

Overseas Friends of UESI (Union of Evangelical Students of India)-USA

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Financial Contributions: Treasurer OFUESI,
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From the Desk of the President ...

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

Happy Resurrection Day!!!

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. During this season we are reminded of the suffering, death, burial and the glorious resurrection of the Lord. We thank God for the redemption and forgiveness of our sins which was given freely to all but at a great cost to HIM. We rejoice in the hope that we will be with the living Savior.

FOR YOUR MEDITATION: From JOHN 3:16
For God so loved the world
CAUSE OF OUR SALVATION
That He gave His only begotten Son
COST OF SALVATION
That whosoever believeth in Him
CONDITION OF SALVATION
Shall not perish but have everlasting life
CONSEQUENCES OF SALVATION

As we look ahead from the current pandemic situation, we see that many states are relaxing restrictions on gatherings. As more people get vaccinated, we hope to have some of our regional conferences to be held in person. We are planning on three conferences in 2021 – **Southern** Region July 30 – Aug 1, **Midwest** Region Sept 3 – 6 and **Eastern** Region Sept 10 – 12. We are also planning one **online** conference. The theme of the conferences is from 2 Tim. 1:6 – **“...fan into flame the gift of God...”**

CALL FOR PRAYER
Please join us for OFUESI monthly prayer meeting on 1st Saturdays at 10 am EST.
<https://ofuesi.zoom.us/j/81074249571?pwd=QW5tVEEwY3NvSWxUVVZQcENyS2NmQT09> Meeting ID: 810 7424 9571 Passcode: prayer

We all know of people who passed away during the last year and some of them, due to the pandemic. We have seen the reports of so many people who died all around the world. There is hope and we are seeing the light at end of the tunnel with more and more people getting vaccinated. It will be different, but we will return to some semblance of normalcy soon. In and through the turmoil, we find comfort from the sacred Scripture. *O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting (sin)? But thanks be to God, we have victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

I would like to encourage all our members to be in fellowship with one another regularly either in-person or through zoom calls. You can contact the persons listed for local or online gatherings. Let us also continue to pray for and support our ministry here in the US and in India.

Many of our OFUESI members have been blessed in hearing from a few staff workers from sister organizations that are reaching students and some specifically among international students in our quarterly meetings held via zoom on March 20th and 27th. Please read the gist of those presentations filled with many ideas for our ministry and collaborations. We praise God for these staff workers who are doing an excellent job in fulfilling their call of God at various University campuses.

Sincerely in Christ,
Sam Kurapaty
OFUESI – President

OFUESI Vision: Fostering the UESI vision in the US and strengthening the UESI through OFUESI

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OFUESI Mission: Strengthen the bonds of fellowship among OFUESI, provide prayer and financial support to the UESI work in India, and expand evangelism efforts among Indian students in the US.

From the annals of KIT (September-October 2008 issue) Message by Late Bro. P. Sathkeerthi Rao 1933-2018 (one of the two pioneering UESI Staff-workers, the other being Mr. P.C. Verghese). Notice the medical terminology used and how apt the message is in today's crisis.



***Resurrection and Spiritual transformation-
Luke 24:13-35***

1. The diagnosis and the prescription of their disease (vv.25-27)
2. The transformation of their home (vv.28-30)
3. The transformation of their hearts (vv.31-32)
4. The transformation of the House of Worship (church) (vv.33-35)

God said, "Let there be light" and there was light. He communicates and creates. However, He did not say, 'Let my Son arise". Jesus Christ arose. Jesus had the power to lay down His life and take it. There is no power known to man that is greater than the power of resurrection. The resurrection power transforms you.

Read Luke 24. Verse 7. Why do you look for the living among the dead? This is the problem of all religions: Looking for God in the wrong places, in the dead. Then we see the word, "Remember" how he told you... We have a tendency to forget and so we need reminders. This 'forgetfulness' is a 54-year old problem in UESI. The entire book of Deuteronomy is written to bring things to remembrance. Jesus said of His table- 'Do this in remembrance of Me till I come'. We must sing that hymn often: Lest I forget Gethsemane, lest I forget Thy agony... lead me to Calvary. Gethsemane is a rehearsal for Calvary.

