

# Care & Serve

Missionary Upholders Trust



The first and greatest commandment, Jesus said, is to love the Lord our God with all our heart and soul and mind and strength (Mark 12:30). No individual can live a truly peaceful, happy, and useful life, without being regenerated and sanctified and loving his Creator with all his heart. Only a small proportion of men have been willing to submit perfectly to the very law which is conducive to their highest good.

If the sons of men would from the heart keep the first commandment, think what heavenly changes would pass over the face of the world! Thinking upon this helps us to get a larger view of who God is, of what His Word is, and of what His love is. Consider that one single short commandment – *“Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might”* (Deut. 6:5) – has enough in it to turn this almost demonized world into a veritable paradise.

If it had not been that our souls have been degraded by sin, God would never have had to command us to love Him. Except for sin, we would see it as a blissful privilege to love our God, and instead of having to be commanded to love Him, we would have begged Him to permit us to love Him. It is sin that has necessitated the giving of a law. When we are properly enlightened, the loving of God with all the heart is the sweetest joy in all creation, and if we only knew enough about who God

is and what He is to us, we would be on our knees imploring Him for the privilege of loving Him all we wanted.

The reason so few people love God is because they do not have in them by nature the kind of love to love Him with. God can only be truly loved with His own love. We must have divine love imparted into our hearts by the operation of the Holy Spirit before we can truly and scripturally love God.

There are two words in the Greek Testament for love. One word, “philos,” signifies any natural human affection, which all men have. The other word, “agape,” signifies divine love, the feelings and character of God. Just as we get human affection by our natural birth, so we get the divine love by our spiritual birth into the Kingdom of God. Even after divine love has been imparted to us, we need to be sanctified, and baptized with the Holy Ghost and fire, in order to give this divine love perfect liberty, and ample sweep through all our capacities. Following are seven phases of love which we can return to our blessed Creator and Redeemer for His love to us.

### 1. Grateful Love

The love of gratitude is one of the first forms of divine love that springs up in the newly converted heart. The love of gratitude is filled with thanksgiving. It sings that sweet song of love uttered by Jesus, *“I thank Thee, O Father...because Thou hast hid*

## Mission

Missionary Upholders Trust will strive for meeting the common unmet needs of missionaries in the area of Health Care, Calamity Relief, Crisis Relief, Renewal of emotional and spiritual life, Rest and Recuperation, Social - Spiritual enhancement of Missionary/ Pastor children and retired missionaries' welfare. The purposes of carrying out these activities are to equip, energize and encourage the Missionary Community to be a witness as salt and light of the Society at all times.

## Vision

As followers of Christ, we exist to care for, share with, and meet some of the common unmet needs of missionaries, at their affordable cost, working beyond all man-made boundaries, in a spirit of Christian love.

## Values

- Absolute faith in God
- Humility.
- Regular and focused prayer.
- Unconditional love & compassion
- Accountability in all areas.

## MUT Ethos

Love, Understand, Pray, Accept, Serve and Encourage in the spirit of Lord Jesus Christ and meet the physical, spiritual and emotional needs of all the members in the team, to fulfill God given purpose for self, family and the ministry in MUT.

- Transparency in all the areas of the ministry.
- Holiness and integrity in life and activities.



EVER  
FAITHFUL  
GOD!

We praise God for His faithfulness in our lives and in the ministries of MUT in the last four months (*April to July 2017*). We experienced the hand of God resting upon us- convicting us, correcting us, admonishing us, purifying us, pruning us, and transforming us through various paths of challenges and sufferings. We praise God for this transformational process whereby it leads us more into holiness and dependence on God. God is continuously changing us from the doing mode in to being with Him and to listen to Him, quieting ourselves. We are not completely tuned to this life style yet, but are now more conscious of inculcating more and more of Him in our lives and in the ministry of MUT. It is becoming more evident that God is the owner of this ministry and we could experience His guidance and leadership in each ministry project, though the needs in the life and the family of God's servants are increasing day by day, particularly in various health challenges.

The following are some of the struggles within me as I observe in our ministry projects in meeting the unmet needs of the servants of God in the financial year (2016-17).

1. *Is our value of sacrificial giving to bless those who are in need is reflected and disseminated among the member missionaries?*
2. *How much of our resources and energy are spent on the missionary care?*
3. *Is God and His name is acknowledged and glorified or it's all about MUT?*
4. *If missionary care and member care are the ethos of our ministry how much of personalisation of these cares have we inculcated?*
5. *How much of the core value, "God's ministry with God's people in God's ways with God's money will never lack God's blessings" is experienced in the ministry of MUT.*

It will be helpful if we prayerfully address these concerns in each of our context of ministry and seek God's guidance to help us move in accomplishing the vision and the purpose of the ministry of caring the servants of God in India.

May His will be done in our lives in MUT family as we continue to serve Him in serving His servants in our country.

***God be the glory great things He has done!***

## Loving God with all your heart.

*Continued from previous page*

*these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes" (Matt. 11:25).* It takes a timbrel, and joins Miriam in her joyful song, after crossing the Red Sea, that God has triumphed, and that the enemy is overthrown in the sea. It sings with Hannah at the dedication of little Samuel, to the Lord that *"raiseth up the poor out of the dust...to set them among princes, and to make them inherit the throne of glory" (1 Sam. 2:8).*

The love of gratitude delights in counting over the mercies of God in the past, and turns them over and over in fond recollection, like a miser counts his gold, yet with the very opposite spirit of the miser, for it is unselfish praise to the giver of all good. The love of gratitude, like Mary (Luke 2:19), ponders things in its heart that others think lightly of, and appreciates what others would call little blessings, trifling mercies, insignificant answers to prayer. Grateful love sees the magnitude of God in a thousand little things unnoticed by those who have not yet learned to look through eyes of love.

This phase of love is very humble, and full of the spirit of repentance, and meek submission, and feels unworthy of so much divine goodness. It measures all its blessings by the preciousness of the Hand that bestows them. Love of gratitude is

forever sending up to God the sweet incense of thankfulness and says many times a day, "Thank you, Father!"

### **2. Elective Love**

Elective love of God is that by which we compare Him with all other beings in creation, and contrast the superiority of God to all other beings, and the excellence of His ways, His authority, His care, His compassion, His mercies, above and beyond all the creatures with which we are acquainted. It is this form of loving God that shows us more clearly the emptiness, the deceitfulness, the passing value of everything that seems good in the world.

It is this elective love by which we compare our God with angels and saints and our common fellow creatures, and then choose God over and above all others, as we would choose a diamond in preference to a lump of clay, and rejoice in the more excellent treasure. Elective love disregards all that would intrude to take the place of God or would in the least way share our hearts with Him. It is this love by which we elect the living God and spurn all other gods and all false prophets, and all false religions. Our hearts burn with indignation against anything that would attempt to usurp the place of God, or to share in the least the honor and praise due only to the Lord.

It is this elective love that the Apostle Peter refers to when he tells us to *“sanctify the Lord God in your hearts”* (1 Peter 3:15), that is, give God His rightful place in our hearts and in everything. It is this elective love by which we dash every idol, and snap every tie, and turn from any pursuit, and break any friendship and spurn any earthly honor or any churchly ambition that interferes with the claims of God and with our loving Him and obeying Him to the uttermost. By elective love we extol the sovereignty of God and cast aside everything that comes in competition with His glory. It crowns Christ Lord of all. Detachment of spirit from the things of earth is the special fruit of this kind of love.

