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Baptist News

A quarterly news letter of
the COUNCIL OF BAPTIST
CHURCHES IN NORTH EAST
INDIA

The Council comprises Assam
Baptist Convention, Arunachal
Baptist Church Council, Garo
Baptist Convention, Karbi
Anglong Baptist Convention,
Manipur Baptist Convention
and Nagaland Baptist Church
Council.

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Change is Inevitable



Narendra Modi, former Chief Minister (CM) of Gujarat, took over the Prime Minister Office (PMO) on the May 27, 2014. His manifesto and promises are excellent however, whether he will be able to live up to it is a question many ask. Will he be able to bring positive change? Will he be able to make India free from corruption and thereby bring peace and unity in the country? Will he be secular in his approach free from religious intolerance? On the same day as he was taking over the Government at the central, co-incidentally I also took over charge of the General Secretary from the former General Secretary, Rev. Dr. A. K. Lama. People are looking forward to my leadership with great hope and expectation. My vision for CBCNEI is for a “Transformed North East India (NEI).” We believe in the power of the gospel that it can transform individuals, society and nation. There have been significant changes in the life of the people of NEI through the gospel brought by Nathan Brown and O. T. Cutter in 1836. Now my main concern is where do we go from here?

Change is inevitable. It is part of life. It is like not knowing where we are going. But with this change I am confident that the One who has called me will lead me to fulfill the vision. The One who has given me the task will also provide the resources to accomplish it. We must continue to strive in bringing this transformation by focusing and harnessing unity in the Baptist churches. We must continue to witness

Christ in the midst of uncertainties facing us today. We must stand for the truth and remain prophetic at all times. In such a situation where a new leader is taking over charge of the PM Office, by a person from a unique background, with our hearts full of reservations and questions, we must continue to pray for our country so that our nation will be free from corruption and zero tolerance on discrimination on the basis of caste, gender, tribe and religion; that we will have better place to live in this part of the world; and that we may experience the Kingdom of God here and now. My dearest brothers and sisters in Christ even as I take charge of the Council as your new leader, I covet your prayers and co-operation in every way possible. I am also open to any constructive criticism and advice that will help me in the development of the Council.

This is my first editorial of the Baptist News. It is my hope and prayer that the BN will continue to be a means to connect with one another and at the same time gives information about the ministries that the CBCNEI family is doing. In this issue we focus on the reports and reflections of the last Annual General Meeting of the Council held at Pasighat, Arunachal Pradesh from 25-27 April 2014. It was hosted by the Arunachal Baptist Church Council. I believe the readers will enjoy and benefit from reading all the articles printed here.

May I request you to pray for me and the CBCNEI family.



Rev. Dr. Solomon Rongpi

CBCNEI gets new General Secretary - Rev Dr Solomon Rongpi

Rev Dr SOLOMON RONGPI was born in a small village known as Tarabasa, Karbi Anglong, Assam on December 6, 1960. His father, Mohiram Rongpi, was the first generation Christian and his mother, Jokri Taropi, is from the second generation Christian. Both of them are still alive. He is married to Setsatsishu Sangtam, daughter of Litsao Sangtam of Kiphire Town, Nagaland, on December 15, 1987. They are blessed with two beautiful children: Sintu Rongpipi, daughter, born on February 23, 1995 and Sonsuri Rongpi, son, born on October 4, 1997.



Dr Rongpi is a man of rich experience and has served God's people in various ministerial capacities. Prior to his coming to the Council of Baptist Churches

in North East India (CBCNEI), he served for long years in the ministry of the Lord. He joined the Christian ministry first as the Headmaster of Karbi Anglong Bible School (a vernacular Bible school run by the Nihang Karbi Baptist Association (NKBA) from 1981 to 1984). Later he went for his further theological study at Serampore College, West Bengal from 1994 to 1986 and graduated Bachelor of Divinity (BD) in 1987. He came back to the Bible school to serve

for one year and then he was selected to work as the Executive Secretary of the NKBA from 1988 April to 1996 June. He completed three maximum terms and then went for his post graduate and doctoral studies in the Philippines from 1996 June to 1997 October. He did his research work in India and at the same time taught at Eastern Theological College, Jorhat in 1998 as a guest teacher. He received his Th. D. degree (Practical Theology) from the Asia Baptist Graduate Theological Seminary, Baguio City, Philippines on March 8, 2002. He majored in the field of Church Administration and minored in Mission and Evangelism.

Dr Rongpi served as Mission Secretary of the Karbi Anglong Baptist Convention (KABC) from 2001 to 2002. He became the Pastor of Diphu Baptist Church from June 1999 and served till October 2009. He served the church for over ten years and then joined the National Council of Churches in India (NCCI) as the Executive Secretary for the Commission on Unity, Mission and Evangelism based at Nagpur, Maharashtra from November 2009 to May 2014.

He underwent trainings on Development and SALT Technology at Mindanao Rural Life Development Foundation, Davao, Philippines in October 1987; Mission & Evangelism at Haggai Institute, Singapore in 1999; Asia Ecumenical Academy conducted by Christian Conference of Asia from 8-28 August 2004 in Chiangmai, Thailand; Conflict Resolution and Conflict Transformation in Davao City, Philippines in 2009; and Peace and Conflict Transformation at Phnom Penh, Cambodia in 2011.

He attended and participated in national and international meetings held in different places. He attended the Baptist World Youth Congress in 1988 in Glasgow, Scotland; Asian Baptist Congress in 1997 at Taipei, Taiwan, at Manila, Phil-

ippines in 2002, at Chiangmai, Thailand in 2007, and at Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia in September 2012. He attended the consultation on Migration at Mandaluyong, Manila in November 2012 organized by the WCC. He participated in the International Consultation on New Mission Statement of the WCC at Kochi, Kerela. Also he attended the 10th General Assembly of the World Council of Churches (WCC) at Busan, South Korea in November 2013.

During his 32 years of ministry, he held several other positions and responsibilities in different capacities in several organizations:

- 1) President, Nihang Karbi Baptist Youth Association, Karbi Anglong, Assam
- 2) President, Karbi Anglong Baptist Convention, Karbi Anglong, Assam
- 3) Executive Member of Council of Baptist Churches in North East India (CBCNEI:1991-1993)
- 4) Youth Vice President, CBCNEI for one term
- 5) Vice President, CBCNEI (1993-1994)
- 6) Executive Member of North East India Committee on Relief and Development (NEICORD:1995-1996)
- 7) Chairman, Christian English High School, Diphu, Karbi Anglong, Assam 1988-1996
- 8) Chairman, Community Development Project of World Vision of India(WVI), Manja, Karbi Anglong, Assam
- 9) Member of Church's Auxiliary for Social action (CASA), North East India (1999-2005)
- 10) Assistant Secretary, North East India Committee on Relief and Development (NEICORD 2001-2004)
- 11) President, Council of Baptist Churches in North East India (CBCNEI: 2006-2008)
- 12) Chairman, NEICORD (2006-2008)
- 13) Chairman, United Christian Forum(UCF), Diphu from 1999-2009
- 14) Chairman, Diphu Citizen Peace Forum (DCPF), 2003-2009

Reports Presented during the 64th Annual General Meeting

**Venue: Mirbuk Baptist Church, Pasighat
Siang Adi Baptist Association, Arunachal
Pradesh**

Date: 25 - 27 April 2014



RESOLUTION

On the occasion of the **64th Annual General Meeting** of the **Council of Baptist Churches in Northeast India** held at Siang Adi Baptist Association, Mission Centre, Pasighat, Arunachal Pradesh from April 25-27, 2014, the representatives present resolved to:

1. **Confirm:**

- a. The call to grow and build the bond of unity of shared love in Christ Jesus;
- b. The thrust to live in peace and harmony with each other;
- c. The need to grow in wisdom and maturity which is favored by God and approved by people;
- d. The requirement to uphold Jesus' leadership model which enables to see the future clearly and engage with the people and develop them for high performances; to take timely bold innovative initiatives to achieve result while maintaining the relationships without compromising the core values of the biblical truths of love and selfless service.

2. **Comply:**

- a. With the scriptural mandate- to trust unwaveringly, obey ingenuously and work determinedly to reach the "goal" for which we are called in Christ Jesus our Lord;
- b. With the Greatest Commandment- to love the Lord with all Heart, Soul, Mind and Strength, and love neighbors as oneself;
- c. With the above two statements and create an environment of trust and ability to lead contextually and fulfill the aspirations of the people that will bring glory to Jesus Christ.

3. **Commit:**

- a. To be relevant in the face of multi-denominational diversity and open to Christ-centered ecumenism;
- b. To respond to the Call of "One New Humanity" in Christ and participate in reaching out to the ends of the earth;
- c. To participate diligently and contribute generously to the Council's interests for the benefit of all.



A Summary: Report of the General Secretary to the 64th Annual General Body Meeting

As reported by Rev. Dr. A. K. Lama. ex-General Secretary, CBCNEI

I. Cooperation, Change, and Accomplishment:

Success is achieved when people understands the need, agree with the proposal, and volunteers to own the vision. I am particularly grateful to God for such a success in my last five and half years of ministry in the Council. For the record, it would be appropriate to jot them down here:

A. Amendments and changes in the Structure and Policy

When I joined the Council, I noticed that the council as an old organization was in urgent need of change in structure and policy for making it effective. We brought following changes:

- * Composition of EC strengthened the ownership of Convention. The Chairman and the General Secretary of six member convention by virtue of their office were included as voting member in the EC.
- * Composition of Mission Board also strengthened networking and ownership of member Conventions. The Mission Secretary of each convention became the member of the board by virtue of their office.
- * Amendment in the composition of ADMC empowered the

local conventions and association to own and manage the CBCNEI hospitals in their region.

* The amendment in the preamble and provision of the Associate membership opened a way for other Baptists in the regions to become part of the CBCNEI family.

B. Healing Ministry:

As the Medical Secretary In-charge, I had the privilege of noticing a significant growth in the healing ministry of CBCNEI. Some of which are listed herewith:

* Significant increase of income and payment of salary in all hospitals.

* Significant financial and structural growth and development in all the hospitals.

* Though partnership with 4B Health Care did not take a dramatic shape as expected, I have noticed some improved in the management of Satribari Hospital.

* Increased number of sponsored seats both at CMC Vellore and Ludhiana. The Council has a total of 6 (2+4) sponsored seats now.

* Improved infrastructures in all Nursing Schools.

C. ETC Ministry:

Some of the good changes in the last five years are as follows:

* New administrative structure and amendments of constitution and service rules.

* Appointment of President who network with Churches and organizations, raise funds, administer, and provide pastoral care.

* Strengthen and empower ETC Board.

* Increased CBCNEI's financial contribution.

* Acquiring of office vehicles and the school bus

* Start contextually relevant MA programs.

* Improved infra-structure and facilities on campus.

* New relationship with evangelical organizations and Asia

Theological Association.

D. Theological Education Committee

The Council has 8 Seminaries in the family. Some are bigger than the others. Although all existed for the same cause, there was disconnectedness within. Hence, the theological education committee was restructured as a platform for the Principals to come for fellowship and also to help the council decide how to use IM's leadership development grants. I am glad to report you that this has been a successful and beneficial exercise, although Oriental Theological College could not participate in any of the meetings. Hope this will continue and enable sharing of resources for greater cause.

E. NECU Project

I am thankful to God for a vision of North East Christian University. The leaders of CBCNEI met on several occasions to discuss this vision and expressed warm anticipation. We must recognize the contribution of Mr. Atungo Shitiri in putting all the effort for the draft; Mr Huzo Meru, Dr. Anjo Keiking, and Mr Nibu Nagi and others who helped in getting the Legislative Act to be enacted in the state of Nagaland. Some of the Associations and individual members have already vouched for financial support. The Council has something to look forward as one family. I hope that this vision will bring the Council more closer to each other.

F. CBCNEI Property & CBCNEI Conference Centre, Guwahati

God has enabled us to see some improvement in the management of our property in general and the CBCNEI Conference Center in Guwahati in particular. Some developments such as:

- * Building of walls partially for JCMC, Jorhat property
- * Utilization of CLC Jorhat property in partnership with ARLDF.
- * Building of walls and gate, CBCNEI Conference Center, Guwahati

* Building of New Dorms and Canteen

* Building of road and street light on CBCNEI campus, etc

G. Students Ministry:

The Student Ministry of CBCNEI was brought under direct supervision of the Mission Secretary and the designation of the Student warden was changed to Student Chaplain. The ministry is centralized and it has become much more intentional in disciple making. I am grateful to Dr. Jolly Rimai who took much interest in it. I must also thank Mrs. Bendangla, Rev. K.C. Gaila, and Mr. Talimoa Jamir for their cooperation.