Verse 11. Look at the behavior of the disciples. They did not believe women. This is a universal problem. Why did they not believe? Because the women's words seemed to them like nonsense. If I said it, you will not like it but the Bible records that for them, women's words about the resurrection of Jesus were like "nonsense". Can you expect such a reaction from such a group? Yes, it is possible. So many theological experts have erred to say the

Bible contains the Word of God rather than the Bible is the Word of God. It is happening.

Verse 15: Two disciples were talking and discussing. In the multitude of words, there wonteth not sin. Jesus Himself came to them and asked them what they were discussing. Please understand who came to them. Not an angel. Not a prophet. No one could ever meet their need except the Lord Jesus Himself. Do you have a problem, spiritual, cultural? There is nothing that cannot be solved by Jesus. He who has begun a good work will complete, Phil 1:6.

Verses 19-24. Notice the disciples preaching to Jesus, about Jesus, a prophet powerful in word and deed. Crucified. We had hoped. That means their hope is gone. It was third day already. What more? The woman amazed them. Pitiful, isn't it?

Verse 25. These words can only be used by the Lord Jesus: How foolish you are, how slow of heart to believe. You are suffering from two kinds of diseases: neurology (mind) and cardiology (heart). All over the world, there is the disease of not believing in the inspiration of the Scripture. Jesus is here rubbing the doctrine of Scripture into their hearts. Crown without a cross? No. What is the prescription to the mental and spiritual disease in the world? Verse 27.

"And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself". Jesus in the Scriptures is what the prescription is for the needs of the disciples on the road to Emmaus. The Written Word and the Living Word are inseparable. The third aim of UESI is to raise a testimony to the truths of the historic Christian faith and present the message thereof as a solution for the problems of mankind. The motto of IFES is changing the world, one student at a time. The four aims of UESI are: Evangelism, Fellowship, Testimony and Missions. Fellowship is sandwiched between evangelism and testimony. The fellowship with resurrected Christ transforms you. He transforms your home.

Verses 28-29. Jesus acted as if he were going farther. He wanted to see if they really want him to come. Is there a real desire? They urged him strongly saying 'Stay with us'. **So** he went into stay with them. Rev 3:20. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him and

he with me. He who comes to me, I will, in no wise cast out. Have you invited the Lord Jesus into your home? Have you submitted to His Lordship every day?

Verse 30. When he was at the table with them, he took bread... Whose home? The disciples'. Who is breaking the bread? Jesus. If I come to your home, and open your refrigerator and take your orange juice, you will think I do not have any manners. You won't invite me again. This is Jesus who comes in and takes charge. Remember the wall text? Jesus is the head of this house, an unseen guest at every meal and a silent listener to every conversation. This is unbiblical as well as it is wrong English. How can head become a guest? Jesus is our host.

Verse 31. Then their eyes were opened. Jesus did an ophthalmological operation. Their eyes were opened to the Lord Jesus and His Word. They recognized him and He disappeared. Thomas said he would not believe until he saw the marks of crucifixion. Jesus had a sharpest rebuke. You have seen and have believed. Blessed are they who have not seen and yet have believed. Review John 20:30-31; Heb 11:6; Rom 10:17. We need an ophthalmological operation: spiritually, biblically, scripturally.

Verses 32-35. Were not our hearts burning while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us? Jesus talked to them and opened Scriptures. They had a severe heart burn. What was the result? They just sat down for a meal. Now they got up and returned at once to Jerusalem to declare: It is true! Jesus is risen! I serve a risen Savior. That is the hallmark of Christian faith.

Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, second President of India, defender of Eastern Religions had known Bro. Paul Sudhakar of UESI who asked him, "Every disciple must have a guru and so can I be your disciple?" Dr. S.R said, "If there is one man in all of time who meets the requirements of the guru in Hinduism, it is Jesus Christ". But, sadly he meant, "Follow the Philosophy" not "Follow the Person".

Back to the testimony of the home and the testimony of the church: The two went to Jerusalem and found the Eleven disciples and shared the risen Christ. Without home, there is no church. There is a spiritual transformation in the home, hearts and church when Christ expounds to us all things concerning Himself, from the Scriptures.

Let our meditation translate into action for His glory!

From the desk of Treasurer -
Beloved coworkers in the ministry,

Greetings to all in the matchless name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! I thank our Lord for His faithfulness to the ministry of UESI through earnest prayers and financial support by our OFUESI family. Please continue to pray that we will be able to provide more support to the ministry of UESI in this year and consider contributing generously and consistently. I thank all who sacrificially contribute towards the ministry of UESI in India. Due to your generous contributions we were able support our brothers and sisters who are toiling to reach the unreached souls in various campuses across India. I request you to continue to pray and to be actively involved in the ministry. Please note that you can now give electronically through zelle using ofuesi.treasurer@gmail.com as the id, or at our website www.ofuesiusa.org by selecting eGiving portal. Here are the receipts for January-March 2021 and the Year-To-Date totals.

Please send your tax-deductible contributions to **OFUESI Treasurer, 4741 Fairfax Ave., Palatine, IL 60067.** May God bless you abundantly!

Prince Nadar (ofuesi.treasurer@gmail.com)

Ponder the generosity of God.

He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? - Romans 8:32

When I found that Jesus is precious to my soul, I moved off of Complaint Ave. and started living on Thanksgiving Blvd. – Rev. Dr. Shadrach M. Lockridge (1913-2000)

MARCH 20 OFUESI WEBINAR Part 1: Learning from Cru and DESIGN Movement

Subha Kumpaty opened the session with prayer. Sushil Yesupriya led in worship. **Mr. Andrew Lohr**, staff along with wife Sydney at the University of Maryland from **Cru** (formerly Campus Crusade for Christ founded in 1951 by Dr. Bill Bright) shared in the first hour. A seventy-year old ministry must have an experience that counts to be wise, and adaptable – for example, in facing the pandemic and creativity in catering to the needs of those God has called us to serve. The mission of Cru is to

have movements everywhere so that everyone knows someone who truly follows Jesus. The way it is done is Win, Build and Send. Win the students for Christ, build them up in faith and send them on to live a life of missions. While the world we operate in has changed a lot, our aim has not changed – we serve the same God who still has the same sovereignty and we share the same gospel by the power of the same Holy Spirit, The pandemic does not have to be an obstacle but can be an opportunity. God is still passionate about life-long relationship with Himself. He is the same yesterday, today and forever.

We are to be responsible stewards of Technology and Circumstances. While we have the ability to reach out to people across the social media, we need to guard ourselves from exhaustion and abandonment (due to perceived fruitlessness).

Either we overwork due to pandemic leading to severe fatigue and burnout, or we abandon feeling unfruitful and move toward isolation.

Exhaustion – screen fatigue.

We need to practice regular Sabbath (gift and command). Even as we serve students, we can invite them into that Sabbath space. Andrew read a book on ruthless commitment to eliminate the hurry. Jesus was never in a hurry but always on time. Six principles of Sabbath: Pray, Play, Walk, Read, Eat, Sleep. Fight exhaustion with Sabbath.

Abandonment - we are vulnerable, even when seeing fruit. God may be growing us through an area in a way we did not expect. We may have different time frame as what God wants.

Fruit may look different. In the digital context we may not be seeing students easily. Yet, we need to be encouraging them in their spiritual growth.

Melbourne, Australia – faith steps. Digital ministry even before the pandemic. Melbourne was a hard soil, Students had tunnel vision- they would work hard and achieve their own success: self-driven and comparative. There was one suicide that shook up the campus. Pressures students are going through are enormous.

