



# Patel News

## Agra, India

**Romans 10:15a – “And how shall they preach, except they be sent?”**

**January/February 2008**

Dear Friends,

### **Praise Items**

1. For many who have trusted the Lord as their Savior
2. For meeting the needs of our ongoing ministry
3. For faithful workers
4. For the new work to reach souls for His kingdom

### **Special Prayer Requests**

1. Bro. Babu and his family and the new work
2. The AWANA program
3. Training of more workers
4. Discipling of new believers
5. Our family
6. For wisdom and protection
7. For safety of travel back and forth from Agra to Gurgaon (each week - nine hours round trip)

It is with joy and great anticipation that we welcome this new year with its new opportunities to serve the Lord! Our theme for 2008 is “Faith for the Family.” As we continue to make every effort to reach the lost, we also want to put great emphasis on building our families in the faith so that they may pass this torch on to the next generation. In order to help our families grow, we have begun an AWANA program for children, ages 3 to 19. During this time, we have our Faith Bible classes for the parents and our young adults. There are over 40 workers involved in these programs. We need you to pray that the Lord will bless our efforts to make our families strong in their faith so that in turn, if the Lord tarries, there will be a strong local church here for generations to come.

We began having services in the new city of Gurgaon in the middle of December. One of our assistant pastors, Bro. Babu, who was ordained last February, felt the calling of the Lord to move his family to that city to help start this new church. What a joy it was for us to see the way the Lord leads and for our church to be involved in sending out one of our own! Bro. Babu, Sis. Sandhya and their 2 girls moved to this city the first week of January. Becki and I travel to Gurgaon on Thursdays and conduct services on Saturdays. We drive back to Agra in the evening to help with the services on Sunday and remain there until Wednesday helping with the training of new workers as well as with the ongoing ministry. Also, on Sunday, Bro. Babu and his family conduct services in Gurgaon. There have been several visitors come to the new church, and we are working to make more contacts each week through our tract distribution. We really need your prayer support for this work.

For a little update from Kenya, you probably know about the unrest there and all the killings that have taken place since their elections in late December. Bro. Brian was trying to begin a home Bible study, and Bro. Greg was trying to situate himself in a city to begin a Bible study when all this unrest took place. Please keep them in your prayers as they serve the Lord there. Pray for their nation and their leaders - that they would be able to come up with a peaceful solution to this national crisis.

We want to thank you for praying for our Christmas Day services. The entire building was full from the top to the bottom. We had a service with our African students in an upper room on the roof of the church, and on the first floor we had two classrooms and children’s church full of children for a total of about 450. There were also around 450 folks in our sanctuary including many first time visitors, totaling close to 1000 people. We thank the Lord for the way people responded to the Christmas message. Approximately fifty folks raised their hands to receive Christ as their Savior. Then later that same day, we had a service at Bethel Church in the village, where people from three different villages gathered to worship with many first time visitors. We pray for much fruit to be revealed as a result of this effort to glorify our Lord. **Please visit our web site for pictures of various events that are mentioned here in our newsletter.**

Our hearts are full of thanksgiving for all of you, our supporters, who faithfully pray and stand in the gap for us as we strive to lift up the banner of our Lord Jesus Christ. Our hope is that you will continue to feel the joy of seeing your prayers being answered on our behalf and that the Lord will continue to bless your sacrifice to see people come to know the One True Living God through Christ Jesus. ***“Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified, even as it is with you:”*** (2 Thess. 3:1)

God bless you!  
Hemant and Becki Patel

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