



THE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP, ODDANCHATRAM

NEWS LETTER, DECEMBER 2016

Dear Friends,

Warm greetings from the Christian Fellowship Oddanchatram!

We praise God that we are able to reach you through this news letter as many of you have been a part of our story here at Oddanchatram. We request your prayers and continued support as you go through this news letter. The season of Christmas brings Peace and hope to us because Jesus has come into this world. "And they will call him *'Immanuel'* – which means *"God with us"*.

The Fellowship

We praise God for all our senior members of the Fellowship who continue to guide us and show us the way by their life and example. They continue to shepherd the flock with their silent message "You become imitators of us and of the Lord". We request your prayers for the good health of Drs.Kuruvilla Varkey and Susan Kuruvilla, Drs. P.K.David and Elizabeth David, Drs. K.O.John and Mary John. Please pray for the ministries of the fellowship members through the Life Revision Seminars, Marriage Enrichment Seminars, Inner Healing Meetings, Counselling Seminars, Village outreach programmes, supporting other mission hospitals and organizations like EMFI, MUT etc. Praise God for the new members who have joined the Fellowship in the last five years as they begin to shoulder responsibilities and carry on the work. Dr. Annie Jacob continues to be bed ridden and her second son Dr.Anish and family live with her. Drs. Leni and Celin are on leave for their children's education. Dr.Leni visits the hospital once every month to conduct nephrology clinics. Dr. Cijoy and Ancy are also on leave as Dr. Ancy is doing her MS Ophthalmology in CMCH, Vellore.

The annual meeting of the Fellowship was held from 29th to 31st July. We are thankful to the advisors Drs. Isaac Jebaraj and Prasanna Jebaraj, Dr. John Cherian Oommen and Mrs. Mercy John, Rev. John Wesley and Mrs. Mercy Wesley for their valuable contributions. The new office bearers took over on August 15th. Dr. Latha Paul is the Chair Person, Dr.Joseph Nellimala the Secretary of the Fellowship, Dr.Abraham Kurian, the Treasurer and Dr.Valsa Tharien, the Medical Superintendent for the next two years. Please continue to pray for the Fellowship as we need to be constantly reminded of the sacrifices and simplicity of the founders and that God's plan and purpose for it will be fulfilled in the coming years.

Hospital:

Bed strength has remained at 300, though many renovations have been done and facilities increased. The challenge is to maintain simplicity, usefulness & informality along with discipline and quality. Yet another challenge is to give affordable, ethical care to patients in this age of commercialism and litigations. Hospital continues to be busy with an average of over 1200 out patients per day. We have about 472 staff.

We record our deep appreciation to all our staff for their sincerity and hard work. Mrs. Kasiammal retired from service after many years of sincere work. This year six staff members are completing 25 years of CFH service. Please continue to pray for our Administrator Mr. M.A. Abraham and Office Superintendent Mr. J. Victor King Singh, both of whom had coronary bypass operations in the month of October and September respectively. Praise God that Dr.Latha Paul received the "Jewel of India" award in recognition of her social, administrative and training work and that Mrs.Quila Raj has been elected as the Chair Person of the South India Board of Nursing Education (CMAI). Please pray for the NABH accreditation that the hospital has applied for. Pray for the hospital NABH team and all the staff members who have been working hard with tireless effort for this.

New Building and Facilities:

- a) A new high roof in the OPD Quadrangle
- b) The New hospital office complex on the second floor to be functional soon.
- c) The new radiology building housing the X-ray, CT Scan, E.C.G and Ultrasound Scan facilities.
- d) A new Coffee Kiosk in OPD quadrangle
- e) A new C arm X-ray machine (Seimens) has been added to the O.R. for Orthopaedic work.

A special Staff Enrichment Programme was conducted for the hospital staff, spread over several weeks. We are grateful to Mr. Vasanth Joseph, a Professional trainer who helped in this. Most of the staff members participated and benefited from this.

Many doctors, nurses and paramedical staff were deputed to different mission hospitals in North India for short periods of time.

Training Programmes: The following are the training programme of the hospital.

- a) General Nursing and Midwifery Course - 3 Years
- b) Diploma in Laboratory Technology - 2 Years
- c) Diploma in Medical Records Technology - 2 Years
- d) Diploma in Radio Diagnosis Technology - 2 Years

The above courses are CMAI accredited

PG Courses for Doctors – Our hospital is recognized by the National Board to train doctors in the disciplines of Family Medicine and General Medicine for the award of D.N.B. degrees. We are also a centre for the M. Med training for doctors (organized by CMC Vellore) for their contact programmes.

There is also a one year Nurse Anaesthesia Assistant training programme run by the department of Anaesthesia.

Campus Life, Sports and Spiritual Activities

Regular Bible Studies, retreats, village ministries, Sunday School and patient evangelistic ministries are continuing. Dr. Alex and Mrs. Hannah and our two evangelists Mr. John Samuel and Mr. J. Louis Nicholas are helping us in providing pastoral care. The second half of the year is the most enjoyable period with the arrival of the annual sports and games, Bible and sports quiz competitions, special chapel services and choir practice for Christmas carol service.

Pachalur Retreat Centre continues to be a serene and inspiring place for retreats. This year a new building housing the kitchen and hall was completed. A set of ten rooms with attached toilets are being constructed on the 1st Floor of the Kitchen and hall.

Along with the E.M.F.I. medical student camps are conducted here twice a year. Also this campus is being used for personal, family and small group retreats. We thank God for this retreat centre and the meetings conducted here which has become a turning point in the lives of many medical students.

Community Health Department Initiatives

- ❖ The school health team conducted 3 adolescent group education programmes on issues specific to their age.
- ❖ Sessions were conducted for school drop outs for career guidance, health issues, road safety etc
- ❖ Community rallies were conducted on World Girl Child day, Road Safety awareness week, World T.B. Day ,Gandhi Jayanthi etc.,

Boy's Home and Sadhuji Home

Sadhuji home continues to take care of destitute inmates. Mr. Keba and Mrs. Kamu are moving there to oversee its activities. There are 13 boys in the boy's home who are being taken care of and sent to the local school. Boy's home finally got government registration after long processes.

As we are coming close to the end of the year 2016, our hearts are filled with gratitude to the Lord for His faithfulness and protection upon us. Psalm 100:4,5

“Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to Him and Praise His name. For the Lord is good and His love endures for ever; His faithfulness continues through all generations”.

Please pray for the Christian Fellowship, Oddanchatram that it may become an authentic healing community which truly reflects the character and life of our Lord Jesus Christ. May generations of young people come here and genuinely encounter Jesus and commit themselves to follow Him and seek His Kingdom.

We wish you and family peace and joy at this Christmas and a blessed New Year.

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