

# where WORLDS meet

the monthly newsletter for the church of the nazarene in eurasia  
YEAR 6, ISSUE 7 • OCTOBER 2009

## New Discipleship Resources Now Available Online

Recent Additions Target Children, Youth

**Eurasia Region**—A new selection of holiness resources for children and youth are now available at [www.eurasianazarene.org](http://www.eurasianazarene.org). The site offers a collection of children's curricula and programs that can be used in Sunday School classes, kids' clubs, children's church or weekly kids' gatherings. Resources in several languages are posted with information on how to purchase, order or download. "This is meant to be a location (or toolbox) of options and ideas for holiness resources," said Heidi Bowes, Connecting a New Generation Coordinator for Eurasia. "As more are created, developed or located, we look forward to including those as well. All Eurasia language groups are welcomed. If you know of a holiness resource for children that is not included, please let me know so that others may benefit from the item as well."

At [eurasianazarene.org](http://eurasianazarene.org), use the drop-down menu to navigate to "ministries," then "connecting a new generation." Choose "children's discipleship resources" or "youth discipleship resources" for a complete list of available resources.

### For Youth: "A Journey in the Right Direction"

A new youth discipleship series, "A Journey in the Right Direction" is now available to download free of charge from [eurasianazarene.org](http://eurasianazarene.org) in English, Russian, German and Bengali.

The series, written by youth leaders from Eurasia and the USA, explores questions from Eurasia's youth about the basics of Christianity, Holiness and Ministry. Each of the six chapters comes with discussion questions.

Download at [eurasianazarene.org](http://eurasianazarene.org) > ministries > connecting a new generation > youth discipleship

more • page 2

## After the Storm

### NCM-India Completes Phase 2 of Cyclone Aid



Local children linger with Nazarene Compassionate Ministries (NCM) workers and cyclone-relief supplies at the Child Development Center in Jota, India. Food, clean water and medicine have aided victims since Aila hit in May.

**M**aharam Gaji lives with his wife, one son and two daughters in a two-room mud-walled hay shed in the Indian state of West Bengal. He used to have two cows, two goats, a small plot of land to cultivate, and a fish pond. But on 25 May, Cyclone Aila struck, inflicting heavy damage on the area's farming and livestock, and taking an estimated 126 lives. Gaji still has his family and the hay shed. Everything else is gone.

For India, Aila was one of the worst disasters of recent years. North and South 24 Pa-ra-ga-nas were the two districts affected most heavily, despite being located in the world's largest concentration of mangrove trees, which usually serve as a barriers against flooding and erosion.

Nazarene Compassionate Ministries (NCM) in India runs and supports two Child Development Centers (CDCs) in the cyclone-affected areas of Jota and Bhubaneshwari. There are also Jesus Film teams active in the neighboring vicinity. No lives were lost in these villages, but the damage to houses, farms and roads was extensive.

In the areas where NCM-India runs a CDC along with the local church, a total of 560 houses were damaged. Around 1100 cows and 1600 goats, primary sources of income, were lost in the calamity. More than 65,000 acres of

**"It is purely because of NCM's work that my family and I could survive those hard days."**

**Majaram Gaji  
Cyclone Survivor**

farmland have been rendered useless for at least three years due to the inundation of salty water. Sources of clean drinking water were severely contaminated. Fish hatcheries, ponds and roads were also damaged. Waterborne diseases like malaria spread quickly due to stagnant and contaminated water.

Immediately after the cyclone, Gaji and his family had nothing to eat. Their

whole village was flooded. The government distributed food for the first four days. Then, it was up to local churches and NCM, who relied on prayer and financial support to immediately assist Jota, Bhubaneshwari and their two neighboring villages.

In the First Phase of distribution, workers targeted 760 families (around 3,800 people) from 12-16 June in three sites,

see "Cyclone Aila" • page 2

from page 1

## For Kids: "The Island"

A new one-year curriculum for children is now available at [eurasianazarene.org](http://eurasianazarene.org). This Bible-based material is designed for weekly children's ministry and includes stories, games, crafts and fun activities to help children live as disciples of Jesus Christ. Originally intended for two weekly children's church services, "The Island" can be adapted for Sunday School, kids' clubs or other weekly gatherings.

"The Island" is created and written by Emma Wright of the Carrickfergus Church of the Nazarene in Northern Ireland. Wright, a teacher, also volunteered with the Nazarene Church in Poland for several years.

