

COVENANT 2025

A bimonthly bulletin of COVENANT BAPTIST CHURCH DIMAPUR

JANUARY-FEBRUARY//ISSUE#11

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Sunday Service	: 10:00 am
Youth Express	: Saturday 5:00 pm
Sunday School	: Sunday 10:00 am
Board Meeting	: Once a month
Women's Fellowship	: 2 nd Saturday of the month 4 pm
Prayer Meeting	: Wednesdays at 6:00 pm
Men's Prayer Breakfast	: 2 nd Saturday of the month 7am
Holy Communion	: bi-monthly
Crossover Fellowship	: once a month
Nagamese Fellowship	: Sundays at 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.

GOD CALLS US TO BE INTERCESSORS.
WILL YOU BE ONE?

PRAYER MEETINGS

Wednesdays
5:00 PM (Winter)
6:00 PM (Summer)

COVENANT BAPTIST CHURCH

NMM Building,
Fellowship colony
Dimapur

More Information : 7005882424

The power of prayer: A DEVOTION

Pastor Jabang Longkumer

"In 1940, Professor J. Edwin Orr of Wheaton University led a group of theology students to England, where they visited sites of great revivals. One of their stops was the Epworth rectory. The rectory now serves as a Methodist museum, but it was formerly the home of John Wesley, the famous reformer who led a wave of spiritual renewal in the 1700s and founded the Methodist movement.

As a man of prayer, Wesley interceded for revival to sweep through England and spread to America. Dr. Orr pointed out two worn places on the carpet next to Wesley's bed, where the man knelt for hours in prayer each day, crying out for revival. And, as history tells us, that's exactly what happened. Heaven broke in and revival broke out. As the tour concluded, the students loaded the bus. After counting them, Orr noticed one was missing. He returned

to the house, and eventually located the lost student in John Wesley's bedroom – kneeling on the worn impressions where Wesley had fervently prayed for revival. The student was repeatedly pleading, "Do it again, Lord! Do it again... And would you do it again with me." Placing his hand on the young man's shoulder Orr said, "Son, it's time to leave. Everyone's on the bus." The student slowly rose. Then that young man... Billy Graham... joined the rest of his class, and through him, God did it again!"

When I read this column, I started to wonder how many of us have this attitude towards prayer. God used a simple farmer who later became a renowned evangelist. A simple man who had the passion and the heart to pray and intercede and to serve. Many say that, "Prayer is a powerful weapon" but how often are we using it? It takes humility and obedience's to take a bending knees. To know that without God I am nobody. I pray that in this life we will all leave a "two worn place" on our carpets that one day those marks will be a reminder for others to follow. Prayer indeed is a powerful weapon; don't miss out on your prayer life. God bless you all.

Mission Report

Mr Vepu (Mission Committee)

A recent 2-day mission survey was conducted in Sivasagar and Dibrugarh, Assam, by a team of four members on 8-9 February 2025. The objective was to assess the mission field and identify potential opportunities for future mission work. During the survey, the team witnessed opportunities for establishing long-term missionary work and to provide training and resources for local leaders. The mission survey also underscored the significant spiritual needs and Socio-economic challenges of the local communities. We look forward to seeing how God will use this opportunity to bring hope and transformation in the lives of this people.

Prayer request:

- Pray for the local communities to experience hope and transformation through Jesus Christ
- Pray for God's wisdom and love in planning future mission work
- Pray that God will give us a burden in the hearts of each CBCD members to have a mission mindset for the lost souls.