Dial a Donut- ad on social media- text a number a question- donut will be delivered to the person and they have to answer one question.

An ad was placed through Instagram to be placed in a \$100 gift raffle by answering a short spiritual survey. It reached 15000 students, 300 of them completed, there were 32 unbelievers out of which

one decided to follow Jesus and 22 believers wanted to start a small group Bible Study.

Food safari- 84 students- ordering Thai food from different restaurants and sharing over zoom.

In Spring 2020 Andrew returned to UMD. Various events included Spring break beach side training and gospel sharing, daily prayer calls, large group gatherings (ice breakers, sharing from the Word), conversations on a backyard, students leaders taking a step of faith in sharing (One Sorority girl's ministry asking/texting friends- Are you paralyzed by fear or anxiety? That led to a formation of a Bible Study). Andrew and Sydney were able to use zoom for raising support, praying with partners as well. Looking forward to ministering to Gen Z- contextualizing the gospel meeting them where they are at. They like to do digital mission trips so students can see how students elsewhere such as North Africa, Middle East do missions. Another one is Easter Egg hunt - laying thousands of eggs on the mall (of UMD)- candy, some will have gift cards, some event detail provided in those eggs.

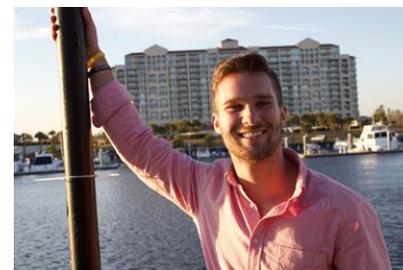
Jesus was never in a hurry. Please get Comer's book, *Ruthless Elimination of Hurry*.

Q&A: How to get time from students: Look for Faithful, Available, Teachable students.

Activities to align with academic year- Fall Retreat to get students to connect within six weeks as they form friendships, Winter Conference to get them missionally minded as they will return home and meet their high school friends, Spring break events, 6-10 week summer mission conferences for student leaders. We want to equip students to be lifelong laborers for Jesus when they graduate. We resource them during their four years with the tools. One of them is *Nine Marks of a Healthy Church* by Mark Dever. They should be plugged into a spiritually healthy, doctrinally sound church.

Many options to serve with Cru. Volunteer or Full-time staff. Cru website can provide the staff at various regions.

Cru Staff worker Andrew Lohr



Andrew studied Sociology at the University of Maryland and graduated in 2017. After graduation, Andrew interned with Cru in Melbourne,

Australia for two years where he served as the

team leader. Andrew served there from 2018-2019 and came home to Maryland after finishing his internship to join full-time staff with Cru. He married Sydney, his co-RA from their senior year at UMD, a couple months later. Now, Andrew and Sydney are both serving with Cru full-time at their alma mater.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, Fill me with life anew. That I may love what Thou dost love, and do what Thou wouldst do. Bro. Sushil led us in worship and prayer through this hymn by Edwin Hatch (1878).
Breathe on me, Breath of God, Till I am wholly Thine, Until this earthly part of me Glows with Thy fire divine.

Design Movement is a contextualized ministry of Cru to and through South Asian American College Students. Both **Mr. Titus John and Miss. Rachel Fernandes** were excited to share how they want to grow Design movement nationally and meet South Asian American students with the gospel. This movement is a community that seeks to honor Jesus and celebrate *desi* culture. It caters to Americans who have family backgrounds from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. Design represents all of us are purposefully made by God (Eph 2:10). The origin was in Chicago in 1996 when a group of South Asian Americans gathered for prayer. The name changed over time from UIC Bible Fellowship to Cornerstone to Salt Movement and now Design Movement, affiliated with Cru since 2006. Cru, started as a ministry to students in UCLA campus in 1951 now engages both on- and off- campus in variety of ways reaching different demographics - Jesus Film Project, Global Aid Network, The Impact Movement (to African American students), Athletes in Action, Family Life, Bridges International etc. Currently Design has a presence on college campuses in Chicago, East Lansing, Ann Arbor, Detroit, Philadelphia, Washington DC (UMD campus), eastern Kentucky, Atlanta and Minneapolis.