H. CLC ministry:

My deep appreciation goes to Rev. Mahangthei and the CLC Board who together have achieved dramatic growth and expansion in CLC ministry in a very short time. The tireless hard works of the two Assistant Directors, Managers, and other CLC staffs is greatly appreciated. We now have Rev. T. P. Mordecai as the designate Director and the best is yet to come.

I. Justice & Peace Ministry:

I remember vividly Mr. R. P Murry, the former Finance Secretary of NBCC, coming to my house with Mr. Atungo Shitiri. Atungo who had a proposal of what CBCNEI could do in bringing awareness of Human rights. For some time, I had been thinking of what CBNEI could do in challenging the Lawyers and Journalist to remain faithful to their profession, since these two professionals had the ability to impact the society. When I learned that Atungo was a lawyer, I thought he is the right person to lead us. So the process began to launch this new department. It took few years before we formally start it. Now as we look back, I am glad to notice that Atungo's contribution in drafting many important documents for the Council, leading in peace effort, legal matters, human rights, relief works, and conflict resolution has been remarkable. I did not have much role but to remind our goal, facilitate and encourage. There are much more to do and the Council has

the potential. I hope that this department will grow and develop in the days to come.

J. Mission Department:

Besides searching for a leader for ETC and Satribari Hospital, I began my office of the General Secretary looking for the Mission Secretaries. Many names were proposed and many informal interviews were conducted. But finally the Lord led us to appoint Dr. Jolly Rimai as the Mission Secretary. One of the remarkable achievements of Mission department during my tenure has been Mission Consultation to bring awareness of doing mission together. Mission department has brought convention/association and also some churches to each other in dialogue. It has been able to develop new network of partnership in bringing benefit to the members. It has also taken the mission secretaries and other leaders to the mission field abroad and in India for exposure. Dr. Jolly Rimai has given a good leadership in this regard.

K. Baptist News:

Our circulation of Baptist News has grown and the quality has improved but the struggle to increase number of subscription for making self-sustained and to get good articles shall remain continuous challenge. I appreciate the work of the Assistant Editor, Dr. Kaholi Zhimomi and the Program Coordinator, Mr. Siamliana Khiangte for their hard work in this venture.

L. Training Programs

Personally, I have emphasized hosting and conducting training programs for various needs of our constituent members. I considered it as one of the most important ways to help them and improve our relationship with them. This is not only to inform and equip them but also to give an opportunity for fellowship and develop the family bonding within the Council. In the last five years, I have been involved in several training programs. In some case, individually weaker associations who wanted to host such a program were given special financial

help from TLA to host it. In other cases, the Churches and associations owned the program as they understood its importance.

Following are some of the events where I was involved in training this year:

1. *Baptist Structure Autonomy vis-à-vis Centralization with DLBCA, Rayang (May10-12)*
2. *Church Administration and Management seminar with Perisuzu Baptist Church, Kohima (June 8-10)*
3. *Training for the Pastors of Chang Baptist Association (July 22-28)*
4. *The CLC Writers' workshop, Guwahati (Aug 7-10)*
5. *Training for the Pastors of Chang Baptist Association, Guwahati (Aug 26-31)*
6. *Expository Preaching Seminar, Guwahati, Nov 26-30.*
7. *Training in FCRA and Finance Management, Guwahati, Feb 21-23.*
8. *Training the Leaders and Pastors, Guwahati, March 18-21.*
9. *Minister in STNAB Pastors Conference, Mt Horeb Retreat Center, Leingangching (May 2-3)*
10. *Minister in the UBC Silver Jubilee Celebration (May 4-5)*
11. *Visit with TBCA leaders, Ukhrul (May 4)*
12. *A visit to Khul village and the Baptist Church affected with fire accident (May 6)*
13. *Baptist Structure Autonomy vis-à-vis Centralization with DLBCA, Rayang (May10-12)*
14. *Church Administration and Management seminar with Perisuzu Baptist Church, Kohima (June 8-10)*
15. *Ministry in World Vision Staff Retreat, Guwahati (June 12)*
16. *Ministry to the EGF group in Agartala (June 21-23)*
17. *Visit with Tripura Baptist Union Leaders (June 22)*
18. *BWA Theological conference on Pneumatology in Ocho Rios, Jamaica (July 26-39)*

19. Visit with Baptist Leaders of Jamaica (June 30)
20. Present papers in the BWA Annual Gathering (July 1-7)
21. Visit with the TLA leaders (July 8-14)
22. Present a paper in Theological Coloquim in Craigville (July 15-20)
23. Visit with Brewster Baptist Church and Dr. Fredrick Downs and family, Brewster (July 17)
24. Minister in the Pastors of Chang Baptist Association (July 22-28)
25. Coordinate the Largest NECU Consultation with all Association and Convention Leaders, Guwahati (Aug 2).
26. Minister in the CLC Writers' workshop, Guwahati (Aug 7-10).
27. Present a paper in the Asia Theological Association Annual conference, Jakarta (Aug 12-16).
28. Minister to Pastors of Chang Baptist Association, Guwahati (Aug 26-31).
29. Minister in Annual Conference of Apatani Baptist Churches Association, Ziro (Sept 6-8).
30. Participate in India Mission Summit Organizing Committee Meeting, Kolkata (Oct 17-19).
31. Ministry in the Annual Conference of BWFNEI, Nagaon, Nov 1-3.
32. Ministry in the Golden Jubilee Celebration of DLBCA, Roing, Nov 9-12.
33. Ministry in Kuda Baptist Church, Dimapur, Nov 16-17.
34. Represent CBCNEI in CASA Meeting, Hyderabad, Nov 21-22.
35. Teach and train in the Expository Preaching Seminar, Guwahati, Nov 26-30.
36. Represent CBCNEI in the inauguration of EFI Center, Guwahati, Nov 9.
37. Minister in Annual Conference of RNBA, Jaluki, Dec 13-14.
38. Minister in the Silver Jubilee Celebration of Home Guard Police Church, Dimapur, Dec 14-15.

39. Minister in the Transformation Conference, Siliguri, Dec 28-30.

40. Minister in the NBCCA Staff Retreat, Dimapur, Jan 8-9.

41. Minister in the Triennial Conference of UESI-AP, Kurnool, Jan 11-15.

42. Minister in the 7th Annual Conference of Baptist Convention of Telugu Churches, Ongole, Jan 15-18.

43. Minister in the Waterbury Memorial Telugu Baptist Church, Chennai, Jan 19.

44. Represent CBCNEI in the Centenary Celebration of Boro Baptist Convention, Feb 2.

45. Minister in the Silver Jubilee Celebration of NPBCA, Dimapur, Feb 3-4.

46. Minister in Discipleship Bible College, Dimapur, Feb 5-6.

47. Represent CBCNEI in the Consultation on Creation, Care, and Climate Change, Chennai, Feb 10-12.

48. Visit with the Principal and faculty of Jubilee Memorial Bible School, Chennai, Feb 13.

49. Minister in Gospel Crusade of Chima Apal Baptist Church, Chima Apal, Feb 14-16.

50. Coordinate the CBCNEI Consultation on Centralization and Leadership, Guwahati, Feb 18-19.

51. Minister in FCRA and Finance Management Training of CBCNEI, Guwahati, Feb 21-23.

52. Minister in the Mission Retreat of Sibasagar Baptist Church, Sibasagar, March 1-2.

53. Coordinate and minister in the Leaders and Pastors Conference, Guwahati, March 18-21.

54. Coordinate the Theological Educations Committee and Principals' meeting, Guwahati, March 22.

55. Minister in the Triennial Gatherings of Tangkhul BCA, Seinakheti, March 28-30.

56. Minister in the Annual Conference of ABCC, Balinong, April 4-6.

57. Coordinate the NECU Consultation, Guwahati, April

8.

II. Connecting with Constituent members:

I express my apology to all those whom I could not visit because of shortage or conflict of time. The CBCNEI family is so large that I could not have done it anyway.

III. Gratitude:

1. International Ministries: The partnership with International Ministries has been a blessing to all constituents members of CBCNEI. The Council has received the White Cross Funds for all the six hospitals, Vacation Bible school grants for smaller rural churches, and theological education grants for developing leaders. We received two big grants for the leadership development. The first is meant for faculty development and the second is meant for the development of leaders for the Churches under weaker conventions (ABCC, ABC, and KABC). With the help of these grants the council is helping a total of 30 students. Out of these 16 (9+7) are from weaker under-served associations and 14 (4+10) are pursuing post graduate studies. For these and for many favors that is not included here, I express my deep appreciation and gratitude to Rev. Dr. SL Benchan and Rev. Dr. Reid Trulson. We are also blessed to have Rev. Taku Longkumer and his wife Rev. Katie Longkumer as Development Consultants to help our constituent members. They have been very supportive of my ministry and have generously complimented the needs the Council as well as the field ministry. IM is planning for India Mission Summit Celebration on Oct 2-5, 2014 to celebrate 200 years of BIM ministry in northeast India. All constituent members are requested to plan to participate in it.

2. TLA: I am also very grateful to the Board of Transforming Leaders in Asia for their full confidence in me. Although TLA is an interdenominational ministries, they gave me freedom to bring all the benefits to constituent members of CBCNEI. TLA has donated 30 Bicycles and 37 motorbikes to the workers of

our constituent members. It has also given funds for hosting several training programs for the lay leaders and pastors at the Center as well as for some weaker associations.

IV. Future Possibilities:

Insight and inspiration may come to an individual but accomplishment needs divine unction. David desired to build the temple but God desired to accomplish it through his son. A leader is just a piece in the big puzzle that God gradually gives a shape. Following are few dreams that the Council may think of actualizing in future:

1. River View Guest House:

From the economic point of view, the CBCNEI Conference Centre is seating on the goldmine yet to be unearthed. It is located on the Brahmaputra bank nearest to the tourist spot and to the busiest commercial hub of Guwahati. The need for room accommodation from 11 lacs Baptist members of CBCNEI family as well as other Christians and Christian organizations is overwhelming. A gorgeous and well managed River View Guest house with 1000 beds capacity with three types of accommodations (frugal, economic, and luxurious) would not only help its members who come to Guwahati for various reason but also generate enough revenue to sponsor 1000 missionaries. Several rounds of discussions and presentations were made but the dream could not be achieved. I am grateful to many individuals who were sacrificially involved in dreaming this dream and going through many rounds of consultations: Mr Amrit Goldsmith, Mr Pawan Bhuyan, and Mr Nibu Nagi. Though the dream could not be actualized, it was a worth exercise. Hope, this might happen in future.

2. Central Baptist Museum:

History is His Story. God of the Bible chose to intervene in the history of northeast through hundreds of American Baptist Missionaries and some of our own pioneers. We have been handed a very rich legacy and heritage. They are more than monu-

ment to preserve. They are mirrors to reflect to learn from mistakes of the pasts and draw strength for the present challenges. Baptist Churches have grown older than 150 years and the baton is in the hands of fourth or fifth generation who has no knowledge of the missionaries who worked in their regions. The Council must attempt to develop a Central Museum where we have pictures of all the missionaries with name, location of work, dates of work, and the nature of work on display. The CBNCEI Campus in Guwahati is an ideal place to locate such a museum as Guwahati is gateway to whole northeast India. I tried to sell this idea on several occasions, but could not succeed. Hope, the future council leadership would understand its importance and plan for a definite project.

3. Baptist Bhawan, Guwahati:

The CBCNEI campus needs a building that houses all the office of General Secretaries, other Secretaries, ministry departments, quarters for Secretaries and staffs, and other facilities in the campus. Some of the houses are too old and need replacement. All these could be housed in one building leaving a bigger central space for flowers and greenery. I am glad that the CBCNEI Trustee that has been initiated by the EC is working on it. I wish them all success.

