Dear Friends,

Glad to meet you all through this newsletter. Here, I would like to share a few thoughts. The hymn writer Henry Francis Lyte wrote ‘Abide with Me’ about 175 years ago. There a line goes like this: “Change and decay in all around see”

These words cannot be truer than at present. Never has so much change happened in so little time. If it was just change, may be the people would have managed it somehow. But irrational, illogical, unacceptable and unreasonable nature of the changes made it much more onerous to accept and live with. but live we have to do.

Never has the life of the common man been so uncertain... so out of control... so totally chaotic... It all started on the day the PM announced the great reform of demonetization... This left many middle and lower class people as beggars overnight. They had money but it was of no value... What a travesty of justice. As if this was not enough the finance ministry rolled in the GST... What it might mean, and what its advantages are still ambiguous... But one thing is certain, many are totally confused with this tax. It appears like a real taxation on the people. As we were grappling with this, nearer to home another thunder bolt landed. This was to do with selection to medical courses... The entrance exams for UG and PG medical seats came under a common test called the NEET. Nothing near about this. Its implications were both wide and also nebulous... So much so that CMC Vellore has annulled its selection for this year for both the UG and PG seats... A historic event which has never happened in the past.

These and other events of intolerances etc. have left us with a bitter, taken for granted feeling... One which gives the appearance that we just need to go on with our lives but not have a say in anything...

In this unremarkable scenario, where the questions outnumber answers... where I do not know what will happen tomorrow—as I wonder in tedium, as to when and what the next storm will be—when I find no solace in people or institutions... I am left with little choice...

There is but one option... Turn to something which is not like shifting shadows but remains a constant. Something which is solid, a bulwark, a bench mark a rock to anchor on. That is one who is unchanging; the same yesterday, today and tomorrow... one who does not move like sand dunes... To a God who is there in each and every situation, however bizarre it may be.

Another hymn writer, Priscilla Owen Jones wrote: “will your anchor hold in the storms of life?” How true and how relevant in times like this...

Thank God, the emphatic refrain is: “It will the storm withstand; fastened to the rock that cannot move, grounded deep and firm in the savior's love.”

What a comfort, what a consolation... We might not know about tomorrow, what is going to happen but our confidence needs to be on this...

As the hymn writer again wrote: I do not know about tomorrow, I just live from day to day... but, I know who holds tomorrow... I know who holds my hand...

As we live in these disturbed times, can these assurances of the hymn writers be ours too: “Can I say confidently that my anchor holds on Christ the rock and also that I know who holds my hand.”

Can this God of the hymn writers of yesterdays be our God of today and also can we put our hands in His hand and face our tomorrows.

Dr. Paul Emmanuel
Saline process is about being salt and light at our homes and workplace. It is to train the Healthcare professional in witnessing Christ and His love to patients and colleagues in more effective and meaningful way with their permission, sensitivity and respect.

We had the privilege of conducting the Saline process for the third time in our campus on 7th and 8th of September. The resource persons were Dr. Latha Mathew - Saline Co-ordinator, EMFI, Dr. Anand Suresh, Dr. Lushi Radhika, Mrs. Stella Amalraj and Mr. Titus. Even though we had a small group of participants, we had a great and blessed time.

It was really encouraging to acknowledge the fact that we are partnering with God in this divine ministry. We are reminded to see our vocation as a medical professional with an eternal perspective, which is the greatest privilege in our lives. Participants were trained to know the importance of faith in health care, how to be salt and light at the workplace and sharing God's love to patients in simple and easy ways. They were encouraged by the testimonies shared by Dr. Latha Mathew what God can do through our lives by the small and simple steps in faith.

Please remember this program in your prayers that God might enable His children to have a strong desire to be His witnesses in their workplace and at their homes.

“He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose.” – Jim Elliot

Over the large canvas of history generations of people come and go. And through each of these generations, God weaves threads of His beautiful and eternal plan. Each of our life may be a single stitch but put together we see the grand design of the ‘Eternal Weaver’. These stitches are not without struggle and pain but they leave a lasting beauty behind, both in the individual stitch and in the whole design. There is an old Portuguese proverb that says ‘God draws straight with crooked lines’. We are all sinners who deserve nothing and are worth nothing. But God in His infinite grace and wisdom seeks us and uses us as instruments of change. The very people in need of help He uses to help others in need. The following story is one such.

