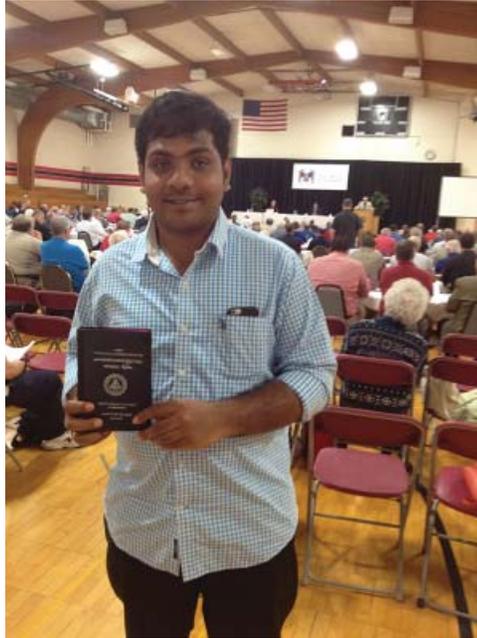


4,000 Hymnbooks for Lutheran Mission of Salvation – India!

A special event took place at the ELS convention last month. It was noted that the Lutheran Mission of Salvation – India (LMSI) has over 21,000 members, but not nearly enough hymnbooks. 4,000 copies are needed! At a price of \$3 each, the project would cost \$12,000. Cross-stitch, the network of ELS Women's Mission Societies, offered to match donations. The Synod Sunday offering + the Cross-stitch Reception donations + gifts and pledges from the delegates to the convention totaled approximately \$8,000 – so the project is accomplished! Additional contributions for needs in India are always welcome. Simeon Mamidi, from Hyderabad, India represented LMSI. He's holding the hymnbook which contains hymns, Luther's Catechism and various other worship elements.



Many thanks to all donors!

ELS Missions Newsletter

July 2016



Evangelical Lutheran Synod
Board for Home Outreach

Hope Lutheran Church, Farmington, MN

There are so many exciting things happening at Hope these days. The new church building is progressing. It has been exciting to explore color choices, order seating, etc. Pastor Oberer is spending time working on the events for the fall with their Outreach Leader. They will have 5 events coming up and they have been working hard to fill in the details for those events so they can be as edifying as possible. Those events are:

- Sat, 10/1: Community Open House of New Church
- Sun, 10/2 Opening Worship Service of New Church
- Sun, 10/30 Synod Building Dedication
- Sat, 11/19 "Hope for the Holidays" Craft Fair
- Sat, 12/10 Christmas Concert with Koine

Pastor Oberer recently joined a Farmington business group and is amazed to see how many people have been tracking the construction of their new church building. If you view their Facebook page you will see they have been posting one minute videos of the building construction and there have been hundreds of views for each video. There are a lot of people out there who are watching the progress and are excited for it!



Exterior of new building under construction.

One of the things that the mission has been doing to help world mission projects as a church is to raise money for an India orphanage. They began this support in November and it has really been a blessing to see the wonderful support of this project!

The Lord has blessed the congregation with new families who actively say they are checking out lots of different Lutheran Churches and they keep coming back to Hope!

Interior of new church building under construction.



Grace Lutheran Church, Lincoln, IL

Pastor McQuality has been a bi-vocational pastor serving Grace for the past few years. After much prayer he has decided to go full time at the Church, so that more evangelism and outreach can be made possible. The congregation is being encouraged and challenged to give one full day a month to doing outreach, or two half days, etc. Pastor McQuality and members will 'pray and go' out into Lincoln and the surrounding areas and to make themselves available for the Lord's use and witness to those that they greet. They also will include visits to the local hospital, since there are no chaplains there.



Interior of Grace Lutheran, Lincoln, Illinois.

Recently, the congregation rallied together to do some landscaping in front of the building and they continue to update their Church: tile flooring in the entryway with 'welcome' flower baskets, new banners and a children's play area. New lighting and a cross are also on the front of the building. See more about Grace at: www.gracelutheranlincoln.com, or www.facebook.com/gracelutheranlincoln.



New landscaping at the church.



Evangelical Lutheran Synod
Board for World Outreach

Pastor Shunned by Local Community

Yes, Pastor D. Satyanandam is being ostracized by the citizens of Valluru in India. Why? He refused to donate funds toward a new Hindu shrine. (He offered instead to contribute toward a social welfare program for the poor in Valluru.) So now he lives nervously and cautiously among his Hindu neighbors. Satyanandam himself is a former idol-worshipper, who was brought to faith in Jesus many years ago. His congregation is comprised entirely of people just like him, former Hindus. Recently St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church was dedicated, a light shining in a dark place, with funds provided in part by Lutheran Mission of Salvation – India, the ELS affiliate in that country.

We must thank God for faithful Lutherans facing difficult ministry in India!



St. Paul's Lutheran Church members at worship in the dedication service earlier this year.



Newly constructed and dedicated St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Valluru, India.