

COVENANT BAPTIST CHURCH DIMAPUR

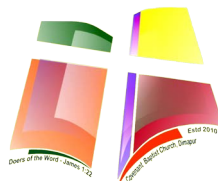
ANNUAL MAGAZINE
2021- 2022

“Doers of the Word” James 1:22



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**COVENANT
BAPTIST
CHURCH
DIMAPUR**



Editorial Desk

Dr. Kindy Newmai

Warm greetings in the blessed name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. The editorial committee is delighted to bring to you the annual church magazine for the year 2021-2022.

Being a newly formed committee, we are grateful for the patience and support of the church staff and congregation for the publication of this edition.

As we read through the annual magazine, may we realize how much we could accomplish as a church with the grace of God and look towards the coming year with a renewed zeal and passion for God. Today, our society is filled with political uncertainty, religiosity with spiritual nominalism and church polity.

How can we as a church be authentic in such an age? How do we avoid being a church that is simply a Sunday morning gathering of individuals who do not want to be bothered with total commitment or involvement to the church and our Lord?

The answer lies in fixing our eyes on Jesus—the pioneer and perfecter of our faith (Hebrews 12:2). Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we can see people being radically changed in their dispositions. All things can become new—in concrete, visible, noticeable ways.

Therefore church, let us not grow weary—let us press on to know the Lord and acknowledge Him (Hosea 6:3) in all our ways.


Wishing you happy reading hours ahead!

How can we as a Church be 'Doers of the Word'

Mr. Yabang Longkumer, Pastor, CBCD

When I joined CBCD as a pastor one of the first questions I was asked was, "How can we be a different Church?" Obviously I took that as a responsibility and wanted to ensure that it was delivered. So at the time, I thought the best way to approach this task was to bring in fresh perspectives, a change in the style of worship, help organize Church building projects and adopt ideas from success stories. These were just some of the key steps I pursued in the hope that it would help answer the question. However, in retrospect these small steps might have brought about some changes but not wholly as desired. I have come to realize that real change comes from the core and not just the surface. Let me explain... we keep looking at the outside to measure change but true change begins from within. If our inner being (our character, attitude, approach, mindset) remains the same then it is no change at all! We merely become a Church of activities not a Church for Christ. So the question really should be, what should a 'Doers of the word' Church reflect? The answer is ...Be a Church of Action.

Members of the Church ought to reflect Christ not just in the Church but more when we are outside of the Church by being determined Believers of action and not just contemplation. To be proactive for the work of Christ, by the way we live we prove that we have repented of our sins. The genuineness and authenticity of the Church does not really come from the comments made by the members but rather from the witnesses and onlookers. When they see our Christ-like attitude towards life around us, we can be rest assured that we are being "Doers of the word", because actions speak louder than words.



As a Church we've been studying the book of James and one of the main theme is "...Faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead" (James 2:17). So, I sincerely encourage everyone to be a "Doer", to become an 'impact' Church and not just a 'different' church.

I strongly believe that unless the "Word" is not saturated deep within our hearts, the failure of application will be evident. It takes humility and faith to allow the "Word" to take its roots and bear fruit. Remember we are a part of the Church and not just playing the part. Allow me to draw our attention to Paul, an apostle of Christ, who rightly said, be "imitators of Christ" Ephesians 5:1. Here is a man who truly followed the teachings of Christ, he was in love with the Word. He Mediated upon it day and night and was on bended knees to Christ. His life has impacted so many lives because he was not just a "Listener" but a "Doer". On a personal note also, James 1:22 ("Be doers of the word, and not hearers only. Otherwise, you are deceiving yourselves.") has been a constant guide in my life... I am inspired to live my life through my actions (though the many times I have failed) and hopefully inspire the Church to be a Church of Action too. I praise God for the founding members, who prayfully came up with the theme "Doers of the Word" James 1:22 for CBCD. I truly believe that the theme was given to us for a reason with a purpose. Let us all take the responsibility as a body of Christ, to not be just 'mere' listeners but to proactively be a beacon of light for Our Master. By being a Church of Action we become a Church of Impact.



