Greetings to the Longkumer Network

I recently had the privilege of traveling to North East India to visit the Longkumers and participate with them in a week of ministry in Nagaland and Assam. Katie and Taku maintain a very hectic schedule of partner relationships with the eleven church conventions with whom International Ministries are connected.

While in India I traveled with a delegation from the Dakota Region who have a partnership with the Karbi Anglong Baptist Convention in Assam. The region helped establish a rubber t tree plantation about seven years ago. The 3000 trees are growing to maturity and production of the rubber latex is expected next year. The proceeds from the sale of the rubber will be invested in the Christian schools the KABC sponsor. The Dakotas have sent teams in the past, like the one who went this time, to provide both pastor and teacher education workshops.

My role on the team this year was to conduct a series of stewardship workshops with leaders from all the India partners associated with International Ministries. During the three-day meeting, my focus was on stewardship of life, work and finances. I also had the privilege of preaching at the Sunday morning chapel service at the Oriental Theological Seminary in Dimapur.

There are two mission projects in Nagaland that I want to encourage you to consider helping with a special Christmas gift this year. Both are engaged in building projects that are vital to their ministry and need our immediate help.

The North East Christian University is a new liberal arts university, chartered by the Naga government, to be built about 15 kilometers outside Dimapur with a city center that is presently under construction. The first cohort of students is to begin classes next summer. An urgent need is to construct a smart classroom with the computer capacity to access on-line classes from the US to augment their curriculum. When I met with the Vice Chancellor, Dr. Darlando Khathing, he showed me the room in the Anchor building designated for the smart classroom as well as the new bamboo building being constructed for general assembly, faculty offices and classes. The immediate need for the smart classroom is $40,000 US dollars. This will provide 25 computer work stations, all the support software, wiring and internet connection necessary for two-way classroom teaching to enable long-distance learning. Gifts of any size are welcome. Tax deductible gifts should be sent to Friends of North East Christian University (FNECU), c/o Dr. Joseph Huse, 190 Victory Hill, Coatesville, IN 46121.

Another outstanding mission project underway works with women and girls who have been rescued from human trafficking and abuse. The ministry is Miqlat (a Hebrew word that means shelter or refuge). The project was created by the Nagaland Baptist Church Council Women's Department several

years ago under the leadership of Asha Sanchu. The ministry has never had a permanent home, but has depended on rented or loaned facilities for housing and rehab. The most recent facility was owned by the government; but changing political priorities have forced the ministry to move again. Through the use of limited resources and a generous donor, a new permanent home is being built by Miqlat for their shelter and rehab center. The total project will cost $500,000 US.

The Naga government is requiring them to vacate their present location by year's end. They need to complete the first floor of their new building in order to have a home for their present clients and vocational training. An additional $26,000 is immediately needed to complete that phase of the building. Will you help by sending a contribution?   Send a check to International Ministries, PO Box 851, Valley Forge PA 19482-0851 for a tax deductible gift. Be sure to indicate that it is for the Miqlat Ministry in Nagaland.

Thank you for continuing to hold the Longkumers in your prayers. Your financial support assures that they can continue to serve on our behalf as Country Coordinators in India.

Joseph D. Huse, Convener
Longkumer MPT