Survey to our proposed mission field Sivasagar, Assam



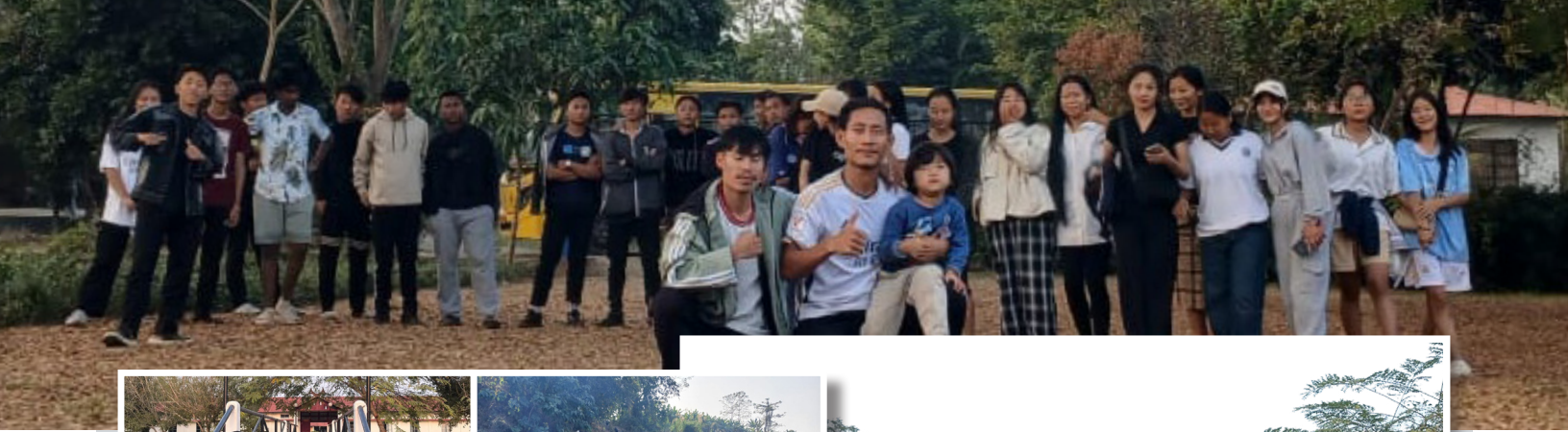
Glimpses of a church and Sunday devotion in our mission field locality

Youth Department Report

Yearly Theme : **"Support, Equip, Empower"** (Ephesians 4:16)
Advisor : **Mr. Yanger Longkumer, Deacon**
Representative Team : **Ms. Benda, Ms. Avisela, Ms. Phejin, Mr. Belithong, Mr. Wanglem**

The Youth Express is blessed to have kicked off the new year with enthusiastic youths willing to learn and grow in the Lord. Our vision for this year is to delve deeper into the Word of God and to care for each other and grow together as a community.

We have commenced our Bible study from the book of James and have also been enriching our understanding of "Servant Leadership" during our regular fellowships. Recently, we organized a picnic at OTS, Bade, aiming to foster bonding among our members, and we had a fruitful time together. We praise God that 43 youths joined us for the picnic!



Upcoming Events:

- March 22nd: Talk on "Worship" with Pastor Yabang
- March 29th: Welcome service for Teens class who have graduated from Sunday School

Let us continue to pray for our youths who are studying and working outside Dimapur, and also pray for God's wisdom and guidance over all our youths.

Crossover Fellowship

Crossover Fellowship will commence on March 2nd. We invite all young professionals to join us.

Christian Education: SUNDAY SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

Mrs. Zuthunglo Ezung

The Sunday School classes for 2025 resumed from February 9th with focus on the yearly theme "Imitators of God"- Ephesians 5:1. It is our prayer to encourage one another to walk in the likeness of God as we teach and learn on the theme during monthly assemblies.

Around 129 students, 2 Sunday school graduates, Sunday School (SS) adviser and 9 teachers attended the first day. We were blessed to have Mr. David Koza, SS adviser who spoke to the children about man's great need for God to come and save us from our sins. He encouraged them to imitate God in our daily life and later said a special prayer of dedication for the department.

We are so happy to welcome back our team of teachers Ms. Intinula, Ms. Thungyani, Ms. Yippi, Ms. Nenti and Ms. Yatet. We are also excited to have a set of new teachers join us. They are Mrs. Sashikala, Mrs. Chumyani, Ms. Kewimedanlule, Mr. Boto and Mr. Napem.

Beginner SAPLINGS, Primary WALKERS and Junior SPARKS will continue to use the Resource Center curriculum while Intermediate BIBLE EXPLORERS and Teens FAITHFUL BIBLE INVESTIGATORS class are using a new curriculum "Faithweaver Now" Published by Group India. We encourage parents and guardians to guide their children through their handbooks which they will be bringing home.

