



South Asia

South Asia Partnership • Praise and Prayer Newsletter



February 23, 2019

FROM THE SOUTH ASIA FIELD OFFICE:

A new year has started, and new hopes and dreams come to our hearts. God continues His precious work among the people in South Asia. The Church of the Nazarene in the field is fully committed to continue with the task to make Christlike Disciples in each country in the field. Recently it was indeed an incredible blessing to see the first person baptized in the Creative Access Area where we started the work last September. To God be the Glory! In the meantime, we continue trusting and being obedient disciples of Jesus. We trust and hope in Him as Paul wrote in Philippians 4:6-7. I would like to invite all our South Asia Partners to continue supporting our ministries with their prayer and investment. We believe prayer change things! God wants to change and transform South Asia and He wants to use our church to be the agents of change.

REASONS TO PRAISE OUR GOD AND LORD JESUS CHRIST:

For the District Assemblies (DA) in Nepal and Sri Lanka. God is at work in these beautiful countries. We have 5 new ordained elders in Nepal.

- Here is a small piece from the Sri Lankan DS Report: *“Our ministry is growing day by day with lots of challenges in Sri Lanka. I am very happy that Church of the Nazarene in Sri Lanka has completed 18 years, and during the past years successfully overcome many obstacles we faced. God shows His grace to organize 11 new churches in year 2018, even we had hard times in the field. There has been cleanup progress made in the APRs. This year we have a total of 184 organized churches. 2484 people joined our church in 2018 and 382 people were baptized this year. In addition, we have a total of 67 C.T.Ms. (Church type missions).*
- The Nepal DS reported this year 154 organized churches. 19 new churches were organized in 2018. The district reported a total of 166 organized churches for a total of 10431 members. 1547 new members were received in 2018.
- We also praise and give thanks to Jesus because the District Assemblies in Bangladesh and Pakistan have been programmed and it is for certain that hundreds of new disciples have been added and churches have been planted in these two countries. More to come in the next update.
- Last October God blessed us with the first baptism in the Creative Access Country we entered last September. Praise be to God!

From the Bangladesh Districts we received the following praises to our Lord and God:

- Thakurgaon District; Praise the Lord, we established a New Organized Church (home based) and 21 believers among unreached community through JF Ministry.
- Last month we planned to open New CDC in Rahmathpur. Precious children are developing through Nazarene Compassionate Ministries (NCM).
- Rangpur District; Elections in Bangladesh went well and peaceful. DS daughter took her School examination and did well.
- Northwest District. For the people to be ordained during the DA as well as the programmed DA in March.
- We continue praising and worshipping God for His grace towards our family as leaders in South Asia. God continues to give us the ability to navigate through different situations and challenges that have proved difficult but with the grace of God we are overcoming.
- The South Asia Mission Team is also fully engaged in helping the churches to mature and to become stronger in Evangelism and Discipleship as part of our 2023 Wildly Important Goal (WIG).
- Recently we started the Evangelism and Discipleship Movement with NYI in South Asia Field. We hired a very committed brother from Bangladesh to help us to coordinate the movement in Bangladesh. We are also looking forward for the engagement of NYI in other districts in the field.
- New water projects are on the way to needy communities in Sri Lanka, Pakistan and Bangladesh. We praise God for the generosity of Nazarene donors around the world.

From the Nepal we received the following praises to our Lord and God:

- Praise the lord for 19 churches we could organize during this past year
- Praise the lord for 4 new ministry buildings that were built this past year
- Praise the lord for the Nepal DA 2019 successfully held in January 24, 2019
- Praise God for NYI Nexus that happened in February 6 and 7, 2019

From Pakistan we received the following praises to our Lord and God:

- God continues providing resources to continue with the church building project in Pakistan. Recently a very substantial donation came to support the goal of the DS of 20 new Worship Halls. To Him be the Glory

From Rusty and Diane Robbins, missionaries serving as Regional Jesus Film coordinators and living in Dhaka, Bangladesh:

- Training on evangelism resources was provided to a young couple pioneering Nazarene work in their country.
- Praise God for 108 JESUS Film teams working in the most remote areas.
- In the last reporting month 14,625 people indicated a first-time decision for Christ!

Prayer Requests for South Asia:

- Please pray for Bangladesh and Pakistan District Assemblies. There will be 5 District Assemblies in Bangladesh and one in Pakistan. Please pray for each District Assembly to be a celebration of God's harvest. God continues to do incredible things in this nation. Please pray for safe travels for our GS Dr. Eugenio Duarte, Rev. Arthur Snijders, Regional Director and Rev. Trino Jara, Field Strategy Coordinator as well for our Pakistani DS as we travel to these countries. Also pray for delegates and leaders attending the assemblies to reach the district assemblies and safe return home.

