

**Aylestone Baptist Church**  
supports a small charity set up by Stan & Dorothy two members –  
**SIGMA (Supporting India Gospel Ministries Akividu)**  
The Charity was started back in 2008

**How it all started? -**

At the 2005 Baptist World Alliance in Birmingham - on the canal tow path between two venues, the pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Akividu and his wife asked Stan, one of our members to take a photo. They had a very brief chat and exchanged email addresses.

A month or two later after this 'chance' meeting they started to communicate by email, and Stan & Dorothy learned about the great ministry of the church amongst very poor people in their town and surrounding villages.

Initially Stan & Dorothy personally send money to support the ministry, Then, following a further visit by the pastor and his wife in 2008 whilst they were attending a conference they had been invited to in the UK, the four of set up the charity as its founding trustees. Stan & Dorothy invited friends and family to join them in supporting such a worthy cause.

In order to be sure that everything was genuine, they visited the project in India in 2010 and were even more impressed by the wonderful ministry.

Apart from the pastor, his wife was a trained Baptist minister, as are two of his sons and one daughter-in law. All work in the ministry with no formal salary – most live in the 'house' which is below the first floor Church sanctuary. The building is rented.

**How is money raised? –**

A number of people give regularly, some make 'one-off' donations and there are special events – fun days, quiz nights and an annual garden party. People also make and sell jam & cakes, grow and sell plants etc.

The charity is registered with HMRC, so that tax can be reclaimed on gift aided and small donations.

Money is sent regularly and every penny raised goes towards the work in India.

**What is the money used for? -**

Calvary Baptist Church runs over 20 children's centres, where children receive extra tuition, food, help with buying equipment for school, Bible stories, encouragement to stay in school! [Many leave at a very young age and go into child labour to help support the family].

The Church supports smaller Churches in the many surrounding villages – preaching, training and supporting them in many ways.

Recently we have raised money to build a shelter for a small settlement of 'Untouchables' [Dalits] who live in small grass huts with no electricity or water on land which floods frequently, especially in the monsoon season. The shelter will give them a dry, safe and secure place to stay at such times and will also serve as a meeting place where the children's centre and other activities can take place.

Each Christmas they have a large outreach event with children acting out the nativity story and doing lots of singing and dancing, preaching the gospel, and then feeding the crowd! – and a crowd it is – when Stan & Dorothy visited at Christmas 2016 there were 3000 at one event, 2000 on Christmas Day, who were also fed. They attended evening events in the villages where many hundreds attended.

Similar events are held at other major Christian festivals.

The Church support many families in dire need, providing blankets, food, water etc. in times of greatest need.

All this against increasing opposition to the Christian Church in India.

If you would like further details, please contact the Church or [stanmackley@btinternet.com](mailto:stanmackley@btinternet.com)



Pastor Sukumar, Stan, Pastor Yesupam,  
Pastor Samuel & Moses



The ladies of the house, Camala, Anitha, Rose, Betty (Smarty)  
Dorothy, Martha (Shiney), Rachel, Pastor Suguna



Feeding the 3000' !



About 3000 people at the celebration on 18th December 2016



'Untouchable' Village



Centre nearing completion in 'Untouchable Village