4. Development of Satribari Hospital:

Satribari hospital is probably one of the first hospitals in Guwahati, established in 1926. It is located on a large piece of land in prime location. The land and property values would be perhaps more than Rs. 400 crore. However, in last twenty years, this hospital has been gradually going down. As the Medical Secretary Incharge, I spent a lot of time and energy in trying to help this hospital grow. With much challenges, we handed it over to 4B Health Care to manage, hoping that they would bring investments and human resources to develop it and make it as one of the best Christian hospital so that people do not have to go to CMC Vellore for treatment. Unfortunately, last

three years of management by 4B has failed to show such a sign. The ability of 4B for management has become questionable. The present CEO usually spends half of his time in South India and the hospital is managed by subordinates. The Council will have to take an early wise action in this regard.

5. CBCNEI replicates IM to launch Baptist Mission Agency

Some Churches are missional minded than others. More youths are willing to go as cross cultural missionaries to foreign land. Some churches and individuals are generous even to sponsor such projects through SIM, IEM, FMPB, and others. However, it would have been appropriate for the Council to develop a missionary sending agency for the Baptists which has centralized facilities for organized recruitment, fund raising, training, placing, networking, supporting, and coordinating the missionaries and their work. The Council initiated such consultation and talk but it did not go far. Hope future leaderships of the council shall actualize it.

6. CLC starts a Baptist Printing Press to serve our Convention/Association/Churches

The Council has a big family and the need for printing within the family is enormous. The Council can generate ministries, revenue, and employment within by establishing a good offset printing press. The CLC must aim to achieve that in near future.

7. Full time Women and Youth secretary

When the restructuring of CBCNEI was taking place, I realized that the Council failed to see the complimentary roles of the Women department and youth department at the regional level. BWNEI is still continuing but they need more help understanding that complimentary role and also in incorporating their activities, budget, and reporting. At present they are functioning like a parallel body. Youths of the regions needs more opportunities to interact with each other and widen their horizon. At present there is no forum at the regional level and

their interaction is limited to convention level.

V. The Future Role of CBCNEI:

The Council has a very important role in facilitating the ministries of churches, Associations and Conventions. There is much wealth in the corporate ownership. There are more resources in coming together and more power in unity. The tendency, as human we are, is to look for self-centred immediate gain. The inclination is often to try something doable and something that goes along with the FLOW of the powerful current. And the things of common good & greater gain, that is often beyond a tribal interest, geographical interest, family interest, and of course personal interest, is often against the FLOW. Hence they are not easily done. They are tough and the benefits are indirect, not direct—often SLOW and not immediate. The future of CBCNEI shall depend on the leadership who can understand this aspect of wisdom and would stand firm against the flow.

I am privileged to lead the Council in this unique time of history. With God's blessings and

your prayers I completed five and half years (Oct 2008 to May 2014) . I am grateful to God:

- for the sacrificial support of my wife Dr Asangla who diligently managed the CBCNEI canteen to support my ministry. Actually she could have worked in hospitals and continue her profession but she gave her time and effort for CBCNEI. In fact, she has generated more revenue for CBCNEI in one year than what I have earned in five and half years as salary.

- for the friendship and support from Dr. Jerry B Cain, Rev. Reid Trulson, Rev. Dr. Leo Thorne, Mr. Jim Thomason, Rev. Jeremy Griem, Dr Timothy George, Dr. Kenneth Matthews, Rev. Bonny Resu, Rev. Dr. Ngul Khan Pau, Dr. Kavito Zhimo, and few others whose encouragement and wise advice helped me thus far;

•for a wonderful team of Secretaries who were very supportive. We met every month and together evaluated our progress and planned our following months. I am grateful to God for this great team;

•for few wise and godly leaders in the EC, the Medical board, ETC board, CLC, and other committees whose respect and trust encouraged me to serve the Council;

•for a team of committed heads of the CBCNEI institutions, CBCNEI Chaplains, and the hard working staffs in CBCNEI office, in particularly my assistant Mrs Meera Areng, Mr. Rabin Basumatary, Mr. Talimoa Jamir, and Mr. Siamliana Khiangte made my works easy.

Submitted humbly for your kind attention and prayers.

God bless CBCNEI family!



Working in CBCNEI as an intern was a wonderful experience to cherish and preserve in my life. Having knowledge of something and experiencing it are completely two different things, therefore when I experienced this; it lived up even above my expectation. The executive members and staff continued to extend their warmth and love during my stay. Dignity of Labor which is preached in CBCNEI is also practiced; there is a mutual understanding, transparency and respect among all the staff this is what I have learned from CBCNEI ministry. I want to challenge all the readers as to whether you are ready to step in their shoes, to understand the feelings of those working in CBCNEI.

~ *Swapnil Vijay Uzgare* UBS Internee

Brief Report of the Mission Secretary, CBCNEI



As reported by Rev. Dr. Jolly Rimai, Mission Secretary, CBCNEI

Research work: With the help of internees from Karbi Anglong and Manipur, in the persons of Mr. Abu Kro and Athana Golmei, we were able to collect necessary information of the Mission work at the Convention and Association level of Karbi Anglong Baptist Convention (KABC) and Manipur Baptist Convention (MBC) in the month of May'13. With the help of Mr. Mabhem Kithan, we are in the process of collecting materials from Nagaland Baptist Churches Council (NBCC). We are also planning to do the same in other Conventions during this year.

We have also collected necessary information from partner organizations which will be included in this Mission Handbook so that our churches will be aware of the specialty of each organization and be benefitted through them.

Advanced Mission Leadership Training Program: The Advanced Mission Leadership Training Program (AMLTP) was held from July 2 - 5, 2013 at CBCNEI Mission Compound on the theme "Making Greater Impact." There were 8 sessions covering Legal issues in Mission, Mission Strategy; challenges and strength of the opposing forces, and Member Care. The resource persons were Mr. Atungo Shitiri Secretary, Peace and Justice CBCNEI, Mr. Vivek Oriel Paul, Advocate, Col. Arun UP Mission

and Rev. Helien Singsit from FMPB.

All together 42 Mission Secretaries, Pastors and leaders attended the training program. The training program was remarkable for its emphasis on the current issues like awareness of Constitutional Rights in doing mission, deep insights on Mission Strategies, and on the need of Caring our Missionaries.

The 3 days training program challenged the delegates to work hand in hand so as to make a greater impact and came to its blessed closure.

Neighborhood Leadership Training: Special Leadership Training for Neighborhood ministry was conducted on July 2 - 4, 2013 at Barpeta Road. It was especially helpful for those House church leaders on how to lead a group and disciple them to be a witness in their own work places. The training focuses on sharing stories from the Bible and its application in our daily life. The leaders were encouraged and blessed through the training. All together 18 house church leaders participated the training. Three new people were added in the group during the training.

On September 19 - 21, 2013, leadership training and discipleship training was conducted for house church leaders and new believers at Barpeta Road Assam. All together 25 leaders and four new believers were given discipleship training on how to be a good disciple. On February 16 - 18, 2014, Discipleship training was organized for 26 new believers at Barpeta again, and 9 new believers were baptized. This kind of training proved to be helpful for the new believers to be firm in their decision in following Jesus. During the year 2013, there were 123 new believers who received believers' baptism through Neighborhood Ministry.

Cross Cultural Missionary Training Program: The Mission Department, CBCNEI, successfully conducted "Cross Cultural Missionary Training Program" for the missionaries and the Community Development Workers (CDWs) under the theme "Being

His Salt to the Earth and Light to the World” from August 12-22, 2013.

The training was conducted in three different places; CBCNEI Conference Centre, Guwahati, Asian Rural Life Development Foundation office, (ARLDF) Guwahati and Jorhat Christian Medical Centre, Jorhat. A total of 23 missionaries from Arunachal, Nagaland, and Assam participated the training.

The training program was unique as it stress on the holistic approach in doing cross-cultural mission. Various sessions were conducted on Cross-cultural Ministry, Community Transformation, Clean Water Awareness (Bio-sand filter technology), Hygiene and Tree of Life. The missionaries also visited JCMC site, Jorhat, for field exposure where they were introduced to various Technologies, Faith Gardening, Goat Raising and Poultry Farming.

The 10 days training program has equipped and refreshed the missionaries with new ideas and insights to apply in their respective mission fields. Everyone was excited and decided to start what they have learnt one at a time. ARLDF is willing to continue the required follow up of the training in their respective mission fields.

Mission Leadership training through exposure to four Asian Countries: All together 17 Mission Leaders were exposed to four different countries to study mission strategies in other countries, and also to look for mission possibilities in Thailand, Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam. The training starts from 7th September ends on 21st September. Many of them were able to see bigger picture of World Mission and different mission approaches on how professionals can be effective missionaries.

They were greatly encouraged to see our own missionaries living in those countries and the work they are doing. Many of them are committed to send more missionaries to those countries.

Mission Leadership Training: (March 27 to April 5)

Packed and well equipped both physically and spiritually Ten Mission leaders comprising of Mission Secretaries, Pastors, and Evangelists set out for a challenging and educative Mission leadership training to UP. It was a great experience for all the Mission leaders to see and witness how the Missionaries are really toiling hard to do evangelism in main line India.

The team toured western part of UP where they were led to witness house Church fellowship, Systematic discipleship training for the new believers, Social service development program and prayer walk. The response and thirst of the new believers to come closer to Christ speaks volume to the Churches in North East India to unite and pray for the UP Mission. We were encouraged and excited when we come to know that three of our own Missionaries are working there. They were also felt encouraged by our visit.

The team also shared and encouraged the believers to stand firm in the Lord. Testimony of one illiterate woman on how God has been using her to witness for the Lord and give trainings to other woman folks in spite of her illiteracy was a great encouragement. The team after visiting these areas felt the need to challenge and encourage all the North East Churches to pray and send more workers.

Reach Guwahati Prayer and strategy development meeting: In partnership with the Guwahati Christian Forum (GCF), one day consultation meeting to strategize prayer movement among the churches of Guwahati was conducted at CBCNEI Conference Hall on September 24, 2013. The meeting was attended by 62 church leaders from across the city. The National Prayer Network (NPN) team headed by the Director M. Patrick Joshua also attended as resource person. The main focus of the meeting was to mobilize and strategize intensive and focused prayer among the churches of Guwahati city so that we can make impact in the city.

I was able to challenge the leaders to take responsibility to reach the city with the Word of God as they are appointed by God to be the “Watchmen” of the city. The thought was gladly accepted and agreed that they will be very intentional to reach Guwahati City for Christ.

A prayer booklet of Guwahati City has been published, and now the next strategy is on how to reach every home with the Gospel.

Assam Mission Partners Consultation: In partnership with NEICC and SIMNEI, we were able to conduct Assam Mission Partners Consultation during September 25 - 26, 2013 at CBCNEI Conference Hall.

Churches and Mission organizations working in different parts of Assam came together and formulate a strategy as to how we can work together instead of competing each other in the mission field. We are planning to continue this type of consultation in other states also in the near future.

Partnership

1. ALPHA India: As per the directive from the Executive Council to enter into partnership with ALPHA India, an MOU was signed on June 6, 2013. As per the MOU agreement, and Mission Promoter, in the person of Mr. Eyingbemo Nguillie from NBCC has been appointment to work on the partnership assignment of CBCNEI and ALPHA India from November 1, 2013. The Alpha India is specialized in giving different trainings for discipleship and evangelism.

2. Seva Bharat: Partnership MOU has been signed with Seva Bharat to enhance the Mission work of the member churches. The Seva Bharat is working with many associations and conventions under CBCNEI. They are also directly working with us in Neighborhood Ministry by giving them trainings and supporting 10 (ten) local evangelists. Seva Bharat is good at training local evangelists on evangelism and discipleship. They also have special program for mission work among the Muslims.

3. TransWorld Radio: Partnership MOU also has been signed with TWR. They have identified over fifteen languages in CBCNEI for audio recording of the Bible and Devotional materials. TWR ministry is more focused on people groups where there are no Bible or where literacy rate is low. They translate the Bible and recorded it in audio form so that people can listen to the word of God in their own language.

Mission Partners' Consultation

The Mission Department conducted first ever Mission Partners' consultation on November 5, 2013 at CBCNEI Conference Hall, Guwahati. Altogether 18 experts and practitioners representing ten mission organizations such as; Alpha India, ARLDF India, FMPB, IEM, Inter Serve, SIMNEI, Seva Bharat, Trans World Radio, World Vision and YMCA attended the meeting. Rev. Dr. Jolly Rimai, Mission Secretary, CBCNEI, facilitated the meeting, who, after welcoming participants, highlighted the purpose of the consultation on how to make a greater impact in the mission work.