Upcoming events to look out for -

- Bi-monthly SS assessments
- Teens & Intermediate Retreat in April

The highest number of children and teens in the month of February was a 135. We seek God's wisdom and the church's continued support for the children's ministry to thrive.

INTERVIEW WITH SOME INCOMING AND OUTGOING SS TEACHERS

1. What inspired you to become a Sunday school teacher ?

Ans - The love of God upon me and my family inspired me to do something for His glory.

2. What is your biggest challenge as a Sunday school teacher ?

Ans - My knowledge is very limited to teach the word of God to His children.

Mrs. Sashikala Longchar, Teacher i/c Teens Class

3. How do you handle Disciplinary issues in a Sunday school ?

Ans - Disciplinary action is something I strongly believe that needs to be in the top priority in every field and profession. Coming to Sunday school most children have the mindset of being freed from any corrections unlike their regular schools. Along with teaching and learning with the children, I remind them of disciplinary goals. I make them realise how it feels to be heard and seen. If caught in any mischief, I pause and give them a quick smile from which right away they understand that they are disturbing the class. I also try to involve them in answering questions or involve in other volunteering activities. Some students are sent for counseling and prayers. Encouraging and motivating are important keys in dealing with disciplinary issues.

4. What improvement would you like to see in your Sunday school program ?

Ans - Sunday school students are always excited when it comes to activities and programs.

Here are some important improvements that I'd like to see are:

- a) Proper management
- b) Proper sound system
- c) Time management.

Miss Fedilia Jamir



Incoming SS teachers with outgoing SS teachers

5. What inspired you to become a Sunday school teacher ?

Ans- I always believe that children should know about God at a very young age because foundation is very important. And to be able to impact the life of young children in a small way I can see such a huge opportunity for me. Moreover, I myself is a mother of 3 little children and being a Sunday school teacher will help me alot in teaching and guiding them.

6. What resource or support do you feel are lacking or required in the Sunday school programme ?

Ans - How about including a movie day where they can watch christian movies once in a while

Mrs. Chumyani (new SS teacher)

7. What is your biggest challenge as a Sunday school teacher ?

Ans - Teaching both the vulnerable and non vulnerable children. Sometimes it gets challenging to let the both the parties understand things in the same teaching. We need to be more creative and explain one lesson in different ways and one and half hour is not sufficient.

8. What improvement would you like to see in your Sunday school program ?

Ans - Having a visually impaired children, I wish the office can come up with a Braille textbook/workbook for them, so that they can also be a part of the class.

Miss Dandan

9. What is your biggest challenge as a Sunday school teacher ?

Ans - The biggest challenge is keeping myself updated in teaching the children.

10. What are the areas you want to focus among the teens class at SS?

Ans - The areas I would like to focus is in helping them find themselves and find God.

Mr. Boto (New teens SS teacher)

11. What inspired you to become a Sunday school teacher ?

Ans - The inspiration to work in SS department is my love and care for the children, to reach the unreached children with God's word and to save the little souls for the Kingdom of God

12. How was the support you receive from the church leadership as a Sunday school teacher?

Ans - The support which I received through the church leadership is beyond expectation and I am really blessed by their support and care through prayers, encouragement, fulfilling my needs financially and I am really grateful for their support.

Mrs Roopa (Outgoing teens SS teacher)

CHURCH WORKER'S Retreat

THEME *"Support, Equip and Empower"* (Ephesians 4:16).

The first church worker's retreat for the year was held on Feb 22nd at NMM Conference Hall between 09am -03pm. It was great joy to see good turnout of 34 members of our church sub-committee leaders. Each committee/department was fairly represented and a sense of bonding and learning was evident through participation, inter-team interaction as well as through the devotional teaching of the Word of God.

The retreat began with a meaningful time of prayer and singing led by the CBCD worship team Miss Ajem, Mr. Vepu and Mr. Peter Sangtam. Mr. Peter began with a fun activity where members scavenged the room to collect information from each other which broke the ice for the day.

In the first session the speaker began with a very realistic statement "Church is not perfect because I'm there and you're there, but we can strive to be a reflection of Heaven. The church is only as healthy as the individual believer's health." He talked about the importance of church growth based on Ephesians 2:19-22 where bringing irreconcilable communities may be humanly impossible but through Christ, possible.

