

Dear Friends of the Bethel Children's Home,

In March 2026, Daniel and I had the opportunity to visit our friends in Vijayawada and Bapatla.

The school was very busy at the time with the final exams for the various grade levels, and I was impressed by how thoroughly the teachers were preparing each student for this important event.

In the meantime, the building permit for the second floor had been approved, with the stipulation that construction work could not begin until the school year had ended and the school vacation had begun. That is now the case, so work can begin.

It's not easy for the workers to do their jobs in the blazing sun at temperatures over 40 degrees.

Because a structural engineer (yes, they exist even in this somewhat remote part of India!) found fault with the condition of the columns—which had been completed several years ago—they now have to be painstakingly uncovered from the concrete. Afterward, the steel core will be encased in new concrete.

I'm curious to see how long it will take for the second floor to be completed so our friends can start teaching there as well. There are about 300 (!) boys and girls on our school's waiting list whose families would very much like to send their children to our school. So far, however, this hasn't been possible because the existing building is at full capacity. This is a great success story.

Stephen and Shiny Kumar were going through a very challenging time when we visited them. A few months ago, the landlord of their small three-room apartment—which was home to 11 people (!)—made it clear to the Kumars that they had to move out. So the odyssey of searching for a new place to live began all over again. On top of that, Kumar's youngest son, Joel, had to be taken to the hospital time and again because his kidneys weren't functioning properly. At just under a year old, he had already been hospitalized X times and had to endure quite a few treatments. Stephen's mother also had to be hospitalized for acute heart problems. She and Stephen's father live together with four young women in the Kumars' house.

Meanwhile, both Stephen's mother and Joel are doing well, for which we are all very grateful!! We are even more grateful for another miracle: The Kumars were unable to rent an apartment, but they were able to rent an entire house instead. For people in their situation (Christians, pastors, poor), this is actually impossible. But as we all know, nothing is impossible with our heavenly Father. For the next two years, the Kumars and their "roommates" will be able to live in this house. This is a huge relief and makes the Kumars' lives a little less stressful.

Bern, 13.Juli 2026

I am always deeply impressed by how vibrant Stephen and Shiny's trust in their heavenly Father is. In every aspect of their daily lives, they have no security of their own and are literally dependent on "miracles." Yet they continue unwaveringly on this path.

Quite a few of you are a vital part of these "miracles"!!

I send you my warmest regards and wish you a wonderful summer and God's blessings in all things!

Matthias Nowak





In this house the Kumar family can live fort he next two years