A few ways Design Movement introduces people to Jesus are through relational engagement such as basketball, conversations (being friends for a long time), outreaches (inviting people for biriyani), Faith and Chai (philosophical such as existence of God, marriage). The movement also creates community through Jeevan (Life) groups (more than Bible study, sharing life together), mentoring (discipleship) relationships, learning how to tell others about Christ. There could be 50-50 in terms

of unbelievers and believers involved in a campus group. The comfort level for a person of non-Christian faith to walk in and be a part and hear the gospel in a non-threatening manner is a unique feature of Design. They have conferences and retreats where several from various universities get to see others in similar movement and even for South Asian American students to consider full-time ministry as they watch and absorb the ministry. Living for Christ training includes – mission trips, church leadership, ministry in the workplace, full-time Christian work.

Rachel had strong Christian background (Christian school and all) and was asked to get involved with Cru on campus (UM Ann Arbor). She could not really find a place in Cru and wondered what was wrong. She did not fit in with ministries to South Asian international students having been born and brought up here. She tried Bridges International and a friend suggested that she check out this Indian group through Cru, meaning Design Movement. She met Chitra and in talking with her she recognized the dueling cultures while ultimately the identity is in Christ. All the cultures were part of her and being discipled by Chitra, enjoyed South Asian Americans living out their faith. She took a mission trip to South Asia and saw God work through her and her team. God put the desire to reach out to others in her own campus. God called her to ministry and is able to replicate Chitra's ministry to her now to many others. God is able to redeem and use her ethnic identity to bring glory to Himself, and to reach and empower other South Asian students.

Titus John had a similar dichotomy of being with Indians during the week and attending white Baptist church in North Carolina. Design Movement in grad school allowed him to see where he belongs and get into the fray right away.

Q&A. Design Movement has not expanded but South Asia Intervarsity is there in Texas.

The trust is very important, being empathetic, being humble. It does take time to establish relationships. We teach Christian students to use their life to relationally share the gospel.

Bro. Prem closed our session in prayer thanking God for younger generation that are serving Him so beautifully. Bro. Sam thanked the speakers and those who helped in organizing this meeting.

Design Staff worker Titus John



I am an affiliate staff member for Design Movement serving out of Washington DC. I graduated from the University of Michigan in 2016, where I studied Biomedical Engineering. I work

with South Asian American students at the University of Maryland College Park and in the DMV area. Titus.John@designmovement.org

Design Staff Worker Rachel Fernandes

I am a second-year intern (fulltime staff) with the SE Michigan Design Movement team. I graduated from the University of Michigan in 2019, where I studied

communications, Music, and Performing Arts Management.

I currently work with South Asian American students at both my alma mater and Wayne State University.



He remarked many from Indian diaspora in the current administration. We need to ask what God is doing among Indian students and faculty of Indian origin. Bok is working in the Graduate and Faculty Ministries with four areas of focus- community (fellowship), discipleship (formation), evangelism (outreach and service) and work-life (Faith learning, integration). Bok shared the ministry strategy and activities in Cleveland, OH that included Case Western Reserve University (CWRU). When he started a new chapter at Cleveland State University (CSU) in 2011, he found that majority of international students were from India. God seemed to send him to a new mission field.

