their own but need a little help from MCIS to meet their needs for daily life. It is your support that saves these ladies, widows of Christian workers, from lives of destitution and begging.

You show them they are not forgotten. Your help allows them to share the joy of Christian fellowship and experience the gift of God's provision.

We do have 52 additional Christian children and 9 more widows who await your help right now. Please contact our field representatives about supporting a widow or school child.

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Tidbits

Of India's 1.2 billion people . . .
80.5% are Hindu (% shrinking)
13.4% are Muslim (% growing)
2.3% are Christian (% remaining the same)
India has the third largest Muslim population in the world!