

# The Scroll, Christ Church, NOIDA November 2023-Special Edition





### From the Pastor's Desk

Rev. Sandeep David, Presbyter in charge, Christ Church Noida



### **Tracing Outreach in the Bible**

Reaching out to the unreached This mandate for the church goes back to the times of Jesus when He commanded the 72 to minister in towns and villages. The idea behind philanthropic activities is to spread the universal love of God, and in the process, the gospel is preached either through direct evangelism or through the action of the church.

The outreach ministry of Jesus had projects like healing the sick and demon-possessed, feeding the hungry, drinking to the thirsty, clothing the naked, sheltering the destitute, encouraging the prisoners (Mt. 25:42–43), ministering to the dead (Lk. 17, Jn. 11), and so on. Jesus even reached out to the oppressed and marginalised to empower them. His ministry involved women's empowerment (Jn. 4, Jn. 8) and children's education (Mathew 19). His main idea was to instil in people a sense of dignity and self-esteem. Jesus Christ said, "I have come that they may have life and have it to the full." John 10:10.

Preaching without deeds is useless. The love of God needs to reach the masses, irrespective of their religion, caste, culture, or any other background. Your identity has nothing to do with the grace of God, and this is evident from Jesus healing the daughter of a Syrophoenician woman (Mk. 7:24ff), a servant of the centurion (Mt. 8:5–13), and His encounter with 10 Lepers in Luke 17, which was a heterogeneous group. Moreover, we are even well aware of His ministry among the Samaritans.

Jesus had both centrifugal and centripetal missions. He reached out to people, and people reached out to him—all because he loved them and was approachable. Jesus, in His outreach programme, did not have conversion as his motive. His motive was to inspire them by serving them. Evangelism has many dimensions. One of these is evangelism through serving the creation. You spread the love of God through your presence by serving society.

Christ Church Noida has been actively involved in philanthropic activities through its projects like the Education Centre for Children and Women Empowerment. We are also part of the healing ministry by supporting the medical bills of the needy and providing educational support for needy students. The church also helps other churches in need of funds for their renovation and construction projects. Christ Church Noida is also involved in pre-marital and post-marital counselling and family, youth, and other counselling. Educational support for theological students is a two-dimensional ministry where, apparently, educational support also serves as support for evangelical ministry. The church also supports para-church organisations by sharing resources, both financially and otherwise.

We need to pray, participate, and support this ministry financially to continue to spread the love of God and be a blessing to the nation.

In Christ

#### From the Editor's Desk

## Participate and Be Blessed! By Anand Peter



Members of our church are likely aware of the Outreach Ministry that we oversee. Ironically, it appears that only a small number of churchgoers are involved in the ministry, with the great majority just contributing financially or raising a few questions during Annual General Body Meetings. It is crucial to take part in the church's community outreach programs not only from a distance but as an active participant. Let us examine a few of the advantages.

Building Culture: Participating in community service on a regular basis allows you to form several habits that you can use in your everyday life. Because they have never heard of evangelism, or rather leave it to professional Evangelists, a large number of Christians don't engage in it in their local communities. One excellent strategy to make considerable progress in this area is to regularly attend outreach services with the team. You will begin to view the world with kindness, compassion, and invitation, and you will also develop a "Kingdom-first" perspective in your life.

Leadership Development: Volunteering in the community ministry is a fantastic way to employ your innate talents and skills. Working in environments that emphasise servanthood is a terrific place to start if you are interested in becoming a leader. You will start to see your strengths and limitations as you help others in ways that you cannot see in the setting of normal church services, groups, classes, or similar relational situations. Therefore, church outreach programmes are an excellent place to start if you want to awaken your inner leader.

Christ's method of discipleship placed a strong emphasis on involvement. Following the act, the disciples were given the opportunity to speak as they participated in ministry. Engaging in these activities and reminiscing about community-focused events can teach you lifelong lessons that you will keep with you for a very long time. You will learn to be a part of the solution and get the ability to impact your community in ways that no other group has. Each of these brings back memories and long-lasting transformations into your life.