The main objective of the Consultation was to identify the strength and the specialty of the partners. Each of the organizations shared their area of expertise and participated in the consultation through sharing of experiences, suggestions and opinions. This created a platform for all the partners to explore the possibilities of tapping each other's resource and benefit mutually. At the end of the day, participants were convinced that mission is possible through genuine partnership and continued efforts.

Plan of Action:

1. Mission handbook: The Mission Department shall publish a Mission handbook for our member churches. This handbook will include Mission work of our churches, Mission opportunities across the globe, specialty of our partner organizations, etc.

2. Three months intensive Cross cultural Missionary Training Program: This training is for Missionary candidates who

are committed to go for Cross cultural Mission work. This training will be conducted in the Mission field outside India. The training will be help in the months of October till December'14.

3. In-field and Pre-field Missionary Training program: This training will be for those missionaries who are already in the field, and who are going to the filed immediately. This will be mostly on orientation about the new mission field. They will be also equipped with holistic mission approach in doing missions. This training will be held during 11 -21st August'14.



Our internship started with the orientation on 5th May '14. I was given the first opportunity to work at the Canteen among the four of us. It was a very humbling experience. I have never before put myself in the shoes of a waiter or the kind of the work they go through. Dealing with people of different character, attitude, ego and upbringing, enabled me to observe them and learn flexibility in relating myself with the people. Most of all it taught me to be more patient and kind, regardless of the peoples' treatment towards me as a waiter. On the other hand, the canteen staffs have been very supportive and amiable. Humility, patience and hard-work are the three qualities they have taught me to a great extent. Working in the library on the other hand, has helped me to get more insights and knowledge about books and its significance.

Finally, I want to thank Dr. Jolly Rimai for his support, care and assistance throughout the internship. I also thank NCFG and Dr. Kaholi for the platform, and enabling us to engage in Naga Christian Fellowship activities. I also extend my thanks to Mr. Rojit for welcoming us to his home and for the hospitality shown to us. Above all, I thank CBCNEI for providing us with wonderful opportunities and platform to learn and gain many meaningful experiences. God Bless CBCNEI.

~ Vepakho Vese (UBS Internee)

Brief report of the Justice & Peace Ministry



As reported by Atungo Shitri, Secretary, Justice and Peace Ministry, CBCNEI

- 1. April-September 2013:** Final draft review of the Revised/ Edited Constitution and Service Rules of the Council and CLC.
- 2. June 2013:** Participated in a seminar organized by the Christian Conference of Asia in Bangkok Thailand. The training workshop is designed for human rights activists in the churches, or for church workers engaged in different types of work related to the protection of human dignity.
- 3. July 2013:** Facilitated training on Peace Counts on Tour 2013 North- East India Project of the Berghof Foundation/ Zeitenspiegel Reportagen for Trainers and peace-builders (TOT) for peace building with an aim to form a pool of qualified multipliers to foster peace education in universities and communities in Northeast India.
- 4. September 2013:** In an attempt to pre-empt violence in Karbi Anglong of possible incitement through media presentations, a group of Media persons and Karbi Anglong leaders and me visited three key media houses in Dimapur, Nagaland and requested them to cross-check news reports which can incite violence before publication.
- 5. September 2013:** Organized a peace meeting of the Karbi

and Rengma Leaders at Diphu to discuss about the misunderstanding and issues related to the two ethnic groups. And formed peace committees of both groups through the initiative of NKBA and WRBA. The peace initiative process is on.

6. October 2103: Involved in the final curriculum review of the M.A. Peace Studies exercises at Eastern Theological College. The program starts next academic session in 2014.

7. October 2013: Organized a Conflict Transformation and Peace Building Seminar for 6 ethnic groups from Assam who are in conflict with each other. The program was successful because the participants learned basic skills of peace-building initiatives to be implemented in their respective context and situation. The second tier training will be organized in 2014.

8. November 2013: Facilitated a lecture on legal matters for B.D. Students of ETC.

9. November 2013: Facilitated human trafficking awareness training for World Vision interns.

10. November 2013: Facilitated a lecture on commercial sex workers of Guwahati city with the students of Tata Institute of Social Sciences.

11. November 2013: Organized a peace retreat for the Tangkhul Baptist Leaders of the 5 Associations at Dimapur, Nagaland. The program was successful as it brought the spirit of oneness in Christ amongst them.

12. December 2013: Co-ordinated in defusing the violent clashes between the Karbi and Rengma Ethnic groups of Karbi-Anglong of attacks and retaliatory attacks against each other with the leaders of KABC, NKBA and WRBA and also organized immediate relief assistance for the refugees.

13. January-March 2014: Organized four Peace Meetings between Karbi and Rengma leaders at different places in Karbi-Anglong in collaboration with BIM and APBF leaders. March meeting was crucial in organizing rehabilitation of the Rengma

Nagas back to their villages. *(Please see Baptist news column on Council news report for more details).*

14. January 2014: Participated in the Peace Forum organized by the APBF at Yangon, Myanmar on behalf of the Council.

15. February 2014: Participated as resource person in the seminar on Anti-human Trafficking organized by the Assam Baptist Convention.

16. March 2014: Attended the NCCI Northeast Centenary program at Aizwal, Mizoram and participated in the program.

17. April 2013-2014: Pro bono legal consultations, legal document drafting were done to assist Council's constituents' institutions and members.

B. Some Ministry Challenges:

1. The challenge of raising funds both from within country and abroad is there as sponsors require local church contribution to implement a program. Local church contributions are needed.
2. Active response-initiatives from the conventions and associations to the local churches required to successfully reach out to the needs of the members.
3. The desperate need for a professional assistant to help the secretary in effective discharge of responsibilities. Local churches financial support requires.
4. Absence of networking cells in the conventions and associations' levels make communication a problem to effectively implement the programs.
5. Need of professionals (security officers, journalists, lawyers, etc) in the committee and request conventions to recommend persons for the same to be inducted in the committee.

C. Other Responsibilities:

1. The Council's Constitution and Service Rules which have

been pending for more than 2 years completed and printed.

2. Completed a year commitment to work as Conference Centre Complex General Manager.

3. Continuing worship ministry in collaboration with BIM conducted at ETC, Jorhat for B.D. final year students.

4. Youth Ministry: A meeting of youth secretaries and leaders were called on 17th October 2013 at CBCNEI to discuss on youth ministry for the Council's constituent area and resolved to organize a youth fest biannually or triennially. (Note that only three youth secretaries could come and one requested apology). In the meeting it was decided that in the second week of October, 2014, three days youth carnival will be organized at ETC, Jorhat as it will be vacation period of the college. The program highlight will include workshops and seminars relating to youth issues, music, games among others.

Recommendation: Since this program is in accordance with the EC decision, NEIEC/10/2012/19. This is a humble request to all convention secretaries to support this program financially as letter to that end has already been sent to your respective conventions by the General Secretary.

As the saying goes, "*youths are the future of the church.*" So let us build/nurture our future church.

D. Activities for 2014-2015:

1. Legal awareness and rights under statutory laws training/seminars and campaign.

2. Peace Building and Conflict Transformation seminars and trainings.

3. Peace meetings and dialogues.

4. Pro bono legal services/consultations for Council constituents' institutions and members and other partners.





Report of the Medical Secretary In-charge

As reported by Rev Dr A. K. Lama, Medical Secretary Incharge

The healing ministries of CBCNEI have made many significant progresses through the hard works of doctors, nurses, administrator, and paramedical staffs in CBCNEI hospitals. I must also acknowledge the sacrificial contributions of the Chairmen and members of the Medical Board and ADMC who have given their valuable time. The new chairman of the Medical Board is Rev. Jongpong from ICH. Please uphold him in your prayers.

I am particularly delighted to personally notice the growth and development in the management of some of the hospitals marked by new constructions, repair works, increased in revenue and bed occupancy.

But following are some of my observations as the Medical Secretary In-charge:

I. Appointment of full time Medical Secretary

Let me reiterate importance of the appointment of a full time Medical Secretary for the growth of the healing ministry of CBCNEI. If we have full time Medical Secretary, there are manifold opportunities to enhance the healing ministry under CBCNEI, such as:

1. Hosting training and retreats for motivating staff under various categories.

2. More pastoral visits to the doctors and staffs of our hospitals.
3. Planning a Christina Nursing College at JCMC and KCH.
4. Upgrading the BCH as full-fledged Primary Health Care Center.
5. Mobilizing specialists from cities to our hospitals and host few health camps.
6. Networking with Corporates in inviting them to invest their social obligation of charity investment in our hospital.
7. Actualizing few government schemes to benefit the poorest of the poor.
8. Vision casting among Medical and para-medical youths to consider serving in the mission hospitals.

But in order to achieve all these we would need a qualified doctor to lead. Also, we would need a radical change in our organizational (Baptist Hospital Association!) and salary structure. We may also need to name the Medical Secretary as the Director of Health Ministries. I hope by the time this report is read out the Medical Board and the EC shall have some definite action in this regard.

II. Representation of CBCNEI:

At present, Mr. Pawan Bhuyan and Rev. Vumthang Sitlhou are representing CBCNEI in CMC Vellore and CMC Ludhiana respectively. On behalf of the Council, I express our appreciation to Mr. Pawan Bhuyan and Rev. Vumthang for their time and energy.

III. Medical Sponsorship:

Currently the Council has two sponsored seats in CMC, Vellore and four in CMC, Ludhiana. We need to pursue for

increase of sponsored seats.

One of our students from CMC Vellore, Dr. Priyanka Medhi, has completed her

MBBS. Earlier this month, she was posted at JCMC.

The present status of the students who are studying under CBCNEI sponsorship are as follows:

In CMC, Vellore		
<i>Name</i>	<i>Course</i>	<i>Year of completion</i>
1. Miss Abigail Resu	MBBS	2013-14
2. Mr. K. Marilio	MBBS	2014-15
3. Mr. Niyor Dutta	MBBS	2015-16
4. Miss Chavini K Shaozae	MBBS	2016-17
5. Miss Joice Muchahary	MBBS	2017-18

In CMC, Ludhiana		
<i>Name</i>	<i>Course</i>	<i>Year of completion</i>
1. Miss Althea Wotsa	MBBS	2015-16

This year we had 56 students applying for the sponsorship seats but only 43 came for screening test. The Medical Screening Committee composed of Dr. Joly Rimai (Convener), Mr. Pawan Bhuyan, and Dr. Hansraj from CMC Vellore spent more than six hours in interviewing them. I am glad to see that number of student applicants are increasing.

With the initiative of Rev. Vumthang, CMC Ludhiana shall conduct their entrance test in CBCNEI Guwahati. Mr. Pawan Bhuyan has been assigned to coordinate on behalf of the Council.

IV. 4B SCH Hospital to SCH Hospital 4B:

This is to remind us that on July 24, the negotiating team of CBCNEI had a meeting with the leaders of 4BSCH agreed as follows:

Resolved: That both the parties agree to continue this partnership for another two years till 2015 and work towards the growth & success of the hospital before deciding on whether to terminate the lease agreement.

Resolved: That the 4B SCH will implement the following points during these two years:

- To place the SCH society in the forefront and 4B SCH being the facilitator.
- Annexure of the Lease Agreement to be looked into and signed by both the parties.
- Some percentage on the yearly contribution to CBCNEI be adjusted towards the liabilities and not cent percent.
- Submission of documentary evidence to CBCNEI by 4B SCH for last 3 years on financial statement, fulfillment of all statutory requirements, employees Salaries & other HRD issues, financial liability adjustments, due diligence report.
- Developing Christian Leadership in managing the Hospital.
- Diabetic, Neo-natal & Gynecology - the three areas to improve & excel as specialized departments.
- Reporting to the Medical Board of CBCNEI at regular interval

I am glad to inform you that 4B has made some

improvement, but the progress is still very slow. They have not cleared the dues toward CBCNEI till date. They still do not have a Christian Medical Supdt. The number of Christian employees from CBCNEI family is going down. There is lack of visionary Christian doctor. The Council shall have to follow this up.

V. Impur Christian Hospital:

Due to time constraint of the leaders, the handing over of ICH to ABAM which was

resolved in last AGM, is still pending. Hope this will done this year. The Medical Board has set a deadline by Oct 2014.

VI. Nursing School of Jorhat Christian Medical Center:

The INC approval for the Nursing School of Jorhat Medical Center is still pending. But as per the Board decision the school shall begin taking students from 2014. Otherwise financial survival of the school will become difficult.