WORSHIP IS MY LIFE, NOT MY ROLE

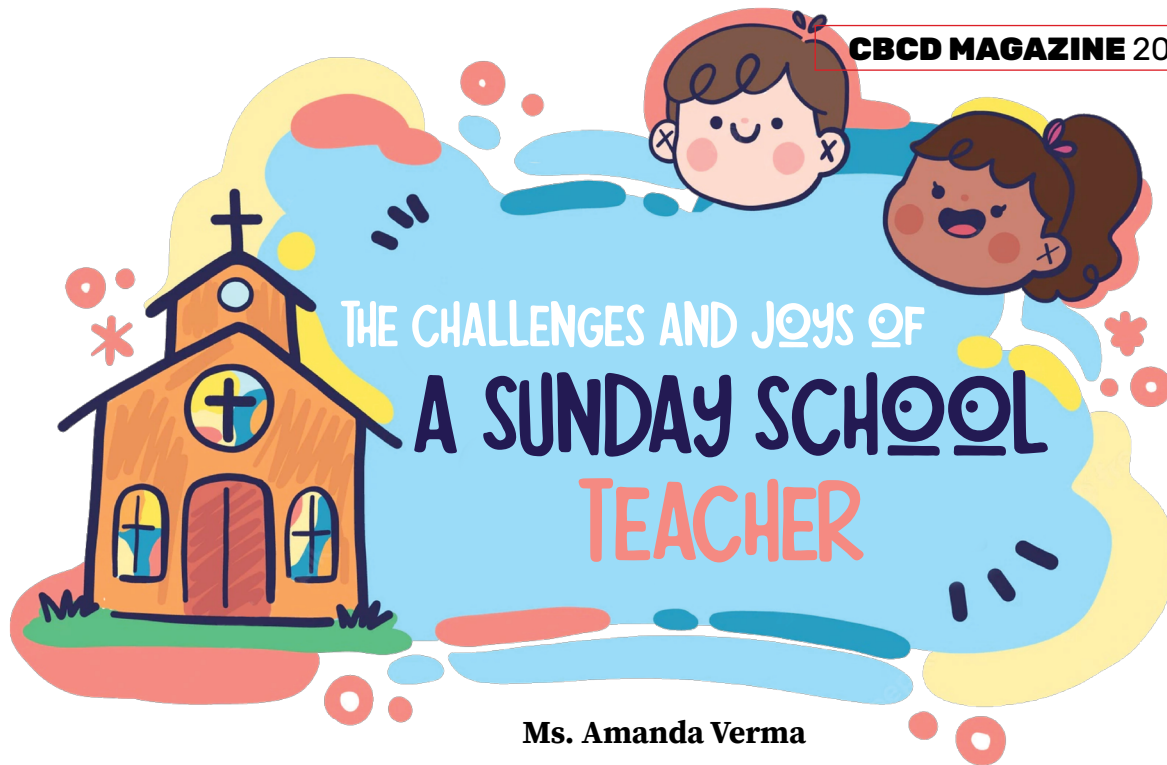
Mr. Along Amri, CBCD Worship Team

Our God is able and awesome, and we as humans can never comprehend God's love for us beyond our limitations. He has blessed each human with various talents which, in return, we, as God's creation, ought to praise and worship Him to the highest for all the goodness He has done for us. Initially, when I joined the worship team, my whole understanding of praise and worship was that "it should sound good!"- I was self-centered. There was no sense of surrender in my account of worship. And I only had my choice of songs I'd love to play or sing on a given Sunday morning. I cared more about the music than the One to whom we owe all our worship and praise. As I look back today, I am grateful for how God has strategically brought me here to Covenant Baptist Church Dimapur (CBCD) in the first place. It is here that I have witnessed the genuine love and thirst worshippers have for Christ. I have encountered the true meaning of worship, and I praise God with every single note I play with my instrument. My journey as a part of the worship team has strengthened, humbled, and helped me genuinely in my faith journey.

Likewise, for many, the basic understanding of worship and praise could be synonymous with music. Still, one ought to understand that music is not just a part of worship rather it

has a more significant element. I believe the central pillar of worship is prayer because you cannot take the congregation to a place you have not been to before. Worship is not only a role but involves our entire relationship with God: our words, attitudes, and actions. It is not only about praising the One whom the songs are written for, instead our worship ought to reflect every being in us, which is the Image of God. Living a life of transparency, humility, and service towards God- on or off the stage, and being present and authentic without masquerading. And at the same time, drench our desires that Christ may be the center of our lives and our praises. Apostle Paul in Philippians 4:4 has stressed to rejoice in the Lord always. Thus, praising and worshipping God does not end with 15 to 20 minutes of playing music in the church. However, it extends far beyond singing. It is giving to Him that is due without expecting to receive anything in return. Worship is not only about receiving God's love but indeed it is more about giving back our love to Him in all that we do. One way we can express this is by utilizing the wonderful gift of God, by uplifting, encouraging, and spreading the gospel around us and establishing true worshippers of Christ.

May God give us the grace to get a good head start in giving Him constant, complete, and passionate worship. Amen.



Ms. Amanda Verma

Being appointed to serve as a Sunday School teacher for CBCD is something that brings great joy for me. I have learnt more about God and His Word as I prepared for lessons and taught in the class. I am strengthened to depend on God more for his leadership. I also learnt that just as in normal schools there are different styles of teaching even in Sunday School there are different methods that I can use as a Sunday School teacher. The scripture teaches that the two greatest commands are to love God and to love people (Mark 12:30-31)! This is why I believe that our teaching ought not to flow only *from* our love for God but also *because of* our love for people. This means we are not only committed to the lesson, but to actually understanding and building relationships with the people we are teaching. A great Sunday School teacher knows that it is the power of God that brings about transformation, so a deep dependence on God exhibited through the habit of praying is essential for a great Sunday School teacher. One of the benefits of being a Sunday School teacher is taking pride in seeing students learn and grow in the Lord. During my 3 years of teaching I have come

to realize that being a Sunday School teacher is not an easy job. Personally the biggest problem I've faced as a Sunday School teacher is maintaining discipline. It is something I am trying to work on. In this journey of being a Sunday School teacher I've grown spiritually and will do my best to guide the young ones to be Godly men and women.





THE COST OF MISSION

Mr. Edward Marüzü



The cost of mission is doing the will of God at the expense of our own will. In other words, we allow our volition to be totally subdued in order to do the will of God. It is becoming clearer every day that the most urgent problem besetting our church is this, "How can we live the Christian life in this modern world?"- Dietrich Bonhoeffer.

This is true because, many a time, we are put in a situation where the divine and the worldly clash and we are left to discern the path we ought to take. And this is where Christian mission and Christian thinking become so crucial. Rather than promising His disciples material prosperity and social status, Jesus prepared them for a different kind of reality- following Him is a costly business.

“ Rather than promising His disciples material prosperity and social status, Jesus prepared them for a different kind of reality- following Him is a costly business.”

You must die to what you want to do so you can do what God wants you to do (Mark 8:34). If resisting such temptations were easy, Jesus would never have spoken of having to put to death, on a daily basis, the sinful desires we sometimes have. He would never have spoken of having to carry our cross. Self-denial is not having low self-esteem, always running yourself down, never rejoicing in the good you accomplish or never laughing. We can say that self-denial is saying no to what we want to do and saying yes to the will of God. Here are a few examples to help amplify the point.

On the night of His betrayal, Jesus went to the garden of Gethsemane and prayed. Ahead of Him lay His arrest, trial and execution. He prayed, 'My Father, if it is

possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as You will.' Praying a second time, He said, 'My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may Your will be done' (Matthew 26:39, 42). The spirit of self-denial is heard in His words, 'not as I will, but as You will.' Jesus came from heaven to earth, not to do His will but the will of the Father. Through His death He was showing us the real meaning of self-denial.

When a man counts the cost of following Christ, he needs to think about two things:

1. It will cost the man-

- his heart: total devotion and commitment.
- his mind: being permeated and controlled by Christ.
- his eyes: watching what he looks at.
- his ears: watching what he listens to.
- his hands : watching what he touches and picks up.
- his feet : watching where he goes.
- his mouth: watching what he says, eats and drinks.
- his desires: watching, controlling, and changing his urges and desires.

- his energy: committing his strength, initiative and will of Christ.
- his effort and work: dedicating and centering all in Christ, using his efforts and work in the cause of Christ.

2. It will cost him all he has. To really follow Christ will cost-

- Family: being put after Christ (Luke 14: 26).
- Friends: being put after Christ and centered around Christ.
- Home: all the comforts and extravagances.
- Job: being centered around Christ and being used to earn enough to give to those who do not have (Eph. 4:28).
- Cars: not being extravagant, so as to have more to give to a needful world.
- Money: taking care of personal necessities and then using the rest for God's cause.

