Aasha | 2026 MINISTRY UPDATE | Mission of Christ Network



WALKING BY FAITH

Building Bridges of Hope

"And my God will supply every need of yours according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus." – Philippians 4:19

Dear Ministry Partners,

As I look back over the first half of this year, **I am overwhelmed by God's faithfulness.** The year began with a season of deep reflection and prayer. During that time, the Lord challenged me to trust Him more completely—not only in ministry, but also in my financial support. After much prayer, I took a significant step of faith by transitioning from part-time to full-time ministry in January. It was both exciting and intimidating. Many missionaries had told me, ***"When we faithfully serve Jesus Christ and join Him in His mission, He will provide everything we need."*** This year I have experienced that truth personally. Time after time, often at what seemed like the very last moment, God has faithfully provided. Each provision has strengthened my faith, reminded me that this ministry belongs to Him, and encouraged me to keep my eyes fixed on Jesus rather than on my circumstances. **I am continually reminded that Aasha Ministry is not my ministry—it is His.**

Thank you, Jesus, for Your faithful provision.

Aasha | 2026 MINISTRY UPDATE | Mission of Christ Network

WHAT WE DO BEST:

Equipping Churches, Building Relationships, and Growing in Ministry

This year, God has opened doors for Aasha Ministry in three connected areas: **teaching at conferences, equipping local churches, and deepening my own training.** Through each opportunity, my desire is to help believers build genuine friendships with Hindu neighbors and grow in confidence as those friendships open doors to spiritual conversations and the hope of Jesus.

Conference Connecting & Teaching



LCMS Best Practices Conference | Phoenix
LCMS Multiethnic Symposium and Multi-Asian Gathering | St. Louis
This conference strengthened relationships with pastors, missionaries, and ministry leaders. These connections continue to open doors for collaboration and church training.

The International Student Ministries Equipping Conference | Ann Arbor, Michigan,
I led a breakout session titled "Building Friendships with Hindu Students." Campus ministry leaders expressed a desire to better understand Hindu culture and learn practical ways to build relationships that naturally lead to Gospel conversations.

Hindu Background Believers Retreat | Austin, Texas
I participated on a panel about continuing to love and witness to family members who remain Hindu, especially during family gatherings and religious festivals. I also spent time with college students who were new in their faith. Their enthusiasm for Jesus and desire to share Him with family and friends reinforced the importance of encouraging and discipling the next generation.

Rethinking Forum
I shared about connecting with Hindu families through cultural and festival gatherings. The forum also provided meaningful opportunities for learning, fellowship, prayer, and reconnecting with ministry leaders from the United States and around the world.

LWML California-Nevada-Hawaii and Pacific Southwest District Convention
Conference exhibits and networking has greatly introduced more people to this ministry. Hundreds of women learned about Aasha Ministry and the opportunities to reach Hindu neighbors. These conversations led to invitations to speak at LWML zones and congregations.

Advance Conference | Dallas, Texas
I led a breakout session titled "Loving Our South Asian Neighbors." I also participated in a panel, sharing how my decision to follow Jesus impacted my family and helping attendees explore practical ways to build relationships and share the hope of Christ with their Hindu friends. The conference was attended primarily by Indian Christians seeking to reach their Hindu families, friends, and neighbors. It was a meaningful opportunity to encourage fellow believers as they navigate family relationships and share their faith with love, patience, and cultural understanding.

WHAT WE DO BEST:

Equipping Churches, Building Relationships, and Growing in Ministry

Training & Walking Alongside Churches



My ministry trips to **New York, New Jersey, Dallas and Houston** provided opportunities to help churches consider how they can begin building genuine relationships with the Hindu people in their communities.

I provided training at two churches in New Jersey and one in Houston. Across denominational lines, we explored a shared question: **How can our churches begin loving, understanding, and connecting with our Hindu neighbors?**

I also met with South Asian pastors who expressed strong interest in understanding Hindu culture and equipping their congregations for outreach.

