



CHURCHES OF CHRIST RAMPACHODAVARAM / TUNI

*Under the oversight of the Elders,
Willette Church of Christ, Red Boiling Springs, Tenn.*

JAN'
2025

New Year Greetings from Churches of Christ, Rampachodavaram/Tuni areas of Andhra Pradesh, India and from all the churches in the neighbouring states. As we usher in the New Year, we are filled with gratitude for the incredible support you've shown us. Your generosity and commitment have been a blessing, guiding us to achieve our goals and serve our community more effectively. May this New Year bring you an abundance of joy, peace, and the hope of new beginnings. May your hearts be filled with the love of Christ, and your days be blessed with His grace. Thank you for being an essential part of our journey.

We sincerely appreciate your generous support for the mission work in the interior hill tribal area. Your contributions enable our preachers to continue their vital mission of spreading faith, compassion, and unity. Every contribution, whether large or small, makes a meaningful difference in empowering these dedicated individuals to serve and uplift those in need of the Gospel. Thanks to their efforts, the work of the Lord is reaching new areas.

We are pleased to report that 37 denominational preachers were converted and baptized during 2024, and 8 of them were baptized during the Mission Campaign in the month of November.

One remarkable story is that of Bro. P. Immanuel, a denominational preacher working with Pentecostal belief system, under the name of Believers Eastern Church, in a



village near Rajahmundry. After Bro. Satyanarayana invited him to our preacher's fellowship, Bro. Immanuel heard Bro. John Ratnam preaching about the necessity of salvation through the Churh that Christ died for. His initial reaction was one of anger, as he had been



working faithfully for many years within his denomination.

With patience, Bro. Satyanarayana began studying the Scriptures with him. Although Bro. Immanuel was initially reluctant to continue, Satyanarayana's persistent guidance led him to



search the scriptures and embrace the truth. He eventually invited Satyanarayana to preach to his congregation, and on the same day, both he and his wife were baptized. We continued our studies within their congregation, which had previously been built by denominational members and an organization. Bro. B. John Ratnam and Bro. P.



Immanuel negotiated with them, resulting in the purchase of the building. This building was then dedicated by Bro. Ralph Richardson on November 11, 2024, during which 10 people were added to the church. You can find the names displayed on the building from before

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and after these conversions and also baptism picture of Immanuel and his wife at Rajahmundry. Presently, there are 32 people were baptised from denominationalism. There are 67 people attend here and we are continuing Bible Study with them.

Bro. M. Vijaya Kumar was a pentecostal preacher in the area where Bro. Nehemiah works who is one of our preachers in Narsipatnam area. Bro. Nehemiah met him in the Bus while he was travelling to another village to preach. He started conversation and ended with many questions Vijaya Kumar had about one church. Bro. Nehemiah answered all his questions and left some tracts with him (One Church, One Baptism) as he was carrying them to distribute in the village where he was going. Weeks later, Bro. Nehemiah started Bible Study with Bro. Vijay Kumar leading to his baptism. He was working in Pentecostal church in that



village but after learning the truth, he was baptised and he taught the same truth in the denominational church where he preaches and as a result 15 people were also baptised along with him accepting the truth. As a result he was sent away from the denominational church. So we started a congregation with 15 members. He was then enrolled in Kattamuru Bible School and attending the school. He is presently working at Sarabhavaram Village. We recently built a building in honor of the Willette Elders and Bro. Zackery Holmes dedicated it. Presently, they have 22 members and many have turned from denominationalism and learning the truth.

These stories of transformation and outreach is just two among many. We are happy to report that 6794 people were baptised during the year 2024 and 49 new congregations were started in various villages. Additionally, we started Bible Classes at Araku Valley which borders for several villages in Odisha State while continuing classes at Warangal. Preaching Schools at Kattamuru and Tuni are continuing and helps establish strong congregations and start new congregations in new places.

Together, let us honor and uplift our preachers, recognizing the invaluable contribution they make to the spiritual well-being of many in many villages especially in the tribal areas. Your support will not only strengthen them but also inspire hope and encourages them to do better. We solicit your fervent prayers on behalf of the preachers as they are in dire need of monthly support. We thank you for considering this important cause and for being a source of strength and support our preachers. Your generosity will help us continue to nurture the spiritual well-being of our many villages and empower our preachers to make a lasting impact in the lives they touch.

We are deeply grateful for your support of the orphans. Currently, we care for 269 children, of whom 250 are school-aged, studying from kindergarten to 10th standard. We Thank you for your generous contributions, we are able to provide them with nutritious food, clothing, books, and adequate shelter. These children, once underprivileged, now have access to the essential facilities, along with the knowledge of one true living God.

BAPTISMS :



In 1995, we established "Lenora Public School" in Rampachodavaram to provide English medium education in this tribal area, where previously there were no such schools. Bro. Ratnam initiated this school to benefit our orphaned children, and it is open to all students in the village. The school offers both English and Telugu medium. At its peak, the school had around 500 students, with over 30 to 40 coming from our orphan home.

To impart Bible knowledge, we implemented Bible Stories in Value Education (Moral Education) classes across different grades as part of curriculum. We operate the school primarily through the fees collected from non-orphan students, which has been sufficient, as the ratio of external students to our orphans is significantly higher. This arrangement allows our orphan children to receive a free education. Many of these children have successfully completed higher education and have secured good jobs, becoming vital members of their local congregations with their families. Some have even become preachers, sharing their knowledge of God in villages after being trained in our school of preaching.



However, the situation has changed. Currently, while we have 250 school-going children, we face significant social challenges. Many external students are reluctant to attend classes with orphans due to social stigma. Even their parents support this social isolation. This has resulted in a significant 90% drop in enrolment, adversely affecting the financial sustainability of the school. Additionally, the government is pressuring us to introduce Hindu epics and stories into the curriculum and demanding us to remove bible stories. They also insisting us to celebrate Hindu festivals in the school. They are also demanding that we allow students wearing specific Hindu clothing, such as black and saffron robes, into the classrooms, leaving us unable to question their demands.

In light of these challenges, with external student enrolment dwindling and tuition funding decreasing, our ability to run the school and support the children is at risk. We are now in urgent need of your fervent prayers and support. Kindly pray for us during this critical time.

While we expand our outreach to various villages by sending trained preachers into new areas, we have not neglected the importance of edifying the church in rural areas. In December, we



organized Gospel Meetings across several congregations. These gatherings aimed to strengthen the church and encourage local congregations to appoint elders and deacons.

Despite facing some challenges from outsiders in certain regions, we have been able to persevere in this work by the grace of God. We have received great encouragement from both churches and preachers regarding our efforts. Your unwavering support has enabled us to establish strong congregations in some of the most underdeveloped and tribal regions of Andhra Pradesh, India. Thank you once again for your invaluable assistance.