“A religion that gives nothing, costs nothing, and suffers nothing, is worth NOTHING” -

Martin Luther

Are You Willing To Give All For Christ?

Living as a Christian in a Contemporary World



Ms. Benda

I was raised in a Christian family and grew up hearing many Bible stories and exposed to good teachings of Scripture. I felt fortunate but at the same time I was living quite an opposite life to what a Christian should be.

Every challenge and temptation that comes my way I took it with pride as though I can face and overcome with my own strength.

Being an optimistic person, I always convinced myself that I was living in the right path-believing that I was not involved in unrighteousness. I was always self-centered when it came to God. I never prayed for forgiveness nor did I give thanks to Him for His goodness and mercies over my life. My prayers would always end up asking for more and more for myself. I came to realise just a few years ago that I did not really know who Jesus was and had not really not accepted him as my personal Lord and Saviour. I am grateful to God for the Covenant Baptist Church family that has shaped and moulded me into a new person through Christ.

After accepting Jesus and getting to know who God truly is, I realised that it is not easy to be a Christian as a young adult in this contemporary world where technology is in control of everything, where friendships hold priority and we have to consider our family and career.

Everyday becomes a challenge when I try to disconnect myself from social media and

worldly pleasures. It may seem as easy as A-B-C to plan it, but not so easy to put into practice.

As an imperfect being, there are times when I backslide but surrendering my weaknesses repeatedly with a sincere heart has really helped me overcome my weaknesses again and again.

At this young age, everyone prioritizes friendship- as do I.

There are times when my friendships would become more valuable than Christ and the most challenging part for me is discerning between good and bad company. Discerning the right company is very complicated especially in this contemporary world-this is the most difficult responsibility I have had to encounter as a young adult.

But having Christ in my life made me realise how much I was influenced by bad company, and also made me realise the impact of good company. This is where I came to know what is good and bad and how to choose friends wisely.

Life is a combination of both happy and sad events, and every challenge that comes our way through personal and family matters, I believe, is God's way of polishing us.

Choosing the path to live a faithful and righteous life at this young age, in this contemporary world, is challenging but it is truly the best decision which brings contentment and satisfaction to my heart.



INTERVIEW WITH

MR. ASHI WANGSU

(BD 2ND YEAR, SPONSOR STUDENT)

1. Please give a brief introduction of yourself and your family.

- My name is Ashi Wangsu and I am currently pursuing my theological studies at Eastern Theological College, Jorhat, Assam. I belong to Konyak Naga community from Nangtan village Tizit, Mon Dist. and I am from a humble family of 4 siblings and total 6 members including my parents.

2. How did you receive your call into studying theology/ missionary call?

- When I accepted Jesus Christ as my personal Lord and saviour in the year 2018, there was an urge inside me that I wanted to dedicate my life and serve the Lord full time in whichever way He wants me to serve. I knew that if I am to serve Him full time, then it is important for me to be equipped theologically and so, I started praying for God's will and after my graduation, I took a gap for a year and with much prayer I began my theological journey in the year 2021 at Eastern Theological College Jorhat, Assam.

3. Were your friends/family supportive?

- Initially when I was about to graduate and when I shared with my parents about

my calling, they were also confused and unsure about it as I, being the eldest son, had expectations to fulfil. But gradually, they supported and encouraged me and are still.

4. If the clock could be turned back what changes (if any) would you want to make in your own personal preparation for service?

- I would have given much more importance than I did to EU (UESI) Bible studies.

5. What is the most challenging part of a theology student as experienced by you?

- The most challenging part of a theological student according to my experience is finance and balancing life with studies.

6. What part of studying theology do you find most rewarding?

- The most rewarding part of studying theology for me is learning more about the Bible critically and being open minded to diverse culture and ideologies.

7. Where do you see yourself in 5 years?

- Further study, Church Ministry or Mission field.

8. Any advice you would give to people headed for theological studies/ mission work?

- If you are headed for theological studies I would advise you to be very prayerful and be firm in your commitment/calling, choosing the right institution is important, start reading books and have open mind to learn, unlearn or re-learn.

Report of **LOVE BURMA MISSION Medical Camp**

Dr. Kindy Newmai

The objective of the medical camp was to screen and treat the villagers for diseases, give health related awareness and also minister to the people in need both spiritually and physically.

The medical camp was held during the day followed by worship and message by pastor Yabang in the evenings at the local church.

The team from church comprised of Pastor Yabang Lkr., Mr. Imtinukshi Jamir, Dr. Alona Shikhu, Dr. Noune, Dr. Khrutsozo, Dr. Temjen and Dr. Kindy.

The team departed on 28th November 2022 for Tuensang and held the night at the CBLT Chang Baptist Lashong Thangyen (CBLT - Chang Baptist Churches Association) Guest

House after which we proceeded to Pounyiu village (A village located close to Indo-Myanmar border), a 5-6 hour journey from Tuensang. While at Pounyiu, the team stayed at the residence of the LBM hostel warden.

The team also visited the students at the LBM hostel where they could share the love of God and had a round of volleyball with the children.

The medical camp was held for 2 days, from 30th November to 1st December, 2022.

A total of 44 dentist cases, 134 children and 314 general cases were treated, in addition to unregistered cases on the last day, amounting to about 500 patients seen in 2 days.

My Experience at the **LBM Medical Camp**

Dr. Alona Shikhu

When I was asked to join the medical team as a dentist, I was hesitant as I wasn't sure who would be willing to look after my workplace when I wasn't around for a week and decided not to go. But I was able to join the team at the last minute, putting my faith in God to provide. I was nervous and honestly quite unprepared though it wasn't my first time going to Pounyiu village.

And so the journey began. The first day of the camp came, work started and with a few bumps here and there when it came to communication with the patients and some tough cases it was fun.



“ I’d be a liar if i said that I wasn’t tired by the end of the day and I was but it was a happy kind of tiredness. ”

‘Kobule!’ (Open your mouth!) and ‘Sawanakhai?’ (Does it hurt?.. I probably still haven’t learnt the right word yet!)

I’d be a liar if i said that I wasn’t tired by the end of the day and I was but it was a happy kind of tiredness.

The second day came, I was ready physically and mentally or so I thought up until I had to extract the first patient’s tooth. It felt like I had no strength left in my arms anymore. I was disappointed at myself thinking if this was it and I’d have to tap out. I quickly said a small prayer and started working and we got through the day.

