

Thank you messages from our India Companion Synod Partners/Members



Anoop's Report to the NEMN Synod

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

I E.Anoop David studying Bachelor of Divinity in Gurukul Lutheran Theological College and Research Institute, Chennai, India is glad and honoured to share about my experience this year. I completed three years of my theological journey, it is been a great process learning where I understand God's plan. I pray that this final year in Gurukul helps me to educate myself and be more sensitive to the things both mentally and socially. I thank God for His continuous encouragement through you and all my Gurus. With all your support I could able to continue my studies without any tensions in life. It feels that I'm in safe hands and could concentrate completely on my studies.

Last academic year was great and got so many opportunities to express myself both in the class as well as in the Gurukul community. As part of my Concurrent field work, I was allotted to attend "NAGA Christian Fellowship" which is a Baptist congregation. I was given opportunities to lead the worship and participate in the church activities. Being there was a blessed time and also understood some of the Baptist traditions.

My Participation in College activities:

- I have been part in our college choir, we participated in a competition and got 4th place.
- I have given opportunity to be the student librarian which can support my fee.
- I have given the privilege to master the ceremony in our college Christmas Carol Competition.
- By the Grace of God, I got the opportunity to preach in our college twice in the morning devotions.
- I feel proud that, I was asked by our college to send my thesis proposal to the University of Amsterdam for a program called Bridging the Gaps. Where students from all over the world get selected to do their thesis in that university. Even though I didn't get selected, I thank our college administration for putting their trust in me.
- I acquired 2nd place in the singing competition conducted by our college.
- As part of my field education I was sent to an Old age home in Kerala to work there for 20 days. This helped me to realise how important for a church to have such homes and specially Palliative Care centres.

From the bottom of my heart I would like to thank you for your generous sponsorship and continuous support in my theological journey. You encourages us to work hard in our lives and learn as much as we can. Your support and prayers help me to aim high and take up my studies more seriously and to give the best of my abilities.

Kindly remember me in your prayers.

Your Brother in Christ,

Anoop David.

Sathish Vijay Kumar; BD IV – Gurukul



Greetings to you in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ!

I am **Sathish Vijay Kumar .S**. I am pursuing my Bachelor of Divinity in Gurukul Lutheran Theological College and Research Institute, Chennai, India. I'm Glad and honoured to share about my experience this year. Currently studying Fourth year of Bachelor of divinity, since my first year I've been trying my best to learn as much as possible and unlearn or change my perspectives towards certain things theologically and socially.

I am progressing in my academics. I am regular to chapel services like Morning devotion, evening Vesper service, Wednesday Community worship, Sunday Community worship service and some college prayers. And I am actively participating in ministerial activities such as the Concurrent Field work and Summer Field Education.

My Participation in College activities:

- By the Grace of God, I got the opportunity to preach in our college twice in the morning devotions.
- I was regular to chapel, college activities like mess managing, chapel cleaning, chapel coordinating and attending classes
- Guru-sishya fellowships are extremely enlightening both in studies and living. During food festival, our Guru-sishya fellowship served “Hyderabad Biryani”, I served as the chef for it.
- I have actively participated in volley ball, carom board and shuttle in these games and was awarded 1st prize in these games during sports day.
- As part of my field education I was sent to an Old age home, Red hills, Chennai and served there for 20 days.

I would like to thank ELCA and NE Minnesota Synod, ELCA for their generous sponsorship and continuous support towards my theological journey. I would request you to help me even for this year.

With wishes and regards,

Yours truly

Sathish Vijay Kumar .S

Dora Grace; BD II – Gurukul



Greetings to you in the matchless name of our lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

I am Padamutham Dora Grace studying Bachelor of Divinity 2nd year in GURUKUL Lutheran Theological College and Research Institute, Chennai!

My father is working as a pastor in one of the churches of South Andhra Lutheran church (SALC). We are four children to our parents. I am the elder one in the family, my parents dedicated me for the ministry. My brother also joined me to do theological studies.

I am studying well and I have completed 1st year with good percentage of marks.

My Participation in the college activities: I am one of the members of College choir. I have been allotted to CSI (st. James church,) as a part of my concurrent field exposure. In this church I am doing children and youth ministry, and assisting in the Holy Communion service. I have been sent to Marthoma Institution in Kerala, vattavada for field exposure. I was involved in a survey for the children ministry for 20days.

I am very thankful to you for your financial support towards my studies. I request you to continue to help me in my studies.

Thanking you

Dora Grace

David Prashanth Raj; BD II – Gurukul



Greetings to you in the name of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ

I G.D. Prasantha Raj studying Bachelor of Divinity in Gurukul Lutheran Theological College and Research Institute, Chennai, India. I am glad and honoured to share about my progress report. I completed my first year of BD. It has been a great process learning where I understand God's plan. I pray that these remaining three years in Gurukul would help me to educate myself and be more sensitive to the issues around me. I thank God for your support that enabled me to continue my studies without any tensions in life.

