

March 2015

PRAYER GUIDE FOR LWML MISSION GRANTS

Prayers for Christian Educational Support for Children-India

PRAYER #1

Dear Lord God Heavenly Father, thank You for the blessing of Concordia Gospel Outreach and the service it provides for the children of India. Since 1958 they have reached tens of millions of people around the world with the Gospel message through their Christian resources. We ask that You continue to direct their work according to Your will, and guide us in our prayerful and generous monetary support of their efforts to bring the saving knowledge of Christ to the little ones so eager to learn in India. In Jesus' name. Amen.

PRAYER #2

O most gracious God, we live in a world filled with many unbelievers. The children of India, as well as their families, need to hear of the salvation You provide for all mankind. We ask Your Spirit to stir in our hearts the desire to reach out to them and support Concordia Gospel Outreach as they provide Christian resources through Lutheran educational ministries in India. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

PRAYER #3

We are thankful to You, O Lord, for the blessings of Concordia Gospel Outreach and the work it does to connect people with opportunities to share the Gospel where it is needed most. The Christian Educational Support for Children-India program makes a significant impact on the lives of children in India as well as their families and communities by providing Bible-based literature and supporting the work of evangelism programs and ministry. May we whole-heartedly aid them with the gift of our prayers and mites. In Jesus' name. Amen.

PRAYER #4

Triune God, as we daily remember our baptism and the gift of faith given us by the Holy Spirit, encourage us to reach out to those who have yet to receive this gift. Lead us to support Concordia Gospel Outreach with their Christian Educational Support for Children-India program. Help us be generous in our prayers and monetary support so that they can more readily provide every child with a Christian book or the opportunity to learn the faith through Sunday School and VBS lessons or day school curriculum. In Your name we pray. Amen.

www.lwml.org/missions

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AND KEEP PRAYER GUIDE IN YOUR BIBLES
FOR DAILY MISSION SUPPORT REMINDERS.

MISSION GRANT STORY

CHRISTIAN EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN – INDIA \$85,000

As a church body, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) has a long history of mission work in India. India was the first foreign mission field of the LCMS, beginning in 1895. Many resources have been dedicated to spreading the Gospel in India over the years, resulting in the creation of the LCMS partner church in India, the India Evangelical Lutheran Church (IELC).

Even with 120 years of mission work in India, this is still a country desperate to hear the Gospel. According to 2001 Census data, the population in India is 1.21 billion people with 80.5% of the population being Hindu. Another 13.4% is Muslim. Only 2.3% of Indians are Christian.

Sharing the Gospel through children's ministry is a highly effective way to change the life of not only a child, but an entire family. As in the United States, Lutheran schools are a key player in ministry to students in India. The IELC has demonstrated a commitment to serving children through their network of schools. Today, the IELC operates 61 elementary and middle schools, 12 high schools, eight schools for the handicapped, four child development centers, and five boarding homes. With an average national literacy rate of 61% (only 47.8% for girls!), with Christian educational resources, educational ministries have a key opportunity to strengthen not only the child's ability to read and write, but to grow and strengthen their understanding of the Gospel.

Through the *Christian Educational Support for Children—India* project, Concordia Gospel Outreach will support IELC educational ministries, including Lutheran schools and church-based children's ministries, with Gospel-based curriculum and related resources to strengthen the Christian education of Indian children. To accomplish this, Concordia Gospel Outreach will work through partnerships at the IELC to ensure that materials are received and distributed among educational ministries with the greatest need.

With the support of the LWML, Concordia Gospel Outreach can provide the curriculum, books, teaching tools, and other resources necessary to share the Gospel with thousands of children served in educational ministries of the IELC.

