

Ludhiana CMC Board USA  
PO Box 1327  
Columbia, MO 65205

# LUDHIANA CMC US REVIEW

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

SPRING 2017

WEBSITE: HTTP://FOLUS.ORG

VOLUME 6, EDITION 2

## Cherished Faithful Support



The first Sunday of each month worshippers at the Iuka United Methodist Church in Iuka, Mississippi are invited to leave an offering on the altar rail for the Ludhiana Christian Medical College. At the end of the year Sharlene Grisham, secretary/financial secretary since 1986, totals it all up and sends us a check for our Ludhiana CMC ministry in India.

I only just learned this. I was impressed by the check we have received from them each year since I became Executive Director of the US CMC Board three years ago. I was curious about how and when their support began so I emailed the church and received a wonderful letter from Sharlene.

She told me that it all started when Charles and Maude Reynolds from the Ludhiana CMC US Board spoke in their church on a Sunday evening in 1987. An offering was received for Ludhiana CMC that evening and the congregation decided that they should support the ministry on an ongoing basis. We just received their 30th check for \$599.26. What a blessing such faithful support is to our work in Ludhiana.

Sharlene wrote that pastors and church members have come and gone during the 30 years. With news and information from our office they keep telling the stories to their new members about ongoing needs and concerns for health care in India.

—Max Marble

## Endowment Funds Increase and Grow

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. Also 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. In 2014 the **Drs. Harish and Parveen Anand Endowment Fund** was established and continues to grow. Eventually income from the fund will fund projects at CMC every year. In 2015 the **Drs. Gurpal S. Bhuller & Neena G. Singh Endowment Fund** was established and has continued to receive funds for the Ophthalmology Department. After Rev. Dr. David Simon lost his wife, Mabreen, to cancer, his family opened the **Mabreen Simon Endowment Fund for Cancer Research** and the fund grows while receiving donations from churches and individuals. The **Mary Lou Duerksen Memorial Scholarship Fund** was also established the same year. This past year the **Drs. Jacob & Mary Danial Scholarship Endowment Fund** was opened. And most recently, **Drs. Joy and Elizabeth Paul** opened an investment fund for the purchase of a lithotripsy machine for the Urology Department. These funds have increased from \$100,000 in 1999 to over \$600,000 today.

For information about setting up a fund in your name or in the name of a loved one, contact a Ludhiana CMC US Board member or Max Marble, US CMC Board Executive Director, at marblelcmc@gmail.com.

## Dr. Joy Paul - Guest of Honor



Dr. Joy Paul was the guest of honor at the 2017 Ludhiana Christian Medical College Convocation on March 23rd. Director Dr. Abraham Thomas presented Dr. Paul with the Guest of Honor plaque and shawl. Dr. Joy Paul, batch of 1959, received his MS & MCH in urology in 1964 and was a part of the teaching staff. In 1972 he traveled to UCLA, California, to receive further training in urology and he and his wife, Dr. Elizabeth Paul, have been serving in the United States ever since. He is a very active member of the US CMC Alumni Association and serves on the Ludhiana CMC US Board. You can read his speech to the graduates online at [www.folus.org](http://www.folus.org).

## FISH for CMC

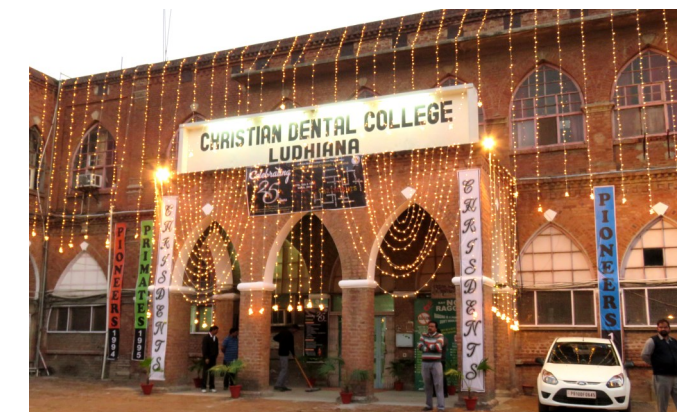
Providing FISH (Fluorescence In Situ Hybridization) lab capabilities for the Ludhiana Christian Medical College Pathology Department is our 2017 goal and fund raising project.