### 3. Complacent Love

This is the kind of love which is peacefully contented and satisfied with God, and delights in all His blessed perfections. This is the kind of love referred to by the Psalmist: *“Whom have I in heaven but Thee, and there is none upon earth I desire besides Thee”* (Psa. 73:25). It is what Solomon sings about when he saw the divine Bridegroom in vision and said: *“He is the chiefest among ten thousand” and the one “altogether lovely”* (Song 5:10,16). The love of complacency loves God because of Himself alone, because it perceives the eternal beauty of His nature, the sweetness of His character, the indescribable greatness of His attributes, the delicacy and charm of all His perfections.

The soul seldom gets into this form of loving God for His own infinite blessedness until it is deeply sanctified and illuminated by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. Blessed are the pure in heart, because they shall see, even in this life of faith, the blessedness of the character and person of God. While elective love looks at other beings in contrast to their nothingness with God, on the other hand, complacent love is so sweetly taken up with God Himself, and so satisfied with His perfections that it seems to forget other things and people because the purity and presence of God fills the entire horizon as though nothing else was visible.

The love of complacency rejoices that God is just what He is, and that He never can change. It fairly dances with delight that there never will be to all eternity any other God. As it looks out over the endless future, not the least shadow of change will ever pass over the all-radiant character of God. What God is to us now He will be in endless ages. Complacent love finds a secret delight in all the attributes of God, and admires the way He does things, and reposes with unspeakable peace upon the character of God.

### 4. The Love of Desire

By this form of love we thirst and long after God. This is the kind of love David felt when he said: *“One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after...to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in His temple”* (Psa. 27:4). Again, his desire after God led him to say: *“As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after Thee, O God”* (Psa. 42:1).

There are three kinds or degrees of spiritual thirst: the first is for pardon, the second is for purity; and the third is for the fullness of the living God Himself. To properly desire God, the heart must be in a condition to appreciate Him, to have a congenial union with Him, and to enjoy the traits of His character. It would seem that Daniel had this love of desire for God in an eminent degree. Where we read that the angel told Daniel he was a man *“greatly beloved,”* the margin reads that he was a man *“of desire”* (Dan. 9:23). That is, he was a man of intense longings after God. No one can be a Christian without a true heart hunger after God, but there are countless forms and degrees of this desire in different souls.

It is love of desire that draws the soul out to know God in His three divine persons, to know His communion, and to be filled with each attribute and perfection in the divine nature. Nothing in all creation can satisfy our immortal spirits, but the living God Himself. It is this sweet pain of thirst for God that draws us to secret prayer, to study what God is, to neglect other things as trifles that we may win the light of His face and the flow of His Spirit. It is the intensity of this desire for God that pulls hearts out of mere ordinary religion, and entices them to climb the steepes of true holiness where they can rest on the upper summits of the mountains of grace, where the day breaks soonest in the morning, and where the mellow light of evening lingers the longest.

What a beautiful sight it would be if we could look through creation and see how this strong desire for all the beauty of God was seizing on many hearts, and drawing them, some slowly and others swiftly, but steadily and surely drawing them. It draws over land and sea, over mountains and vales, over lonely and thorny paths, through a thousand difficulties, toward that beautiful day when they will rest with rapture in the glory of God. All things apart from God sooner or later weary us. He alone is forever fresh, and to loving hearts He is always like a new discovery to the eye.

### 5. Sympathetic Love

It is by this kind of love that we feel for God and support His interests and become intensely jealous for His honor and glory. The Greek word for “sympathy” means to “suffer with,” to take partnership in feeling the injuries and wrongs done to another. It is this love of sympathy that feels keenly the insults that wicked men and demons offer to God. It is this kind of love that David felt burning like a fire in his heart when he said: *“Do not I hate them, O Lord, that hate Thee?...I hate them with perfect hatred”* (Psa. 139:21-22).

It is this love that cannot bear to hear God’s name taken in vain, to hear His Word denied or trifled with, to see the Lord’s Day degraded and to hear His blessed character criticized or caricatured. It feels like weeping over the way God is neglected, left unloved, unthanked, untrusted, and unappreciated by God’s creatures. This is the kind of love that burns like a furnace in the heart of reformers when they clad themselves in zeal like a coat of mail and thunder at wickedness in church or state, and put their lives in jeopardy. They would rather die than to see their blessed God insulted and trampled upon.

This love of divine sympathy is that which Phinehas had when he flamed with indignation at those who insulted God, and took his sword and slew them (Num. 25:6-9). God rewarded him by saying, *“That was counted to him for righteousness unto all generations”* (Psa. 106:28-31). It is this kind of love for God that sees His interests everywhere, and is keenly sensitive to His rights and His honor in all things. It is this beautiful, hot jealousy for the glory of God that cannot bear false Christs or false prophets. This love of divine sympathy is very prompt and wide-awake and can detect false doctrine and gross infidelity where others see no harm. It is this kind of love that makes heroes and martyrs. It is always sorry for sin, and sorry that God is not loved enough.

### 6. Benevolent Love for God

This is the overflow, the surplus as it were of love, by which the soul wishes that God may have all the praise and the glory and the happiness which it is possible for Him to have. It wishes it could in some way be a blessing and a benefit to God, although it is conscious that it is nothing, and that God is so perfect that

nothing can be added to His infinite happiness and blessedness. It congratulates God on all His blessedness and His possessions and wishes that they could be increased if that were possible.

We must remember that God has two kinds of glory: first, the glory that is inherent inside the divine nature, and then the glory that is external to God in His creation of worlds and creatures.

The glory that resides inside the divine nature, consists in His natural perfections, in His eternity, His sanctity, the communion of the three divine persons, and the infinite joy which He has in Himself. The external glory of God consists in the magnitude, the variety, and the splendor of created worlds and the various ranks of angels, men and the lower orders of creatures.

Added to this is the glory which He obtains by redeeming fallen men by the systems of grace, of providence, of rewards and punishments, of the application of His mercy and justice to His creatures, and the praises, the love, and the worship that are rendered back to Him from His creatures. It is impossible for God's inherent glory in His own blessed Self to ever be increased. But His external glory can be ever widening in extent and increasing in luster, from the application of His grace and truth to His creatures. This is the field over which man's benevolent love for God spreads itself, and is always wanting God to reap larger harvests of praise and glory from creation.

## 7. Adoring Love

It is this kind of love for God that worships and adores and gazes with fond delight, lost in wonder, love and praise. This kind of love sits in silence and contemplates God with a sacred awe and a deep passive appreciation of Himself. It does not stop to search into the separate attributes of God, which is the pleasing task of meditation, but it sees as it were all the perfections of God merged into one ocean of spotless white, serene, unruffled majesty and glory. Adoring love is the culmination of all other kinds of love.

To worship God is more than prayer or theology or law or duty or service or faith. It is a supreme delight in God. In adoring love, the soul basks in His light, smiles at His favor, sweetly trembles at His majesty, is charmed with His beauty, drinks in His sweetness, and finds no words adequate for praise, but just to look and wonder and hold its breath and admire and love and love and wish for ten thousand hearts to love

These are seven forms of love, seven colors in the rainbow of our affection for God which we can hang around the neck of our dear Savior, and in Him and through Him, lay at the feet of our own God, our dear Father, our precious Jesus, and our blessed Comforter, the Holy Ghost.

## MUT- SMILE

We praise God for His blessings in the efforts to minister to the members of MUT SMILE in their physical, emotional and spiritual needs in the last four months. The following are the key areas of our ministry:

- Bereavement assistance
- Medical assistance
- Prayer mobilization for the members who lost their spouse
- Counseling

We praise God for the synergy that God provides to the members in this scheme to love and care for the member who is in need. There were 26 deaths between Apr 2016 to Mar 2017 - and 3 deaths between Apr 2017 and July 2017. Following the south

Indian (ODC) and North Indian (New Delhi) consultations, the medical scheme for MUT SMILE was set in motion. Following many meeting held by SMILE administration committee and it was decided to introduce the medical scheme from Oct 2016 onwards. Since only 250 members had contributed for the medical scheme, the original commitment to cater medically to the member/spouse/eligible children was revisited to confine only the member for the medical help. This was approved in the Board meeting during January. We have a total enrollment of 7500 members with 115 Organizations and for the medical assistance 3500 members from 59 Organizations. Praise God for the eight new fellowships and 127 members who have joined in the last three months.

