

# covenant connect

A BIMONTHLY BULLETIN OF COVENANT BAPTIST CHURCH DIMAPUR JUNE- JULY// ISSUE #7



#### REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Sunday Service 10:00 am.

Youth Express: Saturday 5:00 pm. Sunday School: Sunday 10:00 am. Board Meeting once in a month.

Women's Fellowship 2nd Saturday of the month.

Prayer Meeting: Wednesday 6:00 pm.

Men's Prayer Breakfast 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month.

**Holy Communion bimonthly.** 

Crossover Fellowship: once in a month.

Nagamese Fellowship: Alternate Sunday 4:00 pm.



### @ VISION

To glorify God and advance His Kingdom.

To strive to bring men and women to acknowledge Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour.

To build a vibrant and worshipping community.

To share and propagate the Gospel of Jesus Christ here and beyond.



### MISSION

To make disciples of all nations beginning within our community in and around us.

To be Christ centered in our worship, preaching, teaching, fellowship and all Christian related ministry.

To reach the unreached within the community and beyond.

## YOUTH EXPRESS REPORT

Yearly Theme: "Come and you will see" - John 1:39

The month of May has been a blessed one for the CBCD Youth Express fellowship. We welcomed new friends who joined us and grew in faith together. On 11th May, we had the privilege of having Ms. Nütalü D. Vadeo, who blessed us through her powerful and challenging testimony and shared the Word with us.

We were also blessed to have friends from Oriental Theological Seminary, who were interning at the Prodigal's Home, join our fellowship for a couple of weeks. They led the service on May 18th.

God moved our hearts to do something for the youth of our Church and beyond, seeing so many young people far from God. One of our biggest prayers was miraculously answered when an anonymous family came forward to sponsor our Evangelistic Week. Mrs. Watila Amit, a former UESI staff member from Nagaland, who is currently based in Bangalore, was our speaker. We witnessed God's mighty works in and through her life. The Evangelistic Week, held from May 24th to 26th, followed the theme "To Make Alive" based on Col. 2:13-14 and John 10:10. By God's grace, we were able to reach out to over a hundred youths, and we rejoice in this significant achievement. Many young people gave their lives to Jesus Christ and many recommitted themselves to Him. We were immensely blessed to see four youths committing their lives to full-time ministry. We praise God for this and ask for your prayers and continuous support for all the youths who experienced God during the Evangelistic Week. We are happy to see young people showing the same zeal to grow and know the Lord even after the Evangelistic Week.

On June 8th, our very own Mr. Ashi Konyak, who is pursuing his B.D. at ETC. Jorhat, blessed us with the Word of God.

As we reach out to young people, we observe three distinct groups:

- (i) Those thirsting for God and wanting to grow no matter the cost and challenges.
- (ii) Those forced or sent by parents or loved ones who want them to experience God personally.
- (iii) The largest group, those who are deeply concerned for the spiritual well-being of their parents, siblings, and friends.

As you pray for young people, please keep these groups in mind and pray specifically for each one of them.







**CROSSOVER FELLOWSHIP REPORT** 

The Crossover Fellowship of CBCD met on 9<sup>th</sup> June, led by Mr. Tia, who shared about the power of prayer. Ten of us attended, and it was a blessed time of sharing concerns and praying for each other.

The fellowship held a retreat at Benreu Village from July 13 -14, and it was a time of meaningful fellowship and spiritual renewal. We engaged in various activities, including singing, sharing the Word of God, playing indoor games, and enjoying meals together. Despite the retreat being brief, it was a time well spent, filled with joy and camaraderie.

On the arrival day, we had good fellowship led by Yatet Longkumer, who encouraged the team with insights from the life of Jeremiah. The evening was filled with good reminders from the Word, good food, and fun times.

On Sunday, we had our morning fellowship at our host Bobo's place, led by Vito, who shared a powerful testimony. Peter and Ajem led us in songs of praise, and the Word of God from Colossians 2:6-7 encouraged us to Abide, Grow, and Bear Fruit. The team also ventured on

a short trek, climbing a quarter of the way up Mt. Pauna.

On our return journey, we visited Poilwa Sheep Farm and took a short break at Dzuleke, which was refreshing for everyone. This retreat has strengthened our bonds and reminded us of God's unwavering faithfulness.

Our primary objective was to spend quality time with God, away from our busy lives, and to deepen our connections with one another. We believe this goal was wonderfully achieved. We appreciate the church for your prayers; we look forward to more such fellowships and growing together in God.