Outreach

- Practical helps for new students
- Friday night dinner & discussion at CWRU
- Coffee House at CSU
- Cross-cultural adjustment helps, networking

Discipleship and Formation

- Bible study and prayer groups for students
- Faculty and staff fellowship at CSU, CWRU
- Spiritual formation events and direction
- Integration of faith and learning

Training

- New Intersociety staff training
- Volunteer training
- Student leadership development
- Reentry training

The Coffee House concept was having discussions on general topics, more relational and also intentional about letting them share from their perspective. A number of students from other faiths coming to Christ surprised us as we reached out to them genuinely over a period of time and invited them to events such as Easter church service and special dinners for international students. While many Indian families helped in hosting, God used several American brothers and sisters in bringing Indian students to the Lord, as they were able to win their trust and share the gospel. Bok and his team provided the joy of friendship (not showing any pressure of forcing a conversion). He helped with practical helps such as grocery shopping, providing furniture. Go pick apples at a farm. Remember prayer is a big part as we depend on the Lord for the work He has called us. Psalm 127:1 and Eph 5:18-20. Bok dreams that OFUESI collaborates with IVCF in reaching out to students from Indian diaspora. He would be stepping into a new role as the Director of Graduate Students and

Pray as we plan
OFUESI 2021 Regional Conferences

Southern Region	July 30- August 1
Midwest Region	September 3-6
Eastern Region	September 10-12
One Online conference	

Prayer is the weapon in the hour of conflict, defense in the moment of peril, and retreat in the season of exhaustion.
– Rev. Dr. S.M. Lockridge (1913-2000)

Learning from IVCF and ISI

Dr. Prem Saganti moderated the session. Sis. Hasitha Gajjala led us in worship. After Prem introduced with a note that the speaker and Bro. Subha ministered on the same campus 20+ years ago, **Inter Varsity Christian Fellowship (IVCF)** staff worker at Cleveland, OH **Mr. Bok Chew** shared IVCF motto: Every corner, every campus, every nation. He discussed why IVCF does international ministry. We have 1.1M international students (34% China, 18% India topping the list).

Faculty Ministries in July. There will be a need for staff worker at CSU. Also see how OFUESI can help in supporting staff workers reach out to students. Let us collaborate. We can't do alone.

Q&A. Examples of steps to reach- even time management session to help them manage their life better. And in networking, use the biblical principle of esteeming others better than yourself which is to ask them how they are doing and being genuinely interested in them. Encourage their interests in research. Joe Sudhakar shared how he and Bok collaborate so well in Cleveland area.

Abhijit talked about his ministry among Indian students (almost 10th year) and wanted to connect with IVCF to take it further. Bok talked about celebrating Diwali together and in a gentle manner talking about Christ as our light. When the students were asked to pick the Bible, two picked and one became a follower of Jesus in three days. God is at work and let us be available. Bro. Subha was asked to close the session in prayer.

IVCF Staff Worker Bok Chew



Bok Chew is a Malaysian Chinese who came to the US as an international student back in the 80s. While studying at Ole Miss, he witnessed the power of lives being transformed, particularly in a Japanese student who came to faith whose father was a Shinto priest. Since then, he and his German wife have seen numerous international students, post-docs and researchers come to faith from atheist, agnostic, Buddhist, Muslim, and Hindu backgrounds. Bok and Heidi have been working with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship (part of the IFES) for 20 years now. Before then, Bok worked as a banker and volunteered with the Navigators in MS. Bok and Heidi have two children who are both seniors in college and in high school. Bok currently serves as a team leader for the Graduate and Faculty Ministries in Cleveland, Ohio serving two campuses. He enjoys working with his hands, either in the garden or refurbishing roadside finds - turning trash into treasures which he passes on to unsuspecting international students or even faculty and staff. Bok.chew@intervaristy.org.

I believe we are called to the difficult and even painful task of 'double listening'. That is, we are to listen carefully (with differing degrees of respect) both to the ancient Word and to the modern world, in order to relate the one to the other with a combination of fidelity and sensitivity ... (and) only if we can develop our capacity for double listening, will we avoid the opposite pitfalls of unfaithfulness and irrelevance, and be able to speak God's Word to God's world with effectiveness today.-

Late Dr. John Stott, The Contemporary Christian: An urgent plea for double listening, 1992, p. 13.

