



Update on Envision

June 2017

Envisioning what God can do in Whatcom County

Vol. 14 No. 6

The Mission of Envision is to:

- build authentic community by:
- proclaiming the gospel
- and making disciples of Jesus Christ
- within the downtown culture of Bellingham
- as a church missionary effort working in conjunction with local churches.

(Goals/Values and Budget Report Available Upon Request)

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www.envisionmission.org/senti

India and the work of God

When Timothy received the news that they were expecting, we were all rejoicing. But when he told me that the baby's heart was on the wrong side, among many other issues we were shocked. We would have to delay the trip, but for how long? Should we wait until the Fall? We prayed, we anointed his wife with oil, we believed, we doubted, we believed again in God's character and willingness to do it. Then we received news that the baby's heart was on the correct side. We took that as our sign to go. We changed the flight by a day, not without some expense. We got to the airport; they told us there was no flight to our first destination. We prayed. They sent us to a supervisor and we got a flight. We confirmed our flights back with Expedia who assured us it was all confirmed. After all we'd spent hours on the phone and lots of money changing tickets. Well, **we got to Delhi, India, by the grace of God** after a 14 hour ride and were met by Matthew Smith of Project 92, a mission organization that reaches the unreached of the world. The next morning after breakfast in our hotel we met five missionaries, one of whom we've been supporting for years. What a joy to hear their stories and then see their amazing work in the slums of Delhi, a house church that felt like heaven, an open area where they are building a church to reach the unreached there, their church where many have come to know Christ. At a recent festival their music equipment was knocked over and destroyed by radical Hindus who even smacked one of them as he ran away with a hammer.

These missionaries live in danger, start house churches, reach the lost and love the poor, living among them. All of them came from Hinduism and Jesus found them



miraculously. In fact, their strategy is to pray for miracles, healing, deliverance from demons, dreams and visions and folks come to know Christ. They help folks in practical ways as well. They teach children who would otherwise have no education and their families come to know the LORD. What amazing people!

Then we flew to Vijayawada and were driven to Ongole, where we stayed for the next 20 days. That first evening we visited a village of

people known as "untouchables" who lived in thatch huts and some thought we were white skinned angels, never having seen white folks before. And **we proclaimed Christ's love** to them. Some were new believers, recently baptized, some were not yet. One of the women received Jesus right then and there. We touched them and prayed for them, gave them rice and enjoyed singing with them. What a joy!

Board:

Elders and their wives:

Mitchell and Rochelle Senti,
Bernie and Mary Brower

Treasurer/Elder: Dan Obbink

Deaconess: Linda Hammingh

Bookkeeper: Karen Kooistra

“Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than we can ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.”
Ephesians 3:20-21

We appreciate your generosity so much! (Mitchell doesn't see how much each of you gives, but he sees who gives.)

If you'd like to make a donation, please send checks to:
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Bellingham, WA
98225

Picture on 1st page compliments of Diane Snider's photography:
www.dianesnider.com

Then I got heat sickness for two days, so Timothy preached at the Church and at a funeral. He named a child with HIV after my son, Johnathon. The father was baptized by the pastor and me that following week. **They prayed and I was well much sooner than we expected.** We went to the villages and were treated like kings. One man, a peanut farmer, lives with his family between two fish god temples, experiencing spiritual warfare every day and night, but remains faithful. They fed us rice and curry, fresh water buffalo yogurt and delighted to hear our preaching. Timothy played with the children and shared the Word with them.



Each day we preached the Gospel, played with children, ate their generous helpings of food, and prayed for many. **Timothy shared his testimony of healing.** The host family shared their lives with us. Their heart is for the unreached, low caste villagers. They visit village after village, sharing Christ. But they need a ministry van because for now they rent a rickshaw every day or take the bus and it's very difficult to take rice or equipment for the church with them. If we could raise \$10,000 towards a ministry van or even more, it would be such a blessing for them! And more would come to Christ most importantly. Then we received news from America that Timothy's baby's next test came out normal also!

10 folks were baptized in the Bay of Bengal, and it was hot! But not as hot as last year at that time when it was 47 C on the hottest day. But it was suddenly cooler on the

days we were there and the day we left it got hotter again. In church they sang, they danced, they cherished communion, and listened intently to the preaching. Pray that the men of the village will rise up and take their leadership of their families seriously. So many of the church members are women, many are widows who pray fervently and rely on God for their very life. We prayed for folks who work in salt fields and make \$3/day. We prayed for a family in a thatch hut whose baby has a brain tumor and cries all the time, for a very old woman who has prayed fervently for the church, for a man with cancer who has lost his entire left cheek.

We preached for a youth meeting, at another house church where a young man came to Christ (even our driver came to Christ) and even for a group of 14 pastors who desired training in the Word. They honored us so much and we sought to honor them. Why is that folks who have so little are the most generous? When the pastor's wife would try to give money to the poorest of people they would try to refuse it, but she insisted it was from the LORD. We preached and had church in the middle of a road. We had church with our friends one more time and then we returned to Bellingham, after Expedia once again failed to book our flight from Delhi to Toronto, but Air Canada again stepped in and got a flight for us at the last minute- we were running from one connection to another- **it was the grace of God that got us home** as well. Thank you for your prayers and keep praying for our friends there that many will come to know Christ, will be healed, and be well provided for.

Here is our weekly schedule:

Tuesday: Street night from 5:20-8:00pm starts at 1st Baptist on Flora St. in reading room

Wednesday: House church at Lincoln Square at 3pm.

Thursday: Men's group at Haggen's Schome at 6pm.

Friday: Prayer at the Light of the World Prayer Center from 3-5pm.

Saturday: House church at the Senti's at 9:30am

Sunday: Bible Study/House church at the Gray's at 10am. The Jesus Gathering meets at Hope in Christ (Sunset and James) from 4:30pm-6:30pm on the 2nd Sunday of the month. Jesus Study at 5pm on all other Sundays at the Majestic (1027 North Forest).