Last academic year was great and got so many opportunities to learn many things. As part of my Concurrent field work, I was allotted to attend "Andhra Evangelical Lutheran Church (Resurrection Lutheran Church)" which is a Lutheran congregation. I was given opportunities to lead the worship and participate in the church activities. Being there was a blessed time.

As a part of my field education I was placed in " Society for Cultural Education and Development (SRED) in Arakonam Village in Tamilnadu. There we have learned so many things from the life experience of the villagers, especially their effort towards building their houses through the support of SRDE. The woman in this village took an initiative of liquor ban in that village which affects their husbands badly.

From the bottom of my heart I would like to thank you for your generous sponsorship and continuous support in my theological journey. I would request you to continue to help me and pray for me. I thank all those hands who contribute towards my education.

With regards

G.D.Prasantha Raj

K.Sam Swarup ; BD II - Gurukul



Dear Madame/Sir,

Warm greetings in Christ!

I am K.Samswarup, from SALC (South Andhra Lutheran Church), Naidupet Parish, Andhra Pradesh. By the grace of God, I successfully completed my first year BD degree at Gurukul Lutheran theological seminary, Chennai. I was awarded a prize for regular attendance in my first year. I attended the concurrent Church practice every Sunday at SALC, Rayapuram, Chennai as part of my academics and later at the year end, as part of academic field exposure, the college has sent me to a voluntary organisation Called RSS,(Rashtriya Seva Samithi). There, I learned about programs like child centric women empowerment, Health and rehabilitation. This enabled me to learn a lot which I believe will be helpful in my Theological education.

I am now in the second year of BD degree. I am very grateful to ELCA and NE Minnesota Synod, ELCA for providing me scholarship towards my theological education. I will be grateful to you if you could extend the help to me throughout my degree program. Please remember me in your prayers. Thank you.

Your's faithfully,

K.Sam Swarup

P Sunny Devaraj; BD II – Gurukul



Greetings to you in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ!

I am Padamutham Sunny Devaraj doing my Bachelor of Divinity in Gurukul Lutheran Theological College and Research institute, Chennai.

I would like to thank you for selecting me as the recipient of the ELCA scholarship for the year 2018-2019 academic year. I am very much thankful for your financial support towards my education.

In the 1st year I got good marks and I am promoted to second year. I have been Assigned to minister the Telugu Baptist Church in Chennai and their I am Assisting communion and helping the pastor in worship service.

My participation in the college Activities:

I play music in the college programs. As a part of intensive Field Education I have been placed to Nathional Missionary society of India, Thirupattur. This institution is helping the poor people in different ways, like sheltering the orphans, financial support to the Poor Pastors, Medical camps in villages and so on.

Apart from these things I had good experience while working with Rural Area Missionary field.

I would request you to continue to help me financially. Kindly remember me in your prayers.

Yours sincerely

Sunny Devaraj P

T Chandra Sekhar; BD I - Gurukul



Dear Madame/Sir,

Warm greetings in Christ,

I am T. Chandra Sekhar born and brought up in a small village called Nallavenganapalli, Vedurukuppammandal, Chittoor district, Andrapradesh. Right from my childhood I had great desire to serve the Lord Almighty. I am fully convinced and felt that God called me for God's service. My strong desire is to rightly interpret the word of God. That desire made me to join in Gurukul Lutheran theological College.

My parents are not in a position to support me to do theological studies. They are daily wage earners. I would request you to kindly help me financially to continue my studies. I wish and pray God that the time I will spend in this college will help me to learn and unlearn things for the betterment of my spiritual and personal life. I thank you for helping me financially. I will do my best for the expansion of the Kingdom of God.

Your kind support and prayers will always help me to move forward. My wife is a home maker and I have two school going children. Please kindly provide me scholarship to continue my studies.

Thank you.

T Chandra Sekhar

P A Deepak – BD II - ACTC



Dear Madame/sir,

Greetings to you all in name of the Lord and our Savior Jesus Christ!

I am so grateful for your financial and prayer support during the last academic year. We have done our six weeks practical ministry at KALATHURU parish. it was a learning experience. I am progressing academically also. I am involved in the weekend ministries, college extracurricular activities actively. We thank you for your love and support. We request you to continue to provide scholarship for me so that I can complete my studies without financial struggles.

Thanking you

Kind regards,

P A Deepak

M Hemakumar: BD II – ACTC



Dear Madame/Sir,

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

My name is M.Hemakumar. I have successfully completed B D first year. I am thankful to you for your prayers and scholarship that you have provided to me.

I did my practical work at St Luke's Lutheran Church SALC -Krishnasamudhram parish. Puttur, Chittoor Dt AP,India. I am actively participating in all college programs. I will be able to make transformation through my learning in my ministry. I request you to help me till I complete my studies. I could not afford to pay the fees as we are economically poor. There is no one to sponsor for my studies. My parents are no more. My wife is looking after my two children by her daily wages work in my village.

So I request you to kindly help me to continue my studies.