The second hour was to learn from **International Students Inc. (ISI)** staff. Sis. Kranthi Jonnakuti led us in worship accompanied by Bro. Joshua Padeti on guitar. Bro. Prem introduced the two speakers, **Mr. Sandeep Paulose and Mr. Subhash Mathew.**

The vision of ISI is to see every international student befriended, lead to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and discipled for His service- to impact every nation with the Gospel. Sandeep Paulose has the UESI background. He came to Dallas Theological Seminary for studies in 2017 and once he went to University of Texas at Dallas library and was astonished to find many Indian students. He felt he was in India. There are 9401 international students at UT Dallas and out of them 2500 from India alone. He desires to love and win them for Christ. Also, students from India, when they come here to US, are more open as they are not in the grip of their community back home. Connecting with Indian Student Association, we can get list of students and offer airport pickups to the new students coming. Giving rides for grocery shopping, furniture giveaway and many other helps are important avenues to serve. There is www.utdbighowdy.com to invite people to join the network. Many Christian organizations work together. OFUESI families can help ISI by opening homes for these students like UESI graduates do to the EU students. Sandeep stated students are more open than you may think. He also reminded the 10/40 window of unreached nations at your doorstep in the US.

ISI Staff Worker Sandeep Paulose

Sandeep hails from Mumbai, India and is pursuing ThM at Dallas Theological Seminary (DTS). He

also works as a 'Fellow' in the Spiritual Formation Department at DTS.

In India, Sandeep had a teaching career in a University of Mumbai affiliated college and later worked as a business consultant for two of the Big-4 Accounting firms. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Management Studies, a Master's in Social Work, and M.Phil. in Planning &



Development. He became a follower of Christ while studying in India and since then been involved in Christian ministry among students from the last 20 years; out of which 8 years he been serving the Lord in full-time Christian Ministry in planting and pastoring churches in Western India.

He is burdened to see thousands of international students on the campuses in North America and desires that each one of them may know and experience Jesus Christ because the Kingdom of God will have people "from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages" (Rev 7:9). To achieve this goal, he has recently taken up the position of Campus Minister with International Students Inc. at University of Texas at Dallas (UTD). He and his wife Pranutha are together involved in this ministry. They have two daughters – Pauline (12 years) and Abigail (7 years).

Also sharing with us was Mr. Subhash Mathew.

Subhash said all of us have a call of God on our lives just as Abraham, Moses and others in the Bible were called. We all know what happened in the Garden of Eden- the broken relationship, the tendency of man to run away from God, the mode of selfishness which God alone can fix. To learn how God has loved us through Christ and the humility Christ showed in His sacrificial love towards sinners is the best thing that can happen to us. Mom was sick unto cancer when Subhash was 12 and she was given only a few months to live. She is still alive (35 years from that time) and through it all, God tucked Subhash's heart and family to cling to Him and follow Him. God brought Subhash and his wife here on employment and in 2019, Subhash started ministry at Fairleigh Dickinson University (FDU) through ISI, a place called campus ministry's graveyard. He advocated the thought that we ought to be open to reach any nationality, students from about 30 countries are being reached. Weekly meetings occur at FDU

chapel. Committed to sharing God's love (two-fold commandment), the International Christian Fellowship offers friendship to students, helping them in adjusting to life in the US, providing opportunities to engage in Bible studies and attend church for interested students, Subhash's family even hosting students at home for weeks at a time. He reminded how we can break barriers like Jesus did with the Samaritan woman. He cited how helping and serving students is part of their DNA- developing English conversation skills, supporting resume wiring, helping with needs such as driving lessons, moving help, relational issues. I Peter 4:10 and Gal 5:13. Serving opportunities include Feed My Starving Children, showing hospitality, Heb 13:2, I Peter 4:9 and facilitating international students to experience life together with Americans in their homes (holidays, dinners, game nights). Many friendship building activities like whitewater rafting, apple picking, hiking, beach trips, concerts are coordinated. Proverbs 17:17. Many students see them as local guardians and even parents are in touch with them. Newark has over 5000 international students (Rutgers, NJIT..) and need is enormous in building church partners and IVCF to reach the unreached. We are all human and we can't do it alone. We need families to come forward to spend time with a few students. Discipleship follows with those who come to Christ. There is a need for house churches for those from countries hostile to the gospel to build up Christ followers.