Despite there being no electricity and sterilisation of instruments being a problem, I got an assistant who helped through the whole process including translations and so many tiny details in between and of whom I’m very

grateful.

This trip was a sort of personal struggle for me. Going for camps isn’t anything new, anyone would say but meeting the villagers living in this time with no basic amenities such as electricity, proper toilets or even the very basic healthcare while we live in excess and access of everything without even realising it is a complacency we need to get out of.

I’m very grateful to the church and LBM for this opportunity and also to Pastor and the team for always looking out for me during the whole journey, the villagers for welcoming us so warmly and always making sure we were comfortable.

Here’s me in writing saying that if it’s in God’s will, I would definitely love to go back there again to minister in any way I can.

Greetings in Christ Jesus’ name! Personally, it has been a great blessing and a privilege to be a part of this camp. I just want to share in short of the things I learned and was reminded of-

- In my selfish mind I thought that I was blessed to be a blessing. Maybe I was to one or two, but the blessings I received in return from the community and the Church there was just enormous.
- They were grateful with what they had as they considered themselves privileged that

they are bit more advanced as compared to other villages.

- To have little and yet be generous at the same time was something very striking to me.
- Instead of being tired and weary, I was rejuvenated both spiritually and physically. Thank you to all the believers for your prayers surrounded us and went with us and through it God made everything beautiful and perfect in His own time.

- **Dr. Khrutsozo Kikhi**



The visit to Burma/Myanmar for me was a fulfillment of a long cherished dream as well as a glimpse of how wonderfully God works in each one of our life to bring forth His plan. It was a perfect demonstration of Romans 8:28, “All things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose”.

Since when I was in medical college I always felt that I was called to serve in Burma but it seemed to be slowly drifting farther and farther away from my life and I was beginning to wonder if it was just a day dream for me. Then when I joined Covenant Baptist Church I learned that the one of the church’s vision was to reach out to Burma. This rekindled my dream and made me realized that God had brought me to the right Church and has been working in my life, preparing me. So when the Church wanted to organize the health camp in Burma, I wholeheartedly volunteered myself. I was ready to go whatever the situation was, although

we were treated and taken care of so well by everyone that it felt more like a picnic rather than going to a difficult place.

Interacting with the villagers made my conviction stronger that all along God was in charge and had a good plan set for each one of us.

Interacting with the villagers made my conviction stronger that all along God was in charge and had a good plan set for each one of us. The villagers shared that they have been praying and waiting for the health camp for such a long time and it was an answer to their prayer as well.

Few things that I learned from the villagers (Ponyiu village) were, firstly the villagers were living such contented lives in spite of the lack of so many things. In fact they were living a more fulfilled life than most of us. Secondly, our actions matter. The reason why the village was clean and free of opium addiction was because they collectively as a village made a decision not to allow opium consumption in the village and they undertook regular cleaning of the village area. I was told that just recently they had constructed a bikeable road to a nearby village on their own, sensing the need and not waiting for funds or the government (mostly none existing). Thirdly their missionary zeal to reach out to the neighboring villages was so strong that everyone starting from the village chairmen to the church leaders were mentioning about it. Definitely God was and is working among them.

All in all I gained much and pray that this camp be just a starting of a much bigger and sustainable effort to bring both spiritual and physical needs to Ponyiu village and beyond.

- Dr. Temjen Longkumer

The trip to Burma was an experience of God's goodness. As the apostle Paul wrote in the letter to the Romans, 'no one has ever given to God that God should repay them'. I believe that the trip to Burma was not a favour done to God or a charity of my time given to God but rather of obedience and necessity of knowing the harsh reality of life. I received more than what I could ever offer. Relations were built, memories will be cherished but one thing that will stay with me is what Rev. Achu said on the day we arrived in Tuensang- that a good thing, no matter how small it starts or how slow the progress is, never dies but rather grows stronger and continues on. May this mission to Burma and beyond also continue to grow according to His will.

I am thankful to the 'Love Burma Mission' and the Covenant Baptist Church for this wonderful opportunity for enabling me to experience the beauty and the hard reality of life.

After two days of long and arduous journey, we were greeted by the majestic landscapes of Pounyiu village, Myanmar, with its beautiful thatch houses and even more so, the inhabitants of the village who were more than ecstatic to see our convoy. And I was quickly reminded of how the two days of journey from Dimapur to Pounyiu, which we all thought of as difficult, was nothing compared to the many challenges faced by the villagers on a daily basis.

The LBM medical camp was truly an eye opener for me having observed that even the most basic necessities, be it food, medicine, daily-use hygiene products, etc. were difficult to come by -forget about cell phones for communication or vehicles for transportation. And yet, amid all their difficult circumstances, the villagers were so welcoming and hospitable,



I believe that the trip to Burma was not a favour done to God or a charity of my time given to God but rather of obedience and necessity of knowing the harsh reality of life.

"Every good and perfect gift is from above coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights who does not change like shifting shadows." James 1: 17

- Dr. Nouné Miachieo

even to the point of sharing their hard-earned grains of rice and other produce with all of us during our stay and also on the day of our departure after the camp.

If there was one takeaway from the medical camp, it would be the words of Jesus to his disciples in Matthew 9:37 "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few." I have to admit that I had been growing too comfortable within the confines of Dimapur while my prayers were to use me for His kingdom and His glory, which I now realize was very hypocritical. I am truly grateful to Covenant Baptist Church Dimapur and the CBCD Mission committee for giving me the opportunity to serve in the little way that I could during the medical camp.

- Mr. Imtinukshi Jamir

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Members:

- Mrs. Lily Kent
- Dr. Michelle
- Mrs. Amen
- Mr. Deepak

Theme: “May the favor of the Lord our God rest on us; establish the work of our hands for us- Yes, establish the work of our hands” Psalm 90:17

Vision:

To work together as a team to further the work of the kingdom of God.

Activities:

- The committee did the master inventory of all the departments in the month of March 2022.

Plans:

To do inventory before the financial year.



HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

Members:

- Mrs. Ketuno Imchen
- Mrs. Hitokali Nisa
- Mrs. Sashikala Longchar
- Mrs. Jenny Murry

Theme: “Hospitality as a way of life in the church and home” (3 John 1:8).

- The Hospitality Committee started serving snacks post church regularly post pandemic.
- During summers, ice tea and snacks are served.
- Thank you cards were given to the families and individuals who contributed towards the refreshments.
- The committee members take turns on a monthly basis managing the refreshments.
- We as committee members are blessed at different levels and have been learning a lot through this service for which we are grateful. We are also very happy to see that relationships are growing and people making new contacts over this fellowship.



