



In June 2015, Mission Manager Immanuel traveled to the state of Odisha where he met Pastor Ahaj Kumar Pani and his family (pictured above) and visited with some of the ministries he is involved in. For some time, Pastor Pani led an outreach ministry of the Advent Christian Conference of India, but had received no practical support of any kind from them. Following Immanuel's visit, Pastor Pani became one of YJM's Ministry Partners; he now receives a small amount of financial assistance each month and assurance of the prayers of those who support Advent Christian Ministries. With funds from a generous donor in the United States, YJM was able to provide him with a motorcycle, which has made his travel much easier and quicker.

Odisha is the new name for what was previously the state of Orissa, which is located to the northeast of the Tamil Nadu state where YJM is based, and on the coast of the Bay of Bengal north of the state of Andhra Pradesh. The 2011 national census put the population of the state at 42 million. The same census indicated that approximately 2.4% of the population are Christians.

INDIA

Yesuway Jeevan Mission (YJM) Ministry Partner

Over recent years, Christians in the state have come under severe persecution from radical Hindu believers and receive very little support from the authorities during persecution. Christians have been driven out of their homes and villages and told not to return until they are willing to revert to the Hindu faith. Houses have been burned and other terrible atrocities committed, sometimes with the police and authorities literally standing by when these events have happened. Pastor Pani has been ministering in the Jharsuguda district, which is in the northwestern corner of the state, since 1999.

At the time of Immanuel's visit, Pastor Pani's "home church" was a small church in the city of Jharsuguda, which has 40 believers. He also had ministries in five other villages with a total of 292 believers! Since that time, he has added several new ministries:

- A group of orphan children who are living in what he calls "the jungle,"
- A village where 140 sufferers from leprosy live together,



Bread of Life Project



- Two more rural villages — one of which now has 70 believers and the other has 20 believers.

Pastor Pani writes that the village with 70 believers sits under a tree praising and worshiping the Lord" (pictured above). He and his assistant are busy servants of the Lord!

Pastor Pani has been a very grateful recipient of several distributions of funds from ACGC World Outreach's Bread of Life Project during 2016. He has used the extra funds to provide meals for many of the believers in the villages where he ministers and also to those with whom he is seeking to share the gospel.

Please thank the Lord for Pastor Ahaj Kumar Pani and pray for him, his family and his assistant as they minister in what are very difficult circumstances. Pray also for the believers for whom there will be ongoing persecution and stress because of their faith.

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PRAYER & PRAISE

*Urban Ministries Sunday
February 26, 2017*

February 2017



"For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God"
(Hebrews 11:10 ESV)

Join in united prayer with other Advent Christians

**Advent Christian
General Conference**



PRAY

1. That God will lead Director of World Outreach Jeff Walsh to find opportunities to reach out to those who may be interested in becoming a missionary.
2. For the travel plans for Area Director John Gilbert that are being made for an upcoming trip to our Haiti AC Conference.
3. For 2017 Penny Crusade as we seek financial support for our outreach ministries.
4. That our churches around the globe will be strong in the Lord.
5. For guidance for our World Outreach area directors, consultants and ministry leaders, that God will fill them with wisdom as they plan and direct the outreach ministries. Prayer cards can be found on the World Outreach section at www.acgc.us.
6. For the Executive Council as they meet in Charlotte, N.C. on February 8 – 10, that they might have wisdom, vision

- and guidance from our Lord in all their decisions.
7. That our foreign mission needs that are not included in our mission budget (hymnals, orphan care, irrigation systems, etc.) might be met through our Special Project List.
 8. That new believers will be able to bring others to Christ.
 9. For those who continue to deal with the clean-up from hurricanes, tornados and other weather-related devastation, both home and abroad. May the needs of these folks not be forgotten as the recovery will be long-term and ongoing.
 10. For the preparations being made for our 2017 Triennial that will take place in Charlotte, NC on June 24 – 28, 2017.
 11. For our Interim President Rev. Paul Dean as he serves and leads our denomination.

PRAISE

1. God for our AC churches who continue year-after-year to support our mission work around the world.
2. To the Lord for growth in our mission outreaches in 2016.
3. God for the good reports of baptisms in 2016.
4. God for the Treasures (solar-powered audio Bibles) that Jeff Walsh was able to give our ministries in India.
5. God for the success of the 2016 Bread of Life Project.
6. God for the mission team (Project Barnabas) who went to Christian Mission Ban Naratchakwai in Nakhon Phanom, Thailand in December to provide encouragement and to complete tasks around the mission compound.
7. God for his love extended to all, and for the followers of Jesus who are sharing his love with others.
8. God for the ministry of our urban churches in various locations as we cel-

ebate their continued labor for the Lord on Sunday, February 26, 2017.

9. God for the AC Churches and individuals who have supported the World Hunger/Emergency Relief Fund. Because of this financial support ACGC is able to respond to many catastrophes worldwide.
10. God for his blessings on travel and fellowship during Steve Lawson and Jeff Walsh's trip to India and New Zealand.

Please pray for the following ACGC Directors' and Coordinators' Activities

Pam Buchanan, Coordinator of Women's Ministries

- Feb. 9 – 10: Executive Council Meeting, Charlotte, N.C.

Matt Larkin, Director of Student & Family Ministries

- Feb. 24 – March 3: College Visits in New England

Steve Lawson, Executive Director

Justin Nash, Director of Communication

Dawn Rutan, Director of Finance

Jeff Walsh, Director of World Outreach

- Feb. 19: Long's Grove, Monroe, N.C.