## Missionary Kids

- The financial year started with tough financial restrictions. It was decided to restrict granting financial assistance to just about 100 Mkids this year subject to review of the funds situation later.
- Missionary children who are blessed by MUT through financial assistance are encouraged to be a blessing to other missionary children by their contribution. This effort is coordinated by Mr. Kangaraj and Mr. Jeyaraj Moses.
- Tirunelveli team is actively engaged in facilitating transport arrangements for missionary children who are studying in SV, Dohnavur in April and June. We are

in need of a place in Valliyoor for the transit stay of the missionaries.

- A retreat for the missionary children of Grace Ministries was held from May 27th to 29th at ODC, coordinated by Neyveli team led by Mrs. Deepa Jebakumar.
- Mr. Rajan Abraham is coordinating to conduct career guidance and coaching classes for missionary children who are studying in 10th and 12th standards during the coming summer vacation.
- There has been great progress for conducting a retreat for missionary children who are Hindi speaking.

- Continue to uphold the efforts of Mr. Anbalagan and the Delhi team members in your prayer, they are engaged in planning and conducting the retreat in 2018. God willing we will be able to form an administrative committee in the next month.
- South Indian MKids is scheduled from Sep 29th to Oct 1st 2017 in a retreat center at Saranhanghi. This venue is located near Madurai. Pray for the resource persons as well as the Neyveli team who is taking all efforts to make this retreat a blessing to Mkids.

*Become Friends of MUT/Missionaries. Care & Serve magazines and other important news from MUT will be sent to these friends at regular intervals.*

*Life membership - Rs. 1,000  
For friends abroad  
Life membership - Rs. 10,000  
Annual membershi p - Rs. 1,000*

*For further information, you may contact:  
Mrs. Shanthi Ratnakumar, Co-ordinator.  
Tel: +91 9600 989 245  
Email: shanthi.ratnakumar@gmail.com*

## Retired Missionary Welfare

We praise God for taking us through in the care of the retired missionaries throughout the last financial year and another quarter ending June 2017. We praise God that the concept of caring for retired missionaries is catching up and missions have stepped up their care. The awareness is spreading to Churches too.

### **Purpose of Retired Missionary**

**Care:** 'Once a missionary – Always a missionary' and 'a missionary needs to be cared for from his Ministry – Call to Home Call'. A retired missionary has lots of unmet needs in the physical, emotional and spiritual areas. So the purpose is to care, meet some of the unmet needs and build a strong relationship with them so that they will be revived and continue to live for the Lord till the end.

### **Activities during the financial year Apr 16 – Mar 17:**

**A study** on the present conditions and unmet needs of retired missionaries was done & presented in MUT's consultation with the mission leaders in June 2016. This resulted in Missions stepping up care as well as acknowledging retired missionary care as a part of member care. Retired Missionaries, were brought into the mainstream.

**MARM:** Medical Assistance to Retired Missionaries @ Rs.2000/- has been distributed to 230 RMS above 65 years (Rs. 4.60 Lakh). **CGRM:** A one-time Christmas Gift of Rs.1000/- has been passed onto 288 RMS till March 2017 (Rs. 2.88 Lakh). **Medical Assistance:**

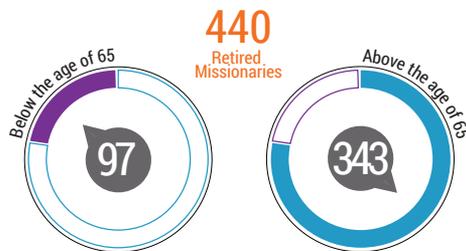
148 retired missionaries of 24 missions were assisted up to Rs. 12.83 lakh.

**Retreats:** A retreat for Tamil speaking retired missionaries was held in April 2016 @ MUT Campus, ODC & one for Hindi speaking Retd Missionaries in BYM Center, in Jabalpur, MP in November 2016. A sponsored retreat for BYM senior missionaries was held in August 2016 @ ODC. These retreats resulted in building a relationship with the RMS, helped them to have fellowship and fun and also get revived.

### **Activities during the Period**

#### **April 17 – July 17:**

**Number of Retirees:** There are 440 retired missionaries as on 31st July 2017, from 46 missions. Out of which 343 have completed 65 years and 97 RMS are below 65 years and eligible to be members of the MUT Scheme.



**New changes:** Regular Medicines: Maximum number of claims is received for having purchased regular medicines for BP, Diabetes, Heart problems. We are now supplying Generic drugs at MUT.

**Biography Writers Workshop:** 3-4 retired missionaries have completed their biographies and they are ready for printing. Mrs Lalitha Chellappa and team continue to train them.

**Retreat for Retired Missionaries:** The next retreat for Retired Missionaries is at MUT Campus, ODC from Aug 21 – 23, 2017. The theme "Strengthen your Bond" - with God, His word and family. God willing, one more meeting is planned for Feb 2018 @ ODC for new retirees. Regional One Day Fellowship meeting was conducted for South Tamil Nadu on Aug 8th at Tirunelveli –63 retired missionaries of 10 missions, settled between Madurai and Kanyakumari attended the fellowship meeting. BYM senior Missionaries, Vellore volunteered and helped us.

**RMWAC – Retired Missionary Welfare Admin Committee** was held on the 15th of July, noon @ ICCC centre at Chennai. Retired Missionary News Bulletin (Tri-Annual) – compiled by Rev. Jayapaul (Retd IEM) – as per the RMWAC Jan 2017 recommendation, will be circulated to all Retired Missionaries

**Medical Assistance Rendered:** Five retired missionaries with major problems were assisted with Rs. 2.60 lakh and 51 for regular medicines and other minor surgeries with Rs. 1.42 lakh.

Praise God for provision thus far, through His children, who care for retired missionaries. We continue to look up to Him our Master provider, as He cares for His servants.

## Missionary Upholders Family

MUF was formed in 1984, mainly to challenge & encourage Christian families to involve in missions by raising financial support & prayer for missionaries. There are over 1400 missionary upholders families ( MUF) who meet regularly for prayers and also support more than 500 missionaries from various mission organisations. Volunteers of MUF along with the missionaries of various mission organisation raise money for the medical assistance of member missionaries of MUT. Last year, Dec 2016 they raised Rs 3.5 lakhs from carol rounds and Rs 2.1 lakhs from from donation cards and an average of Rs 50,000/ every month for the medical assistance of missionaries.

**Central Co-ordinator | Mr. D. J. Chelladurai | +91 9865 391 285**

### **MISSIONARY UPHOLDERS TRUST (MUT)**

MUT was a spin off from MUF (Missionaries Upholder Family) in the year 1993. The role of MUT is to care for missionaries by

meeting some of the common unmet needs at a cost affordable to them in physical, emotional and spiritual areas, with a view to equip, energise and to motivate them, to build the kingdom of God effectively.

MUT is an umbrella body covering over 254 Organizations as member missions covering about 21,669 missionaries and christian workers. MUT is governed by a Board of Trustees and managed by the General Coordinator assisted mostly by over 60 volunteers; recently some of the Member Missions have taken keen interest in the ministry and are giving their committed workers on deputation for a period from 6 months to 2 years. There are over 37 people on MUT payroll, receiving monthly remuneration. The operational costs and administrative expenses are kept low through sponsorship and donations towards administrative expenses. MUT does not append any money from any of its earmarked donations received.

