



**Lutherans in Mission
Working Around the World . . .
Fall 2026**

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New Hope Mission Society Invites You to Share in Witness to Christ in India

In this newsletter, we reach out to long-time and future partners as we witness together, primarily through the Bishara Center and the Shaliach's Bible College and Seminary in southern India. We are thankful that Abdul Messiah, son of K.K. Alavi, has shared with us the following updates on their mission's multiple expressions of witness to our Lord Jesus Christ, which he very recently provided. We also express our deeply felt thankfulness for the ongoing support from so many of you, even as we invite new partners in witness.

The Impact of One Life: The Testimony of Bhima Singh

Though an individual student might appear to be of little importance in the eyes of the world, a single reliable witness can transform a family, a village, or even several generations. Think about the far-reaching consequences: a well-trained pastor looks after hundreds of people, a missionary takes the Gospel to new villages, a teacher influences future church leaders, and a church planter sets up a congregation that will last longer than we all will.

A good example of the Gospel's influence is Bhima Singh, a student from Odisha. Bhima's experience started in a Hindu family that was characterized by disorder, addiction, and even hostility towards Christians; his family was known for opposing their Christian neighbors. However, when Bhima's mother fell seriously ill, a Christian pastor prayed for her, and she was cured. This incident led



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The Testimony of Bhima Singh continued from page 1

to new relationships and a commitment of faith. Bhima, who had previously been stuck in a destructive cycle, now found hope and a sense of purpose. He developed a growing desire to study the Bible and share Christ with others who lived as he once had.

Bhima, presently a student at the Shaliach's Bible College and Seminary, shares the following in a personal testimony: "When I first heard of Jesus, my life was marked by addiction and anger; our family was strongly opposed to Christians. The pastor taught us the Bible and our home became a place for prayer and fellowship. I am preparing to help those people who are in the same situation as I once experienced. If God wills it, I hope to become a pastor and go to homes like mine to spread Christ's love. Glory be to God."

A Mission Needs a Home Base from which the Witness Goes Forward



The Malabar area of Kerala is on the Southern tip of India and is extremely diverse and beautiful, yet it also has its own special difficulties. In this region, where Christians make up a small minority and most of our neighbors are Muslims or Hindus, our work must be slow, patient, and at times misunderstood. At the same time, it is a place full of hope, relationships, and witness. Bishara (the word for Good News) exists to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ—not by using force or through debate—but by showing His love in words and actions among those who have never really heard the Gospel.

Training Center for Witnesses Training for the Harvest

Since 2014, Shaliach's Bible College and Seminary has been providing men and women from all over India with the training needed to become pastors, evangelists, teachers, and missionaries. Our graduate students are not only dispatched to pulpits, but are sent to villages, cities, and communities where the name of Christ is little known. Each student comes from a distinct background, having in many cases needed to overcome financial difficulty, social pressure, or family misjudgment.



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Training for the Harvest continued from page 2

The aim is to send out believers who can teach, serve, and lead faithfully regardless of their situation. This academic year, 25 graduates will be commissioned as the next group of leaders sent into God's harvest fields. They will experience in a land of 1.4 billion people, great linguistic, cultural, and religious diversity.

We are all called to surround them with our prayers for their safety and for Holy Spirit-empowered, effective witness.



Introducing Pete Olsen: Offering to Give New Leadership to Our NHMS Board

Pete Olsen has been recently active on our NHMS board. He brings a passion for the mission and brings past experiences that will serve us well going forward. Pete is an ordained pastor, graduating from Luther Northwestern Seminary and ordained in 1983. After serving a two-point parish in Brooten, MN, Pete moved into leadership in the Health industry through sales, account management, and marketing. For some 30 years, he managed regional and national teams, retiring in 2020.

He has two children and two grandchildren. For those supporters who know the Freunds, Pete is the brother of Stephanie Freund.

We are delighted to have Pete bring his rich experiences and connections to the mission of NHMS.



Thanks for Assisting These Mission Partners Through Your Ongoing Financial Support

Financial Update: The January - August year-to-date balance sheet shows income of \$64,432 and expenses of \$67,890 for a **-\$3,467** balance. The board thanks you for your giving and encourages strong year end giving to close out the year with a positive balance.

You can support the New Hope Mission Society and these faithful ministries by mailing your check to the address noted below. You can also give online by using this QR Code, which will allow you to set up a login to give regularly or to send a one-time gift. Thank you for your generous and faithful support!

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NHMS is a mission begun some twenty-five years ago as a cadre of Lutherans from the United States was introduced to Pastor K.K. Alavi, a converted Muslim seeking support for witness to Christ, especially to those of the Muslim faith in India. Its office is located at Faith Lutheran Church (LCMC) in Hutchinson, MN. NHMS is incorporated as a distinct mission with support from congregations and individuals. Leaders of NHMS welcome your questions and suggestions.

