

## Congregations Seeking Partners

### Wahmawlein, India

Nearly two decades ago, a landslide in the village of Mawlat left a large group of families homeless. In 1998, with assistance from the Unitarian Union of North East India and Unitarians and Free Christians in the UK, these displaced families founded the village of Wahmawlein and The Unitarian Church of Wahmawlein. Both rest in a hilly area bordered by rivers on each side, located about 50 kilometers south of Shillong (the capital of Meghalaya). It has since been recognized by the Government of Meghalaya as one of the cleanest villages in the region.



The village and the church are both thriving. The church has more than 200 members of all ages who come from 45 households. Membership includes 120 children, and around 125 people attend services on an average Sunday, with 200 on special holidays. It is currently growing and full of dreams for the uplift and development of its members' lives, both physical and spiritual. Moreover, the church works with village committees to advance the all-around development of everyone who lives in the village.



Its former, 13-year partnership with a North American UU congregation lost energy after leadership changes in both congregations. Now the Unitarian Church of Wahmawlein eagerly anticipates a new partnership and looks forward to experiencing both the similarities to and differences from their new partners. They treasure the spiritual deepening that an international partnership brings to both congregations.

In entering into partnership, The Unitarian Church of Wahmawlein expects to communicate through email, skype, telephone, facebook, and face-to-face visits in order to develop ideas, resources, and vision. They look forward to the process of all partners getting to know one another, supporting one another, and strengthening one another's spiritual growth. Overall, they are open to any programs that will help individuals, and the community as a whole, to grow.