

Overseas Friends of UESI (Union of Evangelical Students of India)-USA

Address for Correspondence: OFUESI-USA,
1921 Narrows Lane, Silver Spring, MD-20906



Financial Contributions: Treasurer OFUESI,
1135 W 187th Street, Homewood, IL-60430

Dear OFUESI Family:

There is something special about the book of Acts. It is the Charter for the Church, the bride of Christ. In its opening (1:1-8) Jesus impresses on His disciples four vital truths: 1) Resurrection: He is alive. 2) Kingdom of God: He taught them the kingdom values. 3) Operating by the Spirit: He asked them to wait for the Promise of the Holy Spirit. 4) A Sense of Mission and Purpose: He declared that they would be His witnesses, empowered by the Holy Spirit. If you get an opportunity to spend 40 days with Christ, what do you think He might impress upon you? Could it be that He will share the same things in a way that you will understand and embrace? He is alive, He wants us to know and embrace the kingdom values, be filled with the Spirit and have a clear sense of mission being His witnesses. It is time we asked ourselves whether our lives reflect these truths that Jesus is alive and at work in us, that we are engaged in kingdom work, that we are filled and controlled by the Holy Spirit and that we are His witnesses as people read us, the living gospel. OFUESI family has a unique role to play in the kingdom work and evangelism. We need the resurrection power and the power of the Holy Spirit to accomplish our unique calling.

"The Church exists for nothing else but to draw men into Christ, to make them little Christs. If they are not doing that, all the cathedrals, clergy, missions, sermons, even the Bible itself, are simply a waste of time. God became Man for no other purpose." – C.S. Lewis

A familiar quote from the lips of Count Nicolaus Ludwn Zinzendorf, founder of Moravian Mission, is "I have but one passion: It is He, it is He alone." Coupled with this is an inseparable continuation of his thought: "The world is the field and the field is the world; and henceforth that country shall be my home where I can be most used in winning souls for Christ." Notice the parallel in UESI vision, which

is to evangelize the post-matric students in India, nurture them as disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ, so that they may serve the Church and Society. The four aims flow from this vision: Evangelism, Fellowship, Testimony and Missions. And OFUESI fosters the UESI vision in our creed and conduct.

OFUESI Vision: *Fostering the UESI vision in the US and strengthening the UESI through OFUESI*

There are some encouraging prayer and news items covered in this KIT. This time last year, we learnt about the beginnings of Detroit EGF and Chicago EGF. Praise God for the continued growth in these EGFs and rejoice with them in the news highlighting stories of His grace. We certainly would love to hear from other EGFs and present the stories of His grace for the edification of all our OFUESI families.

Please note the upcoming Regional Conferences. There is a separate section— a prayer circular so as to help us to be on our knees before our Lord for various needs of the conferences. We urge you to register early for the conference nearest to you and find your place of service in it. We will provide updates in the subsequent issues. God-willing, we will have our first-ever South Central Regional Conference. Praise God and pray for God's grace in this new venture. In closing, we leave with Hudson Taylor's reaction to Acts 1:1-8.

"Since the days of Pentecost, has the whole church ever put aside every other work and waited upon Him for ten days, that the Spirit's power might be manifested? We give too much attention to method and machinery and resources, and too little to the source of power." – James Hudson Taylor, Missionary to China, 1832-1905.

So, let us move forward on our knees.
Joji, Paramjyothi, Zeno, Suman and Suresh
OFUESI Executive Committee

FLASH UPDATE ON THE 2009 REGIONAL CONFERENCES

August 15-16 South (Houston-Austin area)

August 22-23 West (San Jose-Los Angeles area)

August 29-30 South Central (St. Louis area)

September 5-7 Midwest (Illinois-Michigan-Indiana-Ohio area)

September 12-13 East (New York_ Pennsylvania and DC area)

Primary Speaker: Dr. David Jayakumar, UESI General Secretary

Dr. David U. Jayakumar hails from Andhra Pradesh (Birthplace: Dhone, Kurnool district). He completed his B.Sc., B.Ed in the city of Kurnool, and obtained M.Sc. and Ph.D. in Botany from S.V. University in Tirupathi. He was raised in a Christian background and came to the personal relationship with Christ at age of 16. He married Sis. Hepsiba in 1987 and they are blessed with two children, Moses and Shekinah Grace. They answered God's call to serve full-time and joined UESI in 1999. Dr. Jayakumar ministered as staff-worker at Delhi and served as UESI-AP Secretary and in various national staff roles prior to the current assignment as the General Secretary. He has conducted research on the impact of UESI on the Church and Society in India and has represented UESI in many Christian forums. He is familiar to most of us through the editorial "GS Speaks" in the UESI monthly *InTouch*.