The Council must also look for a qualified Principal for the School soon. I hope by the time this report is read out a definite action is in place.

In general, the Council needs a radical change in our organizational structure. The Leaders Consultation met on Feb 19, 2014, has resolved to form a committee that will look into a structure for Baptist Hospital Association as a separate body that would function under the umbrella of the Council. This proposal shall be submitted during the EC meeting in April 2014.

I hope and pray that the Council will one day achieve this. Submitted to the Chairman and the house for their kind necessary action.



Opportunity to work with Christian Literature Centre, Guwahati

Post vacant : Sale person / Sales promotor
(preferably male)

Branch : Guwahati, Assam

Minimum qualification :

- a) Matriculation
- b) Preferably one who can drive
- c) Who can communicate in English, Hindi and Assamese
- d) Basic computer knowledge
- e) Basic skills in hospitality

Other requirements :

- a) Proof of membership of Church under CBCNEI family
- b) Age between 25 – 30 years
- c) Proof of all academic qualification and experience
- d) Recommendation from the local Pastor / Association Executive Secretary.

Last date of Application submission : August 15, 2014

Please send your application to:

The Designate Director
CLC Mission Compound
H.B. Road, Panbazar, Guwahati
clcguwahati@cbcnei.in | tpmordecai@cbcnei.in

Note : Applicants are informed to furnish their respective cell number and eMail address.

Brief Report of the White Memorial Hostel Ministry



As reported by Mrs Bendangla Jamir, Chaplain, White Memorial Hospital

The session 2013 - 2014 started with 50 girls, 35 old and 15 new girls. We started the year with an orientation programme with Miss Imotila, Counselor of Cure Club Foot encouraging and praying for the new office bearers of W.M.H.

The Freshers Day Celebration:

It was held on 17th August, welcoming the freshers to our family of W.M.H. The event was exciting, fun and a time of great fellowship. Rev. Dr Jolly Rimai, in-charge hostel ministry delivered an encouraging message. Miss Mansingla was adjudged as “Miss Fresher 18” of 2013. On this day, we also gave the best room award of 2012-2013 to room no. 17(Temjen and Aketoli).

Retreat :

The hostel retreat was held from September 18 - 19, 2013, with Rev Kilang Jamir and Mr. Gibson Marak as speakers. The hostel also organizes prayer and fasting. The girls participates in different Church services. Recently 21 girls attended a one day renewal and retreat programme organized by Welcome Ministry. To develop leadership skills,

two girls were sponsored to attend the Emerging Leaders Cohort organized by Elim Resource Centre, Guwahati.

Vesper Service :

Vesper service in our hostel gives opportunities for the girls to learn from one another and also gives platform to the girls to sharpen their skills and talents. Special programme is held every Wednesday where we invite guest speakers. Offering is collected on this day towards the Cure Club Foot Ministry.

Advent Christmas :

We celebrated Advent Christmas by decorating our campus and hall, exchanging gifts of love singing carols, cutting cakes and having Christmas feast together. It was indeed a time of joy, love and bonding.

Social Work :

Under the Social Service committee, every last Saturday of the month, we did social work by cleaning the hostel building and the surroundings. Every year, we show our appreciation by giving away prize to the best maintained room.

Trip to Accoland :

All the girls took a trip to Accoland. It was indeed a time of celebrating friendship, sharing love and experiencing fun.

Health Checkup and Career Guidance :

Free health checkup cum awareness camp was given by 4 Season's Wellness Centre. Career guidance and positive thinking lectures were given.

Study Hour :

We maintain study hours from 6:30-7:30 A.M and 7:00-10:00 P.M.

Blessings :

1. Because of the generous contribution of the B.I.M initiated by Rev. and Rev. Taku Longkumer and Rev. Dr. A. K. Lama installation of iron remover is one of the great fulfillments for the borders as we all enjoy drinking and using purer and cleaner water.
2. As we have been praying to God, we are so grateful to CBCNEI for providing high powered generator.
3. We are happy to share that the W.M.H staff, could contribute towards hostel fund a sum of ₹ 25000(Twenty Five thousand) as our fund raising initiative.

Proposed Work

1. Roof painting.
2. 75 Years Jubilee Proposal to plan out a broader project so as to accommodate atleast 100 girls with standard and quality infrastructure and facilities.



Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

Col 3 : 23 - 24 (NIV)



**Sermon Preached
by Rev Dr A. K.
Lama, Ex-General
Secretary,
CBCNEI in the 8th
Asia Pacific
Baptist
Federation
Congress, Kuala**

**Lumpur, Malaysia in the evening plenary
session of Sept 6, 2012**

Refer to Joel C Gregory, ed., *Baptist Preaching: A Global Anthology*, published by Baylor University, 2014.

Text: Isaiah 61:1-4

I. Introduction

In the year 2012, we were hit by two severe calamities: the Flood in the eastern Assam and the ethnic violence in the western Assam. More than hundred thousands of families lost their homes, their property, and their beloved family members. We are thankful to God for uniting the Baptist Churches to serve the suffering people around us. The Council of Baptist Churches distributed relief packages to 2000 families.

We are grateful to APBF Aid and the American Baptist Churches for sending us timely help. We can do great things when we serve the Lord together as one community.

We are called to meditate on the *Renewal of the Baptist Community*.

It is a family time of reflection and introspection. We want to hear God speak to us afresh so that we may be stirred up for a revival.

Are we ready for it?

In 2011, I visited two Baptist missionaries in a remote place in northeast India. They told me, *Sir! Look at that thousand acres of land. Look at those beautiful double storied buildings and the golden Buddhist temple in the middle. All the Buddhists from the west have sponsored it and now they have 200 children being trained as monks in that Buddhist mission school. But look at us.*

Our Church gave us only a thousand dollar and sent us to open this new mission centre. We bought this small piece of land, built this small thatch house, and now we have nothing. We are very discouraged. We are Baptist and we feel like small chicken.

Yes, we believe in the Autonomy of a local Church. But in the name of autonomy, most Baptist Churches function as one isolated unit, independent and disconnected from others. Every Church runs their own independent ministry and so every Baptist family owns their own missionary trust and society. For the benefit of independence, we prefer to remain small chicken.

Friends, our challenges are numerous:

- We don't network or share resources.
- We spend more time and energy in competing with fellow Baptist, reinventing the wheel, and repeating the same mistakes.

It is for this reason, only the Baptists community can afford to sponsor more than 37 Bible schools in the radius of just 15 miles.

Full time Baptist workers have misery of their own:

- We have the largest number of bi-vocational untrained pastors. Compared to the city church, the salary of a village pastor is very low. Most of them retire without any pension benefit. They are lonely and they have no

bishop or Archbishop to help. Association or Convention leaders have no authority to intervene.

If the morale of our Pastors is low then how can we expect them to encourage and empower our Church?

At the same time, most lay leaders in our city churches are busy with activities, programs, evangelism and missions. They are excited about their new buildings and mission adventures.

These are good, but the people within the four walls of our Churches are hurting. They are living with emotional and relationship crisis. Some live in broken homes, others live with broken hearts. They are struggling with various kinds of abuses within the four walls of 'so called' Christian homes.

Youths have millions of problem of their own. Some are struggling with unemployment. Others are struggling with substance abuse and disastrous life style. Some live in disgrace and others live in shame. They are afraid to tell their pastor or their deacons. How can we expect them to reach out their neighbours while they themselves are in desperate need of help? If you are a pastor then you know exactly what I am talking about.

Yes, our Community has many issues to be resolved. We need a renewal within.

For our meditation, the text is taken from **Isaiah 61:1-4**. In this passage, we notice in verse four, the rise of a community engaged in internal rebuilding, internal restoration, and internal renewal.

Isaiah gives a blue print for a community renewal.

II. Renewal of the Community

The text read as:

The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom

*for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners,
2 to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor and the day of
vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn,*

*3 and provide for those who grieve in Zion— to bestow on
them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy in-
stead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a
spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a
planting of the LORD for the display of his splendor. 4 They
will rebuild the ancient ruins and restore the places long
devastated; they will renew the ruined cities that have been
devastated for generations.*

I notice three things that are indispensable for transformation of a community:

- 1. A leader who is anointed and sent by the Sovereign Lord**
- 2. A ministry of Preaching and Compassionate Care**
- 3. A vision and a mission that unites**

Let us consider the first.

1. We need a leader who is anointed and sent by the Sovereign Lord

First and foremost pattern in the blue print is the necessity of a leader who is anointed by the Holy Spirit and sent by God himself (v.1)

We have many leaders but we need the one who is anointed and sent by God.

It is good to be elected and nominated. It is good to be theologically qualified. It is good to be experienced, be skilful and be smart. But most of all, we need a leader who has a mighty conviction like prophet Amos who said *“I was neither a prophet nor the son of a prophet, . . . But the LORD took me from tending the flock and said to me, ‘Go, prophesy to my people Israel.’* (Amos 7:14-15)

When the Holy Spirit anoints, he consecrates us. He sets us apart for his purposes. He gives us the sense of calling in the ministry. We are called and sent out. We have a sender who is higher than the search committee or the appointing body. He says: *All authority in heaven and earth is given to me. Go, therefore—*

And so, we go with the mandate of the Lord himself.

The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me (Isa 61:1) can also be translated as over me or upon me.

The Holy Spirit does not merely lives within us or to remain under us, but he rides upon us. We are the donkeys and the Holy Spirit is the rider. He is upon us to lead and to guide.

The Bible tells us that the Holy Spirit is a person. He is not just an influence or feeling, but he has the intellectual, emotional and volitional faculties. He speaks to our conscience through the Scripture.

Three things are indispensable in order to allow the Holy Spirit ride over us:

First, we need to be biblically knowledgeable so that we may discern the voice of the Holy Spirit from our spirits and other spirits.

Second, we need to submit to the wisdom of the Church, the voice of the corporate body of believers.

Third, we need to be gentle, sensitive, obedient, and willing to listen.

In the busy schedule of activism we have relied more often on our individual common sense. We are very good at doing common sense ministry. The puritan writer, John Owen, said, *the sin of the Old Testament was the rejection of the Father, the sin of the New Testament was rejection of the Son, and the sin of our time is rejection of the Holy Spirit.*

We do not have time to listen to the Holy Spirit. Some Baptists

are guilty of monopolizing the Holy Spirit as their personal assistant, others are guilty of commercializing it for a personal gain, and still others have criminalized it in their ignorance. But we need a leader who lives a life under the leading of the Holy Spirit. Someone in whose life the Word of God has truly become flesh.

Yes, God has anointed us and has sent us for his purpose. And the purpose is to preach His word and demonstrate his caring and compassionate love.

This ministry must begin within the community. If we preach only for evangelism and show our compassionate care only to win souls then we have missed the point. The ministry must begin at home.

Yes for a renewal of our community,

2. We need the ministry of Preaching the Word and Caring Love within the community.

The text goes on to explain why the Holy Spirit is upon the servant leader because the Lord wants us to do the seven fold ministry within the community.

The purpose clause after the main verbs stands out distinctly with seven infinitive verbs marked by the Hebrew letter *lamed*: to preach, to bind up, to proclaim freedom, to proclaim the year of the LORD's favour, to comfort, and to provide for those who grieve in Zion—, to bestow.

In these seven fold ministries, please notice the primacy of the preaching of the Word of God and indispensability of loving and compassionate care. They are the two sides of the same coin.

We must dream to fill up every Baptist pulpit with a good expository preacher of the Word of God, and every Baptist pew with members who love others with compassionate care.

Preaching is important because the power lies in the Word of God. A good preaching can transform a Church and only a

transformed Church can transform a society.

Most lay leaders will tell you that they are disappointed with the quality of preaching in their Churches. Recently, a lay leader told me, “*I don’t know what our pastors learn in the seminary. They preach about the history of Israel and missions of the early Church but they are unable to address the social and political issues we are facing today.*”

Youths in our Churches prefer to stand and sing for hours, but when the sermon starts they become anxious for the benediction. Preaching is down-graded in most churches so much so that the sermon-time is reduced to 20 minutes.

The reasons for a poor preaching in most Baptist Churches are more than one. It is not only incorrect interpretation of the text, but also inadequate interpretation of the listeners’ context. Before we preach the good news, we must help our congregation understand—what the bad news is.

At the same time, when we tell them what the bad news is, we also need to tell them how can we transform that bad news, through action, into good news.

