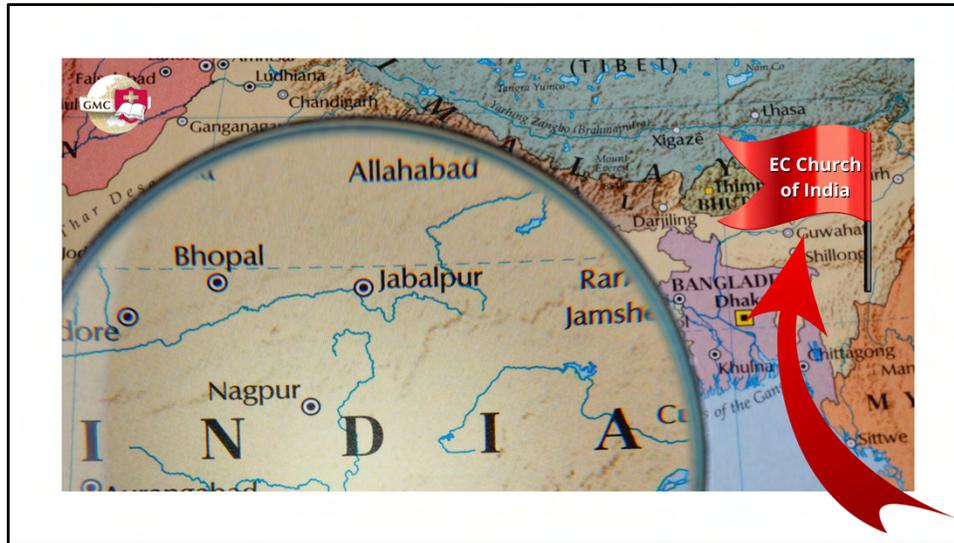




Welcome back to Vacation Bible School and our third Missions Moment for the week! Have you been having fun so far? I'm sure you have! We are going to take a little closer look today at all the work being done in India through the EC Church of India. Let's get started!



The EC Church of India's headquarters and campus is in the small section of India to the east - do you see the red flag?



It's there that you will find the Evangelical Congregational Church of India's campus, along with the Evangelical College of Theology. This is the entrance to the campus.



Our Scripture for India is Matthew 11:28-30. Can you say it with me? If you remember from yesterday, there are many people in India who have never heard that Jesus loves them. He wants all to come to Him - even boys and girls like you who live in India! Let's continue to pray that people in India will put their trust in Jesus and accept Him into their hearts! The pastors and leaders of the EC Church in India are committed to sharing Jesus' message to all!

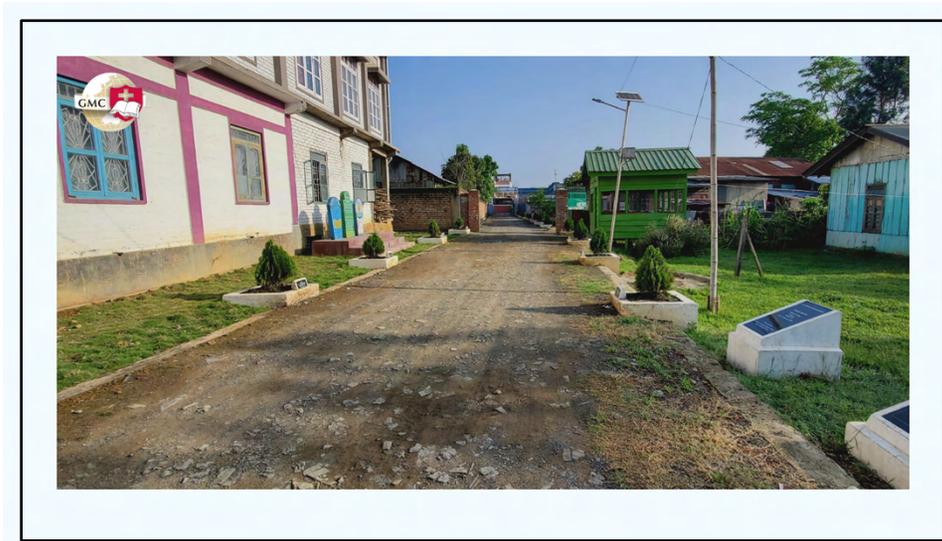


This past April, Pastor Ted Rathman, the Global Ministries Director for the EC Denomination, and our now, Bishop Emeritus, Rev. Bruce Hill, visited our EC brothers and sisters in India. They were they for a little over a week and stayed on the EC Church of India campus. Here is the Head Office and Chapel.