## Health Care

'Prevention is better than cure' is the great need of the hour for the servants of God. From its very inception health care issues of missionaries has always found greater priority when it comes to caring. By the grace of God, your prayer and partnership has helped the medical team to bless missionaries in the best possible way.

Through the following interventions we were able to do what the Lord has burdened us to do.

**MHC:** 66 missionaries from 18 organisations had undergone MHC in 5 different hospitals; follow up care is being given priority.

**Affordable cost medicine and Generic medicine:** Individual contact to bring about awareness and regular doctor's guidance has helped to increase the number of beneficiaries.

**Doctors data Bank:** To bring treatment at doorstep, efforts are

on to develop list of mission minded doctors committing to help missionaries in every state if not in every district of India.

**Medical Assistance:** Even though there was great challenge of generating funds, we were able to provide assistance to 590 Missionaries from 80 Organisations in the past four months (April-July 2017). We as a medical team earnestly request your prayer support and encouragement, as we continue to serve servants of God going through physical and emotional challenges in their lives.



Love • Understand • Pray  
Accept • Serve • Encourage

## Rest House

*Through Love serve one another. Galatians 5:13*

The primary purpose of the Rest houses is to give comfort and rest both physically and emotionally to the missionaries and their families so that they get rejuvenated both in body and soul and return to their mission field with renewed vigor just like Elijah who was strengthened by the master caregiver.

The Rest House in Otteri, Gandhinagar and Ebenezer home is primarily for missionaries who come for medical treatment to CMC. From January to June 2017 86% occupancy was for

medical purpose. The Chennai Rest House mostly serves as a transit home as well as for place of Rest for few of them.

The Rest House in Mumbai is being used more and more by missionaries going for treatment to Bethany hospital in Thane. The Pondy Rest house is being used by missionaries who go to JIPMER for long term treatment. The Coimbatore Rest House is put into use when missionary families come on vacation with their children as well by missionaries referred from CFH ODC to Kovai Medicals.



he had backslidden, he said that he could not ignore the Lord of all creation who continued to pursue him despite his falling away, he then renewed his commitment to the Lord.

## Remembering Dr. Alex

Precious are the lives of those who talked and walked with God and their journey on earth was to create a ripple quiet and strong for the Kingdom's sake. Such was the life of Dr. Alex or Alex Anna as many lovingly called him. He was born the youngest of five siblings to his parents. His father, loved Tamil language named his children with Tamil names, except the youngest whom he named after 'Alexander the Great' desiring him to be bravest and greatest.

God had been his defender and savior throughout his life. He had been saved two near death experiences of being drowned and being bitten by a cobra at his bedside.

He got to know the Lord personally during his undergraduate years. Though there was a brief time when

The Lord bestowed his grace upon him and he worked with Christian Fellowship Hospital between 1991 and 1993, working in various departments, which equipped him for mission work.

He then went to the remote parts of Orissa to work for the Lord. He married Hannah Akka in the year 1996 and they both ministered among the Bondo tribes. Though times were tough in adapting to the place, language and culture; they leaned on God's strength and providence for everything. Hannah akka as a teacher aided him in the education of the tribe.

They developed a script for the tribal language that paved way for the Bible to be translated to the local language. He trained health workers to take forward the work in his absence as well as raised the literacy level from 0 to the point where all children in the locality attend school today. Recently a batch of 13 students completed their 10th standard and some have gone beyond the hills for further studies.

It was a joy to see both of them working together, complimenting and enhancing each other. Dr. Alex helped in

most of the PDP programs, facilitated marriage counselling program in Odisha and Tamil; counseling seminars in Tamil, devotions in retreats in MUT ODC. He served as consultant to initiatives taken by MUT for helping missionaries.

Dr. Alex was a very loving person and anyone who saw them will know that he loved Hannah akka deeply and was available and cherished his children.

His race for the Lord came to an end unexpectedly on 5th May, 2017.

For Ezra had set his heart to study the law of the LORD and to practice it, and to teach His statutes and ordinances in Israel. Ezra 7:10. True to this verse Dr. Alex loved and labored for the Kingdom.

***Truly an "Alexander" for the Lord!***

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## Finance Policy:

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***Ear-marked funds will be used exclusively and entirely for the purpose donated.***

***Operating cost is kept to the minimum and funds donated towards MUT general expenses is utilised for the same.***

***Sponsorships are sought and fund-raising events are held to meet other specific expenses.***

Whether you are in ministry work, a church, a mission organisation or a Christ-follower with a passion for missions, we welcome all those who wish to join in encouraging missionaries and other Christian workers, and sharing in their efforts for the kingdom of God. Become partners with us in praying for them and this ministry. You may wish to volunteer your services in different ways as the Lord leads you. You can donate money for the support of this work on a regular basis or as and when you are led by the Lord.

The four major support schemes under MUT are for Bereavement relief, Health care, Crisis relief and Retired Missionary Welfare.

Contributions can be sent through MO/DD in favour of "Missionary Upholders Trust" or directly to the below mentioned MUT account at along with an email intimation.

***ICICI Bank, Vellore. (A/c. No. 614301013520, IFSC Code ICIC0006143)***

***Indian Bank, Anna Nagar, Chennai (A/c. No. 840063713, IFSC Code IDIB000A025)***

***SBI, Purasawalkam, Chennai. (A/c. No. 10507878317, IFSC Code SBIN0001515, Swift Code SBININBB458)***

***Indian Bank, Oddanchatram. (A/c. No. SB 844743809, IFSC Code IDIB000O021)***

Foreign contributions can be sent to the MUT account at ***SBI Bank, Purasawalkam, Chennai. (A/c. No. 10332929984, IFSC***

***Code SBIN0001515, Swift Code SBININBB458)*** along with email intimation. Donors in USA and Canada may also route their contributions through the following agencies:

### ***In USA***

Christian Aid Mission, P.O. Box 9037, Charlottesville, VA 22906, USA

### ***In Canada***

Emmanuel Hospital Association, 3220 Faul Bay, Regina, SK, S4V 2W9, Canada.

For all earmarked donations feedback on the amount utilised/ person benefitted will be given to the donor, if address is available.

For further information, you may contact:

### ***Rev. Dr. Isac Soundararaj,***

General Coordinator,

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### ***Treasurer, Missionary Upholders Trust,***

30/AP 341, 29th street, Kamar colony, Annanagar West - 600 040, Chennai. India

Email: samuelrupa@gmail.com |

mut.vellore@gmail.com

### ***MUT mobilises prayer support by:***

Publishing a prayer bulletin. Project updates in its newsletter 'Care & Serve'.

### ***MUT actively raises volunteers:***

Works with churches and mission organisations who can depute personnel to manage projects.

### ***Financial support for the projects by:***

Creating awareness in Christ-followers in India and abroad about the needs of missionaries.

Encourage missionary organisations to partner not just to receive support for their own but also support members of other organisations.

Encouraging missionaries to make affordable contributions towards specific projects to help them and their fellow workers. We have hospitals partnering with MUT in providing treatment for the missionaries challenged by health issues.

# IMPACT

In IMPACT Scheme God is leading us to help the families of His servants at the time of bereavement in different areas such as emotional, spiritual and finance.

## Home call of member missionaries

The total number of deaths in the missions till date is 440 from the inception of the scheme and 16 deaths since last issue of care and serve. All the families of the deceased missionaries are given a financial assistance of Rs. 10000/- towards immediate expenses and Rs. 1,25,000/- as death relief.

Bereaved families of retired missionaries and non-members are also given Rs.10,000/ each as funeral expenses.