Yes, the **preached word** must be translated into compassionate action of love. Therefore, we must also dream that our Baptist pews are filled with members who are compassionate and caring. The purpose is to make the news good in all possible ways: Physically, socially, morally, economically and spiritually.

Remember the people within the four walls of our Churches are hurting. They need the touch of love and provision of care.

Like in the times of Isaiah, we see the members in our churches *brokenhearted*, living in many kinds of *captivity*, and they are silently *mourning*. Yes they are in Zion, inside the Church, but they are *grieving*. Their heads are filled with *ashes* and with a *spirit of despair*. They are living in the *ruined cities* of

ritual and legalistic Christianity. Do we see that?

Brothers and sisters, Christian ministry is more than planting a new Church. It is also making the old Church grow strong and healthy. So that ultimately they will *be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the LORD for the display of his splendour.*

Such a community is bound to grow and multiply ministries. They shall not remain alone. They shall have disciples and followers.

When the people of God receive the ministry of the Word and the ministry of loving care, they shall become the Oaks of righteousness. They shall unite their strength to rebuild, restore, and renew the community. They will share common vision and rally behind their leader. And they will rebuild, they will restore, and they will renew.

This leads us to the third point of our meditation.

3. A Vision and a Mission that Unites

Some days ago, a young student asked me: *Sir, I don't understand the Baptist. I am so confused. Some of you are American Baptist, others are Southern Baptist, still others are Mid Baptist, General Baptist, Australian Baptist, British Baptist, New Zealand Baptist, Revival Baptist, Primitive Baptist, Reformed Baptist, and on and on. Why can't you have just one name like Roman Catholic -Roman Baptist.*

The idea of unity is not so popular among Baptists. Most of us are a loner and a fighter. Unintentionally, we compete with each other. We like to show off to prove ourselves better than others.

A funny story is told of three Baptist pastors who met in a conference like this. Each one wanted to prove that he was more sacrificial in giving than the others. So the first Pastor began, *you know, I have found the best way to sacrifice money for missions. When I get my salary, I draw a line on the*

ground. Then I throw my salary in sky, all that falls on the right side I give for missions but little that falls on the left side I take for my livelihood.

The second pastor, took over immediately. He said, *you know I don't do that because chances are there that one may throw the money on the left side and also the wind may blow from right to left. So I don't draw line but I draw a circle. All that falls in the circle, I give to God but little that falls outside the circle I gather it for my livelihood.*

Now, it was a time for the third Baptist Pastor to prove that he was better than the other two. Probably, he was from northeast India. He told them, *Well! chances are there that one may draw smaller circle. As per me I neither draw a line nor draw a circle. I throw whole of my salary in the sky and tell Jesus—Jesus, keep it whatever, you want to keep.*

But, in case, if at all we come together to be a body of Christ, we again get divided by the extreme sense of isms—such as **nationalism** (I am an American Baptist, you are a Korean Baptist, and Indian Baptist), **regionalism** (I am East Malaysian, you are West Malaysian), **racism** (Black Baptist, White Baptist, yellow Baptists), **tribalism** (Naga tribe, Arunachal tribe), **loyalism** to our history, culture and tradition, and of course our **loyalism** to the funding agencies.

Baptists need a vision and a mission that unites across all these dividing line. A true vision is a revelation from God. It is different from a personal dream or aspiration. A true vision fulfils the whole purposes of God for the common good of his community. It unites the people of God always.

Unless we become partners in a God given vision and mission for the people of God, we shall continue to fall short of our actual potential. We must seek a vision and a mission that unites.

This why Jesus specifically prayed for the unity of all believers.

Even the great missionary, St Paul, reminded us that the gifts of the Holy Spirit is given for the **common good** of the Body of Christ (1 Cor 12:7). Unity is a biblical mandate, not an option.

Beyond doubt, we need to network and create a powerful synergy in the Baptist Community. We must go to the Mission Field together, than our missionary will not be like small chicken. We must share our resources and exchange pulpits so that our pastors will not be discouraged.

We must ask in prayer:

Lord what is it that you would like us to do together?

Should the city Church visit the village Churches and do some ministry there?

Should we take care of the children of the poor Baptist pastors?

Should we take care of the widows, orphans, single mothers, and the physically challenged of our community?

Can we start a Baptist university for more than 8000 Baptist Churches in northeast India, which we have not been able to do in last 175 years of existence?

What should we do to actualize the potential of our strength in doing a global mission together?

Tell us, O Lord, what do you want us to do?

The Baptists of Asia need to come together and ask God for a vision that unites. I believe that all future resources, power, and the divine force for the Global Mission Explosion lie here in Asia. We must **unite and lead**.

III. Conclusion

But we need the anointing of the Lord afresh: a fresh anointing, here and now.

Bible tells us that in order to gain we must lose it first. We must surrender ourselves in the hands of God.

Remember, Jesus taught us to deny ourselves and take up his cross continually (Luke 9:24).

Jesus denied himself for the common good of all.

As individual members we need to deny ourselves continually for the common good and so also as individual churches, associations and conventions.

When we deny ourselves for the common good of all continually, the anointing shall be real and powerful.

When we deny ourselves for the common good of all continually, the ministry of the Word and the Compassionate care will transform our community.

When we deny ourselves for the common good of all continually, we shall discover a vision and a mission that brings powerful synergy for all.

When we deny ourselves for the common good of all continually, our enemy, the Satan will tremble and plea for mercy.

When we deny ourselves for the common good of all continually, our community will revive and renew in our time.

When we deny ourselves for the common good of all continually, the glory and splendour of the Lord will shine over all over Asia.

Remember! ***God is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us.*** (Eph 3:20)



Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise! It has no commander, no overseer or ruler, yet it stores its provisions in summer and gathers its food at harvest.

Prov 6 : 6 - 8 (NIV)

Brief report of the Property Secretary



As reported by Mr Pawan Bhuyan, Property Secretary, CBCNEI

- 1. Development of Shillong Land in partnership with SIM-NEI:** The proposed partnership of the CBCNEI and SIM-NEI concerning utilization and development of the Shillong Vacation House property could not proceed further as the latter decided to withdraw their request for space in the said property in Shillong.
- 2. Leased Land to CASA at Guwahati:** Six months extension on the final lease was given till May 2014 to CASA on their request. The agreement was made and the lease rent paid for the period.
- 3. 1st floor construction Jubilee Complex Phase II, Panbazar:** The Board of Trustees and the Council Secretariat has decided to construct the 1st floor of the Jubilee Complex phase II building with fund within the yearly budget allotment of the property department. This will help generate additional revenue income for the ministries of the Council. The work will commence within few months.
- 4. ETC Land at Jorhat:** The almost completed work on

alteration of annual patta to permanent period patta of some portion of the ETC land within the campus was held up as the file related to the work was misplaced in SDC office in Jorhat. Computer data is showing the work being done but for final processing the file is needed. Again our advocate is creating a duplicate file and soon the matter is expected to be settled.

5. Sale of encroached land at Tocklai near ETC, Jorhat: The matter is almost settled and we are processing for the remaining sale deeds of few more buyers.

6. Sale of Land at JCMC, Jorhat: The unused plots at the back of the hospital along the stream are already up for sale and many hospital staffs have applied for purchase of the land. The process is still on and the hospital management is working on the entrance to the plots. This will take some time in organizing and dividing the plots.

7. JCMC Boundary wall construction & CLC old office renovation: The boundary wall along the medical institute road is completed with the fund from hospital land sale proceed. There are still some areas which will be fenced within the year. At the same time the office partly contributed in renovation of the old CLC office block, now being used as a staff quarter.

8. CLCRC Project at JCMC, Jorhat: This is a project of the Council through the Hospital in partnership with Asian Rural Life Development Foundation (ARLDF) in Christian Leprosy Clinic area that was started three years back. The main objectives of the project are to utilize the vast land area to generate revenue, employment opportunities to local ex-leprosy families, to provide training facilities to our churches on farming such

as kitchen garden, poultry, goatary, piggery etc.

The fund for the project is sponsored by ARLDF and the Council is providing the land. The goat farm, poultry farm has started. It has now started generating some revenue which is being re-invested for the expansion of the project. In addition, an organic vegetable farm is also being started yielding good results. The project has really changed the land scenario remarkably which was a struggle for last more than 20 years on how to utilize this vast land and retain it from the hand of the government. We are waiting for the 2nd phase fund from ARLDF to continue with then next phase of development.

9. Campus Development works: The headquarter campus at Panbazar, Guwahati has under gone some developmental activities during the year:

- Last phase of the Boundary Wall along the riverfront - this has help minimize illegal intruders to the campus especially at night.
- Front Boundary Wall with Entrance Gate - this has restricted the unauthorized entry of outsiders and their vehicles.
- Security Shed - for better and efficient working conditions to the security guards.
- Street Lights with underground cabling - this will help in minimum maintenance expenses and uninterrupted lighting throughout the night.
- Old office Training Hall renovated with conference table, chairs, floor mat etc. This will help in additional revenue generation for the conference centre complex.

- Boundary wall raised along the MMC hospital to help stop illegal thoroughfare of miscreants at night.

10. CBCNEI Development Trust: The Campus Development committee met in November 2013. The blueprint drawing of Self Reliance building (riverfront) with budgetary estimate was placed for further discussion. Some changes were made in the building drawing and the estimate and to initially construct upto 2nd floor with a provision upto 7th floor. The committee also discussed on the master plan of the campus which is crucial while working on the riverfront project. The detail on the source of fund for construction is yet to be discussed. In the meantime BIM is also interested to invest in the Panbazar campus with a convention centre, guest rooms etc. this could be an alternative arrangement made on the proposed self reliance building.

In addition to the above work, I am also engaged in the Conference Centre complex as the overall in-charge, maintaining about 25 tenants in the Panbazar, Satribari, Shillong campus with their lease deeds, monthly rent, electricity and maintenance of the buildings, water supply, electricity etc. Let the name of Jesus alone be Glorified for His Grace is sufficient for us!



He who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with his own hands, that he may have something to share with those in need.

Eph 4 : 28 (NIV)

Brief Report of the Finance Secretary



As reported by Mr Vikato Shikhu, Finance Secretary, CBCNEI

While going through the present working structure of the department and the books of accounts it was observed that there are certain changes that need to be done to streamline our accounting system. The matter was discussed in the Council Secretariat and collective steps were taken to gradually change and upgrade the structure. Initially I was concerned as to how to carry out the responsibility but I took this as a challenge because God gave me an opportunity to serve Him. I thank God for that. I specially convey a big appreciation and thanks to Mr. Pawan Bhuyan, Property Secretary, who is a Finance Secretary in-charge for helping me a lot. We could accomplish some of the change during the year but much need to be done in the coming years.

1. Sanction order, submission of bills and payments thereof were introduced in prescribed forms making it more organized.
2. There were lots of brainstorming sessions held with the secretariat and the account staffs on how to go about in simplifying the financial system so that all the departments could work smoothly with the finance department.

With the new FCRA rules & regulations incorporated in recent past, it has now been more difficult to handle foreign

fund of all our conventions and institutions. From the year 2016, we will have to renew our registration. We had financial management seminars during the year and also in the past where many of our conventions and institutions have learnt the new changes in the FCRA. Therefore, it is my humble request to all the conventions and institutions to be more serious while handling the foreign funds and help the Council in furnishing the Audited reports from the chartered accountants for each fund that they receive from and through the CBCNEI. Unless we receive the utilization report duly audited, we shall not be able to release the subsequent fund. If we do not follow the laid out system of the FCRA, our registration of the Council and all of us will suffer.

The financial health of the Council is growing year by year and along with the increased income, the ministry expense is also growing. I am presenting the financial statement of 2013-14 and the comparative figures for the last six years to the executive committee and the members of the house the growth and performances over these years.

I want to thank God for His guidance and the General Secretary, Secretaries for their support and timely suggestions. I also want to thank Mr. S. Sudarsan, our contract office manager, an expert in financial matters who helped the account sections from time to time and preparing the budget, financial report and presentation. Last but not the least Thanks to my staffs, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Shoudhit and Mr. Dipom for cooperating with me and working hard to update the accounts and their willingness to adopt to the changes we are going through from time to time. It say, Behind every successful man there is a women, I also thank my wife for always standing by me and encouraging me through prayer.



NEWS CLIPPINGS

Visit of former CBCNEI Official (March 11)

Rev Senangshila Benjamin, a former CBCNEI Women Secretary, visited CBCNEI office along with her daughter. She



worked in the regional, national and international arena fighting for women's status, ministry and ordination. She is still actively involved in church ministry.