The campus also houses the Evangelical College of Theology. Do you know what a College of Theology teaches? Students at this college learn to become pastors and missionaries. The students study the Word of God so they can teach others about Jesus. When the students graduate, they will go into Manipur and its neighboring states in Northeast India and its surrounding countries of Myanmar, Bhutan, Nepal and Bangladesh. They will teach God's word to those who don't know Jesus.



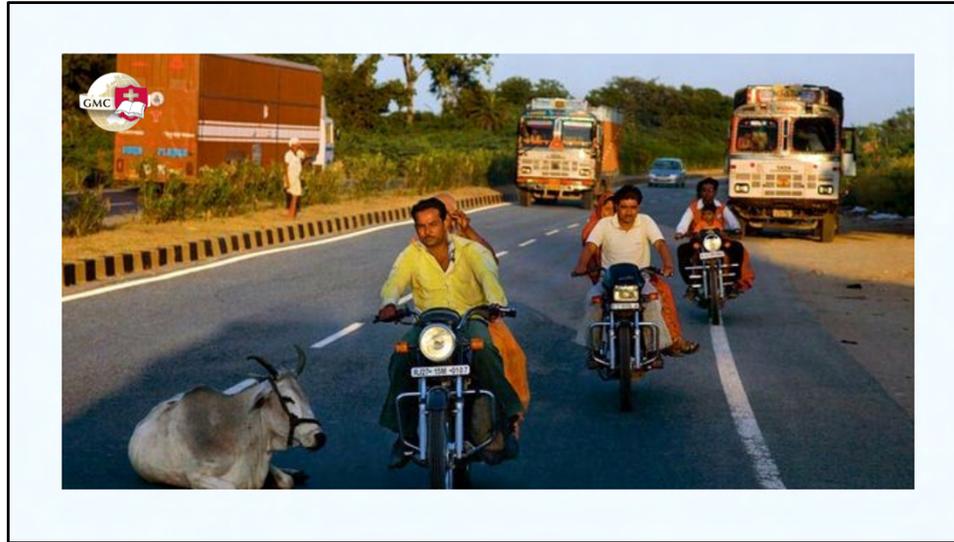


There are many projects to complete to help the EC Church of India's campus to be safe, secure and freshened up for students, faculty and staff, and the EC Headquarters leaders.





This is a fence on the property that needs to be replaced with a much sturdier wall. A wall is not only for safety but also to keep out animals.



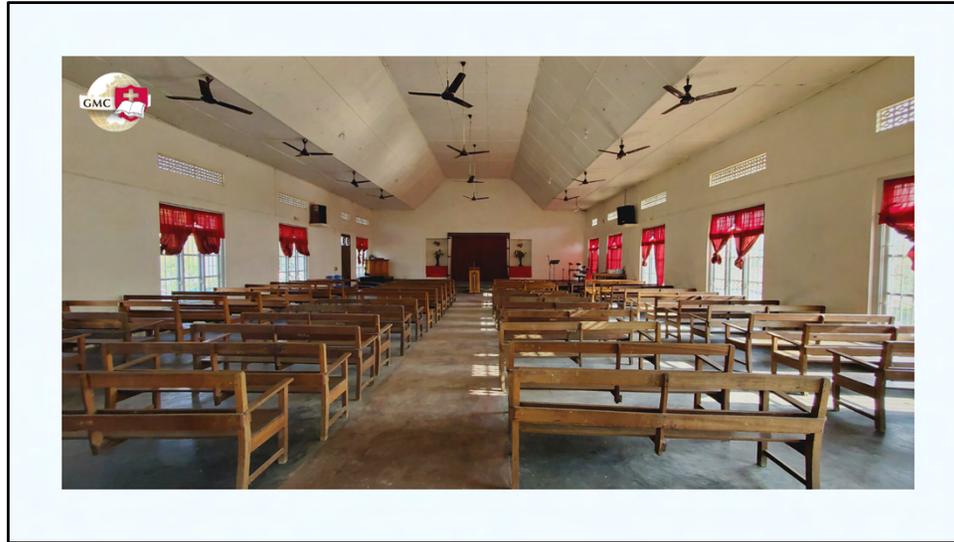
You may be surprised by this, but in India cows are allowed to roam freely in the streets.