Prayer Points for all the conferences (Jer 33:3):

- ◆ Pray for the venues yet to be selected/ finalized.
- ◆ Pray for the conference coordinators in each region.
- ◆ Pray for the visa for Dr. David Jayakumar, UESI General Secretary, who will visit all the regions as the Lord enables.
- ◆ Travel mercies for the speaker starting from abroad and within the continental US and for travel arrangements.
- ◆ Good health for the speaker and the participants
- ◆ Preparation of many from UESI background to be at the conferences

- ◆ God's provision for all the conference and travel expenses
- ◆ For special UESI needs that could be taken as special projects by the conference attendees

Please participate as the Lord leads in the Special Teleconference Prayer Hours.

Please call (218) 844-0850 and join the live conference call with the access code **492078#** during 2nd Saturdays of July (11th) and August (8th): **9:30-10:30 PM EDT.**

August 8, 2009 is designated as the day of fasting and prayer for personal and family preparation for the conferences. Please encourage one another to go before the Lord for an extended period of prayer time on this Saturday. Please check the website for periodic updates. www.ofuesi.org

"The power of prayer has never been tried to its full capacity in any church. If we want to see mighty wonders of divine grace and power wrought in the place of weakness, failure and disappointment, let the whole Church answer God's standing challenged; "Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knows not."— J.H. Taylor

From the desk of Treasurer -

I bring greetings to you in the wonderful name of Jesus Christ. Praise the Lord for His faithfulness to the ministry of UESI through your prayers and financial support by our OFUESI family. During the months of April and May we were able to send \$ 3000 and \$ 6000 to UESI (YTD support to UESI is \$ 18,000). Please pray with me that our God will enable us to be faithful in our consistent giving to UESI on a **monthly** basis.

Kindly pray for the Lord's leading and participate as per His enablement in meeting the needs of upcoming conferences, including *travel expenses for the speaker*. Tickets must be purchased shortly. May each of you abound in His grace!

Sincerely,
Paramjyothi Marati, Treasurer OFUESI

OFUESI Mission: *Strengthen the bonds of fellowship among OFUESI, provide prayer and financial support to the UESI work in India, and expand evangelism efforts among Indian students in the US.*

Eternal Excellence News and Praise

Detroit EGF Farewell to Mammen family

God enabled the Detroit EGF to come into existence in October 2004 and this EGF has been continued despite relocations of several families from Detroit area over the past five years. The picture below features the most recent EGF meeting in May 2009. Dr. Joy Mammen, currently a fellow in pathology informatics at Henry Ford Hospital, is returning to his position at Christian Medical College, Vellore, India. Joy, Shoba and kids have been a great blessing to not only Detroit EGF but also for the entire OFUESI Midwest families as Joy coordinated the 2008 Midwest Conference superbly. Bro. Mathew Thomas and family, who are now in Chicago, joined the Detroit EGF group in this farewell get-together held at Nokkus residence (Joseph and Bina). Praise be to God for His continued blessings. Please pray for Joy and his family for the journey mercies and relocation to India shortly. We will miss them.



Iowa Bible Fellowship Retreat, May 23-25, 2009

Bro. Anand Darla and his Des Moines, IA Bible study group hosted a retreat with theme of evangelism (Luke 10:2) which was attended by several from Minnesota, Iowa and Illinois/Wisconsin. Two Chicago EGF families (Mathew Thomas and Subha Kumpaty along with their families) participated in this retreat. The chief end of man is to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever and that's what we did in this Retreat. Rev. Naveen Balakrishnan, a convert from Hindu background who accepted Lord Jesus as his Savior while he was an international student in the US (1993), currently serving as a pastor at Hopewell