About 7 years ago a pastor was confronted in his heart of the need of doing more for the people he was called to serve. He realized they needed the gospel; but they were also in need of many other things like health, education, justice and much more. This was brought forcefully in to his mind through two particular incidents. One was the sight of a man sharing a yoke with his ox. On enquiring the pastor was shocked to learn that the poor man had sold his other ox to treat his wife by people who weren’t even trained medical professionals. Another event that shook him was the news of a pregnant woman dying on the roadside for want of medical care, appropriate and timely. And so as he shared his burden with the church he served his vision was gradually broadened from a small one room hut with a doctor and a nurse called Nazareth Mission Hospital (NMH) at Kouthala in Telangana to a multi be bedded hospital in a 3 acre campus with an adjoining school. Though there were various challenges and roadblocks this vision is slowly reaching its fulfillment as the work on the structure is approaching completion. While all this was happening God was working in the lives of several other people simultaneously shaping and equipping them for the work at NMH. There was the young lady doctor who aspired to prepare for her post graduate studies. Yet she found no peace and satisfaction in the race the world around her was running in. While praying and deliberating she sensed God speaking to her through Romans 12:2 which says, “Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.” She decided to commit her life to NMH through the leading of the Holy Spirit. But this wasn’t without challenges. As she sought to prepare herself for this endeavour, many discouraged and dissuaded her from the pursuit God had laid upon her heart. Yet she held on sustained by the God who had called her. Another young doctor who had moved to a big city to do his higher education felt there was something lacking in the education and the ethics. He felt this wasn’t what God had desired for him and he too independently sought the Spirit's guidance for his life and was challenged by Esther 4:14 which says, “For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews...
will arise from another place, but you and your father’s family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?” He sensed God calling him to NMH but still remained concerned as to how he could serve with his limited training and experience. And then there was a dentist who was so grateful for God’s unending grace in her life that she knew that it would be only appropriate that she offered Him what was rightfully His. There was no turning back for her as she was challenged by Luke 9:62 which says, “No one who puts a hand to the plough and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God.” And so, she too through God’s guidance committed her services to NMH. George Muller that man of faith has said, “The beginning of anxiety is the end of faith, and the beginning of true faith is the end of anxiety.” So as they prayed anxious about how they would move forward, one by one they all converged eventually at Oddanchatram in 2016 where the Christian Fellowship Hospital (CFH) family welcomed them to provide them both clinical skills and fellowship to equip them for the work ahead. They have since been nourished and nurtured for the work that God has cut out for them. I quote one of our experiences here.

“A day starts in CFH with the melody of birds chirping and the aurora of Sun flashing through the fresh green leaves, and everyone rushing to the morning devotion in the chapel wishing each other with kindness in their eyes and smile on their lips. After chapel devotion, in the OPD’s and wards staff and patients sing in one accord a hymn and loudly read out God’s word followed by prayer. It is the scene that we see here every day. We observed how to give adequate healthcare with the little resources we have as we all are aware how expensive health care is out there. Praying for the patients here inspired us. The virtues of humility, integrity and simplicity we witnessed in the people here left an indescribable and lasting impression in our hearts. We never knew that compassion in the hearts can bring smiling and comforting countenance while cleaning a rotten wound. The battle they fight on behalf of dying patients through prayers proves the heart of God in them. We felt the assurance that we are under the shadow of cloud of Witnesses. We were welcomed here unconditionally. We thought that we were entering in to an institution but realized it is more than that; it is our family with the same motive as ours i.e., to serve the people in love. The clarity, generosity and passion CFH invests in training and sending people like us is something that has encouraged us to live and learn under their leadership. We observed ethical and unbiased care irrespective of religion, caste and status. Charity for the financially needy, community health care through clinics, boys home, training nursing and paramedics in different courses, loans to employees and students and so on; it is like the tree and the fowls of the air in Mark 4:32 (But when it is sown, it growth up, and becometh greater than all herbs, and shooteth out great branches; so that the fowls of the air may lodge under the shadow of it.). CFH set a sublime standard in teaching us to go out and serve in love for the glory of God who is love. Though we go out to Nazareth Mission Hospital (NMH) we will always be a part of the CFH family in spirit and the legacy of CFH would be our very present help and Standard reference in all our labour in the future for the extension of the Kingdom of God. We pray that God would enable us to reproduce in Koutala what we’ve learned here. Let us all who is reading this letter pray that CFH would continue to be a blessing to many people directly and indirectly through its mission until the Day of the Lord dawns.”