The key highlights included - engaging in singing and sharing the Word of God Playing indoor games and enjoying food fellowship Visiting Poilwa Sheep Farm and Dzuleke on our return journey, Strengthening our bonds and being reminded of God's faithfulness







## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION REPORT

The Sunday School monthly assembly was held on May 5<sup>th</sup>. We focused on the topic 'Patience' taken from the yearly theme 'Fruit of the Spirit'. Teacher Apong Imchen taught the Bible lessons and memory verse while other teachers taught action songs.

On May 12<sup>th</sup>, the children celebrated Mother's Day in their respective classes, learning lessons and creating crafts for their mothers. The Sunday School teacher's VBS training took place on May 25<sup>th</sup> at the Resource Centre. Teachers Nula, Yipi, Nenti, Nokren, Yatetla, Fedilia along with Mrs. Zuthunglo attended the program.

On May 26<sup>th</sup>,we were privileged to have Mrs. Y. Arenla Longkumer to come and exhort the Sunday School Teachers for 'Connect Fellowship' which is generally held after the Sunday School classes for the Teachers. Mrs. Aren encouraged the teachers to keep growing in their commitment towards the children. We also praise God for the good Board results of our children. We want to particularly thank God for one of our teen student Enolika, standard X, daughter of Mr. Vikishe and Mrs. Sedeno Yepthomi who emerged as subject topper from Maple Tree School. She is currently in class XI, DPS, Dimapur.

On June 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Sunday School monthly assembly observed World Environment Day where Mrs. NokdilaKhathing came and spoke to the children about the biblical importance of caring for the world around us. We focused on the topic 'Kindness.' The speaker further encouraged children to plant trees by distributing saplings and candies along with her two daughters, her sister and her new born grandson.

The children celebrated 'Father's Day' on June 16<sup>th</sup>with their own peers and teacher through appropriate Bible lessons and craft work. The Beginner SAPLINGS attended the devotional service at CBCD where they presented a special action song along with a memory verse under the guidance of their teachers Ms. Nula and Ms. Yipi.

On June 23rd, the teachers had a meaningful 'Connect Fellowship' with one of our Deacon, Mr. David Koza, who reminded teachers to enjoy the privilege of having the responsibility over the lives of our children at Sunday School.

## Exciting Event to look forward to in July! Vacation Bible School

Date: 25th -28th July, 2024

Further details and Registration Forms will be out soon. Do Plan and Pray for sending your children for VBS 2024.





















### MEN'S FELLOWSHIP REPORT

For the month of May, 2024 the CBCD Men's Prayer Breakfast (MPB) Fellowship started with a discussion and preparation for Mother's day on the May 12<sup>th</sup>. Everyone was excited and had a blessed time practising our special song dedicated to the lovely mothers of CBCD and we also got to shop for them for the first time and it was felt that the men were more blessed than the mothers themselves!



The MPB meet scheduled to be held on 11<sup>th</sup> May was postponed in view of the Church's prayer meet. On the 25<sup>th</sup> of May, the men's group had their first Futsal match at Sovima Futsal ground, and it was not only a time for just physical exercise but also a time of fellowship and bonding



Starting from the month of May, the Men's Fellowship have been given the responsibility to lead the Sunday morning worship service once every month, mostly on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday. Taking this opportunity we decided to sing, teach hymnals and on the 26<sup>th</sup>May i.e the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday the men's group along with their spouses led the worship service.

The 'Sunday School books' for Eden Mission School at Nsong village was submitted, thanks to the arrangements made by Bro. Sridhar. The library project for the same school is yet to be completed, so if anyone desires to contribute in cash or contribute used/new books, can kindly contact Dr. Temjen, Tia or Sridhar.

The MPB Fellowship on June 8<sup>th</sup> was held at NECU hall where a discussion on 'Discernment, Wisdom and Prophecy 'based on Hebrews 5:14, which says, 'But strong meat belonged to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil' (KJV.)

The Hebrew word for 'discernment' is translated from 'biyn (bene)', which means, 'to separate/ distinguish mentally', meaning it is from the faculty of the mind. The above verse reveals to us that for a person to have discernment, to be considered matured (full age), he or she must constantly use/apply their mind so that a correct interpretation can be made of all the information received from his or her senses.