WORSHIP TEAM

Members:

- Mr. Moa
- Mr. Moalong Amri
- Ms. Ajem
- Mr. Jeten Lkr.
- Ms. Gloria Mozhui
- Mr. Khakhuli Sangtam
- Mr. Peshia
- Mr. Peter Sangtam
- Mr. Changkhantai
- Mr. Huruangpiyang
- Mr. Shikhalu Shohe
- Mr. Danganlung Kamei
- Mrs. Atem
- Mr. Vepu Pfuno

Theme: “Fishers of men” Matthew 4:19

Activities:

- Gospel outreach to St. John School on July 3, 2022.
- Two day Technical Workshop with Alobo Naga on Sept. 9-10, 2022.
- Participated at CIHSR Community Church Musical Evening on Oct. 7, 2022.



- Conducted Worship Evening at Covenant Baptist Church on Oct. 30, 2022.

Plans:

- To hold a seminar/workshop on Worship music.
- Outreach ministry.
- Dinner fellowship for worship team.

DECORATION COMMITTEE



Members:

- Mrs. Aren
- Mrs. Katy
- Mrs. Khonzani
- Mrs. Kavili
- Mrs. Gracy
- Mrs. Lucy

Theme: “Colors of life; fruit of the spirit” Galatians 5:22-23

Activities:

- The committee was responsible to decorate the church every Sunday and on special programs.
- The committee members decided to plant green plants and each took the responsibility to plant it in our own backyards to allow it to grow and when it was fully grown, we placed it at the entrance of the church to give a more refreshing look.
- During the mid-summer, the committee divided the artificial flowers and washed it to keep it clean and tidy.
- Some minor rearrangement was done in the store room for better accessibility.
- Three iron stands were purchased this year.
- To further beautify the stage, we have placed an order for two wooden console tables.

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE



Members:

- Mr. Roland Merry
- Dr. Neisevilie Nisa
- Mr. Imtinukshi Jamir
- Dr. Kindy Newmai

Theme: “Spread out” 2 Kings 19:14.

Activities:

- Publishing of bimonthly church newsletters.
- Posting of “Sermon Snippets” every Monday/ Tuesday on CBCD WhatsApp group.
- Maintaining church library and register.
- Photography and recording of church events.
- Publishing of annual church magazine.

MISSION COMMITTEE

Members:

- Mr. Yabang Longkumer
- Mrs. Flora Leivon
- Mrs. Michelle
- Mr. Edward Marüzü

Activities:

Co-Sponsorship

- Mr. Rinzing Chophe, IFES staff worker in Bhutan.
- Rev. Yhunlo Thong, Chaplain, Dimapur District Hospital
- Love Burma Mission- Ongoing.
- Mr. Ashi Wangsu, sponsored student for 4 years course.

Trip to Ponyui: A team of four members-Mr. Rolland, Mr. Nukshi, Mr. Shikhalu and Pastor Yabang- on behalf of the committee volunteered to make the trip in collaboration with Love Burma mission to explore, engage and learn more about the place, people and in what way we can contribute. The team reached Ponyui on 3rd May, 2022 and stayed for two days in the village. During their course of stay, the team was involved in giving talks on hygiene, leadership, taking prayer walks around the village and

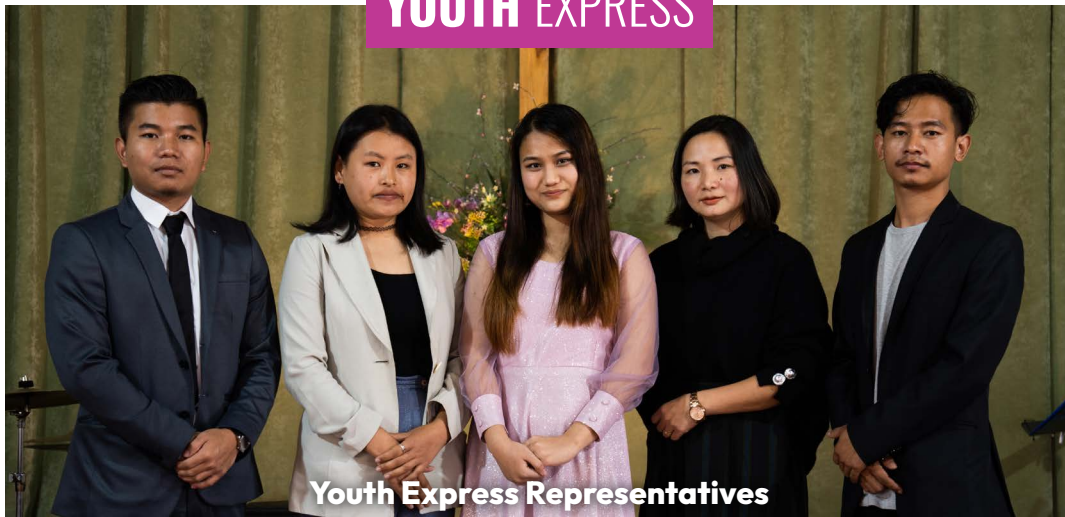


interacting with the villagers and Sunday School children. They also lead worship and shared at the local church.

Follow up plan: The committee prayerfully decided to conduct a medical camp 28th Nov. - 3rd Dec. 2022 and have Gospel hours in the evenings.

Mission camp: The mission committee organized a mission camp from 28th July to 31st July at Genesis Retreat Center, Kohima. The theme of the camp was “*The harvest is plentiful*” (Matt. 9:37). The main speakers were Mr. Moatoshi Imsong (UESI Nagaland State Secy.) and Rev. Achu Chang (Executive Secy. CBLT). There were 29 campers who attended the camp. 6 campers committed to full time mission work.

YOUTH EXPRESS



Youth Express Representatives

Theme: “Growing in Christ” I Corinthians 3:7

Mrs. Kewi Pfuno

When Quality and Quantity Matters

Ever since I started my journey with the youth, I have always reminded myself to focus on the quality, may be because of the handful young people that came then. Here I am very much mindful of the fact that quality is the priority in ministry or, for that matter, in everything that we do as believer. However, I have learnt that quality and quantity complement each other in many ways. And it is God alone who gives both.