When one thinks of a mission hospital, it is only common to think of the doctors who have sacrificed their career ambitions. But the truth is far from it. There are the many unseen and often unheard too without whose sacrificial work much would not have happened. Like the 4 young men who neither had any money nor any expertise to offer. So they offered what they had, physical labour. With grit and determination they presently work as manual labourers thus saving the mission of precious money else to be paid to hired labourers. They live in a bamboo hut on site and eat the Re 1 rice that many would find unpalatable. They initially didn’t even know how to cook. But God provided another young man who initially had set his heart for the civil services, but when he gave that heart to God decided that He too would go where God would lead him and that was to NMH. He was especially challenged by 1 Corinthians 9:16-17 which says, “For when I preach the gospel, I cannot boast, since I am compelled to preach. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! If I preach voluntarily, I have a reward; if not voluntarily, I am simply discharging the trust committed to me.” He decided to offer his knowledge of cooking to serve those young men providing them something for the stomach as well as their taste buds too. He also offered his services for the administrative work required. Another engineer gave up his opportunity to make good money in the Middle East and instead offered...
his expertise towards the construction work at NMH after being spoken to from Nehemiah4:19-20 which says, “Then I said to the nobles, the officials and the rest of the people, “The work is extensive and spread out, and we are widely separated from each other along the wall. Wherever you hear the sound of the trumpet, join us there. Our God will fight for us!” And so on goes the sacrificial giving of many others like the church members who gave their two pennies worth to make the work at NMH possible.

As this group of people gathered together and prayed for the needs of NMH, God has continued to provide them many more to help in the nursing, pharmacy, laboratory, medical records, nutrition etc. The construction work goes on as I write this and the challenges ahead are many but God will bring it to happen. This is the faith of all these people. A faith similar to Nehemiah who sought his strength, safety and success in God despite his inadequacies and the multiple odds and oppositions he faced. It is one thing to have a conviction and it is entirely another to stand up to it especially amidst discouragement and opposition. So they have all been living and working and especially thanking God for His provisions and most importantly His Son Jesus because of whom all of this is possible. Let us pray that they be the ‘Jesus of Nazareth’ to the people around them as we read in 1 John 4:17b, “because as He is so are we in this world.”Corrie Ten Boom has said that, “Although the threads of my life have often seem knotted, I know by faith, that on the other side of the embroidery there is a crown.” This group of people as individual threads have been brought together with their knots, tangles and all as part of God’s grand design. He will surely reward them for their act of faith. Let us pray that they continue to look to the Lord in the days ahead and the light of God shine forth through NMH.

By the grace of God we are able to continue the work at the community Health department well.

Our school health team were able to teach the 2 new topics “self-esteem” and “You are unique” for the 9th and 11th standard students and there was a good welcome among the students for the topic “You are unique”.

Holy Cross Social Service Society, (HCSSS) Trichy conducted training for our Health workers and Community staffs to identify the neurodevelopmental delay of children at the earliest. Later they visited our villages and some of the children were brought to CFH also. Totally 39 children were screened and 16 of them were selected for IEP (Individual Education and Plan). In the subsequent visits, they are being followed up.

HCSSS staff training the Health worker and the mother

18 elderly people from Gandhi Nagar and Thumpichampatti were taken to the Gandhi Seva Sangam Old age home at Chatrapatty. It was a good change for them and they were able to appreciate the difficulties the other old age people go through.

Our elders with the inmates of Gandhi Seva Sangam, Chatrapatty.

Blood donation awareness program was conducted at Sattayapanoor. 13 youth participated and 2 of them have donated blood.

Monthly colposcopy camps are being conducted regularly at Sattayapanoor by Dr. Beulah and many women are benefitted.

We were able to complete the 2nd and 3rd Hepatitis B vaccines for around 140 Municipal workers.

Under Dr. Jason’s leadership a team went to Palakurichi near Manaparai and conducted a School health checkup and a general Medical camp. This was in collaboration with a Women’s group and Hospital Christian Fellowship. Around 120 people were benefitted. Our School health educato gave health education on Hygiene and Diabetes Mellitus.