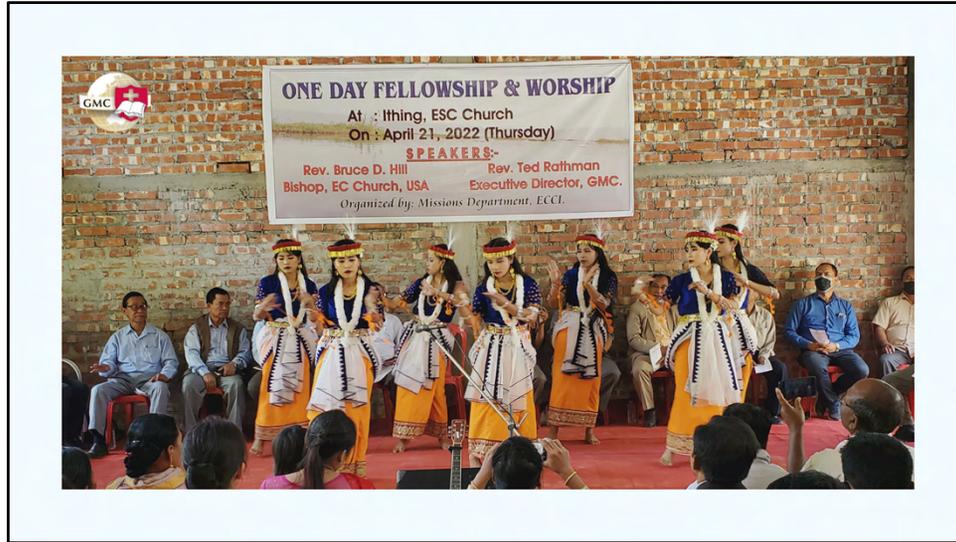
Hindus consider their Indian cows as holy, and they are allowed to freely roam anywhere they want to go.



This is why a much sturdier wall is needed on the campus – one very much like this one. Our offerings this week during Vacation Bible School will help the EC Church of India to replace that old, broken-down fence with a brick and concrete wall.



While Pastor Ted and Bishop Emeritus Bruce were in India, they had the opportunity to visit many churches and attend many services.





Everywhere they went they were given very special gifts – like vests, scarves, and even hats. The gentleman on the far right is Rev. Paozathang (pow-zi-tong) Singson. He is the leader of the EC Church of India. You might remember Pastor Ted teaching us how to say his name on the video a couple nights ago! Rev. Singson has a very important job to do as he leads and teaches and equips many to become pastors and missionaries in India.





Most of the people who live in this part of India are not Christians and have not heard of Jesus. Most people (about 97%) practice other religions like Hinduism or Islam. The pastors and missionaries and the teachers at the Evangelical College of Theology and the EC Church of India are working hard to teach other Christians to share God's Word with the Hindus and Muslims who live in their area.





They also want to share God’s word with both the rich and the poor. Just like our country, there are both rich and poor people who live there. Here is a picture of a city in India with cars and stores where people who have money can shop.