This year as we were looking for our theme, a conviction to focus and ask in prayer for the two Qs (Quality and Quantity) came strong and we decided with our theme “Growing in Christ” I Corinthians 3:6-7, “I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but God who gives the growth.” We prayed for the spiritual growth as well as for the numerical growth. And God has been gracious to us, He answered our prayers and we could see and experience it. Usually, about 15 to 20 youths was the normal attendants but today our attendants have doubled and we give all

the glory and praise to His Name alone. This is our testimony, a testimony of the goodness of God, a testimony to ask God, a testimony to not limit God but to see beyond what we can’t because He is able.

A part from the regular service that we have we also conduct talks on different topics, camp and try to bring creativity in engaging youths by having Music Night, Gents and Ladies Nights, Competition service, Friendship Day, Reunion etc.

The Talks’ topics were:

- “Parents-child Relations in Adolescence” - Mrs. Watila Amit on 12th March.
- “Blood Donation and Awareness on Adolescence Health” - Dr. Neisevilie Nisa on 28th May.
- “Sanctity of Human Life: When Does Life Begin?” - Dr. Michelle Jamir on 24th September.
- “Sanctity of Human Life: LGBTQ” - Mr. Thenjamo Tsanglao, Associate Pastor, Lotha Baptist Church Dimapur on 22nd October.

We observed Youth Sunday on 3rd July with Mrs. Nini Bendang from City Church Kohima as the speaker and had the privilege to welcome the first batch of Sunday School teens in the Youth Express. They are: Mr. Sentiso Jamir, Ms. Kungriha, Ms. Viuni, Ms. Pichano, Ms. Tiamenla and Ms. Kibensi.

The camp was held under the theme “Call to Intimate Discipleship” (Mark 1:16-20) where we were able to minister to 47 campers, some came to the saving knowledge of Christ and most of them recommitted their lives. Through the camp we could see changes in the lives of young people and we are blessed to witness some of them volunteering to share their testimonies.

The resource speaker was Mr. Moatoshi Imsong, UESI, State Secretary, Nagaland.

Resource Persons:

1. Ms. Kim Leivon- Doctrinal topic “Bibliology”
2. Mr. David Koza- Doctrinal topic “Sanctification”
3. Dr. Kindy Newmai—Topic “How to grow Spiritually”
4. Dr. Samuel Wati—Topic “Testimony through Academic Excellence”
5. Mrs. Amen Pongen—Topic “Healthy Relationship with Opposite Peers”
6. Mrs. Zuthunglo Ezung—Topic “How to do Personal Evangelism”
7. Pastor Yabang Longkumer—Topic “Healthy

Self-Esteem”

8. Camp Director was Mr. Peter Sangtam.

Youth Express is grateful to God for bringing the right people to immensely bless the campers. We had Camp Reunion on the 12th November with Pastor Yabang as the Speaker and 46 youths attended the program and we give all the glory and honour to God.

My gratitude goes to the Representative team for their constant support and for always willing to go extra mile for God. The reps are Mr. Elem, Mr. Peshia, Mr. Huruangpiyang, Mr. Alipa, Ms. Benda, Ms. Lijingla, and Ms. Gloria.

Youths are thirsty for the Word, they long for fellowships, they have doubts and look for place to grow and there is so much to be done and it is my request to church to kindly continue to uphold the young people in prayers, that God will speak and bring lost souls in His saving knowledge and also grant us wisdom as we reach out.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

(February-October 2022)

Mrs. Zuthunglo Ezung

Introduction:

Sunday school classes for 2022 resumed on 13th February. The theme for the year was “*God Answers Prayers*”- Jeremiah 33:3. True enough the department has experienced tremendous favor and answered prayers. The overall enrollment for the year was 126 students out of which 75-95 students are regular on an average. A total of 8 teachers engaged with 5 different classes respectively.

EVENTS UNDERTAKEN

1. SS Teachers First Training, 6th Feb.

On 6th February, Sunday School Teacher’s first training took place from 11:30-4:00pm. The first session was “CREATIVE ONLINE CLASSES” by Sir Robert Longkumer, Director, Kids Worship Center Dimapur. The second session was on “IMPORTANCE OF A SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER” and “TEACHING METHODS FOR DIFFERENT AGE GROUPS”- Miss Nokhulu Shijoh, Chakesang Baptist Church, Chumukedima.

2. Baby-Room Renovations

A Baby-room has been set up behind the church hall. Mothers/caregivers with infants and toddlers are welcome to utilize the facility of onscreen service. A partition was put up to maintain it under lock and key in order to further furnish the room. An air conditioner has been installed while curtains and floor carpeting has been replaced.

3. SS outreach

On 3rd April the department had its first outreach for 2022 to Prodigal’s Home in the

church neighbourhood. There are around 13 children to whom we have visited on different occasions. Some of them have attended the VBS with CBCD children this year.

We have reached out to children through references made by family and friends. A number of them attended VBS and have kept up with the regular SS classes.

4. Easter Sunday, 17th April

Sunday School celebrated Easter Sunday by expressing our Easter thoughts through painting eggs. A few students were given the chance to share from the activity. We were also blessed by the presence of Dr. and Mrs. Khathing who distributed Easter eggs. Dr. Khathing shared a word of encouragement and prayed for the children.

5. VBS Teacher’s Training –Resource Center, 11th June

The training took place under the guidance of Rev. Dr. & Mrs. Mero. 6 teachers from CBCD attended. We went through a typical Sunday school program with in depth singspiration and action songs which were practically very helpful. There were class demonstrations for Bible stories and crafts. Rev. Dr. Coppe Mero motivated the 203 trainees about being 100 percent committed rather than merely contributing.

6. VBS

- The department conducted VBS from 22-24th of July at Zuin-Ki, DABA on the theme “Are You Ready”- Matthew 24:44.
- A total of 108 students attended.

1. Beginners- 13
2. Primary- 33
3. Juniors- 19
4. Intermediate- 14
5. Teens- 29

- 11 teachers took part in teaching.
- 9 volunteers assisted in the logistic arrangements.
- Speaker for VBS was Mrs. Adela Mero, Administrator, Rainbow Academy.

7. Church Worker's Retreat

CBCD organized a church worker's retreat for all the sub committees on the topic "Renewing your Spiritual Life". The speakers were Rev. Taku Longkumer & Rev. Katie Longkumer. 5 members from Christian Education were present.

8. Thanksgiving Sunday Activity

The SS department also participated in the Thanksgiving Sunday organized by the church on 25th September. The Junior- Sparks, Intermediate- Bible Explorers and the Teens (Faithful Bible Explorers) were involved in hand-made cards, gift boxes and paper bags with assistance from the teachers in charge. Dr. Asen, one of our teachers was proactively involved in teaching the crafts step-by-step to the teachers and students.