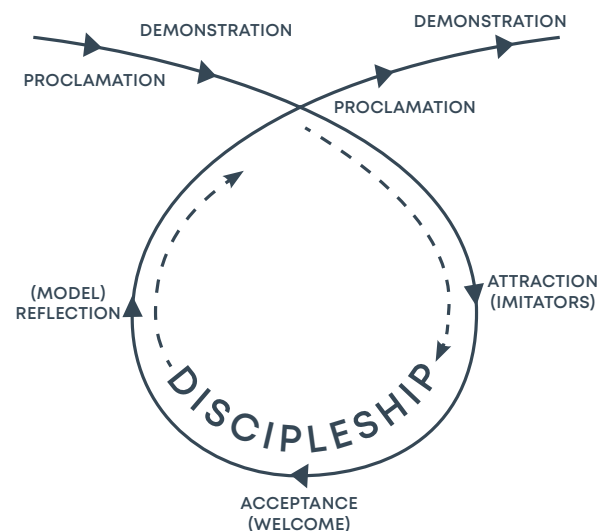
Members then engaged in a church health clinic in the form of a questionnaire under the topic "Vital Signs of a Healthy Church" a format developed by Missouri Baptist Churches. The overall findings from the exercise revealed that CBCD was in the Marginal Zone with an average of 36 points out of 50. This zone diagnosed that several changes in church lifestyle will need to be made. This came as a timely health check for the leadership team to work on quality church growth as CBCD enters its 15th year in April, 2025.

The next session included a sub-committee/department orientation which allowed members to brainstorm on how each committee/department can Support, Equip and Empower one another, Secondly members also deliberated on how a committee could

in turn support the church. The discussions were expressed in chart papers and brief summaries were presented by a team member.

In the final session, the speaker talked about discipleship in the church and how this was a missing link in the context of Nagaland. He laid out a scriptural pattern to develop Christian Discipleship based on 1 Thessalonians 1:2-3. This pattern includes the following steps:

1. Proclamation of the Gospel takes place
2. Demonstration of the Gospel is important rather than a superficial lifestyle
3. Immitators of the Gospel which can be an Attraction for others
4. Welcomed the Gospel with Joy
5. Model Christianity to Reflect the Gospel
6. Becoming Messengers themselves



**1 THESS 1
DISCIPLESHIP PATTERN**

This pattern can be visualized as a spiral ring which in turn creates several such spirals to indicate that discipleship is not just an event but an intentional and on-going program. One of the main take-away from this pattern was that discipleship can begin from:

1. Baptism Class (Teaching the word)
2. Maturity Class (Building skills and tools like Bible reading, Fellowship and Prayer)
3. Ministry Class (Helping new believers discover their own spiritual gifts)
4. Missions Class (reaching out to share the Gospel to family, friends and in the streets or going on mission trips).

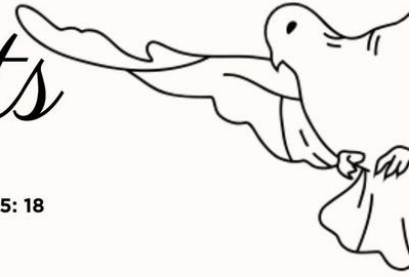
This church worker's retreat was a great start for the year ahead and we trust that God will unite us as a body of believers called to proclaim the Gospel, demonstrating a lifestyle as imitators of God which will attract people to welcome the Gospel with joy so that along with us, other believers can also model Christianity and become messengers themselves.

It is my prayer that each sub-committee and department will birth new visions and achieve many goals, being single-minded, building trust and growing in our walk with the Lord together.



Glimpses from church workers retreat

Prayer Requests



"The Lord is near to all who call on Him, all who call upon Him in truth ." Psalms 145: 18

- Be specific with your prayer request
- If you do not wish to include details, kindly indicate Unspoken Request
- Kindly drop this in the prayer box.
- Feel free to use the back of this card to add more details to your prayer request.

☐ Unspoken request

Name:

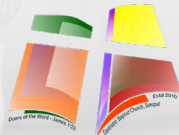
☐ Confidential- Share with pastoral team only

Contact:

☐ Request pastoral team to contact you regarding your request

Date:

Covenant Baptist Church, Dimapur, Nagaland



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