The bereaved families are specially remembered twice every year. During first week of June all the children below 21 years of age are given a child Support Payment of Rs. 1,200/- and during Christmas time every year each bereaved family is given a Christmas gift of Rs. 1,200 to Rs.2,200/- depending on family size.

Retreats and Programs are also organized for the bereaved missionaries to help them come out of their grief and help growing spiritually in Christ.

## Child Support Payment to the Bereaved families of Missionaries:

We have given a Child Support Payment of Rs. 1,200/- per child to 289 children from 164 bereaved missionary families during first week of June 2017. The total expenditure was Rs. 3,46,800/-

## Bereaved Missionaries family retreat

During the year 2017 retreats were conducted in two phases at Ottanchatram for bereaved Missionary families.

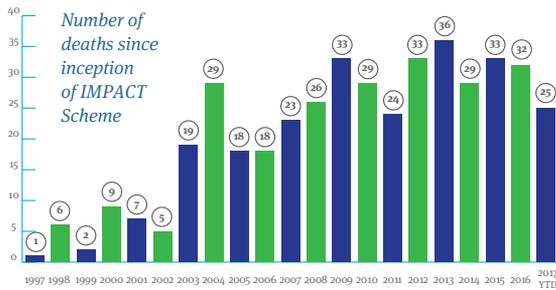
- 1st Phase from 18th to 20th May 2017: 21 families and 30 children attended the program
- 2nd Phase from 22nd to 24th May 2017: 18 families and 29 children attended the program

## Details of member-missionaries who had their home call since reported in last issue

Mr. William Tudu	37 years, FMPB-Jharkhand passed away on 09.04.2017, due to accident. He leaves behind his wife Mrs. Pormilla Murmu, and 2 children Christopher Tudu (10yrs) and Jemima Tudu (8 yrs).
Mr. Rathiram Shori	42 years, ICGM passed away on 18.04.2017, who was under cancer treatment in vellore CMC hospital, unfortunately he passed away in the morning (18th April 2017) at 4 am. He leaves behind his wife Mrs. Romola and 4 Children, Rajani (14), Rachana (8), Rose Salam (5), Salim (2).
Pr. D. Krupanandam	61 years, HBI-INEC passed away on 18.03.2017. He suffered paralytic stroke about 5 months ago. He leaves behind his two daughters Bodupalli Baby and Badugu Rani.
Mrs. Usha Ebenezer	63 years, BYM passed away on 14.05.2017, due to cardiac arrest. She leaves behind her husband Mr. Ebenezer and two married children.
Mr. Kingsly Premkumar	44 years, IYFC passed away on 24.05.2017. When he was travelling in a car with his relatives from Connoor to Madurai, a speeding truck came and hit the car and he died on the spot. He leaves behind his wife Regina (39yrs) and children Lemuel Jebas (12 yrs) and Jemuel (8 yrs).
Mrs. Daisy G.	54 years, IYFC passed away on 24.05.2017. When she was travelling in a car with her family and relative from Connoor to Madurai, a speedy truck came and hit the car. She and her elder son S. Simon Seth died on the spot. She leaves behind her husband Mr. Stanley Chelladurai (56 yrs) and son Master.S. Steve Mark (16 yrs). *Mr. Kingsly and Mrs. Daisy were travelling in the same car.
Pr. Kalva Albert	55 years, HBI-INEC passed away on 04.06.2017, due to heart attack. He leaves behind his wife Mrs. Estheramma (50 years), Three sons Ravi Kumar (36 years), Peter paul (31 years), Chiranjeevi (28 years).
Pr. Addala Yesudasu	51 years, HBI-INEC passed away on 08.06.2017, due to heart attack. He leaves behind his wife Mrs. Lakshmi and two children: A. Sivakumari (Daughter) and Sagar Kumar (Son).
Mr. Dibya Ranjan Dandia	45 years, OFU passed away on 14.06.2017. He met with a road accident while he was travelling in a hired car with his family and one of his relatives from Kandhamal to Cuttack, Mr Didya died on the spot. His wife Pritilata Pradhan is admitted in the hospital underwent surgery for left hand and right leg, his daughter Vinisha Dandia (13 years) is also admitted to the hospital as her right neck collar bone is fractured.
Mr. Suresh Kumar	28 years, FMPB passed away on 25.06.2017, due to Jaundice and liver infection. He leaves behind his wife Kanta and his son Aryan 5 years old and daughter Preety 2 years old.
Mr. Paul Ravindran	39 years, YWAM-TN passed away on 28.06.2017, due to a road accident. He leaves behind his wife and two children boy 13years and girl 9 years.
Rev. Bethuel Bardhan	57 years, FMPB passed away on 01.07.2017, due to various complication in his health. He leaves behind his wife Mrs Sukanthi and twin daughters Sujatha & Sunita both married and son Mr Shankhram working in HCL, Chennai.

Mr. Sukdev Nag	57 years, IBT passed away on 12.07.2017, due to a road accident. He leaves behind his wife.
Mrs. Latha Hepzibah	57 years, JR passed away on 08.07.2017, she was affected by renal failure. She leaves behind her husband Mr Mohanraj and 2 children Sam Studying 12th and Freeda 8th Standard.
Pr. Killala Prasad	27 years went to be with the Lord on 20.07.2017. He was serving the Lord in Chintapalli village in Andra Pradesh state. He suffered from Seizures. He leaves his father Killaka Dasu and other family members.
Mr. Harjith Singh	27 years went to be with the Lord on 22.05.2017, due to a heart attack. He leaves behind his wife and 2 children Blessy (5 yrs) and Sophia (6 yrs)
<b>Non Members</b>	
Mrs. Joythi Paul	62 years, SHILOH passed away on 08.04.2017, due to heart attack. She leaves behind her husband Pastor Paul and 2 sons (one son is married).
Mrs. Selvi	52 years, NMS passed away on 14.04.2017, due to heart attack. She leaves behind her husband and 2 children Kingsley Jabavaram (23 yrs) and Brackan Vethapriya (21 yrs).
Mrs Leelamma Kunjukunju Kuttyaged	59 years, NIEA passed away on 05.07.2017. She was seriously ill with multiple diagnoses and in ventilator support/CCU. She leaves behind her husband and 2 married children.

*Uphold these families in your prayers. Stand in the gap for missionaries who face ill health and other difficulties in life. Let us rise, bend our knees- to build a wall of protection for those who toil in the field. As one!*



**25** deaths in 2017

**07** deaths by heart attack

**07** deaths by road accident

## Good Samaritan Fund

The need to meet the financial emergencies happening in the extended family of cross-cultural missionaries had been realized during the earlier MUT consultation with Mission leaders and interaction with missionaries. This financial crisis affects missionaries emotionally thereby affecting the ministry. The Good Samaritan Fund was initiated in the year 2007 during one such meeting with the member mission leaders.

The General Secretary of the member missions has been authorized to extend assistance to the missionaries during the crisis situation and can claim reimbursement from MUT. During the financial year end, March 2017, 329 missionaries have been assisted with Rs 26.05 lakhs. From April to July 2017, 120 missionaries from 54 mission organizations have been assisted with Rs. 9.45 lakhs.

In addition, 14 missionaries were assisted up to Rs. 50,000 for the treatment of their parents from GS Support Scheme.

The following are some of the crisis identified and assisted under GS Fund.

1. Travel allowance to missionaries to attend the funeral of their parents by Flight/Train/Bus.
2. Travel allowance for missionary children to attend the funeral of their parents.
3. Reimbursement of medical expenses of dependent parents of missionaries.
4. Marriage gift.
5. Children's Marriage gift.
6. Missionaries' daughter's first delivery expenses.
7. Assistance at the time of Natural calamities and theft.