From Districts in Bangladesh:

- 1st District Assembly will be held March 5, 2019.
- Districts are facing some spiritual challenges
- 9 Pastors will be ordained in the next DA.
- Child of David Kisku is affected by blood cancer.
- For district advisory board (DAB), and elders and leaders and their spiritual foundations and integrity
- District Superintendent (DS) and DAB change in Northwest district. Please pray for peace and harmony while the DA business happens.
- For our District Superintendent's families, specially children while they go through School examination.

From Nepal

- Need of land and building for the congregation of New Community Church of the Nazarene in Lalitpur.
- Need of funds to build new buildings at Kohalpur Banke, Kusmasdi Bara, Jayram Khotang, Bhangbari Palpa, and Gachhiya Morang and also to complete the building at Kirtipur which started last year and is not completed yet.
- SANBC classes in Khebang/Taplejung and Ithung/Panchthar during this coming week and the next respectively. Miss Ramila Rai SANBC Nepal coordinator and Rev. Nirmal Thapa are traveling to both places to deliver the classes. We need prayers for their safe travels to and from Khebang, Taplejung and Ithung, Panchthar.
- Pray for the guidance of God to the leadership team of Nepal to be more effective in ministries.

From Sri Lanka

- Please pray for JF ministry, ministers, their safety and their families.
- Please pray for pastors, believers and spiritual growth of churches.
- Please pray God to keep us safe from obstacles we face in our ministry.
- Please pray for new staffs for the church, new members for JF ministry.
- Please pray for NMI, NYI and SDMI ministries
- Please pray for new students and all students of SANBC
- Please pray for lands for churches and building needs

- Please pray for NCM works and all its staffs
- Please pray for the district's goals for this year

Additional Prayer Requests:

- Please continue to pray for our Pioneer Church planters in the Creative Access area we entered last September. Please pray for our first disciple baptized in this country. We are also requesting prayers for our leaders to be able to rent a house in the Capital of the country or in the second larger city where we can start our first house church planting. Until now it has been very difficult to find a landlord able to rent a house once they know the people coming to live are Christians.
- From Sri Lanka we have praises to God for a very blessed District Assembly as well as a productive time with Pastors and leaders discussing about Evangelism and Discipleship. The task we have ahead is to strengthen local churches through intentional evangelism and discipleship.
- The Sri Lankan District Superintendent needs support to buy a car for his ministry visiting churches in rural communities and Tea states in his district. We are praying for God's provision and His people to help to provide the funds for this need.
- We continue requesting intercessory prayer for our pastors and leaders to keep Jesus as the center of their message as well as keep preaching the message of holiness as well as advancing the Kingdom and His church to the end of the world.
- We request to continue for our financial and management systems and procedures. We need special prayer for our audits in Sri Lanka. We need wisdom and grace to deal with some challenges we have in NCM Lanka especially.
- The South Asia Education Project continues with the goal of training at least 10,000 Pastors for the year 2023. We request your prayers for the students attending Pastoral training through SANBC as well as the candidates who will be enrolling in the UBS M.Div program as well the family studying at the Asia Pacific Nazarene Theological Seminary (APNTS).
- We continue praying for our new missionaries Rusty and Diane Robbins serving the Regional Office as Jesus Film HP coordinators and living in Bangladesh. They are now focusing in Language study.
- Please pray for Jenna and Andrew Stout as they get ready to move to our field to serve. They have the desire to be long term missionaries serving God and His church in our field.
- Our field leaders are committed to continue praying for the South Asia Partners. We pray for their blessings and abundance as well as we also pray for the more people to join the partnership so together we can achieve our Wildly Important Goal (WIG) of reaching 1,000,000 people in the next five years.
- Pray for the workers in new countries to have the resources and support they need to impact their country for Christ.
- Pray for our frontline leaders to turn to the Lord for their strength.
- More equipment needs to be delivered to JESUS Film Harvest Partner teams

Pictures from South Asia:

Praying for children before exams



Women self help groups



South Asia Child Protection Policy translated in multiple SA languages



Dr. Duarte with new candidates for Ordination - Nepal DA



Nepal District Assembly



Sri Lanka District Assembly



Leaders at Sri Lanka District Assembly



South Asia Delegates from 3rd Wave conference in Hyderabad, India



Thank you for your interest and support of the South Asia Field. God is moving and thank you for wanting to be a part of it. Please contact me if you want any additional details at tdiehr@comcast.net



Sri Lanka



Bangladesh



Nepal



Pakistan