Changing lives is the aim of church outreach initiatives. One of the best ways to impact the lives of many people in your community is to reach out. Engaging with individuals and facilitating the healing of those harmed by the subtleties of cultural shifts will be Pleasing to the Lord. It also provides an opportunity for individuals to bring the Good News to those who have never heard of the Gospel. Consequently, lives will be changed, and new individuals will begin visiting church.



# Our Presbyters who Led the Projects from the Front



Bishop Rt. Rev. Dr. Paul Swarup

Rev. Kamal Mall Rev. Sunil Gazan Rev. Sandeep
David

# Pastored from 2004 to 2011

He was the visionary behind the Outreach Projects of the church. The Chalera Project was launched by him in2007 and the Tailoring Project

# Pastored from 2011 to 2018

He sustained the projects. Project venue was shifted from the Chaupal to a rented place and then to the church premises

# Pastored from 2018 to 2020

A lover of children, in his time he bought playthings for the them. He also introduced a light but nutritious meal for the children

## Pastored from 2020 till date

He fast racked the replication of the remedial education programme in Morna, NOIDA. He has a vision for new projects.



# The Prime Movers They resolutely sustained the Outreach







**Anand Peter** 

Kamna Cowasjee

Brig. Rajiv Williams







Dr. Helen R Shekar



Punam Runda

## OUTREACH at CCN 2007 to 2023 - History of the Chalera Project



### By Mrs. Kamna Cowasjee

The word OUTREACH is an umbrella under which many activities rest. Its span covers Education for both children and adults and stretches to charity and disaster relief; from feeding the poor and providing medical cover to planting Churches. Christ Church Noida is involved with all these activities. Starting in 2007, under then Rev. Dr Paul Swarup, the second Pastor to take over Christ and subsequent Pastors Church, to present times, the Church has been favouring reaching out to people in different walks of life, having a variety of needs and in this manner attempting to fulfil God's mandate of service to the "least of humankind".

The main Church hall was consecrated on 7 December 1997, which is one of the reasons the Church Fete is held on the second Sunday of December, to celebrate the consecration anniversary of Christ Church. However, the construction of the parsonage and parish hall (in that order) was undertaken in the years 2004 to 2007. On their completion, it was time to look beyond, and Rev. Dr. Paul Swarup shared his vision of starting an education unit as a project of the Church. Dr Helen Sekar, then a member of the Pastorate Committee, shared information about the survey being conducted by the V. V. Giri Institute, on rag-pickers in Noida, and the fact that they constituted school dropouts and street urchins, were bonus information, and that one such group was located in Chalera, a village close to the Church. What followed led to the Chalera Project seed being planted on 14 November 2007

Again, with Dr. Helen Sekar's assistance, the owners of the village Chowpal were identified and consented to allow us to use the area free of cost, for running a school. 60 school dropouts and rag pickers were identified in the age group of 6 to 14 and with 4 willing persons, ready to take up the challenge of teaching, the project took off. None were trained teachers, but all had faith that the Lord would guide them along the way. And He did. Mildred Meshi, Suman, Nathan and I were the workers, with Mr Peters who brought in the funds from the Mustard Seed Foundation, as a guide and mentor. Rajini joined in March 2008 and is still with the project.

It took the teachers six months to grade the students into classes LKG to Class I. From April 2008 course curriculum was established, books bought and soon after, uniforms given. It was a beautiful, dedicated and cohesive group, that worked together to bring joy, discipline and learning into the lives of those who needed it desperately. It was challenging, required patience and was a labour of love. The Church prayed for the project and there was no looking back.

In 2009 the second outreach in the form of Tailoring classes took off in Ambedkar Vihar, with half a dozen students and Princy a young girl just out of training herself, at the helm of teaching. She too is with us till today.