"The Island" (English) is available to download free of charge at [eurasianazarene.org](http://eurasianazarene.org) > ministries > connecting a new generation.

## International Missions Education Journal

The International Mission Education Journal (IMEJ) is a resource that approaches different aspects of missions through stories, information, ideas for projects and presentations, prayer requests and ways to become involved in the Nazarene ministries around the world. This year, the 12 children's lessons all focus on Eurasia; the 10 lessons for adults also feature stories from Marlene in Lebanon, Pastor Praveen in South Asia, and the Russ Family in the Commonwealth of Independent States Field.

The 2010 edition of the IMEJ is now available for download free of charge in English, Spanish, French and Portuguese. The English version of the 2009 IMEJ is also still available for download.

### For English:

At [nazarenemissions.org](http://nazarenemissions.org), click on "District Presidents" (upper right corner), log in, click on "International Mission Education Journal." If you do not have the user name and password, please contact NMI Coordinator Heidi Bowes at [hbowes@eurasiaregion.org](mailto:hbowes@eurasiaregion.org).

### For Spanish, Portuguese and French:

At [www.nazarenemissions.org](http://www.nazarenemissions.org), under "Educating" click on *Español*, *Português*, or *Français*.

## Hungarian Literature

Wesleyan literature recently published in Hungarian is available at [eurasianazarene.org](http://eurasianazarene.org) > resources > hungarian literature

more • page 3

## Even Sweeter: Polish Locals Pack Test Run of Newest Nazarene Coffee House



Photo courtesy: Ev Tustin

Mission Corps volunteer Lindy Bennett performs at the soft opening of Poznan's Sweet Surrender coffee shop.

by Gina Grate-Pottenger

Nazarene Missions International  
*Poznan, Poland*—When they opened the coffee shop for a test run on 19 September, Everett Tustin and his wife Rhonda didn't know what to expect. The missionary couple in Poznan, Poland, along with eight volunteers, hadn't been able to advertise the event, but had simply mailed 100 invitations to friends and acquaintances, baked trays of sweets, scheduled several musical artists and prayed.

The candle-lit "Sweet Surrender" venue had seating for 43 guests. Fifteen

minutes after opening, Tustin counted 75 people. When live music began at 7:30 p.m. and the count hit 150, he stopped. Guests continued squeezing in.

"Everybody was so happy, there was so much laughter in the rooms and so much talking," said Katie Fitch, Mission Corps volunteer and barista for the night. "We had neighbors that didn't know each other at all just sitting around tables talking and laughing and having a good time."

Before long, the team ran out of clean serving cups, glasses and trays.

see "Poland" • page 3

## Cyclone Aila: NCM Concludes West Bengal Aid

from page 1

providing for immediate needs like dry food, medicine, plastic tarpaulin sheets and clothes. "Our course of action was threefold," said Atul Mashramker, NCM-India coordinator, "to provide immediate dry rations for the entire family, clean clothing and water purifying liquids."

Goji and his family received rice, dal, mosquito nets and other rations. "It is purely because of NCM's hard work that my family and I could survive those hard days," he said.

In the Second Phase of relief, teams distributed water storage containers, bed linens, mosquito nets, water purifying tablets, and medicine for stomachaches and dysentery. Assistance went to 1,000 families (5,000 to 6,000 people), and NCM also provided school supplies and stationery for 650 children from the both villages since most had lost their school supplies; even those at the CDC.

Long-term plans include conducting medical health camps for the affected communities and providing seeds for the



Photo courtesy: Atul Mashramker

A survivor accepts supplies in Bhubaneswari. Water containers with bed sheets, mosquito nets and water purifiers aided 1,000 families in West Bengal.

beneficiaries for the coming harvest.

Like many, Gaji lost his livestock to the floods. And while the waters eventually receded, the influx of salty water has rendered the little land he has infertile, and the contamination killed most of the fish in his pond. Thanks to NCM, he says he can start thinking about the future. ♦

Want more? Check out [ncmindia.org](http://ncmindia.org) for ongoing projects, news and information, follow [ncmindia](#) on Twitter or watch videos at [www.youtube.com/user/NCMIndiaMedia](http://www.youtube.com/user/NCMIndiaMedia)!

from page 2

## Wesleyan Literature Now Offered in Dutch

For years, the Dutch Publication Board, a small team of volunteers in the Netherlands, has been actively translating Wesleyan-Armenian literature into Dutch.

