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Issue 189

Christar — Cultivating Christ Honoring Transformation

August 2025

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## 68<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION!

I celebrated my 68<sup>th</sup> birthday on August 21<sup>st</sup> with our church. We went out to an all you can eat Chinese restaurant “De Chinese Muur” The Chinese Wall. When the men go out to eat, we generally go there. It has good food and it is a buffet style where you can choose what you want. We had a really nice time there. We were there for 3 ½ hours with good food and fellowship. It is a nice way to celebrate your birthday. I have in the past waited until Sunday to celebrate with them, but this year I thought it would be better to celebrate on my birthday.



## DANIEL AND ESTEE

I used to have a kids Bible study at my house every Friday night. We would eat, have Bible study and then watch a movie. It was a lot of fun. Over the years, the kids grew up. Daniel met Estee and she came to know Christ and we kept meeting together. I have been meeting with them for many years but they did not go to church. I have been praying daily that they would go to a church somewhere. Out of the blue, they started coming to ours. I am really excited because they are both mature believers even though they did not attend a church all these years. My hope is that they would feel at home in our fellowship and serve. Daniel is really sharp and is someone who could be an Elder. I am hoping that after they come for a while that Daniel could start preaching on Sundays once in a while. I am glad they are coming now as we are doing the values, mission and vision statement. It would be great for them to be involved in that. I am hoping that being involved in that would give them a sense of ownership as well. Daniel is really idealistic so I am hoping that he would see that real ministry is not always ideal. We have to shepherd the people God gives us. Sometimes books on discipleship correctly point out how if everyone discipled someone, that the whole church will be mature. But in reality, not everyone will take part in discipling others one on one. Some people will only go to church. Others will go to Bible study as well and maintain their walk with God. But they will not all disciple other people. People are not always where we want them, but we have to minister to them where they are. I am very encouraged with them coming and I am hopeful that they will provide some needed leadership and encouragement. Their experience thus far have been Bible study with me once a week. I think being involved in a church will be a challenge for them. I hope I am not ... “counting my chickens before they hatch” so to speak. But I am encouraged that they have been coming on Sundays recently and seem to want to be involved in our fellowship. They have a wonderful son “Magnus” who is 4.



## Menodj

Menodj, is a Hindu boyfriend of a woman in our fellowship. He is a guard at the Mauritshuis Museum in Den Haag. Earlier this year, we went to the museum and he gave us a tour. He also gave us free admission. It is a nice museum and has many great artists like Johannes Vermeer and Rembrandt. It was nice because he did not know the Biblical story behind many of the paintings which I was able to tell him. In August, a few of the men went out to eat supper and we invited Menodj to come. He was really happy to come. He also came to my birthday dinner. He has said he does not want to become a Christian, but he does like spending time with us. He said he feels really comfortable around us which is great to hear. We hope to be spending more time with him in the future as well.



**NEWSLETTER VIA EMAIL:** If you would like to receive my letter as a PDF file instead of snail mail, please email my prayer letter service at: [Letters@eastwestms.org](mailto:Letters@eastwestms.org) Put "Duffy's Digest" in the subject line, and your name and email address in the body of the email. Also, please let them know if you changed your email address. Thanks.

### Praises:

1. That my birthday celebration went well.
2. That Daniel and Estee have been coming to church and seem to be interested in getting involved.
3. The we are getting to know Menodj better.

In Christ,

*Mike Duffy*



### Prayer Requests:

1. That I would walk closely with the Lord.
2. That our believers would grow in Christ.
3. That we would meet open people who want to know more about Christ.
4. That Soenita-D, Toby, Soenita-S, Ravi, Santosh, Vikash, Manisha, Rikash, Waldo, Michael, Stanley, Kasper, Marketa, Arjan, Siefra, Haisnan, and Saïd would come to know Christ.
5. For wisdom in preaching and teaching God's Word.
6. That I would be able to write up the discipleship studies and that they would encourage our believers to grow to maturity but use them to disciple others as well.
7. That we would be able to write up a values, mission and vision statement for our fellowship.
8. That Menodj would come to Christ.
9. That Daniel and Estee would find a home in our church and be willing to serve.