Proverbs 8:22 says 'The Lord created me (wisdom) from the beginning of His way, before His works of old', which shows that God was the owner of wisdom from the beginning. Also, Proverbs 3:13 says that 'Happy is the man that findeth wisdom and the man that getteth understanding', meaning, wisdom is necessary to get understanding. In Deuteronomy 34:9, Joshua was filled with the spirit of wisdom and in Luke 2:40, Jesus was filled with wisdom. In Acts 8: 14, Peter and John laid

hands for receiving the Holy Spirit, meaning wisdom is the spirit of the Living God. 'Prophecy' is from the Greek word 'Propheteia', which is an amalgamation of two words 'Pro' / forth and 'Phemi' / to speak. In the New Testament, a person who prophesies is the one who recognises the heart of God in a situation and expresses it to others.

1 Corinthians 14: 3-4 says, 'Everyone who prophesies speaks to men for their strengthening, encouragement and comfort. He who speaks in tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church'. Therefore, prophetic words should contain the following elements

- 1. A true prophetic word
- 2. The love of God in the heart of the person prophesying
- 3. The right time and place and
- 4. Mature oversight from a third party

1 Corinthians 14:29 says 'Let the prophets speak two or three, and let the other judge', remembering that it is not the individual prophesying that is being judged but the prophecies being made. Therefore, prophecies are not merely foretelling the future but it is a revelation given by the grace and mercy of God for a specific purpose. Not everyone has the gift of prophecy but all believers can prophesy. The fellowship concluded with the belief that God is the ultimate bearer and giver of wisdom, through the Holy Spirit, and he who is matured by constant application of God's Words enables him to make sound discernment through this God-given wisdom. God then gives special revelation to this person i.e. 'Prophecies'. weighted by other Godly person(s), for the edification of the church and strengthening, comforting and encouragement of the hearer.

## **WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP REPORT**

The Women's Fellowship for May was held on 25<sup>th</sup> May at the Church where Mrs. Sarila shared her life's journey with the Lord and Mrs. Flora shared on the importance of keeping time—'Time belongs to God and one day we will all give an account before Him on how we used our time.'

The **CBCD** women's department whole-heartedly worked and gave their best to make Fathers' day a very special and memorable day for the fathers.

The speaker on Fathers' Day was Mrs. Khrienuo Moa, who challenged and encouraged all the fathers to get involved in their children's lives by being there for them,

show that they care for them, and make it a priority to teach them about Jesus as their Saviour every chance they get. Representations from Sunday School, the Youth Express and the Cross Over team gave touching presentations honouring the fathers. We praise God that many people commented that they were blessed through the service.

A special mention of thanks is due to the Decoration team for the beautiful decoration with an appropriate theme 'Rooted and Strong like trees by the water' based on Psalms1:3. This was in appreciation to the role played by every father for providing, protecting, guiding the family and all the sacrifices made for their family







## **CBCD WOMEN'S RETREAT**

The Women's Department of Covenant Baptist Church, Dimapur, held a retreat at Shalom Bible Seminary on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2024 where 17 women attended. The speaker was Dr (Mrs) Buno Iralu who shared on two main topics. The first session was on the topic "Preparing our Children

for a precarious world". She shared on how parenting has evolved through time and new challenges which has arisen such as – Technological advancement which has exposed our children to numerous unwanted distractions, moral and religious values being compromised, fragmented families which have distorted traditional Biblical families and the need to get back into God's Word and understand the real meaning of being a family keeping eternity in perspective. This session was followed by a discussion and sharing time.

The second session was on the topic "Being an asset by being spiritually rooted". She shared about what it takes to be an asset and how finding our identity in Christ is the most important asset. She also shared on how a person's life is without Christ and all the ways that person tries to do to fill the void created by the absence of God.

The speaker shared the story of Mary and Martha in Luke Chapter 10 and also shared on the characters and qualities of a Proverbs 31 woman. She compared Martha with the Proverb 31 woman who was so distracted and busy in preparing for her guests and on top of that, she was complaining and how she represents many of us. Whereas Proverbs 31 woman was a hardworking businesswoman who was kind and had a loving heart. But above all else she loves and fears God.

Being a working mom, it is easy to be anxious and to complain about work as well as leaving the children behind at home. However, the story of Martha and Proverbs 31 woman reminds us to put our full faith and trust in God instead of complaining and being anxious. The speaker concluded with two questions to reflect upon-

- 1. Who are you in Christ?
- 2. What is your talent and gift given by God?

The day ended with a tour in the beautiful and peaceful campus and also with a scrumptious meal.









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