

Ludhiana CMC Board USA
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LUDHIANA CMC US REVIEW

Ludhiana Christian Medical College Board, USA, Inc., PO Box 1327, Columbia, MO 65205 Email: MarbleLCMC@gmail.com

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Director's Term Extended Three Years



Dr Abraham Thomas

During the recent Governing Body meeting the repeated appeal from members of the Governing Body as well as from all of CMC's administrative officers was that Dr. Abraham Thomas's tenure be extended. There are provisions in the bylaws to extend the tenure of the director by 3 years once the full 7 year tenure has been completed. This extension was joyfully voted. The accomplishments of the Thomas team in the past 7 years were shown in a PowerPoint presentation and they are impressive. Many used the term miraculous. There have been new buildings, renovations throughout the campus, new facilities, new equipment, and new degrees and areas of specialty. The number of medical students has jumped from admissions of 50 to 75 per year. All of this, and still the large sign at the entrance to the hospital proclaims that daily free care is given to those who cannot pay. The campus is in a state of gratitude that Dr. Abraham Thomas, who in the past seven years has proven to be an able administrator on top of being a world renowned surgeon*, has accepted the invitation to serve for three more years.

*In 2013 the American College of Surgeons listed Thomas's first ever face and scalp reimplantation as one of the milestones in surgery.

\$116,000 Donated for New Ventilators

The "Breath Making" project of purchasing new ventilators was a complete success, thanks to very generous donors. In June through December the goal of \$116,000 was met, and nine new ventilators have been ordered and installed. One of those ventilators is pictured here. They are currently bringing the breath of life to patients who need that assistance. We are thankful to our 61 generous donors and want to offer a special word of thanks to donors Dr. Ranu Grewal and Bobby Bahl for their donation of \$50,000, which put us over the top.



A New Life Begins for Gurwinder

Mr. Gurwinder Singh took us for a ride in his auto rickshaw, the public conveyance that most people in Ludhiana take to get around the city. His rickshaw is a bit different from most. It has been modified so that everything can be controlled by hand, since he is paralyzed from his waist down.



Gurwinder contracted a virus which left him instantly paralyzed when it attacked his nervous system. He was at his wedding, incredibly enough, and when it came time to stand and walk seven times around the sacred fire in order to seal the union, he simply could not get up. The wedding was cancelled and the bride and her family withdrew. He was left with his widowed mother with no means of support. They are poor people and live in a small house in a rural part of the city. He looks pretty happy now, but his story is long and dark, with two suicide attempts along the way.

He and his mother borrowed money and used what savings they had going from hospital to hospital for help. Help did not come until they entered the Ludhiana Christian Medical College and Hospital. He was fitted with leg braces, given a walker, and taught to shift his weight around in order to move. Later, a ramp was built so that he can get in and out of his house. He moves by slinging his legs back and forth and forward. After he had learned to get around with his walker ways were found to finance and modify an auto rickshaw so he could earn a living for himself and his mother.

He could not understand why his doctor and others at the Ludhiana Christian Medical College were doing all they were doing for him, as it went so much further than the medical treatment he had sought. He was told it was because they served a loving God who loved him as well and wanted him to have a full life. Now he attends church where his doctor and others from the Medical College attend, but he does not come alone. Along the way he invites others to jump in his rickshaw and go along with him.

August Cleveland Alumni Reunion



Dr. Arun Adlakha
Alumni President

Our 2015 CMC Alumni Reunion will be held from Thursday, August 13 to Saturday, August 15 at the Downtown Westin Hotel in Cleveland, Ohio.

For all of the registration information go to www.folus.org. There you will find the registration form for the reunion which you may fill out and print from your computer and mail along with a check to Dr. Krishan Chandar, 5950

Buckboard Lane, Solon, OH 44139.

To make hotel reservations call 216 771 7700 and mention the Ludhiana CMC Alumni Reunion to get the special reunion rates. For questions call Krishan Chandar (local reunion host) at 440 248 0390 or Arun Adlakha (Alumni President) at 704 806 3577.

"Trust me that the joy one gets from meeting our CMC friends and family is so fulfilling to the soul that it can overcome any inertia one may have experienced in the past for not attending these meetings. It is my humble request to all of our alumni, who have not come to these meetings, to please give it a chance and come one to two times at least, and I am confident that you will be hooked on them."

—Dr. Arun Adlakha, Alumni President



2014 Alumni Reunion Video

A video showing the highlights of the 2014 alumni reunion in Los Angeles is available on DVD. Just call or email the office and we will drop a free DVD in the mail to you.

2016 Ludhiana CMC/India Tour



Consider joining Max Marble, Executive Director of the Ludhiana Christian Medical College USA Board, on a tour during two weeks in March 2016 to experience India and visit the Ludhiana Christian Medical College and Hospital.

The tour group will arrive in Delhi, the capital of India, where tour members will experience urban India, shop, attend church, and see some sights like the Qutab Minar, Humayan's Tomb and Gandhi Samadhi. The group will spend four days learning about the urban and rural educational and healing ministry of the Christian Medical College and Hospital, and before returning home will visit the Taj Mahal in Agra.

The cost of \$3,500 will include all meals, lodging, transportation to and from India as well as in India, and all tourist activities. To receive further information call 573-777-2924 or email MarbleLCMC@gmail.com..

