

This Saturday, October 2, we will return to set up the clinic; the food supplies will arrive on four large trucks on Sunday afternoon. The students from the SOP will go house to house giving out a token (a piece of paper stamped with our logo). With this token the people can come to our distribution point and pick up the critically needed supplies. If we just throw the reception of goods open to all we would literally be trampled under foot. A school house has been made available as a place to distribute the supplies.

Beginning Monday (Oct, 4) we will distribute supplies and begin helping the sick in the clinic. Students will hand deliver supplies to widows and the handicapped in the villages.

We will help at least 800 families, which means about 3,200 individuals or more. The food will last a family of four from two to three weeks. I wish we could do more; 3,200 out of 300,000 are very few, but it is something. I am not sure how they will survive through the coming year until another harvest is gathered. Perhaps we can redistribute rice in a month or so if additional funds become available. However I am thankful to God for His Church, His people who shine as lights in this dark world in which we live. I know what we do opens the hearts and doors of people to the Great Physician. Thank God there is a balm in Gilead and also in Assam, India. Garry Jones

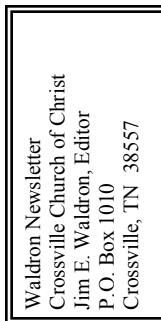
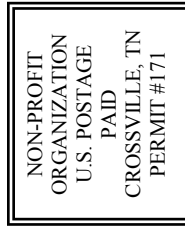
OCTOBER 1, 2010

As noted I came home on the 14th of September and my plans were to go back about the first of December, but due to the door that has been opened among the thousands in these villages of Assam, God willing I will go back to India on or near the 5th of November. Also I will be able to get the student preachers from the four schools in northeast India to join me to reach out to these suffering masses. This will mean we will have over eighty native gospel preachers visiting these homes and while helping them with the necessities to hold body and soul together they will preach to them of the kingdom of heaven. We dare not let this opportunity fall to the ground. Our Master said, “the poor have the gospel preached to them” (Matt. 11:5).

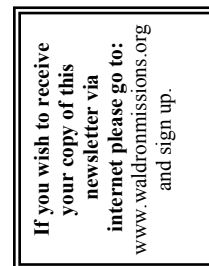
The \$15,000.00 we sent to Garry we had to take from our reserve fund and we will need others to help if we are to mount a strong thrust in November. Above that figure I hope we may raise another \$35,000 by November 1st. Please help as you are able.

In Christian love,

Jim E. Waldron



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



NEWSLETTER

WALDRON MISSIONS

Main Street Church of Christ

P.O. Box 1010

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SEPTEMBER 13, 2010

On the above date I was in the airport at Guwahati, Assam, N.E. India, waiting for a flight to take me to Mumbai on India's west coast to catch a flight to the States. While waiting I read in the local paper of the terrible floods that were devastating the upper regions of Assam and the state just north of it, Arunachal. The report read, “Heavy rains triggered mudslides and flooding in at least three districts ... washing away bridges, huts and school buildings, besides devastating agriculture crops...” (www.easternchronicle.net, archives September 13).

After arriving home on the 14th I kept hearing of continued problems for the poor as the monsoon rains continued. The flooding was/is of deep concern; first of all because of the human suffering, but our interest is more personal due to the fact that we have, by the grace of God, three schools of preaching in those two states. The masses ordinarily live in huts made of grass (thatch) or mud and in the best of times struggle to make ends meet, but with the continuous rains and floods their lives have been turned upside down with no shelter, no food and little or nothing to deal with diarrhea and other diseases from bad water and exposure to the weather.

Due to these things on Tuesday, September 28, I phoned Garry Jones as he was leaving Shillong, where he had spent a month teaching in the Bible School. He was on his way to Dibrugar, Assam, where he was to teach the school of preaching (SOP), which he began some two years ago. I told him of the news reports of the floods and said we would send \$15,000.00 from Crossville if he would find a way to get supplies to those in need. He immediately said that he could and that he would turn out the student preachers in order for them to help. Here is his report:

FLOOD REPORT

Garry Jones
September 29, 2010

Tifusa Yobin, who heads up the SOP in Dibrugar and Simeon Yobin, who is director of the orphans home in Lokla, and I left for the North-eastern corner of Assam where a devastating flood has struck the region due to the overflowing of the Brahmaputra River and its tributaries. The Brahmaputra enters India in the northeastern state of Arunachal Pradesh after traveling hundreds of miles across Tibet (China) from its birthplace near the lake of Mansarovar. It is one of the world's largest rivers, on a scale with the Indus, Mississippi, and the Nile. Almost yearly, along its long and winding course, flooding occurs and brings death, devastation and disease to those who inhabit the unfortunate area. This year things are far worse.