“The goal is to open up Wesleyan theology and ideas for a bigger audience than just the pastors that studied it,” said Board member Petra Groenveld.

Printing on demand has enabled the Board to produce the literature at lower costs than working with a large publication house, and makes it possible to frequently reprint smaller quantities of books that have higher demands than expected. The literature is available to anyone who is interested in purchasing it. See [www.nazarene.nl/component/option,com\\_simpleshop/Itemid,53/](http://www.nazarene.nl/component/option,com_simpleshop/Itemid,53/) for more information.

### CURRENT TITLES

**Inleiding Wesleyaanse theologie**  
(Introduction to Wesleyan Theology)  
W.M. Greathouse & H.R. Dunning

### Geloofswoorden

(Words of Faith)  
R. Staples

**Ontstaan uit een opwekking**  
(The Ecumenical Review, Article)

### COMING SOON

**Een theologie van de liefde**  
(A Theology of Love)  
M. Bangs-Wynkoop

**Als die liefde knielt**  
(When Love Bends Down)  
M. Lodahl

## First Supper Launches German Podcast

Rev. Hans-Jürgen Zimmermann has launched a German-language podcast to support the First Supper outreach events. Zimmermann, the founder and leader of First Supper, collaborates with various churches and Christian communities, speaking regularly at events in which people are invited to enjoy a free meal. First Supper takes place at various locations, such as tents, bars or other non-traditional locations. Many people are open to come to such events and talk about their spiritual needs. Zimmermann was an evangelist and pastor of an inner-city church for many years, and is a sought-after speaker and author of numerous books. Podcasts are at [www.first-supper.de/podcast.htm](http://www.first-supper.de/podcast.htm)

## Poland: Sweet Surrender Blends Coffee, Church



Photo courtesy: Ev Tustin

Visitors of all ages enjoy coffee and desserts in Poznan's newest coffee house. The Nazarene-run ministry center also holds weekly church services, and provides a venue for building friendships with neighbors.

from page 2

Tustin washed load after load of dishes to keep up with the orders. By the end of the night, an estimated 200 people had sampled drinks, desserts and enjoyed the conversation and live music until 10 p.m.

The Poznan shop will open formally as soon as a construction permit to repair the front steps is approved, but “if Saturday is any indication at all, the Lord has a big plan in mind,” said Tustin.

The first Sweet Surrender coffee house opened for ministry 10 months ago in Gdansk, Poland, designed to build relationships that minister to the needs of neighbors with the love of Christ. In Poznan, those relationships were brewing well before the soft opening.

One young Polish woman volunteered hours as the shop's business manager.

Another woman who knew the mayor's wife put in a good word for the coffeehouse when its paperwork got hung up in red tape. An accomplished musician agreed to play at the soft opening, and asked if he could appear there again. A local coffee house supplier offered to train the staff for free.

A woman in Rhonda's ladies' fellowship had recently closed her own coffee shop and sold her coffee machines and serving pieces to the ministry for half-price. Much of it was less than a year old.

“It's neat to see how each person who's become connected with the shop has really just been lit on fire about volunteering and helping in any way they can,” said Mission Corps volunteer Lindy Bennett. “They're drawn to Christ in this place.”

Coffee houses, pubs and restaurants are where many of Europe's young people meet with friends to talk about life and sometimes spirituality and faith, regardless of the faith they do or do not claim. For the team, it offers a natural venue for sharing life with Polish neighbors.

“The coffee houses present a non-threatening method of presenting the gospel,” said Northern Europe Field Strategy Coordinator Philip McAlister. “They give opportunity to make contact with people and provide a pleasant atmosphere in which to have spiritual conversations.”

Housed in the ground floor of a 100-year-old apartment building, Sweet Surrender is located a block from Poznan's central crossroads. One of the main tram routes passes close enough that the building shakes when the trams go by.

“It's obvious in the faces of people that we see on the tram or walking on the street that nobody looks happy and there's a lot of hurting people,” Fitch said. “I think that if we can get to know them we can share with them the answer to their pain.”