## OUTREACH at CCN 2007 to 2023 - Contd.



## By Mrs. Kamna Cowasjee

Sushma Sachdeva was the first coordinator for the tailoring unit and when she moved south, Lily Abraham took over for a short period, till her illness forced her to withdraw. A tie-up with Usha International ensured students received certificates at the end of 6 months or one year and could take up employment.

After two years the education programme shifted to a location closer to the road and expanded to have classes II and III. Preeti and Joseph joined the group of volunteers to take devotional sessions once/twice a week. In 2013 Jan, under the guidance of Rev.Kamal Mall, the project was shifted to the Church premises and along with it the Tailoring unit moved too.

The first batch of 5 students who scored above 70% in their final exams, were admitted to Lord Mahavir School in 2011. The Church members generously came forward to support their education of Rs.20,000/ per annum. Other students were admitted to other regular schools in Ambedkar Vihar. This was repeated in the following 2 consecutive years. This led to initiating remedial tuition classes in the afternoon, to help these students with Homework and filling gaps in understanding of subjects being taught.

The school project was downsized in the year 2015 to admission students to LKG and UKG only. After which admission to Class I was initiated in Amity and other schools



# The Genesis of the Outreach at Chalera Chaupal -2007-2011







# Early Years of the Outreach





# Tailoring Project for Empowerment of Women



## Christ Church Outreach Projects

By Brig Rajiv Williams, YSM (Veteran)



Christ Church NOIDA, initiated its first 'Outreach project', at Village Chalera in 2007, under the guidance of Revd. Dr. Paul Swarup, Presbyter I/C. The focus was to educate the children of ragpickers, and other marginalised sections of society and a very inclusive approach adopted by starting the learning centre at a space given by the local community in the Mandir complex.

Initially there were just a few students, however over time the learning centre grew to over 60 children. To accommodate the growing numbers, the venue shifted from one place to another till it was positioned at the Church premises. Besides the education for the first-time school learners, the project enlarged its scope by adding other programmes like the skill training program (tailoring centre) in 2009 and volunteering. With the initial support given by Mustard seed, an NGO, followed by support under an MoU with Jindal Stainless Foundation, the project could scale up and enlarge its scope.

Revd. Kamal Mall, who relieved Revd. Paul Swarup, along with members of the Chalera Committee defined the Project vision Statement - 'Holistic development of the Urban Poor and the Marginalised imbibing Christian Values.'

Despite the usual reports of the project shared during the Church AGM, not many members were aware of the work being carried out and hence it was imperative to share the project details and outcomes with the congregation. This resulted in almost instant support pouring in with volunteers coming forward to add value to the project, donating fees of children, who finished the initial phase at the learning centre and wanted to study further etc. This was further acknowledged by the Diocese and the fete appeal focused on the project.

Volunteers for teaching children 'Art and craft', computer education, storytelling, block printing and so on, made the program more dynamic and exciting. The remedial education program also started for the children mainstreamed in regular schools and help was rendered by volunteer teachers.

I am certain with the support of the congregation; the project will continue to find a 'Pride of place' in our Church and with all humility and commitment grow in extant. I believe with clarity in thought and the end line clear, dedication and not finance will be the driver of the program. May our CCN Outreach project continue with a firm resolve and be a program worth emulation for the many who would like to follow the path in sync with the Christian principle of "Love and respect" with equality and equanimity.

### CCN Outreach Projects

By Mrs. Christy Franklin



In the beginning, Our Church outreach project was running in Chalara Village and Harijan Basti and later on, in the year 2014, it was moved to our Church premises. Mrs. Kamna Cowasjee, who was the Project Co-Ordinator wished to be relieved, in the year 2017 during the AGM after taking care of the projects for several years. Project Director Brig. Rajiv Williams proposed my name to take care of the Project. I have taken up this challenge and for the past 6 years, I have been trying my best to support the growth of the project. In the year 2023, Mrs. Kamna Cowasjee is the convenor of this project.