Q&A: Texas families volunteered to host students from UTD if Sandeep would like to bring them. Follow up includes connecting students who return home with local churches and other ministry partners (returning student ministry). Subhash was asked by a student he helps so many and where he would go when he needs help. That opened to share how God takes care of him and an opportunity to follow through with sharing the gospel. Sandeep also showed how easily one can go to ISI page and find the staff workers in any given city and area for us to refer graduates from one place moving to another location.

ISI Staff worker Subhash Mathew

OFUESI: Keep InTouch (KIT)



In August 2019 I started as a Campus Staff for International Students Inc (ISI) and later became a Chaplain for the International Students Ministry at Fairleigh Dickinson University (FDU), Teaneck, NJ. By God's grace, since last June, our ministry

has been extended to international students in Newark (Rutgers, NJIT) campuses in New Jersey. Before this ministry, I worked as an IT professional for 22 years and came to the US on a work visa in the year 2000. My wife Pretty and I have three children Joshua, Abigail, and Hannah. Along with the International student ministry, recently we are involved in leading a church planting ministry.

CALL FOR WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Dear Sisters, please join the OFUESI Women's Ministry Fellowship meeting on the 3rd Saturday each month at 11 am EST.

<https://ofuesi.zoom.us/j/89139800692?pwd=Z0RXQkVOSzdPR1RrdmXHSzl2b29ldz09>

Meeting ID: 891 3980 0692 Passcode: women

OFUESI Bible Studies

Austin, TX

Monthly Gathering -Bible Study, Prayer, Fellowship
Contact: Suresh and Mary Konatham
Call / text: 512-483-1132; skonatham@gmail.com

Cypress, TX - Greater HOUSTON Area

Quarterly Gathering and Sharing
Contact: Prem and Amy Saganti
Call / text: 281-639-0928; saganti@att.net

Dallas, TX

Monthly Bible Study Contact: Chandrashekar Manne
Call/text: 310-347-6864

Atlanta, GA

KIT Feedback: KIT is the official newsletter of OFUESI. The current editorial board consists of Prem Saganti, Subha Kumpaty, Abhijit Talari, Sam Kurapaty and Jayanthi Dhanaraj Please send your feedback on KIT, suggestions for improvement, and local area news items to jayanthijacob@hotmail.com. Thanks.

Weekly Student Bible Study Contact: Veera Gattu
Call/text: 678-507-8583

St. Louis, MO

Weekly LBBC Students & Singles Bible Study
We host this under our Church's Pastoral Authority.
Contact: Abhijit Talari
Call/Text: 248-470-1500; umslgathering@gmail.com

Ashburn, VA - DC Metro Area

Monthly Bible Study Contact: Ravi Saladi
Call / text: 571-599-6769

New Jersey

Monthly Bible Study
Contact: Pramod Jangidi Call/text: 347-331-6587

Philadelphia, PA

Monthly Bible Study Contact: Sekhar Vizzeswarapu
Call/text 484-478-1391

Cleveland, OH

Weekly Bible Study Contact: Joe Sudhakar Pedavada
Call/text: 440-876-7215

Detroit, MI

Weekly at Wayne State and Monthly Bible Study
Contact: Wilson Jacob Call/text: 313-244-6008

Chicago, IL

Contact: Paramjyothi Marati
Call/text: 708-951-1000

California

Monthly Zoom Meeting Contact: Srinivas Basava
Call/text: 408-718-7934

Portland, OR

Monthly Meeting Contact: Kanaka Raju M.
Call/text: 423-276-9938

Seattle, WA

Pacific North West Region monthly conference call
Contact: Satish Madasu Call/text: 425-753-5092