In the city of 600,000 people, there are no other coffee houses near Sweet Surrender, although they are numer-

ous in the city square about 20 minutes away. Sweet Surrender is also one of the few coffee houses in Poznan offering live music, conversational English classes, art exhibits and Christian worship services on Saturday evenings.

Formerly an apartment, the coffee house has four different rooms, so it will remain open during worship services. Guests can relax in adjacent seating areas or slip into the worship service where a dozen people meet each week. When the worshipers outnumber the 25 available seats, they'll add services on weeknights.

“There's been a lot of curiosity and buzz about this shop,” Bennett said. “They're just curious... about how odd it is to hear that the church would come in the form of a coffee shop. They have been truly receptive to what is going on here. That's what's making this really effective.” ♦

**“They're drawn to Christ in this place.”**

**Lindy Bennett  
Mission Corps, Poland**

# JESUS:

## The Film is Just the Beginning

Throughout India and South Asia, more than 120 teams are sharing the story of Jesus Christ through film. Here's what's new, in their own words.

### NEPAL

On 16 July, many people gathered to watch the JESUS film in the Taplejung district of eastern Nepal. There was no electricity, so the film team worked hard to show the film with a generator. As we finished the showing, a big storm started. Lightning and heavy rain disturbed the show. After some time, everyone could hear the loud noise of a landslide very near, and we were all afraid. After the rain stopped, we checked the landslide. It had begun just above the house where we were showing the film, but had changed its track because of a huge stone located above the house. If the stone had not been there we all would have been caught in the landslide. We were so frightened, and we thanked God for protecting us from the mouth of death. Not only did God protect our lives but He also helped us to establish a preaching point there. Please pray for the people of that village and the new ministry there.

### SRI LANKA

Sinhala, Tamil and Muslim people are living in a place called Ikkuruvavu. God made it possible to show the JESUS film in the midst of all these people. Many watched the film. We met a brother named Gunasena who was addicted to drugs; because of this his family is living in pain and suffering. After the movie, many people came forward to pray. With tears in his eyes, Gunasena asked us to pray for him, for strength to overcome his addiction to drugs and to live a happy life with his family. We prayed for him, and the next time we went to visit him, his wife told us that after watching the film and the prayers, he is leaving his addiction to drugs little by little. He told us that after watching the film, God gave him peace and comfort. He also said, "Pastor, come to our house whenever you can and pray for us." Pray for the changes that took place in this family and for more people who would like to follow in the steps of God.

photo by David Argadright



A JESUS Film team member protects the projector from evening rain during a screening in Bangladesh.

### BANGLADESH

We went to Thakurgaon District on 3 July. We talked with the viewers about their social, religious and economic life, and learned that most of the people of the village earn their livelihood as vendors, hawkers, fish sellers, day laborers and small farmers. We told them about the love of Jesus for the poorest of the poor. The group was eager to see the life of a great man who loves them and couldn't wait to watch the film. They were watching the film attentively, but suddenly it began to rain. In the open space, the viewers became restless and asked us to find another place, but instead of searching for shelter, we encouraged them to pray to our Almighty God to stop the rain. The viewers said, "If the rain stops for your prayer then we will know about the power of your Lord Jesus and accept Him as Almighty God." We committed ourselves to our miraculous God and began to pray for the rain to stop. We praise our Lord that the after about 10 minutes of our prayer the rain began to cease and it had stopped raining before we said 'Amen' and closed the prayer. After the show was over, we preached about the power of our Lord over all the power in the world. We emphasized that even nature obeys Jesus, that the stormy weather stopped when Jesus ordered, reading Luke 8:22-25 and 17:6 and explaining the story. We shared the way to receive salvation and told the people that Jesus can forgive our sins and

give us eternal life. The viewers were moved and the Holy Spirit really touched their hearts. As a result, we were able to form a preaching point and hope to establish an organized church there soon.

### PAKISTAN

My name is Delawar. I am 18 years old, and I live in Hyerdabad, Pakistan. I used to drink a lot. I could not live without drinking, and when I had no money to purchase beer I used to go people's homes and steal. Because of this bad habit, my family was very upset, but I did not stop drinking beer. One day, an Evangecube team came to our colony with EvangeCube material. The team showed me a man who was walking in the darkness. The pastor told us that Jesus is the light of the world. He gave His life for us. If we do not follow Him, it means we walk in the dark and when Jesus will come again we will have not any response to give Him. Then I repented of my sins and I felt that I need to walk in the light and that light is Jesus. Then I promised Jesus that I would never drink now and follow my Jesus.