Christian Literatyure Centre (CLC) Board Meeting (April 24)

The CLC board meeting was held in CBCNEI Mission Compound. They discussed on the development of various

CLC centres. The board also decided to finalize the land proceedings in Dimapur. They also discussed on the possibilities of es-

tablishing a new centre in Arunachal Pradesh.



Interfaith Dialogue on Reconciliation Organized by Peace and Justice Department, Council of Baptist Churches in Northeast India (CBCNEI) & Manipur Baptist Convention (MBC) (May 19)

This consultation is the follow up of the April 2012 interfaith dialogue, which was held in Manipur University. The theme focused on Reconciliation with broaden definition to include issues of religion, disability, gender, race and ethnicity, and class. In focusing on the theme “Interfaith Dialog and Reconciliation,” we addressed the question of whether and how interfaith dialog could help shape people’s commitment toward reconciliation. The purpose

of this year’s conference is to contribute to the understanding and promoting friendship and dialog among the diverse members of our society with different beliefs. This subject is the beginning to start a reflection and build on the issue and generate more discussion and dialog in future.

Feedback of the Consultation [Oinam Dickson Singh International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON)]:

“I would like to express my warm gratitude and heartfelt thanks to Peace and Justice Department of Council of Baptist Churches in North East India and Manipur Baptist Convention for organizing this beautiful and significant gathering, a platform



for Interfaith Dialogue on Reconciliation. In fact, this is the need of hour in this era of hatred, wars and chaos. This process of dialogue would definitely provoke active minds and channelize them properly on the right track for the creation of a world, a world of harmonious co-existence, fraternity, love of mankind and peace. I would also like to mention that if my spiritual master, Dr. T. D. Singh was present, he would have been cheered up for he had worked tirelessly for peace and harmony all throughout his life. Once again, I, on behalf of International Society for Krishna Consciousness would extend my heartfelt appreciation to the organizers, the distinguished dignitaries, delegates and all for this blessed gathering. I wish the organizer and express my desire to assist them in their forthcoming events too.”

Farewell to Sentiningsang Longkumer, Pastor, Naga Christian Fellowship-Guwahati (May 25)

The Naga Christian Fellowship, Guwahati, bid farewell to their pastor. Pastor Senti served NCF-G for thirteen



years. Under his leadership NCF-G developed as a leading fellowship in Guwahati. He has led NCF-G into many CBCNEI sponsored programs through their stewardship and musical talents. He is now the director of the “Beyond Borders Initiatives” ministry.

**United Christian Prayer
for India, SAIACS CEO
Center, Bengaluru
(27-29 May)**

With a common emphasis to reach our Nation India through the Gospel, a meeting was organized by United Christian Prayer for India, comprising of inter-denomination gathering. The objectives of the meeting were to discuss and execute plans to reach the Nation through the gospel with a joint effort. The meeting made an outline and scope of transforming India through Prayer Mobilization with all the

churches ushering a responsibility to reach out the Nation. Through this meeting of various denominational heads, the participants agreed and made commitments to involve in addressing the need for prayer for the country to make an impact in mobilization of missionaries to take the gospel to all parts of our Nation India. All together there were around 60 participants coming from various heads of denominational backgrounds. CBCNEI participants were represented by Rev. Alani Shongsir (Mission Secretary,



MBC), Rev. K Chumben Kyong (Senior Associate Pastor Lotha Baptist Church Dimapur), Mr. Luke Rongphar (Mission Secretary, KABC), Mr. Jatin Ronghang (Mission Secretary KABS) and Mr. Mhabemo Kithan (Mission Assistant, CBCNEI). Through this united effort all the participants made commitments to share the need for prayer mobilization in their own local Churches and Associations.



Tragedy strikes at Grace Children Home (June 26)

Grace Children Home is situated in Singimary, district of Nowgaon, Assam. This Home is run by Assamese Christian Fellowship since 2005. There are 27 orphans and semi-orphans, 4 destitute women. There is an English Medium



School run by this Association where around 80 children from the village come to

study. It is a great shock to inform that a heavy thunder on June 26, morning 8:15 am brought untold tragedy to the Home. 6 students were affected and were taken to nearest hospital and 2 of them death and 4 are in serious conditions.



Many people came forward to help them in their time of needs and they would like



to extend their gratitude to all who stood by them. The Memorial service was held in GCH premise on June 29 where many people gathered to console the bereaved families. Please continue to pray for the Project of Grace Children Home and Grace English Academy at Singimari run by Assamese Christian Fellowship.



Dedication of Geriatric Ward - Satribari Christian Hospital (July 4)

The new born and the elderly are the two groups of



people needing constant attention and care. But in the whole of North East India, there is no clinical professional care for the elderly. Therefore, Satribari Christian Hospital initiates the geriatric ward to focus on special care and attention for elderly people. Rev Dr Solomon Rongpi, General Secretary, CBCNEI, dedicated the new ward.





Like any other internees, I came to CBCNEI with the same zeal and excitement. It was a God given opportunity indeed as I have been praying to work with this council since last year's internship with EFICOR, Delhi. This one month of internship with the council has been such a blessing and a humbling experience for me personally. From the very outset, the warmth and hospitality of the staffs enabled me to adjust with the environment soon. With a brief orientation on the 5th of May, we were entrusted to different responsibilities. I got the privilege to work under the mission office and library for 15 days. Working in the library was a new experience which helped me to realize the importance of getting acquainted with rare books and documents. On a lighter note, shifting of books got the worse of me at times till internet facility cheered me up once again.

I was assigned to work in the canteen for the remaining 15 days which was even a bigger challenge for me. Despite the hectic work and unruly nature of some customers, the patience of the canteen staffs really amazed me. On the contrary, it was a real testing time for me as I could not keep my cool at times. These experiences helped me realize how I must have hurt many waiters intentionally or unintentionally in the past. At the end of the day, I understood that God never made a mistake by letting me work in the canteen, because this experience will remind me to be humble at all times. I was also blessed to interact with the L.M. Hostellers and Satribari Hospital fellowship.

It was a privilege for us to work under two General Secretaries, Rev. Dr. A.K. Lama and Rev. Dr. Solomon Rongpi. We are so thankful to Mission Secretary Rev. Dr. Jolly Rimai for his guidance and fatherly care. Sincere thanks and appreciation goes to Mr. Mhabemo, Dr. Kaholi, the canteen staffs and Mr. Rojit for their love, care, and making our stay in the campus meaningful. God bless us all as we continue to engage in HIS mission.

~ **Veilou Paotei** UBS internee

Brief report of the Lewis Memorial Hostel Ministry



As reported by Talimoa Jamir, Chaplain, Lewis Memorial Hostel Ministry

First of all, I bring you greetings from the Lewis Memorial Hostel Ministry in the glorious name of our Lord Jesus Christ. I personally thank you all for being a part of this God's given ministry. Particularly, I thank General Secretary and all the secretaries of CBCNEI and the Hostel Board members for your constant support.

I also thank the Lord for His faithfulness and blessing upon this hostel that enable to produce many young leaders. Today many are holding respectable jobs. Some are Pastors, Missionaries, Advocates, Doctors, Teachers, Bankers, and Professors. In spite of challenges in the ministry, this motivates and encouraged me to move forward.

'Pressing on towards the Goal,' was the theme of the Hostel for the year 2013. The new session starts with the Orientation program on 3rd of August with 57 students from 26 communities of North East Regions. It was a great joy for us to have 35 freshers, and we celebrated freshers day on 9th of August and Rev. Dr. A K Lama exhorted the students on this occasion. The joyous night ended with a community feast where all the guests and well wishes of the LM Hostel participated. The CBCNEI family wishes all the boys success and God's blessing in their stay at the Hostel.

Students Activities& Involvement:

LM Hostel focuses on the wholesome development of the students. Therefore, in line with this we organized camp, bible studies, sports, social work and vesper programs. We have had various activities from Monday to Saturday led by different committees. This year we divided the hostellers into four groups namely: Joshua, Nehemiah, Daniel and Joel. Each group met twice in a week and had a blessed time of fellowship in prayer, sharing, entertainment and learning which strengthened both their inter and intra-relationship. We invited guest speakers every Friday evening to speak on certain topics and enlighten the hostellers. We were also greatly blessed by Mr. John Foster & wife ministry from Celebrate Recovery, USA. LM Hostel also conducted the annual sports meet for three days in October. The Nehemiah group won the overall championship. During the sports Tug of war was the most exciting feature.

Besides hostel activities students were actively involved in the Church and Fellowship's Camp, Seminar, leading Praise & worship, teaching in Sunday school, conducting the entire Sunday worship service. Some of the students volunteered during CBCNEI Pastors Conference and also painted the Headquarter Campus Boundary wall. They also had an opportunity to present a special number during the cultural & Musical Nite 2013 of the Naga Students Union.

Program on Transformation:

The Lewis Memorial Hostel program on *Transformation* was held at Mission compound from Sept 29 to Oct-2. The Speakers were Mr.Gibson Marak, Mr.Putisen and Mr.Senti Longkumer. Besides the Bible teachings, practical session and gospel meetings, much of the time was spent in one and one talk, which was indeed very fruitful. It was a very

blessed program where many lives were touched. Mr. Kamrin Kamba from Tangsa tribe (A.P) decided to go for theological study this year after the graduation and we praise God for that.

Obituary:

The year 2013 was also a year of heart breaking by the demise of Mr. Khudir Rabha (cook) on 21st October 2013 after a prolong sickness. He joined LM Hostel ministry in the year 1990. Members of CBCNEI Office and LMers mourn the sudden death of Mr. Khudir Rabha. He is survived by his wife and two sons. Let us all uphold in prayer for the bereaved family.

Farewell to Mr. Kiron Rabha:

LM Hostel bid fare well to Mr. Kiron Rabha. He joined LM Hostel as a Mali in the year 1987 and served for 27 years. The staff of CBCNEI had a thanksgiving farewell fellowship with Mr. Kiron Rabha on 11th of December 2013.

Prayer Points:

- Students' Academic performances
- Welfare of the staff & students
- Hostel Retreat & Mission Trip

Conclusion:

Besides the Hostel ministry I was also involved in managing CBCNEI ground worker, security guards and compound as well. Students' ministry is a God given ministry to CNCNEI. And therefore, let us all continue to uphold this ministry in all possible way. No doubt there are lots of challenges but with prayer, perseverance and faith in Jesus, I hope together we will make this ministry more fruitful.





Brief report of the Shillong Tyrannus Hall

As reported by Rev K. C. Gaila, Chaplain, Shillong Tyrannus Hall

It is with great pleasure that I bring a brief annual report of the Shillong Tyrannus Hall (STH) for the year 2013-14. By the grace of God the discipleship ministry of Shillong Tyrannus Hall is going on and growing in strength. We give all glory to God for his continual guidance.

Selection of Students:

The session started with the interview of the new students on 8th June 2013. There were 54 candidates who appeared in the personal interview for admission to the hall, out of which we selected only 14 students against the vacancy. As always this year's selected students were varied, from 13 different tribes from all over the North East. The selected students were accorded with a fitting welcome into the family in a program "Fresher's Welcome Program" held on 29th June 2013.

STH Annual outreach 2013:

One of the highlights of the year was the annual outreach of STH final year boys to Kathmandu, Nepal. The STH final year batch 2013-14 planned for this program

from December 4-12, 2013. The theme of the trip was “Mission Possible”. The team members were Mr. Imchayanger Longkumar (Leader), Mr. Leitkhotinchon Haokip, Mr. Reithan Keishing, Mr. Lucivie Kola, Mr. Benthungo Shitio, Mr. Lisathung ovung and Mr. Thejavitso Chase. After many days of prayer and preparation the team left on 4th December and returned back safely to Shillong on 12th December 2013.

The annual outreach budget extended from the office was only Rs.90001- whereas the total expenses including food and transportation was Rs.41, 0001-. Therefore, the boys undertook some fund raising projects to meet the enormous expenses required for the trip. We also acknowledge with gratitude the generous contributions made by some of the board members and friends, which in total, came to Rs.10,5001- (Rev. Ahao Sithung Rs.1000, Rev. Bonny Resu Rs.1000, Rev. Malsawma Rs.500, Mr. Deilie Usou Rs.1000, Mr. C. P. Marak Rs. 5000, Mr. Meyu Changkiri Rs. 1000, Rev. Gaila Rs. 10001-).