After traveling over two hours we reached the swollen River where we had to travel on make-shift barges. They were basically extended wide bottom canoes with a keel. Planks are laid down from the shore to the boat and other planks are used for cars to rest on; it can carry three cars in all. After an hour traversing the river we made it to the other side where once again the planks were laid out for the car to come ashore.



MAKE SHIFT FERRY

Once back in our vehicle we traveled by following a road that went along the Brahmaputra; we had to divert in many areas where it had overflowed its banks. Our destination was the Dhamaji and Lakhimpur Districts for these were places where over 300,000 people have been affected by the raging water. We could see that the flooding was severe as we approached the area. Most of the villages were from one to



ten miles off the road and required that we walk and at times wade through knee deep water. It was the first time since I was a kid that I can remember walking (in this case for about two miles) with mud squishing between my toes. It was all in all quite enjoyable and I thought of my mother showing up to scold me for naughty behavior.

MUD BETWEEN MY TOES

We saw several villages we could not reach for they were totally cut off by deep water or would have required that we go through swift water over our waist to reach them. With prayer for these villages we had to move on to where we could gain access for we had no boat and no access to a boat in these remote regions.



UNREACHABLE VILLAGE

We visited three villages and took reports of three others. We cannot help all who are suffering because of the flooding, so we made our decision to help these, who are suffering greatly with little or nothing on hand for relief. The names of the villages are Diheri with 350 houses (bamboo huts on stilts); Nepali Khati with 185 houses; Kechokhata with 72 houses; Gloria Ahana with 120 houses; Sasala with 20 houses; Adrasha with 56 houses and Kapatol with 62 houses.

In each village I asked the head man if the Indian government had been in to help. They responded that only a few workers came, gave out some malaria medication and then left. The people are suffering greatly and are very grateful for our help. They do not understand why we care and why we are helping them. I emphasized in every village that we are here for and because of Jesus Christ. What we do for them we do in HIS name and for HIS glorification. The village headmen one by one asked us to come to their villages and talk about this Jesus Christ. Hopefully we can go back into these villages soon and preach to them of the Savior and His kingdom ((Acts 8:12).

The villagers are suffering from many things; their greatest need is food; particularly rice the staple food of India. All the rice fields which were

at the harvesting stage were totally destroyed. This is their basic food for the entire year. So now they must try and find a way to survive for a year until another crop is produced. Many of the hand-dug wells were destroyed by the floods and clean water is of great concern. With the flood have come diseases: Cholera (a severe form of dysentery that can kill in a matter of hours), Malaria, Typhoid Fever, skin diseases, worms, and a host of other psychological and physical problems.



RICE FIELDS UNDER WATER

After our assessment we left for a large town about two hours away, Lakhimpur, where we made arrangements to purchase critically needed items for at least 800 homes in the villages. We purchased:
800 – 20 Kilograms (44 pounds) bags of medium quality rice;
800 - 1 Kilograms package of dhal (split peas used for curry) for rice toppings;
800 - 1 package of mustard oil for cooking,
800 - 1 half-kilo package of salt (1.1 lb). This will be helpful to create a re-hydration drink for those with Cholera
800 - 1 bar of Dettol (antibiotic soap) for helping to combat the skin diseases and infections inherent in dirty water.
800 - 1 bar of laundry soap for the hand washing of clothes.
In addition, we will open a temporary clinic for the treatment of sicknesses in the villages.

Back in Dibrugarh, where the SOP meets, we purchased many items to treat fever, malaria, dysentery, gastritis, worms, skin rashes, re-hydration drinks and a host of other medicines to treat various illnesses. Through our efforts in relief work in the Tsunami of 2004-05, the Bihar flood of 2008 and the Bhutan earthquake of 2009 we have educated ourselves on the medicines needed in natural disaster events. Not only so but many have been led to Christ through these efforts.