CONTACT US

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Max Marble, Executive Director

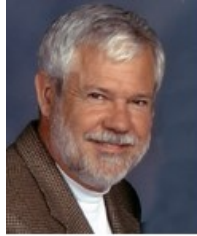
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A Ludhiana Christmas



Rev. Max Marble

It was a joy this year to attend the Christmas programs presented by the Ludhiana Christian Medical College students, staff and staff children. There was a mix of traditional Christmas carols and contemporary songs. The Junior Choir, which included any student who wanted to join, started with "Oh Come All Ye Faithful", followed by "Gloria in Excelsis Deo", "Rise Up Shepherd and Follow", "Oh Holy Night" (NSYNC version), "Christmas Lullaby", "And He Shall Purify", "All My Heart this Night Rejoices", "Carol of the Bells" (Pentatonix version), and "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas".

Children of staff members danced to beautifully choreographed songs including "We Wish You a Merry Christmas" and "The Christmas Polka". They also presented a live manger scene.



na community, followed by dinner for all. On Sunday night all of the churches in town were to gather and each was to perform two Christmas songs, but unfortunately that outdoor celebration was rained out. On Monday evening the students took Christmas inside the hospital by dividing up into four groups and caroling in each of the hospital wards.



These Ludhiana Christian Medical College Christmas traditions have been going on for years, bringing joy to the campus and a Christian witness to the community.

A DVD is available for \$10 including shipping from the Ludhiana CMC US office. To purchase a copy send your check to PO Box 1327, Columbia, MO 65205. A five minute collage may be viewed on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/JdmbJLg9Rs4>.



Christmas DVD Available from CMC US Board Office

Despite Ebola, Dr. Franklin Returns to Liberia



Rev. Max Marble, Dr. Sundeep Franklin, Dr. Abi Thomas

Despite the Ebola crisis in Liberia, Dr. Sundeep Franklin from the Ludhiana Christian Medical College Dental College decided to return to serve at the Ganta Methodist Hospital there.

Five years ago Bishop Innis, United Methodist Bishop in Liberia, asked the United Methodist General Board of Global Ministries in New York for help with their dental crisis. There were only 3 dentists in the entire country and they were all 65 years or older. The General Board of Global Ministries turned to the Ludhiana Christian Medical College in India for help. The Dental College happily offered to send a succession of their graduates to serve at the Ganta Methodist Hospital for six to twelve months at a stretch. For the



CMC's Dr. Zachariah Teaches Health Care Workers

past four years some of the finest Dental College graduates have been treating patients and training dental health care workers in Liberia.

Because of the Ebola crisis in Liberia Dr. Franklin was called back to Ludhiana in August. Upon returning he was quarantined by the government but was sent home in good health. However, his heart was back where he knew he was badly needed in Liberia. It took a persuasive trip to the Dental College principal's office to enable his return. The college had serious reservations about sending him back to the Ganta Methodist Hospital where some of the facilities had become a new Ebola holding and treatment center. However, Dr. Franklin assured Dr. Thomas that he fully understood the risks but nevertheless wanted to return as an Ambassador for Christ and an ambassador from the Ludhiana Christian Dental College, to serve in a place where there was such great need.

Dr. Franklin has now been back in Liberia for several months treating patients and training dental health care workers. We praise God for his courage and dedication to service.

Blessed by Generous Donors



During 2014 a number of donations have been made through the Ludhiana Christian Medical College US Board. Pictured above is the new digital piano (\$4,000) that is used on Sunday mornings and during the week for worship services. Dr. Viju Thomas (Cardiac Surgeon) is playing while Rev. Alex Peters goes over the Order of Worship. Pictured below is the new Paraffin Embedding Machine (\$12,500) which was donated by Dr. Madhu Bahl for the Pathology Department.



Alumni Endowment Funds Growing for CMC

Alumni endowment funds are like the Energizer bunny. They are gifts that keep on giving. The first one was established in 1999 by Drs. S.A and Helga Nallathambi. Every year income from that fund is sent to CMC for the Medical Department. In 2013 the Cherry Mathews Endowment Fund was established for a Chair in Neurology. The Harish and Parveen Anand Endowment Fund was established in 2014 and continues to receive funds. Eventually income from the fund each year will fund projects at CMC. Currently, the Dr. Gurpal S. Bhuller Endowment Fund is being established for the Ophthalmology Department. In 2013, after Dr. Raj Mathews passed away, her family established the Drs. Daniel and Raj Mathews Investment Fund in her memory. Investment funds are a little different from endowment funds, in that the funds build up and eventually both the principal and the income from the fund may be used for CMC projects.

For information on setting up a fund in your name that will continue to improve health and quality of life for people in India forever, contact an CMC US Board member or Max Marble, US CMC Board Executive Director, at marblelcm@gmail.com. Or call the US CMC Board office at 573-777-2924.

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The Senior Choir sang a medley of "When a Child is Born" (Boney M) and "Do You Have Room". They also sang "Glorious Night" and "Jesus is Born". Two solos were performed. Ms. Virginia Gill sang the Hindi song "Ek Tara Chamka Hai" and Dr. Jerin Kuruvilla sang "Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire".



Students, staff and children presented the Christmas play "The Innkeeper". The evening filled with Christmas ended with everyone joining in singing "Silent Night" and a prayer. Following the performance there were refreshments for everyone and Santa arrived with candy for the children.

All that was on Friday night with students and staff invited. On Saturday night a similar program was presented to invited guests from the Ludhiana