Max Marble visited the Pathology Department in March and met with Dr. Nalini Calton, Department Head, and Dr. Kanwardeep Kwatra, Assistant Professor. They gave him a tour of the department and helped to produce a video stating the need for the FISH lab. Currently they are having to send all of their lab work to Chandigarh, two hours away from Ludhiana. PGI Chandigarh is currently the only lab in the Punjab that can do the tests. It will be a tremendous boost to health in northwest India and to the Ludhiana Medical College and Hospital to have this lab onsite. It will also be a great cost saving to do the tests rather than sending them out. Dr. Cotelingam in Shreveport is promoting the project among the US alumni.

You may send your donations to Ludhiana CMC US Board, P. O. Box 1327, Columbia, MO 65205. If you have questions please email Max Marble at [marblelcmc@gmail.com](mailto:marblelcmc@gmail.com).

View the FISH video on the website at [www.folus.org](http://www.folus.org).

## Celebrating Twenty-five Years



The Ludhiana Christian Dental College, now celebrating its 25th Anniversary, is ranked the 6th best out of 300 dental colleges in India. Grand celebrations were held the weekend of March 17-19. A formal celebration in the Assembly Hall kicked off the festivities with a formal service highlighted with a speech from Dr. Joy Joshi, who served as the first principal. Rev. Max Marble, Executive Director of the Ludhiana Christian Medical College Board USA, was also asked to speak.

Most of the funding for getting the Dental College going came from various sources in the US, including a USAID ASHA grant of ½ million dollars. The ASHA grant was used for rehabbing the abandoned Medical College building for use by the Dental College, and for equipment. The picture above shows the part of the current Dental College that earlier served as the College of Medicine. At present there is an urgent need for a new building and for continuing the rehab project. (See page 2 for more on this subject.)

## 2017 Alumni and Board Meetings

For the first time the Ludhiana CMC North American Alumni Association and the Ludhiana CMC US Board will meet at the same place and time. Both groups will meet in Orlando, Florida. The Board meeting will begin Wednesday evening, July 26th, and conclude Thursday evening. The Alumni Association meeting will begin Thursday evening and will conclude Sunday morning, July 30th. Further information about meeting locations and registration will be provided shortly.

**Max Marble, Executive Director**  
**Ludhiana CMC US Office**  
**PO Box 1327, Columbia, MO 65205**  
**Phone: 573-777-2924**  
**Email: [marblelcmc@gmail.com](mailto:marblelcmc@gmail.com)**



## 25th Anniversary Celebration (Cont. from pg. 1)



### Each Dignitary Lit a 25th Anniversary Celebration Light

Dr. Abi Thomas (Principal), Rev. Max Marble (US Board), Dr. Richard Daniel (Former Director), Dr. Abraham Thomas (CMC Director), Dr. Sudhir Joseph (GB Chair), Mr. Prem Masih (GB Vice-Chair), Dr. Joy Joshi (Founding Principal), Dr. Bharath Suneja (Pioneer Batch), Mr. Abhilash Thomas (Intern, Student President)

An all-day program of academic presentations, testimonies, panel discussions, teas and dinners kept everyone busy and involved with the 25th Anniversary Celebrations. During the evening students presented an impressive cultural program.



Sunday morning services were held in the packed Assembly Hall since the College Chapel was not large enough to accommodate all of the worshippers. And in the evening Benny Prasad presented a program of testimony, song and prayer to a jam packed Assembly Hall. Amazingly enough, Prasad has performed to groups in every country in the world in the past few years.



Dr. George Koshy, Christian Dental College Vice-Principal, delivered the Sunday sermon for all attending the 25th Anniversary Celebrations.

## Compassionate Service with the Poor



Dr Bhuller With Eye Patients

For several years Dr. Gurpal Bhuller, batch of 1968, has been returning to India for volunteer service among the poor. He is an orthopedic surgeon but has been volunteering to go into the rural areas with the Ludhiana CMC eye teams to provide screening and other services. About the recent camp he writes: "Finished our camp today....3 tired doctors....5 dedicated volunteers.....7 days....2620 patients."

Here are some comments on FaceBook about his volunteer service.  
 --"Marvellous job. Proud of you dear Gurpal."  
 --"Great job. Service to needy people."  
 --"You make us CMC connected folks soooooo proud."  
 --"Dr. Gurpal Bhullar is a real example of simple living & high thinking. We are proud of you."  
 --"Gurpal, what wonderful Sewa (service)! Truly following Guru Nana-k's teaching. Stay Blessed."