The STH boys spent three days with the boys and the resident staff of Kathmandu Tyrannus Hall. They were given free food and accommodation at KTH. STH boys bore the expenses incurred in trekking trip to Nagarkot Mountain, and in visiting mission fields in some villages. On Bth December they attended worship service at the local church called “Bethshalom” and had the opportunity to interact with the people.

Every evening our boys led the vesper and shared their experiences in Tyrannus hall. on the last night seeing the need of KTH and to show their gratefulness, our boys presented a guitar (Rs. 5,300) to KTH. They came

back with new enthusiasm and challenged afresh by the commission of our Lord to make disciple of all nations. Indeed “mission impossible” was made possible by the Lord.

The Need for Room Extension:

Shillong Tyrannus Hall has completed 25 years of fruitful ministry and we already have celebrated the 25th anniversary “SILVER JUBILEE” 2012 with the theme “Thus far has the Lord helped us” taken out from 1 Samuel 7:12. The Hall accommodates only 30 students but the need remains because there are many students who applied for admission. Every year we have to turn down many of them because of the limited seats. For example as mentioned earlier, in the interview for admission last year 2013, there were 54 candidates who applied against the vacancy of just 12 seats. Everyone who comes for the interview had come with high anticipation, bringing recommendation from their local Churches, associations and even from the head of the conventions.

As a response to this need the local managing board felt the urgent need to extend some rooms in Tyrannus Hall. We therefore, have submitted a project proposal to CBCNEI for an extension of 8 additional rooms with an estimate of Rs. 28,55,000/- only, as a Jubilee project (projected estimate in 2012). We envision the room extension to be extended and attached to the existing main building to lessen the cost. We are eagerly waiting to hear encouraging suggestion from CBCNEI. The South Asia Tyrannus Hall Association (SATHA) agrees to give a loan of rupees ten lacs to be repaid annually after the completion of the building. By the end of the

financial year we will have an accumulated balance of rupees three lacs for the building extension. During the admission time (2013-14) we collected Rs.2000 from each student towards this project We have decided to raise the amount to Rs.3000 from this academic session till the building extension project is completed.

Compound Maintenance:

STH is located within the compound of Shillong Baptist Vacation House which covers an area of 4.6 acres of land. We are very fortunate to have a huge land in the heart of Shillong city. However, having such a big property requires a huge responsibility of maintaining it. Without having a full time staff to take care of the compound works, we have to engage different people to work on a daily basis. In this regard the local managing board members have been very supportive.

Prayer Points:

- Pray that the boys will grow mature and also excel in their studies.
- Pray that the funding for room extension will come soon.
- Pray for God's wisdom to all the board members and the resident staff.



***So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do,
do it all for the glory of God.***

1 Cor 10 : 31

Brief report of the Christian Literature Centre



As reported by Rev K. Mahangthei, Director, Christian Literature Centre

I was appointed in 1977 as Manager for the Literature Ministry by the Council. I served as the Manager in CLC for thirty years and Director for seven years. I do believe I have gone extra miles in this Literature Ministry. In this long journey of Literature Ministry I faced many problems within the society, Publications, and from underground groups. But it was good to serve the Lord in this Ministry. I will be retiring from my active service in the middle of November this year 2014.

I would like to thank the Almighty God who called me, used me and gave me knowledge and strength that I could work tirelessly for the Christian Literature Ministry. I also thank to all the Directors of CLC since 1970 to 2007. I want to extend my thanks to all the Board members of CLC since 1970 to 2014. CLC recognizes all their contributions for the development of the Society. I want to specially thank Rev Dr A.K. Lama who helps CLC Ministry in every aspect. I know he is a man of literature. He helped to bring back CLC Ministry under the management of CBCNEI. He helped CLC to connect and promote Literatures beyond CBCNEI jurisdictions. CLC owe an enormous debt to him for what

he had done for this Ministry. I also thank Rev Dr W.Konghar, General Secretary MBC who served CLC as Chairman for more than seven years. During his Chairmanship massive change happened and a huge development was taken up in CLC specially at Imphal and Ukhrul, and a new Branch at Senapati. Lastly I would like to thank and congratulate all my colleagues who are in CLC Ministry. Because of their commitments to the Lord, their support to the management and their hard works today the Ministry has gone far.

ACTIVITIES:

Publications during 2013-14 :

Tangkhul hymnal	3500 copies
Christian Worship hymnal	5000 copies
Kuki Holy Bible	5000 copies
My Alphabet Book	10000 copies
My Number Books 1-100	10000 copies
My Nursery Book I	10000 copies
My Nursery Book II	10000 copies
CBCNEI Diary 2014	3000 copies
CBCNEI Calendar 2014	3000 copies
Tangkhul hymnal	5000 copies
Tangkhul Bible	5000 copies
Baptist hymnal	1000 copies
Assamese hymnal	5000 copies

Imphal Book room renovation: CLC Imphal book room at the ground floor was renovated, walls plastering with plastic paint, floor with tiles, book racks with strong wood,

counter booth with teak wood and a new sanitation construction completed in August 2013.

Promotional works: CLC staff at Guwahati, Dimapur, Imphal, Ukhrul and Senapati promoted CLC books in Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Manipur both in the hill and valley areas where there is Christian schools and Theological Colleges. We have visited some Convention Centres, Association Centres and Local Churches under CBCNEI in order to built up our relationship. I hope in near future CLC will do much better business with our own Churches, Associations ,Conventions and Institutions. Now Baptist Churches in North East India are realising slowly that CLC belong to them. CLC has been supplying Tangkhul Bible and Hymnal since last thirty seven years. **Likewise if 100 Associations of CBCNEI give us to publish their Hymns and Bibles CLC will grow very fast and within a short period CLC may come forward for financial help to the weaker Churches and Associations within CBCNEI.**

Account Consultation programme: In order to have a uniform accounting in all the Branches of CLC, Mr. Vikato Shikhu, Finance Secretary, CBCNEI and Mr. Sundharson, Office Manager, CBCNEI visited all the Branches and gave good instructions for smooth running of the accounts of CLC. More over we have an Account Consultation Meeting for all the Directors, Managers and Accountants of CLC at Guwahati from 18 - 20 November 2013. Mr.Vikato Shikhu and Mr.Sundharson were the resource persons.

Sales proceeds from April 2006 - March 2014:

There was a time for CLC Guwahati and Dimapur that they could not reach the yearly sales target but after CBCNEI took over CLC in 2010 sales gradually increased.





Brief Report of the Eastern Theological College, Jorhat

As reported by Rev Dr Akheto Sema, Principal, Eastern Theological College, Jorhat

1. Students. Students' enrolment 2013 - 2014 academic session:

BD	MTh
Male 120	Male 20
Female 86	Female 18
206	38 (21 in I Yr; 17 in II Yr)

For 2014-15, 32 applied for MTh programmes, and 16 have been selected. 72 applications have been received for BD programme. Entrance Test was set on April 22 & 23.

2. Academic Picture:

Although we have MTh programme in the College, emphasis is still on BD. At the PG level, we have been running four disciplines, but owing to uncertainty of teaching faculty, the Administrative Committee has suspended the M.Th program in Christian Ministry.

It may be recalled that the College in the past had offered MTh in New Testament but stopped for some years, A Senate Commission visited the College on September 4, 2013 and has approved the resumption of M.Th in New Testament. Therefore, from this year we are resuming the course

with 3 students.

Senate Results (2013):

- i) BD Second Class : 87
- ii) MTh First Class : 1
 Third Class : 2
 Second Class : 20
 Repeater : 5

The College is introducing a new programme called Summer Institute where all the new candidates accepted for M.Th programmes are required to attend. Three subjects, viz, English, Greek and Research Methodology shall be imparted.

3. Faculty Position

a. A Word on Prof. Rev. Dr. Ezamo Murry: On reaching the superannuation age, as per the decision of the Board, Prof. Ezamo is leaving the College. He served the college for 33 years.

The Administration planned a function with the whole community on March 19. His family members, his church and the Association officials also attended the function. Everybody eulogized his humility and soft temperament.

When he took over the Principal's office he inherited a big financial deficit. The whole management went through a rough time. The situation did not allow new development, renovation, nor repair. But, he worked very hard to narrow down the deficit gap leaving the job less difficult for his successor.

b. Prof. Rev. Dr. (Mrs) Limatula Longkumer has tendered resignation. She has been a very confident teacher in her subject matter. She has made immense contribution to the

College in general and the Department of Christian Ministry in particular. She is a key figure in the field of Christian Education and is known very well both at the national and international level.

c. Mr. Phanenmo Kath has rejoined the College on April 1, 2014 to resume his teaching responsibility. He will continue the department left by Prof. Ezamo.

d. Kezhalezo Angami, the lone teacher in Missions with his wife, Kezhaseno, is leaving the College for Australia for doctoral study. He is enrolled in the Yarra Theological Union under University of Divinity, Melbourne.

4. College Support. The number of churches and families participating in the ministry of ETC is increasing. With this increase, the figure of financial contribution has also increased. I am happy to note that the churches under the Manipur Baptist Convention has participated very well. The amount contributed may not be very high, but the spirit of togetherness is very encouraging. The total amount received in the form of ETC Prayer Day, General Contribution, Donation to specific project, yearly contribution, etc, comes to ₹ 28,19,254. The actual receipt in 2012-13 was ₹ 12,44,121. Actually, this ₹ 28,19,254/- is against a projected target of ₹ 22,19,940. Therefore, the contribution we received this year is 126.6% increase over last year, and 26.99% more than the projected figure in the budget.

5. Community. The chapel building is unable to accommodate the growing community. The morning Sunday school is attracting children of other families. With the increase of institutions, employment opportunities in Jorhat town, the Christian population has increased. Therefore the Chapel needs to be extended in a few years time.

6. Children's Park. To act on what we advocate, we are

bringing up a park for children. On ETC Foundation Day, January 12, the Park was inaugurated with Mr. Alemtemshi Jamir, IAS, as the Chief Guest. A small area of land, about 5000 sq.ft, where no other building can be erected has been selected. We randomly worked out a 5 lakh budget with an initial grant of ₹ 1,00,000/- from the Compassion International. The Women group on the campus raised ₹51,000, and Mr. & Mrs. Alemtemshi Jamir contributed ₹1,50,000/-. They pledged to give the remaining amount short of ₹ 5 lakhs.

7. The 4-Lane Mariani Road. The Government has done the marking of road widening. Somehow, our Self-Reliance Building is saved from demolition, but some of its steps have to be removed. We need to construct a new fence along the Mariani road up to Rajabari village road in order to avoid encroachment.

8. Physical Activities

We are not able to take up any new project. Repair has taken all of our time and money as well. Two wings in the Women Hostel were brought down. New timber, frame and ceilings were fixed and new partition done. Toilets were repaired. New electrical wiring was done. Two Faculty quarters were also repaired including new electrical wiring. A lot of repair was done in Library too.

On Boys Hostel side, toilets were in very bad shape. New septic tank and cess pit were done. Expenditure on toilet was budgeted high. But considering our obligation to host some conferences and meetings in the future, we wanted to renovate the toilets.

The roof of the Classroom building and four other Faculty quarters have been painted.

We are aware that lots of things are to be done in TABCOM

Bhavan, but due to constraint of fund, we have not been able to do much. On the first floor, the whole section of two slide-windows fell off. We repaired those two. We need more maintenance staff, but our fund does not permit it at the moment. Therefore, in order to ease the work, one Washing Machine was purchased. The TABCOM needs a new face-lift which might approximately cost ₹2,50,000/-.

9. ETC - JCMC Relationship

As sister institutions of CBCNEI, there used to be some programmes conducted together in the past. But JCMC, having no new nursing students could not plan joint programme. This year, the ADMC has decided to provide concession to ETC students coming for treatment.

10. Footpath

With a little assistance received from Malaysia for the purpose of footpath some concrete works in front of the Programme Centre is completed. More shall follow in phased manner as we receive funds. The Rhoda (Women) Hostel students organized a fair, and with the income of ₹40,000, the footpath between the Hostel and Library is constructed.

11. Strategy Planning & Resource Development Workshop: Under the head, Asian University Leaders Program, the United Board organized this Workshop in Hong Kong during Feb 25-28. I attended this programme.

The United Board emphasizes the importance of strengthening ways of relation maintenance. They even shared their interest in providing a small seed money toward establishing an office.



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