By God’s grace Dr. Sis. Deepa and Dr. Mahesh passed their DNB Family Medicine Practical exams and Dr. Anu Elizabeth, Dr. Devanand and Dr. Niranjan passed their Final theory exams.
A 68 year old man got admitted in MS ward with right proximal Tibia fracture and underwent surgery during the month of July. When we asked the patient how he acquired injury, it was really surprising. It happened on an evening, near the road side, when he saw a pregnant woman who was about to be hit by a car. He had run to save her and fell down. She was saved, but he got injured and admitted. During his stay in MS ward, he was scolded by his wife. He is from a poor background and was given hospital diet. As he was sharing his story to one of our staff in MS ward, she replied that the Lord Jesus Christ would be pleased with him for helping that pregnant woman and the baby inside. That statement made him to think about Jesus, who He was and why would He be pleased with him. This gave a wonderful opportunity for our staff to share the Gospel. Initially, it was really difficult for him and his wife to accept because they were born in a Hindu family with strong cultural ties. But by sharing the Bible, the verses and certain sceneries coupled with Prayer, they gradually accepted the Lord Jesus Christ and realized that He is the true living God. His wife started going for ortho OPD Prayers, Wednesday Chapel Service, Seeker’s meet, etc., and completely accepted the Lord and shared with her husband what she had learnt. After a quite long period, he got discharged and went home. When he came for review, he said that his wife started going to Believer’s Church regularly and he would also surely go once his leg is completely healed. All of us were really happy on hearing this. It was the grace of God that changed the lives of this couple. All glory, honor and praises be to the Lord Almighty alone who has used us.

“INTERCESSORS FOR HEALTHCARE MEET” 25 of us from Christian Fellowship Hospital, Trichy, Vellore and Sivakasi, joined to Pray for Healthcare services on 9th -10th of September in Pachalur. We plan to have more of these meets in different parts of Tamil Nadu.

AP AND TELANGANA MEDICOS MEET IN PACHALUR - 60 medicos from 4 medical colleges came to Pachalur for 3 days camp. There was a great move of the Holy spirit in these youngsters lives. All of them Committed their lives for a deeper walk with God. We Praise God for all that He is doing through the ministry of our hospital. Mr. David Paul organized this camp, helped by Mr. Nathaniel Philip.

CFH Sports

CFH – Christmas sports 2017 was inaugurated on 23.09.2017. The theme for this year sports 2017 is “PRESS ON” which was derived from Philippians 3:14 “I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

As usual the hospital staff and students were divided into four teams with equal strength and balance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team name</th>
<th>Theme</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jazzy Jupiter</td>
<td>Jesus the lifter of our soul</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Majestic Mercury</td>
<td>Jesus our King</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nifty Neptune</td>
<td>Jesus our Anchor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vibrant Venus</td>
<td>Jesus our Redeemer</td>
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The Inaugural event of sports went on well by God’s Grace. Mr. A. Issac Doss and Mrs. B. Vasanthi Issac were the chief guest for the inaugural meeting. The purpose of sports is to bring fellowship among the members of teams and understanding each other in Christian love were focused. Matches have been started form 29.09.2017. Pray that this Christmas sports PRESS ON – 2017 will bring Glory to God and will be a memorable event as well.
Praise God for….

- Gods sustaining grace.
- The good rain. We are able to provide 24 hours water supply to the residences too.
- Registration done for GST.
- Shramdhaan (Voluntary manual labor) done on 14th August by the staff and students for campus cleaning.
- Voluntary blood donors awareness meeting conducted on Independence day and the increase of voluntary blood donors.
- Medical camp near Palakurichy among students from backward community.
- New GNM batch joined on 5th of September.
- Sports season and the good matches conducted so far.
- OPDs shifted to the first floor on August 29th – Pediatrics, Dermatology and family medicine
- Batches of visitors from Guntur Medical College in Andhra & Church groups in Kerala
- Premarital seminar conducted by Dr. Sony on 15th Oct.

Pray for…..

- God’s guidance in sustaining the hospital and its service.
- Day-to-day management of affairs – for wisdom and discernment to all in administrations.
- Spiritual life of our staff and students
- CFH sports and the safety of the players.
- Christmas season preparation and celebration. Opportunity to be utilized to share the gospel.
- Renovation and relocation of the pharmacy.
- Worship for patients near ortho OPD every Sunday at 11 am and every evening at 6:45 pm
- Gospel outreach ministry Tuesday and Thursday
- Open air meeting near MS ward – Sunday evening 5 pm
- New prayer cell at Kannanoor.

Upcoming events …..

- Special chapel services :
  - November 5th – Nifty Neptunes
  - November 12th – Majestic Mercury
  - November 19th – Vibrant Venus
  - November 26th – Jazzy Jupiter
- Bible Quiz
  - Students – December 2nd
  - General – December 15th
- Memory Verse writing – December 3rd
- Children’s program – December 3rd
- Christmas carols – December 10th
- Staff dinner – December 16th
- Founder’s day – January 6th

"Be happy when God answers your prayers, but be more thankful when God makes you to the answer to someone else’s prayer."