

# Seeds on the Wind

NEWS FROM BETHANIA • DECEMBER 2008



## *Your Father, Who Sees In Secret*

BY DAVID GRANNER

*“MY FATHER used to invest in things he believed in, not just to make money. I remember that he used to spend time working in the community—and that’s also investing,” said Advisory Board member, Carol Hart. Perhaps part of our recent economic trouble is because some in our country may have fallen away from the part of investing which ‘believes in something,’ only to consider whether the investment will make money. Advisory board member, Pastor Theodore Jungkuntz writes, “even though I know my stocks are down, the check I recently wrote to Bethania will be a very successful investment indeed. I’m investing in children and in God’s love. I never worry about that one! It’s an eternal investment.”*

Jesus taught, “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” (Matt. 6:19-21)

### ***The needy...***

There is no question that our neighbors in India have 500,000,000 children, many of whom are further below our poverty line than we in the U.S. can imagine.

### ***A vision of Hope at Bethania Kids...***

While we have breath, we want to rescue children and give them a life of hope. We’re in it for the long-term, building a community of young adults who have been deeply loved and who, in turn, have become passionate about reaching out

with Jesus’ love to the children in front of them. One child at a time, faithfully over decades, we want to nurture and equip the children we have been given. In 50 to 100 years we’ll be gone.

### ***What is done in secret...***

“So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.” (Matt. 6: 2-4)

Bethania  Kids

# Like a Tree Planted By Streams of Living Water

Our Bethania Kids Angel Home in Rajahmundry currently provides ministry to over 45 boys. The home has been renting its current facility for the past seven years. Unfortunately, we are both running out space and our lease is ending. In anticipation of Angel home's growing needs, Bethania Kids recently purchased a 1.1 acre site in hopes of building a permanent home in Rajahmundry.

Our dream is to build a site that is not only functional, but environmentally friendly and will support a 'community' concept. Bethania Kids has partnered with the Washington, DC Chapter of ARCHITECTURE for HUMANITY to design a Bethania Kids Center from scratch. The layout has been designed to promote pride and respect within the home and in the greater community. By providing a fun and energetic campus-style facility, the new center will encourage everyone to take an active part in a meaningful daily routine.

The Psalmist writes, "He is like a tree planted by streams of living water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither." (Psalm 1:3a) Planted in the center of the Bethania Kids main courtyard will be a single tree, symbolizing our vision of safety, security and healthy growth, which is possible in a community committed to Jesus Christ and to the study of God's word.

Being a part of the greater community, the Bethania Kids Children's Center also aims to engage the surrounding population. Rather than following the property line, as is typical, the compound wall is peeled back to create public frontage adjacent to the entry. This public space can be used as an impromptu gathering area or marketplace for both Bethania and the community to use.

A covered outdoor common space links two dormitory units and provides a break-out space for the kids to gather and play games. This crucial interaction space is a focal point—bringing together the market, entry gate, interior courtyard, and Bethania Kids tree.

Did I mention that these boys like to have fun? While in Rajahmundry, I recently had a chance to play cricket with the Angel Home boys. They have such a love of life and a great time playing together! Each time I spend with our kids, I learn again just how powerful a Christian community can be. This is family!

What a wonderful place to invest! Please take a first step and help make our new Bethania Kids building a reality. Your gift will be an investment which will never fade or spoil, because of its life-giving and eternal impact on hundreds of children.

# Christian Gifts of Love and Care

This year, why not invest in a child? Even the smallest gift will truly have a lasting impact on a child whose only possession may be the dirty clothes he or she is wearing.

Below, please choose a gift from the list and mark your choice on the form printed on the inner flap of the enclosed envelope. 100% of your gift will be used for ministry to a child because board members personally cover all administrative expenses of Bethania Kids.

### Individual Gifts

Sponsor a child for	\$20./mo.
Two sets of clothes for 10 children	\$50
One-time Sponsorship of a child	\$240
Vocational Scholarship for a child	\$500
University Scholarship for a child	\$1,000
Yearly Sponsorship of 10 children	\$2,400