### NEPAL

Our team managed a film show on 10 July in the Udaypur district of eastern Nepal. Since it is a remote, mountainous district, there is no transportation. We walked for four hours to arrange everything for the film showing. Halfway

# SANBC Offers Professional Development for 60 Teachers in India and South Asia

# 'JESUS': Film Opens Doors in South Asia

from page 4

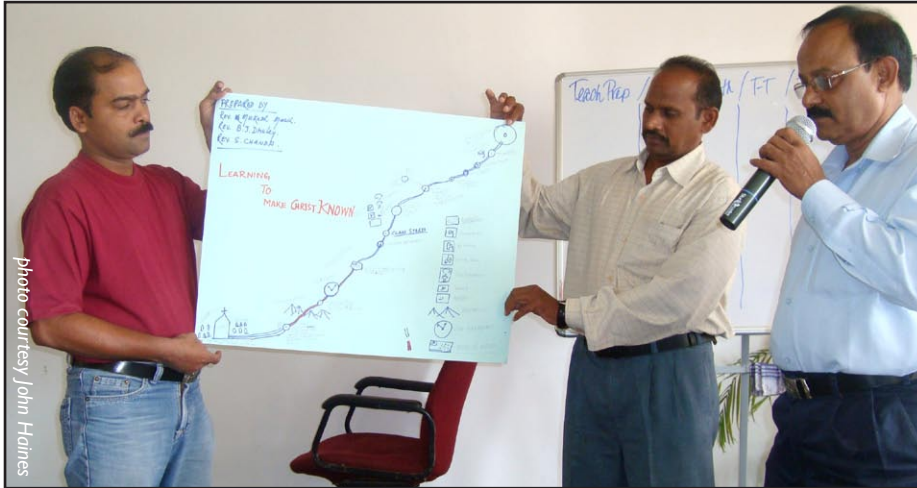


photo courtesy/John Haines

In Bangalore, India, faculty from South Asia Nazarene Bible College explore new ways to update their teaching methods and theological curriculum through this year's Professional Development Seminar.

*India and South Asia*—As a new school year began across Eurasia, faculty members of South Asia Nazarene Bible College (SANBC) gathered in Bangalore, India and Dhaka, Bangladesh to work through the fourth in a series of Professional Development Seminars (PDS) for its theological educators. The seminars are held every three years to upgrade the teaching methods and curriculum of SANBC, and are a significant part of the college's commitment to excellence.

"Participants were enthusiastic to learn new methods and best practices as teachers," said John Haines, Regional Education Coordinator. "There was energy in the room and it was clear that the faculty is becoming a cohesive group, committed to making SANBC the best it can possibly be."

At present, SANBC has more than 1,500 students enrolled, and 120 teachers delivering courses in 11 languages through five nations of South Asia. This year, the PDS curriculum focused on course outcomes and the development of innovative assignments and supple-

ments to the taught courses of SANBC's Diploma of Pastoral Ministry, which fulfills the course of study requirements as outlined in Eurasia's regional sourcebook and SANBC's submission to the International Course of Study Advisory Committee.

"These PDSs build a platform to ensure quality for our faculty, and provide an opportunity for teachers to rededicate themselves to best practices," said SANBC dean and registrar Rev. Simon Jothi, who who joined Haines in presenting, along with SANBC Principal Rev. Sunil Dandge and SANBC vice-principal Rev. Prakash Nemade.

Participants from Sri Lanka and Pakistan were unable to attend these seminars, but will be given an opportunity to join in another PDS next year in Sri Lanka for South Asia Field teachers.

"We know that these PDSs are a great privilege for us, and we appreciate them very much," Nemade said. "Many schools do not have such opportunities to learn how to teach effectively." ♦



photo courtesy/John Haines

SANBC faculty in Dhaka, Bangladesh receive updated teaching and curriculum from PDS.

through the film, some of the villagers came and threatened us, hoping to stop the show. They also beat some of the viewers. We tried to talk with them but they were very cruel, so we stopped the film. Starting the next day, we have made continuous follow up with the villagers we know. Consequently, one person received Christ. It was the result of hard labor and sincere prayer. Thank God for listening our prayers. Please pray for the person who accepted Christ and for the whole village.

