

A VISIT TO ANDHRA PRADESH, INDIA

by Jeff Walsh, ACGC Director of World Outreach



Paul Gandham and his son Victor Abraham along with their wives



Asia Team Leader Ernie Schache's prayer of dedication



Steve presents the Treasures to Paul Gandham

INDIA, Saturday, January 14, late afternoon — Riding in the mission jeep on the well-maintained highway to Andhra Pradesh State, I found a sense of refreshment and excitement within me. I felt refreshed viewing the beautiful countryside dotted with rich, green rice fields — a welcome sight after spending several days in the concrete jungle of Chennai. And I felt excitement about the next day's visit to the church of Pastor Paul Gandham, an Advent Christian pastor with a growing ministry to several remote communities. Besides me, there were five in the jeep: Raja (who was doing the driving), Immanuel, Steve Lawson, Ernie Schache and Paul Aruldoss. Paul Aruldoss was with us because he has a special relationship with Paul Gandham, having been the one to facilitate Paul Gandham's connection with the Advent Christian Conference of India.

The next day we participated in a delightful and joyous worship gathering with over 200 people. A group of six young ladies, dressed all in white, served as the official greeters for the worshipers. As we foreigners entered, these young ladies showered us with fresh flower petals. We also received the customary gracious Indian gifts of garlands and shawls. During the service, we presented Paul Gandham with two Treasures (solar-powered audio Bibles) in the Telegu language, the common language of the people in that area. The Treasures are made possible through our partnership with an organization called World Mission. In prayer together as a church, we committed the Treasures for God's kingdom use in evangelism and Bible studies.

After worship, all who had gathered enjoyed a fellowship meal together. I had fun awkwardly eating the biryani Indian style, with my right

hand. Pastor Gandham and his church feed all the worshipers every Sunday. With the heart and compassion of Jesus (see Mark 8:1-3), Pastor Gandham knows that many in his church come from far away, so a part of his ministry is feeding them. We were privileged last year to support Pastor Gandham in this feeding ministry through the WHFMS "Bread of Life" project. We can praise God for how he is using Paul Gandham and his family to bring the kingdom of God to Andhra Pradesh.

Published monthly by the Office of Women's Ministries. Made possible by your giving to United Ministries.
www.acgc.us · 1-800-676-0694

PRAYER & PRAISE

Penny Crusade

March 2017



"Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life"
(John 5:24 ESV)

*Join in united prayer with
other Advent Christians*

Advent Christian
General Conference



PRAY

1. For Meredith Broadway, who will be starting as ACGC's Coordinator of Educational Ministries at the beginning of April.
2. For our students who are preparing for a summer of service to the Lord in our denomination's Summer Ministry Teams.
3. For ACGC's new Commission on Orphan Care, as they begin to look at ways that we can support those involved in adoption, foster care and other orphan care ministries.
4. For the beginning of our 2017 Penny Crusade campaign, "Alive," and for the Lord to use all the funds raised for his kingdom purposes in our outreach ministries around the world.
5. For the refugee crisis across our globe and that our leaders world-wide will come together to find compassionate ways to reach out to meet the humanitarian needs.
6. For our Advent Christian overseas ministries that are experiencing drought. Without the rain, the cattle and crops suffer, making it difficult for the people to feed their families and the others in their community who are depending on them.
7. For those who are finalizing the plans for the Triennial Conference, happening in Charlotte, N.C. on June 24 – 28, 2017.
8. For Director of World Outreach Jeff Walsh as he leads a revival service at Piney Grove Advent Christian Church in Delco, N.C. on March 19 – 22.
9. For Latin America Area Director John Gilbert and Doug Bruce with the Vernon, Vt. church, as they travel to advise and minister with our AC Haiti Conference.
10. For the evangelism team that is preparing for their ministry in Croatia in late July/early August. Please pray for their planning and preparation process.
11. For the South African AC Conference that is under a huge threat of detrimental government regulation scheduled to activate in March 2017. If these laws are approved, all of our churches will be forced to shut down.
12. For the Nigerian Conference that faces legislative persecution, particularly of pastors.
13. For our ministries in Central Europe — heavy legislation necessitates secret baptisms and unannounced meetings. Pray for Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Romania, the Ukraine, Montenegro and Serbia.
14. For two new pastors, Pastor Luis Alberto Merida Maldonado and Pastor Adan Palacios Sanchez, who were accepted into the Mexican conference at the annual meeting.

PRAISE

1. God for the generous response to the Bread of Life project in 2016, which continues into 2017. As a result of this assistance, many have received meals to meet a physical hunger need and also the Word of God to address a spiritual hunger.
2. God for the ordination of Simeon Nzishura's son Stephen, who is serving as Burundi's conference president. Continue to pray for their joint ministry.
3. God for the leadership of our National WHFMS President, Karen Hall, who is faithfully serving our regions, conferences and many locals in partnership with our Advent Christian General Conference mission work.
4. The Lord that the relationship between Cristo Salva and the Honduran people has grown, making it possible for them to work jointly in ministry.
5. God that five young men accepted the Lord at the school in Green Wells, Honduras!
6. The Lord that on Sunday, January 30, 17 people were baptized at Pastor Timothy's new water tank in Myanmar.
7. God that Berkshire Christian College has hired a new president, Rev. Dr. Glenn Rice.

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

Pam Buchanan, Coordinator of Women's Ministries

- March 25: Pocahontas Conference Meeting, Clear Fork, W.Va.

Matt Larkin, Director of Student & Family Ministries

- March 1 – 3: College Visits in New England
- March 4: New Life Conference Meetings, Lenox, Mass.
- March 11: Group VBS Funshop, Charlotte, N.C.

Steve Lawson, Executive Director

- March 1 – 4: Alton Bay Board Meeting
- March 10 – 11: South Carolina Conference

Justin Nash, Director of Communication

- March 4: Piedmont Conference Meetings, Lenoir, N.C.
- March 11: Florida Conference Meetings, Dowling Park, Fla.

Dawn Rutan, Director of Finance

Jeff Walsh, Director of World Outreach

- March 19 – 22: Piney Grove AC Church, Delco, N.C.