#### The present model of the Project:

- ➤ We take in children 6 years and below, who have never been to any school and equip them to join regular schools by putting them through suitably modified classroom programs for a year.
- These children, normally numbering about 40, are placed in two groups and two teachers attend to them for 4 hours a day.
- At the end of one year, these children are placed in appropriate classes in the Government and private schools.
- At any point in time, we can handle 40 children in the morning for 4 hours from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM
- ➤ We support them financially for their school fees, uniforms, and books when they are placed in mainstream schools.
- > Once or twice a year the children are taken out for an educational-cum-picnic trip.
- ➤ Children are also given opportunities to participate in the church's annual fete and to perform before the congregation.
- ➤ Older women from the houses of these children also some young girls are offered training in tailoring.
- These are normally 6 month's programs and at the end of it, they are awarded certificates by USHA International.
- We send our children to mainstream schools like Lord Mahavir School, Sai Kripa, Saraswathi School, SOF, Vidya & Child, and Amity School (NGO) total of 60 children from our project.
- > At present 95 of our project children are studying in different mainstream schools.
- > The first batch of the Project finished their schooling and graduated.
- > Two of our project children have started their own business and three girls are working now.

#### The project has three sections:

- 1. Learning Centre: We have children in the age group of 4 and it is like a preparatory class. Once eligible to go to a mainstream school, we try to put them in different schools which are run by NGOs. At present, we have 40 children in our learning centre and the class timings are from 9 a.m to 1 p.m. We have two teachers Mrs Amita Masih & Mrs. Punam Runda also have one helper Mrs. Dolly Joseph. Healthy Refreshments are provided to them daily also we are very particular in giving them Biblical teachings, songs, moral values and so on.
- 2. Remedial Classes: Apart from the Learning centre we had remedial classes for the students who attend mainstream schools. At present we have 15 students from different schools are attending and timings are from 2 5 p.m. The students receive help with their homework and additional assistance during exam time. We nourish them with healthy refreshments and also spiritual food like Biblical teachings, stories etc. Every day they have their regular prayer. Mrs. Rajni Nawani & Mrs. Ruth Nath were helping the students. In the current year, we don't have any remedial classes.

## CCN Outreach Projects-Contd

## By Mrs. Christy Franklin



3. Tailoring Unit: We have two batches between 12-3p.m & 3 p.m – 6 p.m. and accredited with Usha International Ltd. Once in six months they have to sit for the exams and the certificates will be provided by them. The Unit also makes uniforms for our Learning Centre children. They also make different items for our Church fete to raise funds. Ms. Princy is helping our students in the Tailoring unit.

#### Activities:

- Every year celebrate Independence Day, Republic Day, Children's Day, Teachers Day, Sports Day etc.
- ➤ Teachers' Day was celebrated with a skit and some fun activities for the teachers. In the end, teachers were presented with a token of appreciation by the Church.
- ➤ Token of appreciation: We would like to appreciate the gesture of Women Fellowship of Bethel Methodist Church who donated two sewing machines to our Tailoring Unit. They were very much impressed by our Church outreach Project which motivated them to start their outreach project in Bethel Methodist Church.

#### New Project:

- ➤ In the year 2022, we started a Learning centre in Morna Village, Sector 34, Noida in agreement with Ps. Amos.
- ➤ 30 children are studying in this centre.
- Mrs. Rajni Nawani & Mrs. Greaty Masih are teaching in the Morna centre
- ➤ We have already put three children in Amity mainstream school in the year 2023.

we started our staff prayer every Thursday at 2 p.m. followed by a Fellowship contributory lunch which is cooked by our Project staff. This enables us to understand about each other and strengthens our relationship.

I would like to thank Brig. Williams & Rev. Kamal Mall who allowed me to take care of the project 6 years before when Mrs. Kamna Cowasjee quit our project and I took it as God's call and put my best for the growth of the project. Also, I would like to thank Aunty Kamna for her timely advice and our previous Pastor Rev. Kamla Mall & Rev. Sunil Ghazan and our current Presbyter In Charge Rev. Sandeep David for their constant Support & encouragement.