Please do partner with us in praying for the missionaries and upholding them during their time of crisis.

## Get in touch with our project incharge

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# Retreat for the Beloved Families

## Phase 1

The first phase was conducted from 18 to 20 of May. In the first phase families who had attended the retreat previously were invited. Preference was given to those who lost their spouses at their early age and those who are still struggling with various issues after the loss within our knowledge.

- 18 adults, 5 were men
- 16 youths age ranging from 13 to 29 yrs
- 14 children age ranging from 7 to 12 yrs.

In the brain storming session, we found women struggle in raising the children, financial constraints and issues with the relatives and the ministry.

Men struggle with loneliness, raising kids (*unable to give the mother's love*) and issues with ministry and remarriage.

Youth struggle with their studies, lack in confidence, temptations and questions with God.

The whole three days of retreat was planned with sessions together and separately for adults, youths and children. It included lot of games, activities, group discussions, one to one sharing and prayers.

The first session was '*Gratitude decides the attitude*' by Sis Amutha. This session had the intension to change their attitude towards their struggles by creating a gratitude for the goodness of God.

The importance of word of God, Prayer and the fellowship was reinforced. That was the expansion of the theme how a child of God can gain the strength especially during the dark periods of life. The first day evening lot of sharing was encouraged in groups also one to one to lighten their burdens it enhanced a clarity in thinking in the following days.

The session '*Bring out the best*' encouraged the adults to search for their hidden talents and potentials to use for them and for the kingdom of God. Loneliness is the worst problem they face after the death of their better half. The session dealt by Mrs. Eunice gave out practical ways to help themselves.

The session '*Dare to be to be different*' lead the youths recommit their lives to the Lord and decided to continue to grow in the knowledge of God. The session '*Taking responsibility*' helped them to realize the pain and struggle of their surviving parent in bringing them up.

The above session and the session on single parenting helped the parents and the children to come one step closer. During the testimony session Mrs. Kalaimathy from CFH, who lost her husband and her child in an accident in front of her eyes shared the faithfulness of God in her life. Her daughter too testified to the youth. In the camp fire they had lot of fun and sharing.

We missed Dr. Alex and his enthusiastic sessions in the beloved family retreat. But God brought Mrs. Hannah Alex with His strength and grace to testify the goodness of Him within a short time. Her testimony inspired many and most of them gained strength. They decided not to cry anymore and to run forward with courage. The retreat concluded with a communion service.

### Feedback:

**Adult:** Gained strength in the inner man/ enjoyed the fellowship/ encouraged& gained hope/ learnt that the death can't separate us from God/ got answers to my questions/ to be joyful/to console others/ not to cry anymore/ to pray and help others.

**Youth:** gained new friends/ filled with joy and peace/ change in the thinking pattern/ obedience/ taking responsibilities seriously/ to spent time with God daily/ involve in the ministry/ to help others.

**Children:** New friends/ games/ songs/ cycle/ movies

## Phase 2

Conducted from 22 to 24 May 2017 Participants were who had lost their loved ones in the last one year and also few who had the loss earlier but never attended the retreat till now.

- 20 adults, 5 were men.
- 21 youth age ranging from 13 to 26 yrs.
- 7 children age ranging from 4 to 12 yrs and a 9 month old baby too.

In the brain storming session we found women struggle the most with issues in continuing the ministry after the death of their spouse. It was the first time women expressed that it was the most pressing concern. Then the children's education, financial constraints and loneliness.

Men expressed issues in bringing up the children (*especially girls*), loneliness, health issues and difficulty in doing the ministry alone.

Surprisingly the youth boys and girls brought similar problems but differed in ranking. The foremost was missing their deceased parent (missing their love and care, disturbed with their memories & questioning God) Feeling lonely and fear of future, feeling a distance away from God and struggle with negative emotions.

Mrs. Ebenezer unfolded the theme in the devotion. Dr. Selwin led the first session with lot of humor and interaction. He insisted the importance of the word of God. Many used to come for the retreat with the pain of rejection with the attitudes of their own people after the loss. It hurts deeper than the pain of loss. The session rejection and acceptance helped them to understand Jesus too was rejected and He ran His race focusing on the acceptance of the Father.

The first day evening lot of sharing was encouraged in groups also one to one to lighten their burdens it enhanced a clarity in thinking in the following days.

Session on loneliness by Mrs. Florence Jaisankar encouraged everyone and challenged to move forward with the help of God. The parenting session was an eye opener for the single parent to understand the struggles of the grieving children. At the same time the youths were also made to understand the struggles of their surviving parent in handling the dual responsibility. It helped in reconciliation of parents and children. That was the moving experience for them and for us.

We set an hour for prayer. Everyone shared their concerns openly in a small group and prayed for each other with tears. There was a Tribute, a presentation about all the God's servants who had entered into the eternal glory. They were honored by observing few minutes silence and thanked for their lives in prayer.

Felt sad to offer a tribute to Dr. Alex who supposed to be the resource person for the retreat and talked in this regard even on the day of his demise. But God brought Mrs. Hannah Alex with His strength and grace to testify the goodness of Him within a short time. Her testimony strengthened many to run forward. The phrase "God is good all the time" was strongly engraved in the hearts of people since it came out from her with confidence at the midst of her pain and agony.

In the 'Candle Night' everyone had fun. At the same time the SU team encouraged the whole group by their meaningful skit and testimonies. When the light comes, the darkness vanishes. They symbolized Jesus for the candles.

*He gave His life to us - When He comes in our lives - The*



*darkness of death and pain too vanishes.*

The session 'Best learning in our worst timing' by Dr. Aneesh Jacob brought a change in the cognitive process. Instead of asking 'why' ask 'what?'. Yes usually we ask 'why God...? Why me...?' but learnt to ask 'My God...What I supposed to do or learn?'. Initiatives were taken to develop a continued sharing and fellowship among them. The retreat was winded up with the communion service.

**Feedback:**

**Adults:** waited for the meeting/ gave me courage to face the world/ learnt to claim the God's promises/ the conflict to continue the ministry was resolved/ I see changes in my daughter!/ Laughed and enjoyed/ Mrs. Hannah's testimony inspired/ God never make mistakes in my life/ Enjoyed like a child.

**Youth:** will respect my parent/ felt God's love/ not to waste food/ Not 'why?' but 'what?'/ I will make my mother happy/ I should make Jesus happy and defeat Satan.

**Children:** New friends/ games/ songs/ cycle/ movies



## A Passion For Souls

When I come to the study of the Gospel story, an outstanding feature in the character of Christ arrests and compels my attention – His measureless love for men, His passion for souls. The supreme motive in our Lord's life was His unhesitating and utter obedience to the will of God. From another point of view I can say that the constraining motive in Christ's life was love for men. That wonderful career can all be summed up in terms of love. This is how the Apostle Paul himself sums it all up: "Christ... loved...and gave" (Eph. 5:25). In saying that the master motive in Christ's life was His love for men, His passion for souls, I am not contradicting what I said about His obedience to the will of God.

His obedience to God and His love for men are like the obverse and reverse of the same coin – they are two aspects of the same truth. For the will of God was the salvation of human souls. But let us look at Christ's life from this standpoint for a moment. This was one of its marks – a deep, strong, quenchless love for men – a passion for souls. Do you remember how He described His mission and errand to earth? "The Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which was lost..." (Matt. 18:11).

