
Our Dear Praying Friends,

This newsletter comes to you with many apologies as it's been a while since we got down to writing one. We do try to keep our general activities updated on Facebook. However, for all those who are not on Facebook you must be wondering about what's happening in Rajministries since Christmas.

A lot has been happening – in fact so much that it has been rather overwhelming at times. And having a baby to care for doesn't make it easy. Our little Ruthie, even though she is hard work, has the most laid back and genial nature and after a hard day at work, her smiles and antics act as a huge de-stressor. The Lord knew that we would need a Ruthie. Her life has impacted Rachel's life too. As Rachel is now in High School and faces a lot of pressure, it is a joy for her to take care of her tiny sister and laugh and play with her! However, the normal duties of a baby take up time after work and before we know it, we are exhausted and ready to flop into bed and the day is over, which begins at 4:30am! That is the story of our life right now!



As mentioned earlier a LOT has been happening on the ministry front.

In the SCHOOL we feel as if we are starting all over again. Yes, my dear friends, COVID has brought us to our knees in prayer, our brains in repair and our whole being in prepare – for the worst! We have been in quite a dilemma each day and at times it has seemed like there is no hope! The fact that we are still standing firm even after losing 200 students is only because we are taking things one day at a time and our hope and trust and explicit faith is in our loving and caring Father, the Lord Jesus, the glory and the lifter of our head. Our finances have hit a rock bottom and just when we are scraping the bottom, the bathrooms have failed, the buildings are in need of desperate repair and one of our staff bringing cash from the bank was pickpocketed and we lost a big amount of money. And to add to our miseries we are losing very good staff who are forced to go to the big city where they will be paid double the amount they are getting here as we haven't been able to raise salaries as yet. So even though we are going through inflation, especially with cooking gas, diesel etc. we feel awful that we haven't been able to raise the salaries. For the last three years we have been unable to do so. We are at risk of losing more staff and we are at our wits end. We had excellent results, and our student was the topper in the entire district, but we have lost one of the English teachers. Consequently, there is a bigger load on Jenny now as this young man, who was also a former student, has left. Our problems escalate as no one, except a

student of ours, is capable of handling the English. We are very grateful for the oldest girls from our Mahima Niwas who are stepping in to help, though it is limited.

We had hoped to have many new admissions in the new session, and we did have a considerable amount but still not enough to tide us through the financial crunch we are facing. Friends we are really in a crisis and this letter comes to you as an appeal on behalf of Rajministries. If we are unable to keep our staff the standard of the school will fall and no matter how hard we work, we will be in a crisis. We deeply appreciate your prayers so that we can tide over this crisis. The school bathrooms that were renovated a few years ago have suffered a huge bashing due to the ongoing construction being carried out by the ever-increasing Border Security forces and their battalion. We must build new bathrooms for the school as soon as possible. The water system needs an update. Parents are clamouring and the political scenario doesn't help at all. With things going against the minority communities (like us) we must be always alert and one step ahead of the political scenario. At this point we cannot explain much but we request you to please pray for us that God will supply all our needs and grant us much wisdom.



The SEEMA is pulling along too, though with difficulty. Our friends Todd and Heather have been consistent in their herculean efforts to keep SEEMA afloat all through these months. If it were not for their efforts the ladies would have lost their jobs, their means of livelihood, their lifelines literally. So, it is with a huge heart of gratefulness that we thank them. We have had some sales in the UK too though it would be great if someone would be a SEEMA ambassador and promote sales. We request your prayers — please.

The girls of the MAHIMA NIWAS need your prayers too. This time in the summer some girls went home after two years of COVID. However, on return one of the girls fell sick and to our dismay she was diagnosed with TB of the lungs, or Pleurisy! Our troubles seem to be coming in pouring torrents. We had to spend a huge amount and send one 10-year-old girl to Delhi where one of our friends helped to show her in a reputed hospital. She was first being treated in Rupaidiha, then after some time when she didn't improve, we had her treated by a reputed Orthopedic Surgeon in Nepalgunj. His treatment didn't work either, and then we showed her to another reputed surgeon, and he wanted to put her in a brace as he said her spine was bending and she had a disease called Scoliosis. The brace was going to cost a huge amount of money. We decided to go for a fifth opinion. And this time we sent her to Delhi. Finally, after undergoing tests, she has been diagnosed with Spinal TB! No doubt we were all very sad. However, she is on treatment and is doing much better. Praise God! So now we have two girls who have TB, are isolated, are on a special diet and on proper medication.

All this requires special attention and extra finances. Jenny is supervising the meals herself and cooking special protein dishes for both. All this requires time, effort and finances. We are trusting the Lord and request you to please pray for both of them. It's not an easy time and in the heat and humidity to be isolated is very hard. These are indeed hard times for all of us.

Our girls come from homes where there is hereditary sickness and TB is rampant due to poverty and unhygienic conditions. Praise God that now TB is fully curable and there is hope. Fifty years ago there was no cure and Jenny's' father actually passed away because of TB. We need your prayers.

Unfinished projects:

We have yet to complete the Emergency Room that we had explained about in our previous letter. Besides this is the unfinished upper storey of the Mahima Niwas. It would be great if we are able to complete these projects along with the bathrooms.

Emergency Room



Mahima Niwas



On the family front we are indeed very grateful to God for His hand of protection on us. Roy has not had any episode of palpitations for two months. His overall health remains good. Rachel's goal is to be a bit taller than her Mama and we can see that goal in sight – sigh! Ruthie, who is everyone's darling and loves smiling and ice cream, is coming along slowly but surely. She is yet to stand even though she is going to be a year old in September. Jenny is up to her neck in work at school, and at the girls home and SEEMA. Everyone keeps saying we need to let go and retire – and there is nothing

more we would like BUT we need dedicated staff who will take all the responsibilities that we shoulder. Even though we interviewed many applicants for the post of the English teacher none of them could handle the English. Only our students can speak fluent English. And the good students leave the village to be in the cities. So, till then we just keep our eyes on the goal and continue serving our great and mighty God. It's been 36 years since He called us to Rupaidiha and our work load has not decreased one bit. We experience Isaiah 40:31 each day in our lives!

If you are friends with us on Facebook, you will notice only the happy pictures we keep posting. However, these months have got to be the most challenging for us. Unfinished projects, sickness, and much needed repair after all the years of use have come together and COVID hasn't made it easier. We would appreciate your prayers and, as always, your generous support at this time of crisis. Rajministries has withstood many a storm and turbulent time, in the past, but this has got to be the most challenging one of all. But we know that we are more than conquerors in Him. As the waves hit us and the winds buffet us, we will put our hand in the hand of the One who walked on the waters! Hallelujah!

Much love, prayers and appreciation,

Roy, Jenny, Rachel and Ruthie with all at the Rajministries,