## CCN Outreach Projects-Contd. By Mrs. Christy Franklin



















A church outreach ministry is a programme or initiative carried out by a church to provide support, assistance, and resources to individuals and communities in need. The goal of this ministry is to reach out and make a positive impact on the lives of others, following the example of Jesus Christ. This ministry can take on various forms, depending on the needs of the community and the resources available. Some common activities and services a church may consider to offer as part of this ministry are:

**Food distribution**: providing food to those who are hungry or struggling financially through food drives, food pantries, or community meals.

**Homelessness and housing assistance**: offering shelter, transitional housing, or rental assistance to individuals experiencing homelessness or unstable housing situations

**Healthcare and medical services**: organising medical clinics, health screenings, or health education programmes to address the healthcare needs of underserved populations

**Education and tutoring**: providing educational resources, tutoring, or mentorship programmes for children and youth who may need additional academic support

**Clothing and personal care**: collecting and distributing clothing, hygiene products, and other essential items to individuals and families in need.

**Prison ministry**: offering support, counselling, and spiritual guidance to individuals who are incarcerated or recently released from prison

**Support for vulnerable populations**: providing assistance and advocacy for the elderly, single parents, refugees, immigrants, or those affected by addiction or domestic violence.

**Community development**: engaging in projects that aim to enhance the overall well-being of a community, such as renovating community spaces, organising neighbourhood clean-ups, or participating in environmental conservation efforts.

**Counselling and emotional support**: offering counselling services or support groups to individuals going through challenging times, such as grief, divorce, or mental health struggles.

**Mission trips**: sending teams of volunteers to serve in communities outside of the local area, both domestically and internationally, to address specific needs and engage in short-term projects.

Overall, a church outreach ministry seeks to extend the love, compassion, and faith of the church to those who are marginalised, disadvantaged, or facing various hardships. It is an essential part of the church's mission to serve and support the broader community.



# 2nd Phase 2011-2018















#### **Outreach in Churches**

By Rev. Dn. Goldwin William

Greetings in the Eminent name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

The Christ Church, Noida (CNI) provides the outreach programs to designed, to assist, uplift, and support people who are underprivileged. It includes providing education, social planning, health care, and other programs for their well-being.

#### According to the scripture:

"And how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work."

#### 2 Timothy 3: 15-17

The Christ church, Noida has taken an initiative to provide education to the underprivileged children. Providing education helps them to transform their lives in a better version of themselves as well as to the society where they will help the nation to be a better place to live. In this program the teachers are volunteer their time to help the church and the community, they provide education to prepare the children for the mainstream schools where they can receive same education like the other students.

Another well-known course in the church outreach program is Tailoring Course that is believed to be competent education especially for females to make them self-sufficient in order that they are able to face various challenges of the world on their own.

The Christ Church, Noida additionally hosts a Vocational Bible School during Summer Vacations, where children from the church and nearby neighbourhoods are invited to attend a summer camp where teachers and volunteers arrange fun games, biblical sessions such as storytelling, skit performances, and various competitions such as singing, drawing, and so on, where people can grow strong spiritually in Christ Our Lord.

The Christ Church, Noida also assists students, particularly teenagers, who wish to continue theological studies by educating them on church vestments and providing major Biblical knowledge through pastors and laymen.

The church congregation also supports and generously sponsors these outreach projects, and they support a variety of social service initiatives to ensure their continued success. These outreach activities are not exclusively religious, but they do help individuals in need time to time.

I am personally praying for the continuous success of these outreach programs and may the Lord Almighty God bless this wonderful endeavour undertaken by the church congregation and the outreach church committee.



# The 3<sup>rd</sup> Phase-2018-2020











# Outreach FAQs By Vineeta Rebecca Williams Great is your faithfulness, Lord, to me.



The King will reply, Truly, I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." Matthew 26:40Q.

#### 1. What is outreach?

Outreach is the activity of providing services to any population that might not otherwise have access to those services.

