

WALDRON NEWSLETTER

Vol. 45

December 2011

No. 12

A CHURCH PLANTED

The state of Assam in northeast India is an agricultural state with tea being one of its major cash crops. There are thirty men in The Northeast Bible Institute at Gauhati, the state capital, and after twenty hours a week in class twelve or fourteen of them leave about 11:00 on Friday mornings to go to different places northeast of the city to strengthen the new congregations in the region. During the late summer and early fall they have turn-by-turn gone to eight or ten locations each weekend in order to do the work of evangelists. It is especially urgent that they teach the new congregations in the region to assemble “upon the first day of the week to break bread.” During November, Sing Tarang, has led a group of his fellow students in evangelistic work on a tea estate known as, Sagmootea Estate, which lies 125 miles northeast of the city to preach to the “Believers Church” that meets on the grounds of the estate. Sing, before obeying the gospel in 2010, was for fifteen years a traveling evangelist among Baptists and other churches known as “Believers Churches” in the region.

The man who served as the “Pastor” of the church welcomed our young brothers and showed great interest in their message about the “*usli kalesia*” (original church) founded on Pentecost and the necessity of following the New Testament pattern for that church. Through his desire to have others hear the truth he arranged with our brothers a gospel meeting for the 26th and 27th of November.



3 men in the center—our workers from Gauhati
And the beauty of Sagmootea Estate



There were about 75 who attended the meeting and spent a day and a half listening to the old Jerusalem gospel. Thanks be to God that six responded to heaven’s invitation and the Sagmootea church of Christ was planted. Others who attended have shown great interest and the brothers will follow up the first week in December. God willing, I will go up to hold a meeting for them on the 9th and 10th.



Bro. Khen Samte teaching with chart



One of the six who were baptized into Christ after the teaching.



Indian version of our “Dinner on the Ground”

FLASH!! Gauhati, November 30, 2011, Wednesday 6:45 a.m. A phone call has just come from our new brother and former Pastor for the "Believer's Church," Ahimon Nayak, that there are ten people who are ready to be baptized today. It is now 7:15 and we have sent brothers Sing Tarang, Adamson and Kannan the 125 miles by bus to Sagramootea Estate. They will stay through Sunday the 4th to instruct them further in the gospel and break bread with them on the Lord's day. Other students will go out on Friday to preach in other places.

ANOTHER YEAR HAS PASSED

Laura and I took our brood to Pakistan in September 1967. I say brood because we had two foster children at the time besides the three boys. We also brought a little girl home with us, Ruth. She was 19 months when we got her and on December 1st this year she turned 44. Laura turned 72 last July and I turned 76 in November.

The work in India began in February 1986. As I have written often the work is obeying Two Timothy Two Two, that is, training preachers to proclaim the unsearchable riches of Christ, which means to preach the whole counsel of God; but the bottom line is to plant strong local churches of Christ that will perpetuate the spread of the gospel even after we are dead.

This work of training evangelists advances by God's grace and through the enormous efforts of co-laborers who give fulltime to the work like, Don Iverson, Garry Jones and Scott Richards; and to another dozen or more brothers who come for a month each year to assist in the Northeast Bible Institute which uses English as the medium of instruction. Yet, the backbone of teaching work has and is being done by faithful native gospel preachers. In Tamil Nadu alone where Don concentrates his labors there are more than 1,600 servants of Christ doing the work of evangelists and supporting themselves. To God be the glory world without end for it is He who gives the increase.

One thing I have given some considerable thought to since the world population passed 7,000,000,000 on October 31, is why are there **so few** among the preachers in the churches of Christ who are willing to serve in foreign lands to get the gospel to the 6,688,000,000 who live outside the borders of the USA. If you divide the population of the United States, 312,000,000, by 7 billion you will know what percent of the people of the world live outside the U. S. If you send me the correct answer I will send you a copy of the book, *Is There a Universal Code of Ethics?* You might want to use it in a class. We have a new shipment of these books, thanks to brother Eddie Payne of Port Allen, LA. Let me encourage you, if you do order one, please make a personal commitment to read it and pass it on to someone else who will also read it.

Can you imagine being a lost sinner in a third world country and no one ever coming into your life to tell you about Jesus; Paul quoted the prophet Joel saying, "*Whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved. How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?*" (Rom. 10:13-14). Some will say we can use radio, TV or send tracts; but what do people who use those methods do when they get a contact; they write to someone on the field. That is why I make it my work to train foot soldiers, and I praise God and thank Him that you share in this work of faith and labor of love; beloved it takes boots on the ground. Please pray with me for more workers in His vineyard and more souls being added to His Kingdom.

May the God of all comfort fill you with joy in the New Year.

Jim E. Waldron

Jim E. Waldron

**WALDRON MISSION FUND waldronjim1935@gmail.com
MAIN STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST, P.O. BOX 1010, CROSSVILLE, TN 38557**