### Larger or Institutional Gifts

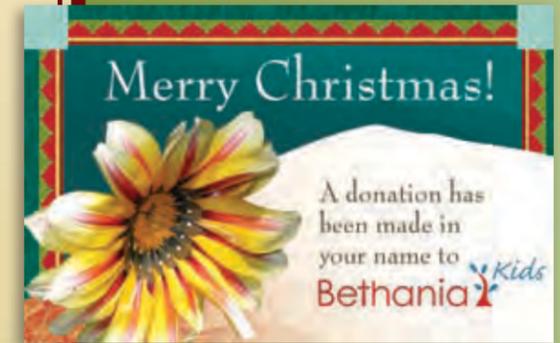
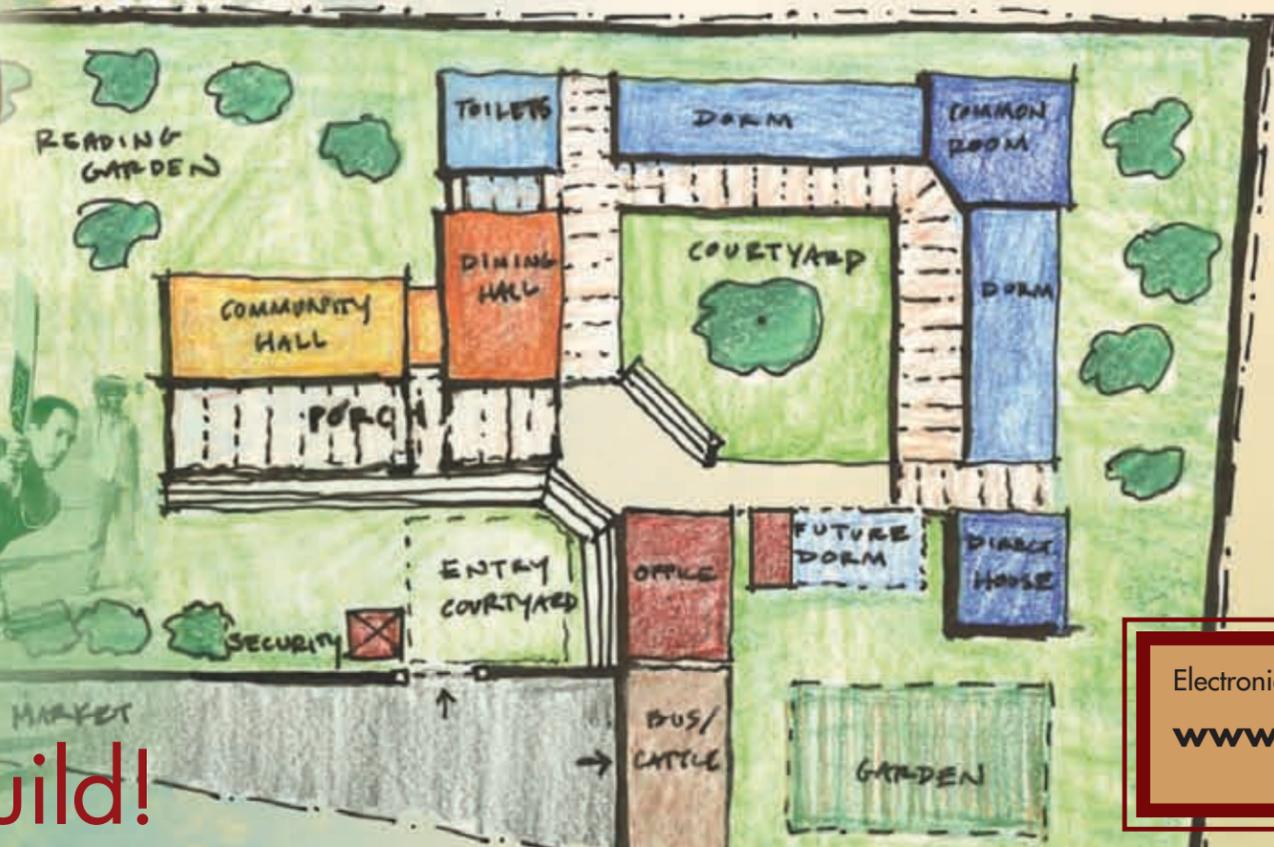
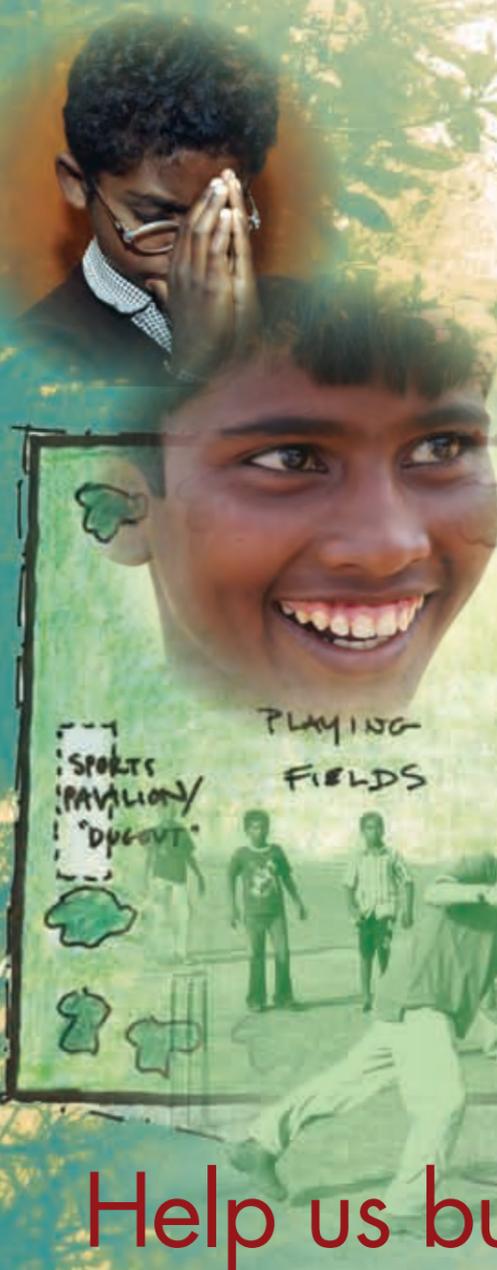
Kitchen	\$10,000
Staff quarter	\$15,000
Security wall	\$15,000
Bathroom/Shower Facilities	\$20,000
Activity Center & Grounds	\$25,000
Dormitory	\$50,000
<b>Total Project</b>	<b>\$135,000</b>