## INDIA

My name is Rahul; I am from a Buddhist background. The teaching I received from my childhood was that the only way to reach the Lord was by knowledge. But I had the chance to see the JESUS film. The whole movie was very good. When Jesus and his disciples were traveling by a boat, a storm broke out. The disciples were afraid and asked for the Lord's help. Then he got up and rebuked the storm. The Lord asked them where their faith was; I thought that Jesus was also asking me the same question. I was going through the same situation in my family and personal life. I compared my life with the disciples' and found that they were faithless in times of trouble. From this, I learned that true faith in God is important. I thought that if I asked for the Lord's help, He would surely help me. It is not the knowledge way but the Jesus way. I am ready to follow Him and live life according to His will. Please pray for me and my family.

## NEPAL

Bir Bahadur Tamang is a villager in the Nuwakot district of central Nepal. In the village, he is known as a good person, and other people affirm this. He got saw the JESUS film on 8 July in the village, and was so excited. At the end, he came and asked us that what he should do to be a Christian. We taught him about Jesus and the salvation He gives us. Finally, he knelt down and received Christ as his personal savior. When we asked him which component of the film touched his heart, he replied that Jesus' love and care to the poor and helpless impressed him very much. He found more character and nature in Christ than any other god he has ever known about. Now he has become a potential leader in the fellowship conducted in his village. He is also very helpful to the other villagers. Bir Bahadur is eager to help others in Jesus' name. He is also very happy to have answers to his questions. Please pray for him and for the fellowship in his village. ♦

*“What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to him, ‘Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed,’ but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.”*

*James 2:14-17*

## Upcoming Events

12-14 October • British Isles North District Fraternal

15-18 October • India Leadership Development Initiative Training Event  
Chennai, India

17 October • Graduation Ceremonies  
Nazarene Theological College  
Manchester, England

19-26 October • Nepal District Leadership Development Initiative Training Event

## Bulgarian Village Sacrifices for Bangladesh



photo by Simone Finney

Boys at a Child Development Center in northern Bangladesh await what is often their only meal of the day.

**Manaselka Reka, Bulgaria**—All the families of Manaselka Reka but one live on welfare, and most barely survived last winter. For people in the mountain village in northwestern Bulgaria, survival is mostly hand-to-mouth and always a challenge.

When spring finally came, those who are part of the village’s church plant gathered to thank God for His mercy and care, and began to talk about ways to help others who are in need. As the snow melted, they were able to gather mushrooms, snails and wild berries. Conversations about helping others continued, and the group began to collect offerings.

Many of the families send their

children to school in the nearby village of Vidrare, which benefits from a feeding program supported by Nazarene Compassionate Ministries, and have seen how vital the meals are to their well-being, so they decided to help other children in need.

Zhana Georgieva, who pastors the Manaselka Reka church plant, told the group about a similar feeding program at the child development centers in Bangladesh, and the families all agreed the money should be donated there.

“For now it is a one-time gift,” said Georgieva, “but hopefully in the future we can do it more regularly. It is hard to give out of nothing, but the people experienced God’s provision throughout the winter and it wasn’t difficult to make that decision.” ♦

## Prayer Requests

- Pray for cyclone Aila survivors in India as they begin to rebuild their lives. Pray that the aid given by local churches and NCM will help build lasting relationships with more families in West Bengal.
- Pray for the building permit that will allow the Poznan location of Sweet Surrender to open soon. Pray for financial viability and genuine relationships for the project, and that the handful of believers there would grow into a vibrant faith community.
- Pray for the staff and faculty of South Asia Nazarene Bible College as they work to prepare people for ministry throughout India, Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka.
- Please pray for our Jesus Film team members located in Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and India. Pray that more partnerships will be fostered in these countries as well as for the new churches that have been planted as a result of the Jesus Film.
- Pray for those from the Bulgarian village of Manaselka Reka who have sacrificially given to help other children in Eurasia. Pray that God will continue to provide nutrition and support for their children, and that their faith will continue to grow.

*Where Worlds Meet* is the monthly e-newsletter for the Eurasia Region of the Church of the Nazarene. To subscribe, please e-mail the editor at [whereworldsmeet@eurasiaregion.org](mailto:whereworldsmeet@eurasiaregion.org)

*Where Worlds Meet* welcomes stories, photos and prayer requests. Please send all submissions to the editor via e-mail:

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