Your's sincerely
M.Hemakumar

P K Ravikumar - BD II – ACTC



Dear Madame/Sir,

Warm greetings in Jesus blessed name

I am Pasala Ravi Kumar studying B.D. In A.C.T.C, Hyderabad. I am married and had three children. All of them are doing their studies.

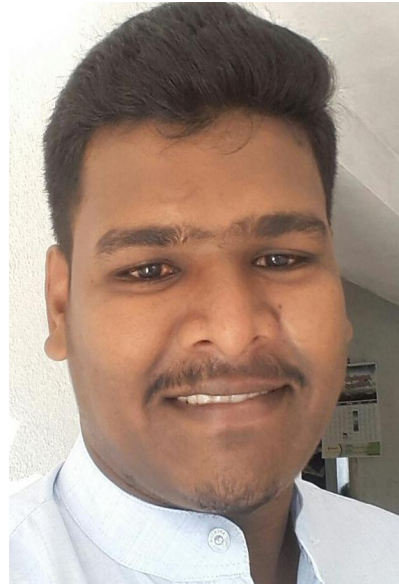
My Testimony

I am grateful to God for I am a Christian from my foreparents. From my childhood I was serving God in our church with my aunt Rukmani. I was encouraged by many pastors to do ministry. But due to my economical status, I decided to work in a secular field and earn money to take care of my family. But, a pastor from Kerala prayed for me and prophesied that I will become the minister of God because it is the will of God. So, God's amazing grace led me to be a part of God's ministry. Now I am in B D II.

I request you to kindly help me. I will be grateful to you for your help and support and prayers.

Thanking you
Your obediently
Pasala Ravi Kumar

V. Akhil; BD III-ACTC



Dear Madame/Sir,

Warm Greetings in Christ!

By the grace of God and with your support, I have completed successfully my second year BD and now I am in the 3rd year.. I would like to first of all thank you from the bottom of my heart for your contribution towards my theological studies. Now I am under 6 months field work. I am learning various things related to ministry. In the College I participate in all the ministerial and extracurricular activities.

I am progressing academically and in the ministerial formation. I would like to thank you once again for the scholarship.

I would request you to continue to help me so that I would complete my studies without any hurdles.

Warm Regards

Yours sincerely

V. Akhil

K Chatarji: BD I



Dear Madame/sir,

Greetings to the name of Lord Jesus Christ!

My name is K Chatarji joined BD this year in ACTC, Hyderabad. My father is K Rajandran who is a former and my mother is K Nagarani. I am married and I have two sons. I have decided to do ministry because of the vow I took when my second son Abel was about to die in the hospital. I prayed to God to save his life. I vowed to God, “ if my son is saved, I will commit myself to the ministry.” God has saved my son’s life and as I promised, I have decided to do ministry. So I joined ACTC.

As my parents are formers, they earn hardly for their living. My wife Divya is a home maker. It is difficult for them to support me. As a student I cannot do any work to earn money. Therefore I request you to kindly accept my application and provide me financial support to continue my studies.

Thanking you

Yours sincerely
K Chatarji

Deepak Babu; BD IV - Gurukul



Greetings to in the name of our Lord and saviour Jesus Christ!

I am R.S Deepak babu, doing final year BD in Gurukul Lutheran Theological College and Research Institute, Chennai, India. I am so glad and honoured to share about my progress report. First of all I would like to thank ELCA and North Eastern Minnesota Synod, ELCA for offering me scholarship to continue my BD studies.

Now I have completed three years of my theological journey successfully by the grace of God and through your constant support and prayers. The three years of my theological journey has helped me to grow deep in the word of God and also to understand various theologies. Also this education has enabled me to mature in interfaith relationship and dialogue.

I am happy to inform you that I have been elected as the General secretary of the student body and also as the Convener for the sports committee for this academic year. Please continue to pray for me so that I will be able to perform my duties faithfully besides learning theological insights.

All these would not have been possible without your generous support and prayers. Once again I express my sincere thanks for all your help and continue to remember me in your prayers.

Sincerely Yours

Deepak Babu

Kurapati Samuel; BD 11 – Gurukul



Greetings to you in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ

I am Kurapati Samuel Keerthi Kireet doing my Bachelor of Divinity in Gurukul Lutheran theological college and research institute Chennai.

I would like to sincerely thank you for selecting me as the recipient of the ELCA scholarship for the year 2018-2019 academic year. I am truly thankful for your financial assistance and commitment towards my educational advancement. I am progressing in my academics. As a part of my ministerial formation I have been assigned to CSI church in Chennai which really helped me to learn their order of worship and church service. I teach children in Sunday School there.

My participation in the college activities:

1. I have been in the college choir; As a part of intensive Field education I have been placed to work with an NGO in Chennai who are helping the society in different ways, like providing free computer education for the school dropouts, beautician course for girls, and also technical training programs like welding and plumbing works for children above 18 years, and also mobile assembling courses.

Apart from all these things I have learned Christian ethics and equipped leadership qualities in all areas. I would request your to continue to give me scholarship so that I can complete my theological studies.

Kindly remember me in your Prayers,

Yours truly,

Kurapati Samuel Keerthi Kireet