

**513.335.4474**  
[www.midindiachristianservices.com](http://www.midindiachristianservices.com)



### More images of India . . .



**“Teaching the Gospel through service”**

**Our field representatives visited India in January—  
to reconnect with old friends, to visit the churches, to  
encourage our brothers and sisters, and to see God at work.  
This is their report . . .**

My husband and I just returned from a trip to India to visit Mid-India Christian Services. It's hard to put into words all the emotional experiences we had. We were able to worship with several village churches, and in each place we were impressed with their love and joy. Indian Christians endure so much persecution, have so little material goods, and, yet, their faith is strong.

One of the highlights of the trip was our visit to the churches of the Pendra Project. There are 34 churches in Pendra; we stayed at the newest, Pendra Road Church of Christ. The church property contains a worship center, living quarters for the minister and his family, a sewing center and three guest rooms. We were privileged to worship there—it was humbling to see how our presence encouraged them.



# Report from India, more . . .

Another highlight was our visit to the Marwahi Preschool. The children put on a program for us—it was so sweet—a play of the Christmas story, other Bible stories and quoted memory verses. These children have U.S. sponsors and, thus, receive food and nutritional supplements as well as school clothing and supplies. We could see the effect in their lives (physical, mental and spiritual) your sponsorship makes, compared to those children without sponsors. You make a huge improvement in their lives!



We visited goat and chicken projects. These projects are doing very well, and we have a waiting list of families requesting these animals. Unfortunately, there are only a few goat markets. When they find out we want to purchase a large number of goats, they raise their prices considerably. As a result, we are forced to purchase our goats a few at a time.



Our sewing centers are becoming very popular. Our goal is one in each village church. Both women and men use the machines to make clothes for their families and to sell to others. They are learning to tithe the income they make to the local church as well as to save some funds to improve their daily lives.

It was a joy to be at Bethlehem Bible College for several days. The staff and students are amazing. I wish you could have been with us when some of the students and staff told us their personal stories. On one hand it broke our hearts to hear what they have been through, but, on the other hand, we rejoiced at their faith and perseverance. Many students endure severe hardships just to attend the college, but their faith remains strong, their commitment firm.



The women's center provides a place of safety and fellowship for the ladies during the day. They make purses and bags, jewelry, bookmarks, children's clothes and other items to provide a living for themselves. It improves their self-esteem, too. And, it's your sponsorship that makes the difference in these ladies' lives.



Travel to India is not easy. There aren't many creature comforts. The food is unfamiliar, and you can't use the water. Yet, it changed how we see life! We were amazed to see people's faith and commitment under the extreme challenges they face each day. We rejoiced to see the Gospel grow in a country that is hostile to the Good News. We made Christian friends that we may not see again until we all get to Heaven, but the ties between us are still strong.

For most, living conditions are terrible. Sanitation is deplorable. Roads are non-existent in some areas and very poor in others. Diseases that we no longer fear still kill and cripple—polio has devastating effects on many lives. Life in India is hard. Men are frequently overwhelmed by the constant daily struggle to provide for their families. Many, eventually, simply desert their wives and children, or commit suicide (which is rampant). For non-Christians in India, life appears hopeless.



India needs God. Your gifts help take Him there.



**Tidbits** Record cold spread havoc across the length and breadth of the India this winter, with the southern region experiencing the coldest temperatures in over 100 years. Daytime temperatures were about 40°F, dipping below freezing overnight. Normal daytime temperatures in Damoh for January are in the high 70's! That is why you will see everyone wearing coats, sweaters, and jackets in these photos.