



Indiana-Kentucky Conference **UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

1100 West 42nd Street, Suite 350, Indianapolis, Indiana 46208
Telephone (317) 924-1395 Fax (317) 924-6650 E-mail ikc@ikcucc.org

April 11, 2012

Conference Minister
JOHN D. VERTIGAN
j.vertigan@ikcucc.org

Associate Conference Minister
CAROLYNE CALL
c.call@ikcucc.org

Director of Merom
Conference Center
SUSAN LARSON
(812) 356-4511
1-800-313-4511
susan@merom.org
Director of Youth and
Young Adult Ministries
(317) 924-1395
yava@ikcucc.org

Women's Board Volunteer Staff
DIANE SNOWA
10302 Edgewater Road
Louisville, Kentucky 40223
(502) 254-7178
snowa.d@insightbb.com

Business Administrator
REBECCA BRAGANZA
r.braganza@ikcucc.org

New Church Start Bookkeeper
JEAN GANTT
j.gantt@ikcucc.org

Search & Call Coordinator/Registrar
DENNISE NORDHOLT
d.nordholt@ikcucc.org

Communications Coordinator
NIKKI RICHARDS
n.richards@ikcucc.org

Administrative Assistant
VALERIE RUESS
execsec@ikcucc.org

Dear Friends,

The Indiana-Kentucky Conference can celebrate the end of the 25-year-long civil war in Sri Lanka. This is cause for many profound changes in both the country and in our partner church. With the end of the war, the need to take children from the conflict area and provide them with a safe haven outside their community has come to an end.

Our partner church in Sri Lanka informed the Sri Lanka Mission Partnership Taskforce on March 14th that the Bishop Ambalavanar Girls' Home, which you have supported so generously, was closed by the government. The girls were sent either to their homes or to foster homes in their villages of origin.

The Indiana-Kentucky Conference has had an important ministry of presence and advocacy in Sri Lanka for the last 24 years. We have participated in a variety of projects with churches there, but we concentrated on the two priorities of our Sri Lankan partners: ministry to children, and justice and peace advocacy. Now with the civil war between the Tamil Tigers and the Sri Lankan Government over, our church partners are setting new ministerial and mission priorities.

The IKC Sri Lanka Mission Partnership Taskforce, under the guidance of our Board for Global Ministries, plans to continue in partnership with the church in Sri Lanka. The closing of the Girls' Home leaves an accumulation of gifts designated for the care of the Home's residents. Please be assured of our good stewardship of the gifts you have entrusted to us. We will continue to keep you informed on this emerging and exciting work: such as ministry to young people and church leadership education.

Through the generosity of congregations and individuals in our conference, we were able to protect some of Sri Lanka's most vulnerable victims during the worst days of the war. While this crisis only occasionally captured the attention of larger international institutions, the Indiana-Kentucky Conference has been a steady presence in Sri Lanka. We hope you will help us maintain that valuable presence in a shared ministry of rebuilding.

Thank you for all you did for the Bishop Ambalavanar Girls' Home. You made a profound difference in these girls' lives.

Sincerely yours,

Rev. Dr. Paul "Chip" Jahn
Chair, Sri Lanka Mission Partnership

Rev. John D. Vertigan
Conference Minister