#### **December 2022**



## India Rural Evangelical Fellowship

PO Box 1332 Park Ridge, IL 60068-7332

IREF Info Line: p 847.220.IREF (4733) f 847.680.4270

Visit us on the web: www.irefusa.org

Send us an email: info@irefusa.org

Dear IREF Family,

On the behalf of IREF India, we want to thank you all for your continued support and prayer for God's work in 2022. We are appreciative of your dedication to the ministry of IREF.

God is still faithfully working on our behalf. Standing steady in God's mission in India, we were able to witness nearly 50 baptisms, the completion of an IREF village church renovation project, over 10 pastoral-training conferences, and a campus full of students again. These are just some of the highlights for IREF India in 2022.

As a ministry, we look forward to serving the Lord faithfully through education, evangelism, and community engagement in this upcoming year. We aim to provide education to the poorest of the poor so that they can break the cycle of poverty. We want to deliver the Good News of Jesus Christ to those who still have not heard the Gospel. We desire to be difference-makers in highly impoverished rural India through engaging in community development programs.

Thank you for your continued prayer for the ministry of IREF and our family. We certainly cannot do the work that God has called us to do without you.

God's blessings to you all this Christmas Season!

Sincerely, Emmanuel and Dee Rebba on behalf of IREF INDIA







### **2022 IREF Gift Catalog is Online!**



Make an impact this Christmas season through the 2022 Gift Catalog. In this gift catalog, we've included various tools that IREF uses to practically care for the students on campus. Please consider donating towards items such as a Telugu Bible, a hygiene kit for a child, or a disaster relief kit for a family in need!

One gift this season can have a far-reaching impact, touching children and families, and rippling out to transform entire communities. Scan the QR code or visit www.irefusa.org/gift to view the 2022 Gift Catalog.



Visit www.irefusa.org/gift or SCAN THE QR CODE to make a difference today!

# Did you know that approximately 31% of all non-profit giving

**occurs in December?** As you consider making your year-end donation, please consider giving to India Rural Evangelical Fellowship. As of December 1st, IREF has received \$721,400 of our \$885,000 need.

\*\*\*One-third of the unreached people groups of the world are in one country: India. You can help us change that.
This year, your support has trained and equipped over 10,000 pastors across India. God's Word is spreading!\*\*\*

On behalf of the IREF board and staff, thank you for your prayers, support, and advocacy this year. We look forward to sharing stories and ministry impact with you through our Annual Report coming in February.

"In every prayer for all of you, I always pray with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it to completion until the day of Chris Jesus." – Philippians 1:4-6





December 2022 continued...

India Rural Evangelical Fellowship **Children's Day is celebrated across India** to raise awareness about the rights, education, and welfare of children. It is celebrated on November 14th every year on the birthday of the First Prime Minister of India, Jawaharlal Nehru. Nehru once said in an interview "I have always felt that the children of today will make the India of tomorrow, and, the way we bring them up will determine the future of the country." This is exactly what IREF's aim is today for the children it cares for.



IREF celebrated Children's Day with an assembly commentating the day, games, an awards ceremony which featured dances, speeches and gifts. It was day packed with events to allow kids to be kids. In the impoverished conditions of rural India, children are forced to "grow up" quickly and share family burdens. Children's Day at IREF is cherished because this is an environment where children are given the opportunities to be themselves, know and be loved by Jesus, and be cared for. We celebrate Children's Day as the song says "Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world. They are precious in His sight."

What a beautiful truth! God loves all the children in India and in their world. They are truly precious in His sight. Each child at IREF is precious in our eyes. Thank you for each of you who pray and yearn that these children would be cared for, loved, educated and received by Christ.

**After two full years** of haulted travel to IREF due to COVID, we are happy to welcome back the US and UK medical mission team in January 2023. Every year the medical missions team consists of committed professionals from the US and UK, who volunteer their time and resources to providing medical care to Southeast India and have been doing so for close to 30 years. These teams bring medication, medical equipment and much talent in order to perform the highest quality of care that is unavailable in rural India. It is no easy task transporting all this equipment and baggage 8,000 miles to IREF via airplane, train and automobile. However, their goal is to follow God's calling to care for the poor and needy.

Please join us in prayer for safety, health and the Holy Spirit to move among not only our teams, but also the people that will be receiving treatment from the team.





#### **Prayer & Praise**

- Please pray for the upcoming Christmas season as IREF staff and students share the Gospel thru the message of the Christmas story. There are many new students at IREF this year, who will be experiencing the wonder of Christmas for the first time.
- We praise God for His grace upon IREF. Pray for protection and health, as well as wisdom to navigate changing guidelines and work hard to instill all preventative measures. Please also pray for the gaps in teaching staff this year to be filled as soon as possible.
- We ask that you join us in praying for a Christmas movement that results in great unity among the global Christian community. Pray as IREF evangelists and Bible ladies concentrate their efforts on spreading the Good News during this holiday season.
- The persecution of Christians is intensifying in many parts of India as Hindu extremists aim to cleanse India of the presence and influence of believers. Your prayers are needed as IREF evangelists and Bible ladies continue to stand for Jesus in the land of countless false idols and gods. Pray that the Lord will protect the ministry of IREF.