I will continue following up as they prayerfully consider their next steps. These opportunities reflect an important direction for Aasha Ministry: walking alongside churches over time. My desire is to help congregations move from an initial interest in outreach toward lasting friendships, thoughtful spiritual conversations, and ongoingdiscipleship.

Forever Learning: From Friendship to Spiritual Conversations



In order to equip others well, I must also continue learning and practicing.

Through **No Place Left training in San Diego** I learned practical tools for initiating spiritual conversations and immediately practiced them in the community. Our team engaged people from many cultures at parks, sports activities, family gatherings, and an Asian New Year celebration. These experiences reminded me that people are often more open to spiritual conversations than we expect.

The **No Place Left Hindu Initiative** deepened my understanding of ministry among Hindu communities in North America, drawing on lessons from disciple-making movements in India. This training helped me consider how cultural understanding and practical approaches can support meaningful conversations about faith.

The **Advance Global Leaders Conference** connected me with people ministering among Hindus in the United States, Europe, India, the Middle East, and Asia. Learning from their experiences broadened my perspective and provided additional tools to bring into church training and coaching.

Together, these learning opportunities are helping me equip believers to listen carefully, ask thoughtful questions, share their own faith stories, and invite Hindu friends to explore Scripture. My prayer is that more Christians will feel prepared to move from everyday friendship into spiritual conversations with grace, confidence, and dependence on the Holy Spirit.

SERVING TOGETHER:
Our Connection with Mission of Christ Network

I am grateful to serve as a **full-time missionary in the United States through Mission of Christ Network (MCN).**

MCN is a Christian mission organization grounded in a Lutheran understanding of God's mission. It equips, sends, and supports missionaries—called "mission partners"—to share the Good News of Jesus alongside churches, schools, and ministry organizations around the world. Through teaching, community outreach, youth ministry, and everyday relationships, mission partners share Christ's love and the hope of salvation. MCN provides ongoing training, missionary care, and leadership support.

MCN serves across Asia, Africa, Europe, and the Americas, and has 63 Mission Partners in 21 Countries. For more information, please go to https://missionofchrist.org/

Aasha | 2026 MINISTRY UPDATE | Mission of Christ Network



PRAYER PARTICIPATION

Thank you for walking alongside me through your prayers and support. As I serve full-time through Mission of Christ Network and lead Aasha Ministry, please pray for

MAY GOD FILL US WITH HIS HOPE AS WE SHARE THE HOPE OF JESUS WITH OTHERS. ROMANS 15:13

- Hearts open to learning about Jesus Christ amongst South Asian families and friends
- Churches taking their next steps by practicing inclusivity in gospel sharing
- Wisdom and Gudance for the new year of 2027 in stewarding the mission
- A strong ministry team to aid in administration and organization
- More partners to expand our reach by joining in prayer and support
- Personally cultivating a sustainable rhythm of health, rest, and family

Partnership Invitation

Dear Friends,

As these opportunities increase, so does the need for faithful partners who will stand with me in prayer and financial support. Your partnership makes it possible for me to travel to churches and communities, meet with pastors and ministry leaders, develop practical resources, provide training, follow up with churches, and walk alongside congregations as they move from interest to engagement and from engagement to long-term ministry among Hindu people.

Would you prayerfully consider becoming a monthly financial partner with Aasha Ministry, or increasing your current monthly support?

A monthly gift of **$25, $50, $100, $250—or whatever amount God places on your heart—**helps provide the consistent support needed for this ministry to continue growing.

My prayer is not simply for more speaking engagements.

My prayer is for more churches equipped, more believers mobilized, more relationships built, and more Hindu families given an opportunity to experience the love of Christ and hear the hope of the Gospel.



Thank you for helping me continue to build bridges of hope with Hindu communities.
Thank you for praying.
Thank you for giving.
Thank you for believing in this mission.

With gratitude,

Linda Patel
Founder & Director
Aasha Ministry

FOR ONLINE DONATIONS:

please go to MissionofChrist.org/linda-patel

DONATIONS BY CHECK

Mission of Christ Network with "Linda Patel" written in the memo line. Mail to: PO Box 533, Concordia, MO 64020