### 2. What are the categories of outreach?

- a) Domiciliary—undertaken at home
- b) Detachment is undertaken in a public environment.
- c) Peripatetic—undertaken in public or private environments and targeting organisations rather than individuals'
- d) Satellite services are provided at a dedicated site.

#### 3: What is the role of an outreach programme?

- a) Outreach is often meant to fill in the gap in the services provided by mainstream agencies (often governmental) and is often carried out by non-profit, non-governmental organisations.
- b) Compared with traditional service providers, outreach services are provided closer to where people may reside, and efforts are often voluntary.
- c) Outreach has an educational role as well, which includes raising awareness and identifying underserved populations.

### 4. How can outreach be explained by any practical programme?

Street outreach is a classic example for homeless and migrant populations. Various government and non-government agencies engage in this challenging task. Street outreach comes in different forms. ———-from people walking around carrying supplies or offering resources to mobile health clinics with teams of medical volunteers driving around and offering services.

Regardless of its form, the essence of street outreach is the desire to meet people where they are, to build deep trust and connections, to offer support, and to reinforce human dignity and respect that are deserving of all people.

# Outreach FAQs - Continued By Vineeta Rebecca Williams Great is your faithfulness, Lord, to me.



The core elements of effective street outreach include:

- a) Systematic
- b) Coordinated
- c) Comprehensive
- d) housing focussed
- e) person centre's
- f) trauma informed
- g) culturally responsive
- h) emphasising safety and reducing harm
- i) enhancing informal educational levels
- j) skill training, etc.

#### [Reference.Wikipedia.org.]

As the introductory verse from the gospel suggests, we, as followers of the Lord Jesus, have a responsibility towards our fellow human beings. How we fulfil it is what outreach is all about.

Starting with outreach within the environs of home, we are gradually exposed to the vast needs of human beings who are not as fortunate as we are. The Church, as the Body of Christ, has been actively involved in various outreach projects of diverse degrees.

The Scriptures encourage us to bring to fruition this mandate of the Lord. CCN is a shining example of the outreach projects it is undertaking. What started with small children who were ragpickers and also beggars has become a beacon of hope for the least of these—the brothers and sisters of the King.

Hebrews 4:13 reminds us that we are accountable for all our deeds.

"Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account."

Let our outreach, whether private or public be able to reach out to our fellow human beings.



# Current Phase-2020 Onwards















# CURRENT PHASE MORNA OUTREACH











## मेरा अनुभव

परमेष्वर का धन्यवाद करती हूँ कि मुझे 2013 में इस प्रोजेक्ट के साथ जोड़ा। मुझे इसमें जुड़ कर बहुत खुषी हुई। मुझे बच्चों को पढ़ाने का और उनको समझने का मौका मिला इस प्रोजेक्ट में बच्चे उस स्तर से आते है जिन्होने अपने बचपन में अपने माता-पिता के साथ काम करना शुरू कर देते है गरीबी के कारण। माता-पिता पढ़े लिखे नही होने के कारण अपने बच्चों को षिक्षा देने के तरफ ध्यान नही देते। ऐसे बच्चों को हम वेसिक षिक्षा देते है इस प्रोजेक्ट में। फिर इन बच्चों को उच्च माध्यमिक षिक्षा वाले एन जी ओ या स्कूलों में दाखिल करवाते हैं जहाँ ये अपनी षिक्षा प्राप्त करते हैं और इनकी फीस या तो बहुत कम होता है या फ्री षिक्षा देते है। ताकि ये अपने लिए रोजगार प्राप्त कर सके इनके व्यवहार में भी बदलाव आता है। और ये समाज में एक जगह अपने लिए बना सकते है। मुझे ऐसे बच्चों के बीच में सेवा कर के बहुत खुषी और संतोष मिलता है। इनके बीच में परमेष्वर का वचन भी सिखाने और बताने का मौका मिलता है। परमेष्वर का धन्यवाद करती हूँ।