9. Picnic, 8th October

The SS picnic took place on 8th October at Bamboo Resource Centre, 6th Mile, Sovima. A total of 72 students, 9 SS teachers (2 substitute teachers) and 6 volunteers attended the picnic. The department was accompanied by our Youth Pastor, Mr. & Mrs. Pfuno and family. Altogether there were 91 of us.



WOMEN'S GROUP REPORT

Mrs. Arenla Y. Longkumer

May 1: Mrs. Arenla Y. Longkumer was installed as the Women

Ministry Leader.

May 28: Monthly fellowship and planning of ministry activities was held at the church building.

May 31: Few members visited Susan Lotha's ailing mother for fellowship and prayer.

June 11: Monthly fellowship at Mrs. Amenla's residence.

June 17: Mrs. Sarila Aier & Mrs. Arenla Y. Longkumer attended the Dimapur Baptist Women's Union Fellowship at Lhomithi Baptist

Church, Signal.

July 29: Monthly Fellowship for July was held at Mrs. Kavili Edward's place. Mrs. Sarila Aier shared from Paul's & Silas' life in prison and encouraged the women folk how to be thankful in the midst of difficulties.



MONTHLY FELLOWSHIP FOR JULY

August 13: CBCD women group observed a one-day retreat at NBCC Compound in Kohima with Mrs. Santi & Dr. Keyho. Mrs. Lanutula Vihienuo and Rev. Katie Longkumer were our resource persons.



ONE-DAY RETREAT AT KOHIMA

September 10: Fellowship was held at Covenant church building. Mrs. Pallavi chaired the fellowship. Mrs. Holen shared her testimony followed by sharing the word of God by Arenla.

September 29: As part of Dimapur Baptist Women Union pulpit exchange program, the CBCD women visited Zeme Baptist women and had a great time of sharing and fellowship.



CBCD WOMEN VISIT TO ZEME BAPTIST CHURCH

October 15: The womens group had an evening with the church women entrepreneurs followed by discussion session.

Nov. 26: The last ladies' fellowship was held at Mrs Lily's residence. Mrs. Kuholi Akheto encouraged the ladies from the story of how



INTERACTION WITH CHURCH WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS

the Angels brought good news to the lowly shepherd at the birth of Jesus.

Dec. 9: The Dimapur Baptist Women Union Fellowship organised the 2022 advent Christmas program which was held at Dimapur Rengma Baptist Church. Mrs. Sarila, Mrs. Katie, Dr. Michelle & Mrs. Arenla represented Covenant Baptist Church.



CBCD WOMEN AT DIMAPUR BAPTIST UNION WOMEN FELLOWSHIP

Proposed Program for 2023

1. Four seminars
 - a) Parenting
 - b) Health & grooming
 - c) Baking/Cooking
 - d) Managing Finances
2. Outreach
3. Special Retreat



Testimony

Mr. Asianmei

MY LIFE BEFORE CHRIST

I am an introverted person and therefore, I always prefer my own space. And besides being an introvert, I also have weak communication skills. So, I prefer to just hide in my room and get lost in my own thoughts and doubts most of the time.

During my teenage days I was exposed to pornography through my friends, which led me to its addiction. It got worst when I had my personal smartphone. As I prefer to be alone most of the time, the devil used me through the gadget, and I became so addicted with pornography and with online gaming. Countless sleepless nights and days passed for years; I could see my relationship with my family greatly deteriorated and most times I was filled with anger, fear and anxiety. Feeling of worthlessness and hopelessness grew in my mind. I started to develop very low self esteem and when I was faced with small daily issues, I contemplated suicide.

My fear was so great that I, in order to be grateful, questioned God for giving me life and that led me to think that He doesn't love me or care for me and that I was on my own. I felt

I was born and raised in a Christian family. Though I attended church regularly, went to Sunday School, got baptized and received the holy communion. I wasn't a true Christian. I learnt that Jesus died for sinners but I had never accepted Him as my personal Lord and Saviour. But glory be to God I'm no longer that person anymore! I want to share how Jesus changed me. Here is my salvation story; it is a tale of love and grace, and how it came into my life. I have been blessed for what Jesus has done for me; how He turned me from these dead bones and made them alive.

terrible and this insecurity kept reminding me that I have no reason to live and hope for a bright future.

HOW I ENCOUNTERED CHRIST

Since I had trouble facing people, I decided not to join college. However, my parents disagreed with my decision and I was forced to join one. I was fortunate and blessed to stay in Dimapur Tyrannus Hall as my stay in this hostel helped me question the status of my relationship with God.

During my third Semester of college, our youth pastor (Covenant Baptist Church) invited me to join a Discipleship Training Camp. I gave every possible excuse to avoid but somehow I landed in the camp. But even after that, I was determined to just go for enjoyment since all my hostel mates were going too.

However, the story twisted- the teachings were so fascinating and captivating that I quickly forgot about worldly enjoyment; it was the first time in my life I enjoyed a sermon. We were taught many things (to be a true Christian) which showed me how God loves everyone no matter who they are and His willingness to accept anyone who sincerely seeks Him.

After the Discipleship Camp, I came back to the hostel with guilt because of my past life. So, I gradually started to apply what I learnt from the camp and began with a regular quiet time in my room asking God for forgiveness- I confessed all my sins (I John 1:9). That very moment I felt His presence in me and all my sins were forgiven. Joyful tears filled my eyes; His love and His presence were so alive that I couldn't even express it that very night. That was the most wonderful moment in my life, and I surrendered my life to live according to His will.

Ever since I accepted Christ as my personal Saviour, My heart is filled with positivity



**Ever since I
accepted Christ
as my personal
Saviour, My
heart is filled
with positivity
and kindness.
All my fear,
addiction and
anxiety are gone.**

and kindness. All my fear, addiction and anxiety are gone. Bible has become my mentor towards my spiritual life and Prayer has become my shield against temptation. Even though I'm not even fit to be called as His child, He saved me, and now I know that He has a perfect plan for my existence (Matthew 6:33). And I am grateful to God for saving me from eternal death and for sending right people at the right time.

GOD LOVES YOU TOO!