I glance through the record in the Book of the Acts of the Apostles, I turn over the leaves of the letters which come to us from Paul's own hand, and I see that the Apostle had this mark upon him – the mark of a holy passion for the souls of men. "The Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which was lost," says the Master. "I am become all things to all men, that I may by all means save some" says the disciple Paul (1 Cor. 9:22). Is there no

*J. D. Jones*

correspondency there? Is not that a case of the disciple being as his Lord? "The Son of Man came not to be ministered unto but to minister, and to give His life a ransom for many," says the Master (Matt. 20:28). "I will most gladly spend and be spent for you," says the disciple (2 Cor. 12:15). Is it not a case of uttermost love in the servant as in his Lord? And this with the Apostle was not mere fine talk. The master passion of his life was this passion for souls.

Did Jesus become despised and rejected of men because of His love for the lost? So did the servant become "the filth of the world, and the offscouring of all things" (1 Cor. 4:13). Did Jesus face hate and persecution because of His holy passion? So did the servant. He faced the stones at Lystra, and the rods at Philippi, and the wild beasts at Ephesus and scourgings at many a synagogue, all for his passion for the souls of men. Did Jesus' compassions run out to the furthest bounds of earth? Did He yearn for those "other sheep" which were not of the Jewish fold? (John 10:16).

Did Jesus in sheer love lay down His life for the salvation of souls? I find the same consuming passion in the servant. "I could wish that I myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren's sake," I hear him cry (Rom. 9:3). This passion for souls was the ruling passion of Paul's life. It was for this he lived. Reputation, comfort, home, liberty, life itself – he laid them all down cheerfully upon the altar of his holy passion and this sacred service. Yes, without controversy or dispute, the Apostle had this mark of Jesus – a burning passion for souls.

**Who today has that passion for souls?**

## MUT Scheme

Missionary Upholders Trust is a missionary caring effort meeting some of the common unmet needs of missionaries at a cost affordable to them. By meeting common needs the missions can be left to concentrate on their missionary activities. The members give sacrificially every month to help some other missionary family at times of death, major illness and different types of crisis. While one missionary has a long life, free from major illness and crisis, he/she gives a portion of remuneration every month sacrificially to help another member who may not even belong to the mission in which the donor serves. It is a marvellous opportunity to help another missionary / another family going through very difficult times.

MUT runs this program without any honorarium for its administrative expenses. The Coordinators serve the second mile and take all possible efforts to help the missions and churches to understand the ethos of these programs and encourage them to involve in these programs. They also take all possible efforts to help the mission and church leaders understand the uniqueness of these programs so that they will not join

these programs with a motive to receive but to bless other fellow missionaries across boundaries who are undergoing great suffering for reasons known only to the Almighty. Each member contributes without any expectation to benefit.

MUT depends on God totally. MUT is a valued based mission. All through these years God has been faithful and has been meeting every need. Everyone joining the MUT ministry gives generously, unconditionally and sacrificially to run this ministry. The co-missionaries contribute towards one-time financial assistance given to bereaved family (lump sum amount) or to people affected by major illness or to meet the financial needs of missionaries affected by the various major crisis. Additionally, partners of MUT and well-wishers of missionaries extend financial help through support scheme. This fund is managed by coordinators of various schemes who are volunteers with great burden and zeal. Hundreds of missionaries are helped through support schemes.

“MUT Scheme” is an entry scheme to all Schemes of MUT, to help the

Missionary family in times of sickness, death and crisis situations. Workers of Registered Christian missions focusing on evangelism and discipleship, with a monthly salary less than Rs. 20,000/- and aged between 18 and 65 years are eligible. In this scheme 139 Mission with 14169 members join together upholding their co-member missionaries in the bereavement, sickness and crisis. Each member contributes Rs.50/- and the Mission contributes an equal amount. This amount (Rs 100) given by the member missionaries is shared by LYB, IMPACT and GS Schemes for the needy members in the area of Medical, Calamity, Crisis Relief and Retired Missionaries Welfare. The Support Schemes (SS) are further funded by the donations received from Friends of MUT (FOM). As on 30th June, 2017 total Organization enrolled in MUT Scheme: - 139 Mission with 14169 members. God willing we are aiming at a total of 250 mission Organizations with 20000 missionaries to join MUT Scheme to bless other member missionaries who are in need within the next three years in 2020.

## Missionary Upholders Family - Frequently Asked Questions

### **Why was MUF started?**

A man was touched by God at the age of 30. He understood the value of salvation which came free to him. The deliverance he received gave him a burden for other souls, dying without even hearing the name of Jesus once! He and his father prayed and formed an informal family group to raise funds to support a missionary going to serve an unreached people group to evangelize.

### **What are the objectives of MUF?**

1. Be a witness for Christ in the place you reside, work place and in the church.
2. Give sacrificially to support a missionary monthly with an amount, through a genuine mission trying to reach an unreached people group.
3. Pray regularly as families for the missionaries supported and for one another.

### **How does a MUF group function?**

Each group has a coordinator, whose responsibility is to gather information about the different people groups in India who are unreached and also those

missions serving among them. Then he starts identifying mission minded people in his / her family, in the church or in the work place, pass on the burden and enlist those who are led by the Lord. They meet to decide the people group to be reached and the mission which is serving among them to support.

Once decided, the central coordinator of MUF approaches the mission leader and requests him to name a missionary for the support of the MUF group. He also gets a receipt book of that mission for the use of that MUF group to collect and account the same monthly.

### **Why should the receipt book of another mission is used for collecting money?**

MUF is an informal group and it is not a registered Trust or Society. Money collected is not kept with MUF. It is accounted through the receipt book of mission through which the particular missionary is supported. Entire amount collected every month will be sent to the concerned mission along with 2nd copy of the receipt prepared. Not a single rupee from the collected fund is spent for any

expenses like postal, prayer meetings and for other incidental expenses.

### **Why Prayer meetings?**

It is the back bone of MUF. The members with families meet monthly in houses (different members each time) for a time of fellowship and prayer. The prayer points are received from the missionaries supported and remembered with burden. In places where many MUF groups function, they all meet in one place to remember points sent by different missionaries.

### **What is the uniqueness of MUF?**

MUF does not affiliate with any particular denomination, mission or church.

It does not encourage man made boundaries (caste, colour, sex, language or place). All the members are united by the blood of Jesus Christ to form an extended family to love and serve His workers.

### **What are the other activities of MUF?**

The MUF group organizes a dedication meeting at the beginning in their place,

inviting the missionary to be supported with family to stay for few days in the houses of members of MUF group to know to each other. Dedication is mostly held in a church. Other friends are invited and introduced to the missionary, mission and MUF. Some members take turns to visit the missionaries in the field and stay for a day or two to understand the mission and also the concerns of the missionary

### Are there “dos” and “don’ts” in MUF?

Yes.

“**Dos**” – The aim of MUF is to take up the fund raising aspect of Missions, so that all the people who commit for missionary work in that missionary organization will go to field to reach some unreached people groups and establish churches. The MUF members take efforts to create awareness about the missionary activities in the church and among their family members about the importance of cross cultural ministry and the needs of such mission organizations.

During prayer gatherings, the members respect each other and the way of their praying and be accommodative in all areas.

“**DON'Ts**” – MUF will not have any separate evangelical activities on its own. While the individuals do out-reach work in their church or individually, MUF as an organization does not involve in direct evangelism.

MUF does not criticize any church denomination or any organization but always encourage all those who are genuinely work for reaching the unreached.

MUF does not encourage any individual family to form a MUF group. The simple reason - prayer efforts become inadequate. Fellowship is lost. Money only becomes important for having such groups. The spirituality is also lost at times as there is not much spiritual accountability in such groups.

MUF does not believe in going after people for money. Once a member joins

MUF group, it is his /her responsibility to hand over monthly contribution to the one who is responsible for collection in that group.

This has been prepared for the information of anyone interested in reaching the unreached people groups in India. For any other information, or clarification you may send mail to [jjratnakumar@gmail.com](mailto:jjratnakumar@gmail.com)

Let us pray every unreached people group in India is reached and a witnessing church is planted soon.