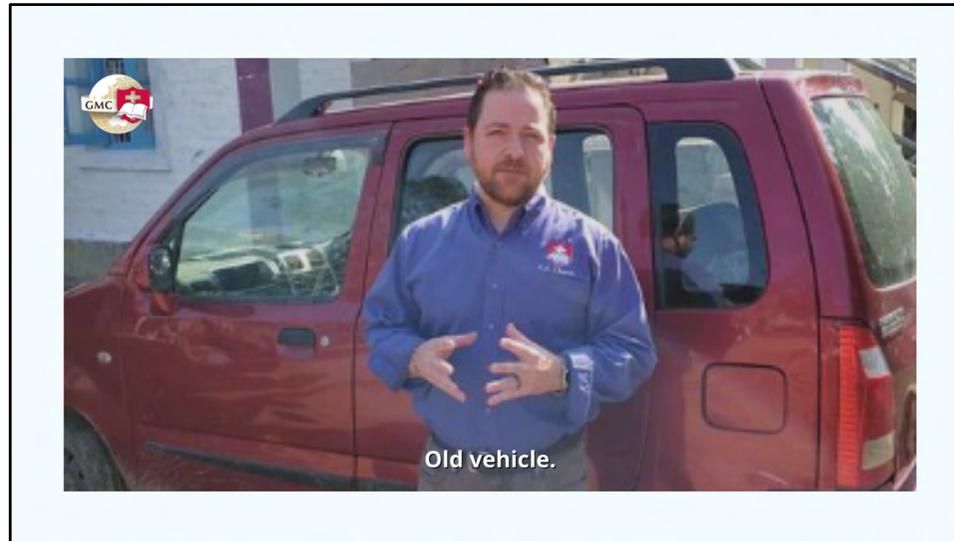
Here is a picture of a place where the poor would live in one of the larger cities in India. These people are very, very poor. Many of these families are so poor that the children cannot go to school. They have to work all day to get a few coins to buy some food.



The pastors and missionaries of the EC Church of India continue to work hard to share the Good News of Jesus' love for everyone.



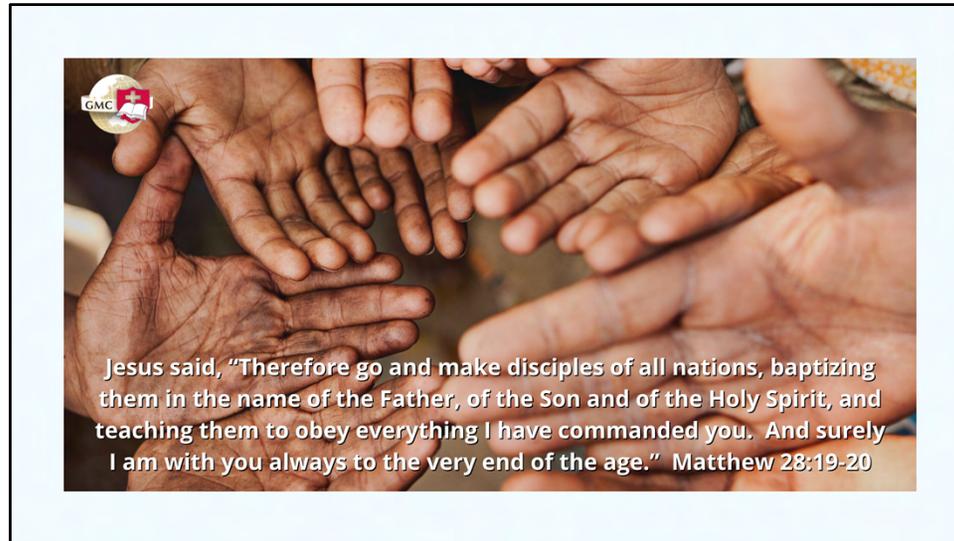
Even the smallest ones!



But sometimes it is hard to get to the farthest remote places in India. Rev. Singson was limited to going many places because his vehicle just would not be able to take him there. Here is a picture of Pastor Ted standing in front of the “not so useful” vehicle.



And here is the new vehicle that was able to be purchased through the generous gifts from churches right here in the United States. So, you see, even your offerings that will help to build a sturdy wall on the EC Church of India campus go to much needed projects to allow the work God has called those pastors and missionaries to do - reach ALL people in India. And it starts with just a little seed of blessing like that of your offerings you bring to Vacation Bible School.



Jesus said, "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:19-20

This is what the leaders, pastors, and missionaries in India are doing - making disciples. They are so thankful for boys and girls like you who join in that work with them by giving of your offerings.

We conclude our Missions Moments tomorrow! See you then!