Above Dr. Bhuller is pictured outside the Ludhiana Christian Medical College and Hospital Eye Department with eye patients who were brought to the hospital for various eye procedures beyond the capability of the eye camp. After his first year of service he saw the need for an eye bank. Subsequently he and his wife have funded an eye bank at CMC.

There are many ways for US alumni to provide expertise, lectures, and volunteer service at CMC. You may contact either Max Marble or Dr. Abraham Thomas, Director, if you would like to explore possibilities.

### Health Care for the Poor

From its inception the Ludhiana Christian Medical College has had a mission to provide health care for the very poor who do not have the means to pay for it. Patients pay what they are able to pay. Many patients can pay the full price for their care; however, each year over a million dollars in subsidies are provided by the hospital so that there is health care for all. Daily free clinics are provided. Routinely the dental mobile clinic rolls out to rural villages. Routinely eye camps are held far off campus. Routinely medical and nursing students go to rural centers to provide free health care education.

## 2017 Founder's Day Class Reunions



50th Year Reunion - Batch of 1967



25th Year Reunion - Batch of 1986

As you can see every year many return to Ludhiana for their milestone class reunions. Founder's Day is held each year on March 24th, which is the birthday of Dr. Edith Brown, the founder of the Ludhiana Christian Medical College.

### Dr. Forrest Eggleston Honored

The Department of Surgery sponsored a nation-wide scientific program in laparoscopic surgery early in April. The purpose of the skill course was to standardize laparoscopic surgical techniques and to update knowledge about the procedures.

During the event homage was paid to the founder of the CMC Surgery Department, Professor Forrest Eggleston, who started the department in 1953. He introduced the American type of Surgical Residency Program at the CMC and in India.

Dr Navneet Chaudhry, Head of Surgery, said, "Dr. Eggleston trained more than 100 surgeons, who got dispersed all over the world as excellent surgeons carrying the rich legacy of Dr Eggleston. He served as the Director of CMC from 1982 to 86. He was a great teacher and served with skill and compassion. He also laid a strong foundation to research activities. He was the founding President of the North Chapter of Association of Surgeons of India (ASI). He served the institute as Professor and Head of Surgery till 1982. He cherished the spirit of the institute till he left for his eternal abode, at the age of 96, last year, in the USA."

Rich tributes were paid by Dr. Abraham G Thomas, CMC Director, who said that Dr Eggleston was a great teacher, surgeon and excellent human being. The excellent surgical training and patient care that was the hallmark of Dr Eggleston's system of training has been kept alive by the successive generations of surgeons at the CMC Hospital.

The three-day scientific program included lectures, hands-on training on the simulators, and live demonstrations of surgical procedures. Patients with surgical diseases like hernia, gall bladder stones, uterine diseases, and ovarian diseases underwent operations which provided live demonstrations to the delegates.

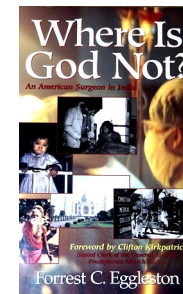
### Bilga Hospital



This week we had a call from one of our alums who lives in Florida. While in India last year she visited the Bilga Hospital, which is staffed, managed and run by the Ludhiana Christian Medical College. She found beautiful buildings, lawns and trees as well as a fully equipped hospital. She called our office because she now wants to make an annual donation to CMC for use in Bilga. She has relatives who live in the area. Recently one of them needed medical attention and had been to several centers without much success. When CMC took over the Bilga Hospital and opened its doors she went there for help and found a friendly, caring, professional, competent staff and received excellent attention and care.

The Bilga General Hospital is a charity hospital that opened in March 2005 to provide effective primary and secondary healthcare serving the poor and needy of the village of Bilga, the town of Normahl, and the surrounding forty-four villages, mostly located along the Satluj River in the Punjab. The hospital is owned by the Bilga General Hospital Charitable Trust. Finding it difficult to run the hospital, the UK-based Bilga Trust has turned over the operation of the hospital to the Ludhiana Christian Medical College.

### Where is God Not?



Dr. Eggleston's autobiography, Where is God Not? was published in 1999. We have a few copies left in the office. We will send you a copy for \$20, which includes shipping and handling. If you enjoy reading out loud and would like to help us produce an audio version of the book by reading it for a digital recorder we will send you a copy of the book and ship you a digital recorder to use and return.

Website: [folus.org](http://folus.org)