



COVENANT WORLD RELIEF

Partners in Transformation

Issue #13, Spring 2013



A BABY NAMED "SEWING MACHINE"

Elizabeth was so excited about the recent tailoring training she received from the Evangelical Covenant Church of South Sudan that she named her baby "Sewing Machine." Elizabeth is a widow who is using her new skills to sew clothing, which she then sells to merchants in the market. Forty-two widows have received tailoring training this year in the CWR funded Hope for Widows project.

God will not do wickedly, and the Almighty will not pervert justice. Job 34:12

Elizabeth with her baby "Sewing Machine"

FREEDOM FOR THE OPPRESSED IN INDIA

Stephen Sharkey, pastor of Highrock Covenant Church in Quincy, Massachusetts, and a member of the CWR advisory team who recently visited India with CWR.

It's not often that we get a glimpse of what Paul's ministry might have been like. Recently I was afforded the opportunity to see God moving like most of us only hear about in Sunday school.

I had been in New Delhi less than twenty-four hours when I met Vijay, a member of Truthseekers International, whose mission is to set India free from its 3,000 year-old caste system that today results in hundreds of millions of Indians living in abject poverty. Their message is simple—the caste system is a lie holding India captive, but Jesus is the truth that will set them free. The message of that freedom so moved Vijay that he left Hinduism altogether. He rejected the lie that he was inextricably defined by his caste and embraced the truth that his identity is defined by a God who has set him free.

Before hearing the good news of Jesus, Vijay was a stonecutter. Over the years he had perfected the art of carving Hindu gods, which he had made into a successful career. Vijay had been participating in and perpetuating the very system that holds him and his country captive.

Isn't it so true that freedom always comes at great cost? Nowhere has that been clearer to me than in this New Testament-like street gathering as we listened to Vijay. The same system that enslaved him was also the same system that provided income and security. Yet for the sake of true freedom, he laid it all aside.



Vijay shares his faith at a street rally in New Delhi, India.

STORIES NEEDED ABOUT SOUP-CAN BANKS

We have recently been informed by the Campbell's Soup Company that we can no longer use the familiar red and white soup-can labels. While we are disappointed by this news, we are grateful for the impact these banks have had for Covenanters and people around the world. Please help us celebrate thirty-nine years of the use of this label by sending us stories of how the soup-can bank has impacted you, your family, and your church. We are in the process of redesigning a new bank.



CWR RESPONDS TO DISASTERS

Natural and human-caused disasters occur daily throughout the world. CWR responds when there are partners in the local area who have the capacity to respond. Recently, CWR has responded to the following disasters:

- flooding in Mozambique and South Sudan
- drought in India
- violence in DR Congo, Syria, and Burma (a Covenant medical missionary participated in the response in Burma)
- ongoing Hurricane Sandy relief, and
- relief and recovery work which continues in Japan more than two years after the earthquake and tsunami.

Thanks to all who give faithfully so that CWR is able to respond immediately to disasters.



Covenant medical missionary responds in Burma.

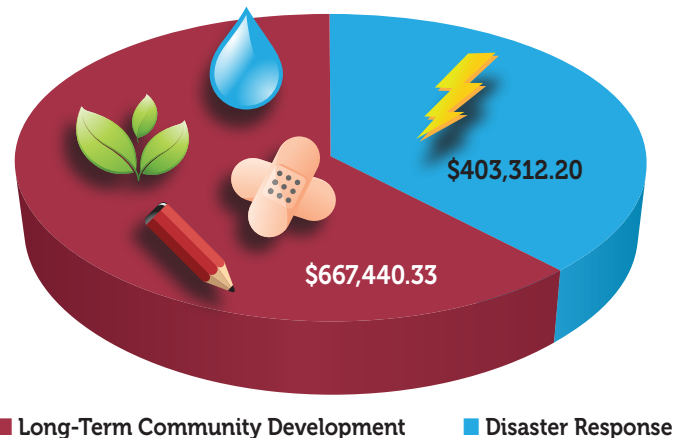
CHURCH VISITS

CWR is available to visit your church, preach on Sunday, lead a Bible study, or meet with your mission committee. If you are interested in a visit, please contact us.



FINANCIAL REPORT

In 2012, CWR sent \$1,070,752 to projects.



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Give: Online, by check, by electronic funds transfer