### In Honor of

- Josephine Allfeis' 103rd Birthday
- Joan Benson
- Marilyn Granner
- Bill & Nina Heidelberger
- Max Heidelberger
- Joan Henry
- John Henry
- Betty Hoerter's 88th Birthday
- Kay & Art Kleindienst's 50th Wedding Anniversary
- Teresa & Alan Lehman
- Dr. M.E. Leininger
- Mark Peter Lynch
- Pradeash Pickard
- Joyce Ray
- Rev. Dr. Carl E. Roemer
- Rev. Martha Sims
- Mark J. Spitzack
- Rebecca Spitzack

### In Memory of

- Dr. Les Bayer
- Steven Clark
- Walter Horning
- Lauretta Schaefer
- Dorothy Wiebush



### Gift Acknowledgment Options

- A.** An "In Honor Of" notecard will be mailed to a friend or a family of your choice, indicating the amount of the donation in their name.
- B.** On your behalf we will email a personalized Christmas e-card, letting your loved-one know that a gift in their honor has been made to Bethania Kids.

Mark your preference on the form printed on the inner flap of the enclosed envelope. If you choose an e-card delivery, you can include a personal message on the form as well.

Electronic giving is available:  
[www.bethaniakids.org](http://www.bethaniakids.org) > **sponsor a child**

Help us build!



Bethania is a Christian mission bringing wholeness and hope to poor, abandoned and disabled children in India, equipping them to share God's love.

*100% of your contribution will be used directly for children's ministry in India.*

## **Bethania Administrative Offices**

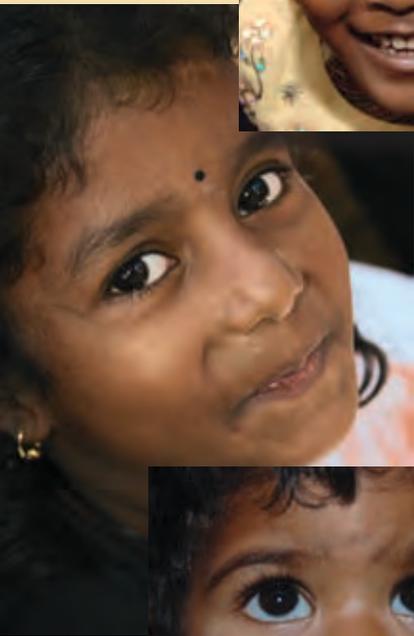
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[www.bethaniakids.org](http://www.bethaniakids.org)

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## **Come and Look Into Their Eyes**

BY MEL KARLSON

In mid-October of this year I was blessed with the privilege of visiting several of the Bethania Kids homes in India.

To be perfectly honest, in addition to packing and getting my visa, etc., I had tried to “emotionally prepare” myself. I was anticipating that I would see and feel great sadness in the orphaned children at the Bethania Kids homes because of their loss and separation from family. I couldn't begin to imagine the emotional, and in many cases, physical pain they had already endured at such a young age.

To my complete surprise, the Bethania kids were absolutely overflowing with joy. The welcome we received, their outwardly playful attitude and each individual interaction were all warm and friendly. But I was looking into their eyes – searching deeply. I could not find a single trace of sadness or self-consciousness. I was overwhelmed, and it seemed to me a miracle of healing.

A deep peace and love flowed from inside of them—enough for them and plenty to spare to immediately begin a genuine healing in my own heart. Seamless, consistent and genuine, I'm convinced that these kids are joyful through a love that can only be experienced through great faith. This faith the Bethania Kids' staff have authentically shared on a daily basis, praying-creating a culture of safety and security which heals their wounds and fills them to overflowing with something straight out of heaven. Please come to Bethania Kids in India sometime, and just look into their eyes.