### MKIDS RETREAT



Rid

Run

Reward

----- Heb 12:12 -----

Pray for the MKIDS retreat | More info Mrs. Deepa 9443044532

## Love grown cold

*“Because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold” (Matt. 24:12).*

These words were spoken by Jesus in answer to three questions asked by the disciples as found in verse three, and as a result of Jesus’ prophecy of the destruction of the temple, the second part of the question asked, that is, “What shall be the sign of Thy coming?”

Jesus tells us one sign of His coming is that *“the love of many shall wax cold.”* This sign is directed toward Christians. We know this because it speaks of love becoming cold. Before love could grow cold it would first have to be hot, which is a characteristic expression of the love of the saints toward God and His kingdom.

Notice more specifically that it plainly states that this love shall wax cold. This would indicate a gradual change often unnoticed until love’s temperature has waxed to a point where spiritual fervor is absolutely lost, and love is left a frozen, unresponsive memory. However, notice that Jesus did not say that this would be the condition of all. God still has many followers whose love daily is waxing hot, being fanned by the blessed Holy Ghost.

Nevertheless, we are in the midst of an alarming and terrible drift from godliness – from holy living – from real Christ-like love for God and one another. This drift is a drift from God’s holy standard as found in His Word, the Bible, to a jumble of man’s theories which never did and never will save a soul or lift a man from his low plane of sin.

This waxing cold of love has produced a compassionless, burdenless and tearless church until sinners no longer are stirred in our campaigns; in fact, in many cases many campaigns are held without a sinner coming to the services. Then, too, many churches don’t even have evangelistic meetings any more. There was a time when our grandparents would get so burdened that the tears would flow over their saintly faces, and their pleas

to God for mercy for the sinner would so convict the hardest heart that his resistance would crumble and would cause him to pray the publican’s prayer, “God be merciful to me a sinner!” (Luke 18:13). There was a time when wayward sons and daughters after a night of reveling and sin, would come stealing home long after midnight to hear a saintly mother weeping and pleading to God for the salvation of that boy or girl, and often that wayward one would seek out mother and get saved.

Do we see results like that today? Why? Some folk say the people of today are Gospel hardened. How could folk be Gospel hardened when the major portion of folk never heard a convicting Gospel message – never saw a tear drop from the eye of a saint as they in passionate love spoke to them about their soul? How could folk be Gospel hardened when many never saw the saints burdened or concerned? The issue is not the condition of Gospel-hardened sinners. The real issue is that many Christians have waxed cold in their love to God and man, until little or no compassion or concern is manifested for the lost.

The reason Jesus gives for love waxing cold. He says, *“...because iniquity shall abound.”* Many an individual Christian and the Church body as well has looked upon a cold, spiritually-dead world, a world full of iniquity and sin, and has said the condition is hopeless, beyond reach of human and even divine aid, and then has settled down to a cheap religion to await Christ’s return. This may be comparable to the man who wrapped his talent in a napkin and hid it in the ground and then awaited his Master’s return. In the end he was banished from His Master’s presence.

Has your love grown cold? If it has, you are contributing to the condition of sin about you. Repent and ask God for the former burden and concern you carried for the lost, lest He come and find you unfaithful to His cause and lest you, by your unconcern, cause a soul to be lost to eternal despair.

William L. Rosenberry

## Rest House- Pondicherry

Yet another provision for the servants of God, namely MUT Rest House, Pondicherry, came into existence and was dedicated for the glory of God on 27.11.2016.

It is located in a strategic place, approximately 2 km from JIPMER hospital and seven km from the beach. Pondicherry is well connected by train and road. Our rest house is a 1BHK two-portion, furnished house with required basic facilities. At a time two families can be accommodated.

Full time servants of God can make use of this facility for medical purpose (treatment), rest & rejuvenation. Missionaries can spend their vacation with children here. Spend time in the beach picnicking and visit many local places of interest.

If you are interested to make use of this facility, write to us:

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## The Soul Winner Must Pray

R. A. Torrey

The one who would have real success in bringing men to Christ must pray much. Solid work in soul winning must be accompanied by prayer at every step.

We must pray God to lead us to the right persons to approach. God does not intend that we speak to every one we meet. If we try to do it, we will waste much valuable time in speaking to those whom we cannot help. We might have used that time in speaking to those to whom we could have done much good. God alone knows the one to whom He intends us to speak, and we must ask Him to point him out to us and expect Him to do it (Acts 8:29).

We must pray God to show us just what to say to those to whom He leads us. After all our study of the passages to be used in dealing with the various classes of men, we shall need God's guidance in each specific case. Every experienced worker will testify to the many instances in which God has led him to use some text of Scripture that he would not otherwise have used but which proved to be just the one needed.

We must pray God to give power to that which He has given us to say. We need not only a message from God but power from God to send the message home. Most workers have to learn this lesson by humiliating experiences. They sit down beside an

unsaved man and reason and plead and bring forth texts from the Word of God, but the man does not accept Christ. At last it dawns upon them that they are trying to convert the man in their own strength, and then they lift a humble and earnest prayer to God for His strength. God hears and in a short time this "very difficult case" has settled the matter and is rejoicing in Christ.

We must pray God to carry on the work after our work has come to an end. After having done that which seems to have been our whole duty in any given instance, whatever may have been the apparent issue of our work, whether successful or unsuccessful, we should definitely commit the case to God in prayer.

If there is anything the average worker in this hurrying age needs to have impressed upon him, it is the necessity of more prayer. By praying more we will not work any less and we will accomplish vastly more.

## Training Calendar

### **Person to Person Biblical Counselling**

Date: Sep 04 to 09 | Medium: English  
Resource Person: Mr. Cyrus & Team

### **Biography Writers Workshop**

Date: Sep 13 to 16  
Resource Person: Dr. Lalitha

### **Family Retreat- Grace Ministries**

Date: Oct 16 to 20  
Resource Person: Mr. Ponselvan

### **Sharpening your inter-personal skills**

Date: Oct 23 to 28  
Resource Person: Mr. Antonysamy & Team

### **Family Medicine Training by CFH**

Date: Nov 03 to 05  
Resource Person: Dr. Jason

### **Inner Healing**

Date: Nov 06 to 08  
Resource Person: Dr. Latha Paul & Team

### **Life Revision Seminar**

Date: Nov 20 to 25  
Resource Person: Dr. Kurvilla Varkey

### **Person to Person Biblical Counselling**

Date: Dec 04 to 09  
Resource Person: Mr. Cyrus & Team

### **Beloved family get together**

Date: Dec 23 to Jan 02  
Resource Person: MUT Team

# Friends of Missionaries/MUT (Apr 2017 to Jul 2017)

Amblikkai	Mrs. Roselyn Mary
Bangalore	Mr. Eshwar Prasad
	Mr. John Tilakar
Bihar	Mr. Baskaran
Chennai	Dr. Beena Thomas
	Mr. Benedict
	Mrs. Gnanapowsham
	Ms. D. Kavitha
Ernakulam	Mr. Prabhakar Chandran
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	Mr. P. G. Sam Suresh
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Trichy	Mr. Jeyasingh Moses
Vellore	Mr. Isaac Ramamoorthy
	Mrs. Shanthi Devi
Virudhunagar	Mr. Andrew Davidson
	Mrs.Kalyani



1. Sharpening Your Interpersonal Skills | 19th to 24th June 2017

2. Life Revision Seminar | 3rd - 8th July 2017

3. Person to Person Level-I | 10th - 15th July 2017

4. Short Retreat | 17th & 18th July 2017

5. Spiritual Enhancement | 21st to 22nd July 2017

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