

# Center for the Church and Global AIDS Action Newsletter

For more information:  
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## TAX-DEDUCTIBLE GIFTS

As a government recognized 501(c)(3), gifts to the Center are tax-deductible. All Center contributors will receive receipts.

Send donations to:  
Center for the Church and Global AIDS  
7185 South Niagara Circle  
Centennial, CO 80112

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## EYE CLINIC OPENED IN INDIA FOR PERSONS LIVING WITH HIV AND AIDS

The virus causing AIDS often reduces the vision of persons. "Eye problems are common," says N. M. Samuel, M.D., who heads the new eye clinic in South India. "This increases stigma and discrimination, limits jobs and schooling."

When Jesus asked a blind man, "can you see?", he responded like HIV patients today: "people look like trees walking." Thanks to new equipment made possible by Denver's Bethany Lutheran Church and the Center, new miracles are happening. Julie White of the Center staff recently helped dedicate the clinic.



## 2,000 Miles For \$20,000?

*Remembering the suffering children and women with AIDS in India, Jay Patterson is determined to ride across America. Will she raise \$20,000?*



## GOVERNOR & BISHOP INVITED AS SPRING BRUNCH SPEAKERS

The annual "Spring is a Time for HOPE" brunch raises funds for "*Helping Orphans by Providing Essentials*" in Kenya. Persons giving \$150 to support an orphan are provided 2 free tickets, thanks to a generous donor.



Headline speakers invited are Governor John Hickenlooper and Kenya's Bishop William Muriuki. Word is still pending whether the Governor will attend.



Set for 11:00 a.m., Saturday, April 9, at the University of Denver, register now by contacting [jtwhite92@msn.com](mailto:jtwhite92@msn.com)

## "TEE OFF AGAINST AIDS IN 2011"

Three "best ball" golfing events are slated in 2011. Projects to be funded include AIDS programs both in the USA and internationally.

When golfers in **Grand Junction tee off on May 13** at the magnificent Redlands Mesa course, they are raising funds for western Colorado and Africa. The 5th Annual event in **Denver at City Park on August 16** will benefit programs in Asia, as well as help African-American and Latino AIDS agencies in Denver. In February golfers in Phoenix raised \$6,500 for India and Kenya, plus an AIDS retreat for persons in Arizona.

Join the fun—sponsors, golfers and silent auction items needed!  
Contact: [jtwhite92@msn.com](mailto:jtwhite92@msn.com) or [globalaids@gmail.com](mailto:globalaids@gmail.com)



# RECENT HONORS FOR THE CENTER'S GLOBAL WORK

The Messer Center for Women and Children serving persons infected and affected by AIDS was dedicated in January, 2011, in Namakkal, India. Lighting a special lamp, Indian leaders expressed appreciation for the Center's visionary support and compassion. Dr. Kent D. Messer unveiled a wall photo. The free clinic serves about 1,400 patients per year; on a daily basis treating 75 to 100 women and up to 60 children.

Dr. Bonnie J. Messer was awarded one of three **Leadership Awards** by the C.A.R.E. Foundation, India, for her international work in combating HIV and AIDS, focusing on counseling and care.



(Above, Dr. Joe Thomas lights ceremonial lamp. Left, the free Health Care Center. Center, Bonnie, Don and Kent Messer with N. M. Samuel, M.D., outside home of child-headed AIDS home.)



## UNITED METHODISTS HONOR DR. DON MESSER



Center Executive Director, Dr. Donald E. Messer, was presented one of the inaugural **United Methodist Global AIDS Fund Leadership Awards** in Dallas, Texas. Other recipients included Bishop & Etta Mae Mutti (left above), Dr. Musa Dube, & President and Laura Bush. Messer was cited as having started the Fund, which now has distributed over \$3 million to 175 projects in 37 countries. He also was nominated as **United Methodist of the Year** in 2010 by the *United Methodist Reporter*.

## OMAHA CHURCH ADOPTS 20 ORPHANS

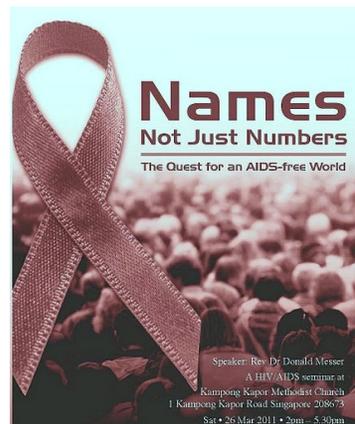
St. James United Methodist Church, Bellevue, Nebraska, has “adopted” 20 AIDS orphans in Kenya at \$240 a year. Led by associate pastor, Rev. Jason D. Kennedy, the congregation outside of Omaha made AIDS their “mission of the month,” with Dr. Messer as speaker.



(L to r: Dr. Don Messer, Rev. Russ Tompkins, and Rev. Jason Kennedy.)

## SINGAPORE LECTURES

Various lectures and sermons have been scheduled in Singapore in March, 2011, by Dr. Don Messer. He will speak at Trinity Theological College on “Ending Hunger: Beyond Random Acts of Kindness,” and at a HIV seminar at the Kampong Kapur Methodist Church on “Names, Not Just Numbers: The Quest for an AIDS-Free World.”



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**HOW YOUR GIFTS MADE A DIFFERENCE IN 2010**

In 2010, 463 donors contributed to the Center. Thank you friends! Some of the programs that you helped fund around the world:

- In India, we were engaged in providing medical care and nutrition, helping tutor young girls, caring for child-headed households, doing eye camps, educating pastors about HIV, and helping USA students do volunteer AIDS work.
- In Kenya, we supported more than 150 AIDS orphans, helped a school in the slums of Nairobi, educated pastors/spouses about HIV, & held a seminar with LGBT persons on AIDS.
- In Malawi, we assisted an AIDS prison ministry & women's empowerment effort. In Sri Lanka, we enabled an AIDS program for war refugees and prisoners.



- In the United States, we aided HIV positive African-American homeless and recent released prisoners get shelter, educated Latinos about AIDS, and promoted prevention in western Colorado.
- With Project C.U.R.E., we began the process of shipping about \$400,000 of medical supplies & equipment to Kenya.
- With Alliance to End Hunger, we joined policy advocates in promoting increased global food assistance.

*(Photo on left, is an incubator powered with light bulb at Maua Methodist Hospital, Kenya. X-ray machines broken; needs great. Above, young Kenyan boy who lost both parents & sister to AIDS, now heads family household. He got mattress, new roofing, medical care, school uniform and other support through Center programs.)*