CHILDREN'S CORNER



ART BY: SAMUEL, INTERMEDIATE CLASS



ART BY: SIMON BURUGA, TEENS FBI



EASTER SUNDAY



SUNDAY SCHOOL THANKSGIVING SUNDAY



CHRISTMAS SKIT CAST MEMBERS



VBS 2022 TEACHERS



PICNIC



JUNIOR SPARKS



VBS 2022



WORLD SUNDAY SCHOOL DAY 2022



THE ORIGINALS WORSHIP TEAM



PRIMARY CLASS- WALKERS



INTERMEDIATE-BIBLE EXPLORERS 2022

YOUTH EXPRESS



DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING CAMP



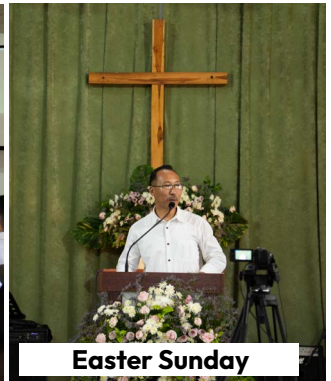
GENTS NIGHT



PHOTO GALLERY



Palm Sunday



Easter Sunday



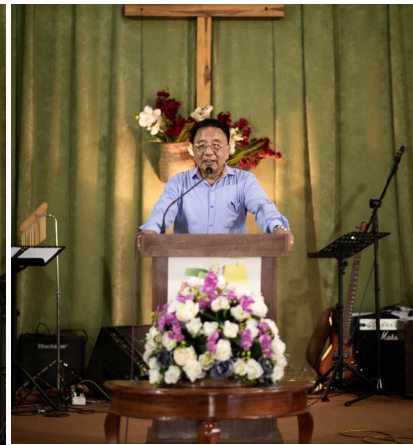
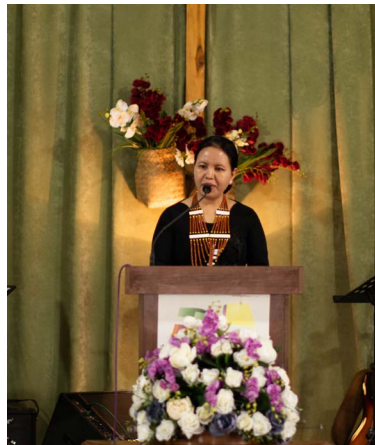
Mother's Day

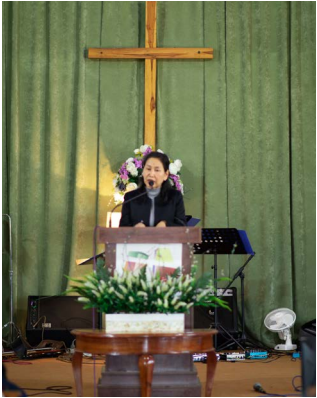
1st Mission Training Camp, Genesis Retreat Centre, Kohima



Father's Day

CULTURAL SUNDAY





Persons with Disabilities Day



Christmas

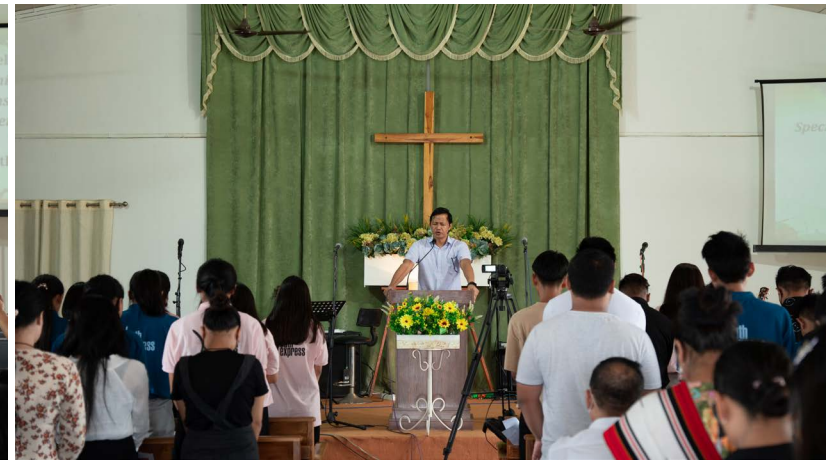


Annual Church Potluck





YOUTH SUNDAY



LOVE BURMA MISSION MEDICAL CAMP



CHURCH CELL GROUPS



Midland, Dhobinala, PWD and Fellowship



4th Mile and beyond



Duncan and DC Court



Naharbari and Thilixu



Notun Bosti



Nepali Kashiram and Indisen



Fellowship
(conducted in Nagamese)



Naharbari and Thilixu Cell Group potluck





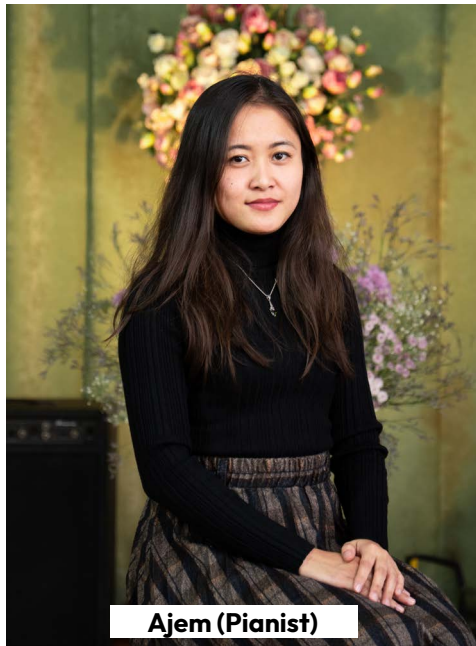
Church Board



Pastor & Asso. Pastors



Church Staff



Ajem (Pianist)



Danganlung Kamei (Sound operator)



Alunbo Pamai (Caretaker)

OUR VISION:

- To glorify God and expand His Kingdom.
- To build a vibrant and worshipping community.
- To preach and propagate the gospel of Jesus Christ.

OUR MISSION:

- To disciple others (discipleship).
- To reach the unreached through worshipping, preaching, teaching fellowshipping and ministering.

Regular Activities

- Sunday Service at 10:00 am at CBCD.
- Youth Express every Saturday at 4:00 pm (winter) and 5:00 pm (summer).
- Sunday School at 10:00 am.
- Board Meeting once a month.
- Women's Fellowship and Men's Prayer breakfast every 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month.
- Cell groups and Bible study.
- Holy Communion once in a month.

COVENANT BAPTIST CHURCH DIMAPUR

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