Baptist Church in Adams Run, SC, spoke on various facets of evangelism. His messages were based on the Master's sending out the twelve (Mt 10), the evangelism encounter of Jesus (Rich Young Ruler, Mt 19), the elementary basis for evangelism from John 13:34-35 (loving God's people now and to-be-found) and evangelizing our world (Acts 1:8). He emphasized the fact that we should not point to ourselves via our testimony but point people to Jesus. By showing people how they could not fulfill the law written in their hearts, we could establish their need for the Savior. Peter kept pointing the audience to Jesus by quoting Joel 2 and Psalm 16 and did not worry about his own testimony. We are the people of evangelism, we have the power for evangelism (the Holy Spirit) and there is a pattern for evangelism (family, friends and fellow-human beings). The attendees were encouraged in the Lord by other workshops also. We learnt about several missionaries who left their comfort zones so that many could hear the gospel. We were briefed on God's work through UESI among students on college campuses of India and presented with a need and an opportunity to invest in international students of various Universities here in the US. We were reminded of God's ownership of all the resources we have and that we ought to be faithful stewards of those. We were reminded of the spiritual disciplines- the Word, Prayer, Fellowship and Witnessing and that we ought to be balanced in these as obedient Christians in action with Christ as our center and goal. Whatever we do, we shall do for the glory of God. Des Moines group is vibrant and growing in kingdom values. In September 2008 Subha accompanied Bro. Richard Masih to conduct sessions at their get-together (2-day retreat). Iowa group has deliberate outreach to Indians in the software industry in and around Des Moines, IA. Praise God for His people and His unique work here.



One of the touching stories at this retreat was the sharing of Siby and Priya Thomas. Siby is the first person who is deaf and dumb, to graduate with a computer science degree in India. In a miraculous way, God provided Priya the grace to accept her mother's proposal to marry Siby. They have one son. Siby is currently in between jobs. Kindly pray.



An Afternoon of Apologetics with LT, June 13, 2009

Chicago EGF is hosting an afternoon with Mr. L.T. Jeyachandran of RZIM Singapore who ministered in our 2008 regional conferences along with Bro. Sathkeerthi Rao. For those from out-of-town interested in attending, Chicago EGF families are opening up their homes for the night stay. Please contact Bro. Mathew Thomas or Bro. Vinod Malachi regarding the meeting. It will feature two sessions—one message and one Q&A session. It is open to people from local churches as well. Kindly pray for God's anointing on the speaker and the audience.

Memorial Day Picnic at Gamrbill State Park, Frederick, MD (DC area EGF get-together)

DC-area EGF families (Cherian, Dakshinamurthy, Isaac, Selvaraj, Yesupriya) and their non-Christian friends enjoyed a day of fun, food and fellowship at Gamrbill State Park on the Memorial Day. Later on, they had tea at Dakshinamurthy household (Arun and Priya). They have a regular monthly bible study at Cherian home with a deliberate outreach to non-OFUESI families, calling themselves Columbia Bible Study group.



Excellence in Leadership

Does this ring a bell? Our speaker for the 2007 Regional Conferences, Bro. Richard Masih expanded the messages he shared with us and brought out a classic book by this title. Our past President, Dr. Prem Saganti had the honor to write the foreword. Please reserve a copy for yourself with the 2009 conference coordinators as we will try to procure copies in the next two months. Suggested donation: \$10.

*Rescue the perishing, care for the dying,
Snatch them in pity from sin and the grave;
Weep o'er the erring one, lift up the fallen,
Tell them of Jesus, the mighty to save. – Fanny Crosby*

QUOTES/THOUGHTS TO PONDER

Brethren, do something; do something; and do something. While committees waste their time over resolutions, do something. While societies and unions are making constitutions, let us win souls. Too often we discuss, and discuss, and discuss, while Satan only laughs in his sleeve. ... I pray you, be men of action all of you. Get to work, and conduct your selves like men. ... Our one aim is to save sinners, and this we are not merely to talk about, but to effect in the power of God. — **Charles Haddon Spurgeon** (1834-1896)

O Lord Jesus, give us the love for souls – give us a burning passion for souls. May that be the desire of our hearts; to lead some souls out of darkness to light, out of bondage to liberty, to lead some poor wonderer out of the darkness of this world to the blessed gospel. — **Dwight Lyman Moody** (1837-1899)



Urbana 09

Interested in InterVarsity's Missions Conference? Early-bird discount registration ends on June 30, 2009. The conference will take place in St. Louis, MO during Dec 27-31, 2009. Check out www.urbana09.org for more details.

May-June 2009

www.ofuesi.org