

COVENANT 2025

A bimonthly bulletin of COVENANT BAPTIST CHURCH DIMAPUR

ISSUE #13 / MAY-JUNE

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 Saturdays at 4 pm |
| • Prayer Meeting | : Wednesdays at 6:00 pm |
| • Men's Prayer Breakfast | : 2 nd Saturdays at 7am |
| • Holy Communion | : Once a month |
| • Crossover Fellowship | : Once a month |
| • Nagamese Fellowship | : Sundays at 5:00 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.

Soul Food

Devotional

We all struggle with spiritual discouragement and lethargy. Some days our circumstances threaten to overwhelm us, and we struggle just to pray. Many times, we just don't feel like doing the things we know we should. For one reason or another, God sometimes seems far off and unreachable.

David faced times like these in his life. The Psalms are filled with verses that express his despair and feeling of abandonment. Yet the Psalms also give us the key to living victoriously during the dark periods of life. Let's take a quick look at Psalm 119:89-95.

"Forever, O LORD, Your word is settled in heaven. Your faithfulness continues throughout all generations; You established the earth, and it stands.

They stand this day according to Your ordinances..."

-verses 89-91

My circumstances or feelings have not changed God. He is the same God today as He was when He hung the stars in the sky, led the Israelites through the Red Sea, and fed the five thousand.

"For all things are Your servants..."

All things, even the things affecting me right now, are God's servants. The circumstance, people, and events around me are all under God. They are His servants, designed to help and bless me spiritually.

"If Your law had not been my delight, Then I would have perished in my affliction. I will never forget Your precepts, For by them You have revived me. I am Yours, save me; For I have sought Your precepts. The wicked wait for me to destroy me; I shall diligently consider Your testimonies." Verses 92-95

Recalling God's faithfulness and control over everything that touches us gives us strength to walk with God even when we feel like giving up in despair. After all, our feelings and circumstances have not changed God. He is perfectly capable of sustaining us if we will only let Him. We simply need to choose to delight in and diligently consider God's precepts (His principles and character) despite how we feel. Choosing to delight in God might not be easy. It might even involve hard work. But only God can revive and save our soul from spiritual lethargy.

Next time you feel spiritually drained or inadequate, remember that you have a choice. You can wrap yourself up in excuses and self-pity, or you can choose to draw your strength from an unchanging God.

Source: www.Christianperspective.net

1. *Mission Committee Report*

Gospel Retreat with Harishpur Baptist Fellowship Namrup, Dibrugarh, Assam:

The Committee organised a one-day Gospel Retreat at CBCD with the Harishpur, Assam Baptist Fellowship on the 31st of May, where Pastor Barnabas along with five members attended. The sessions focused on the following topics: (1) Foundational Christian doctrines, (2) Practical finance management, (3) Worship, and (4) Interpersonal relationships. All the sessions were taken by the Committee members.

On the 1st of June, the visiting members presented a special song during the Sunday devotional service.



*Gospel Retreat with Harishpur Baptist Fellowship
Namrup at CBCD*



Dinner fellowship at Dr. Noktang's residence

Visit to Assam Mission Field (June 7th & 8th):

The Committee members conducted a visit to the mission field in Assam. The members were Pastor Yabang Longkumer, Dr. Noktang Jamir, Mr. David Koza and Dr. Temjen. This visit provided an enriching and refreshing experience, offering a valuable connection with the local communities.



Snapshots from the visit to Assam mission field

The Committee expresses their profound gratitude for the Church's unwavering support across all aspects of our mission work. We pray the Lord continues to inspire us and use CBCD as a faithful instrument to serve those in need. All glory and honour be to our Living God for His abundant grace, mercy, and love.

Let us continue to uphold in prayer: Our missionaries and workers: Mr. Ashi and Pastor Barnabas, for the mission field and the mission Committee members for wisdom and guidance.

Vision statement:

To glorify God and advance His Kingdom by the proclamation of His word, making disciples of Jesus Christ who demonstrate transformed lives and impact their communities.

Mission statement:

Equipping CBCD members to participate and partake in the Great Commission by teaching the Word, enabling them to be effective witnesses in their cities and beyond.

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations..." (Matthew 28:19)

2. *Hymn Sunday at Covenant Baptist Church, Dimapur*

Singing was and is an integral part of the New Testament church. This singing comprises singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, which are sung by the congregation (Col. 3:15-17). Much of the present-day hymnal can be traced back to the reformed Congregational singing espoused by Martin Luther and John Calvin. As the name suggests, Hymnal/ Hymn Sunday is a Sunday devotional service focused on delivering biblical Truths through hymn singing, and it is observed across Reformed Christian denominations.

Some significance of observing the hymn Sunday is:

- Celebrating Hymnody (the act of singing Hymn)
- Appreciating the rich heritage and history of Hymns and hymn writers
- Emphasizing corporate active participation in singing
- Seeking unity among worshipers through Congregational Singing and
- Singing the Scriptures, etc.

The 1st Hymn Sunday, themed “*The Story of Redemption: From Sin to Eternal Glory (Rev 5: 9-10)*”, was held at Covenant Baptist Church Dimapur (CBCD) on the 29th of June 2025. This was an outcome of inspiration received during the 2023 Annual General Meeting (AGM). The soulful congregational singing was led by the Worship Team, Youth Express, Men’s Prayer Breakfast, and the CBCD Choir.

The Hymn Sunday comprised of six (6) sections:

1. Focused on the Sinner’s Lost Condition - Acknowledging the Reality and Depth of Sin.
Hymn: Master the Tempest is Raging (*Mary Ann Baker, 1874*)
2. Redemption Through the Cross- Proclaiming the Sufficiency of Christ’s Sacrifice
Hymn: And can it be (*Charles Wesley, 1738*)
3. God’s Mercy and Grace Magnified- Revealing His Holiness, Justice, Mercy, and Love for the Sinners.
Hymn: Wonderful Grace of Jesus (*Haldor Lillenas, 1916*)
4. The Christian’s Daily Battle- Celebrating Peace, Encouraging Perseverance, and Strength in God.
Hymn: It is Well with My Soul (*Horatio Spafford, 1873*)
5. The Fellowship of Believers and the Importance of Community in the Journey of Faith.
Hymn: Blest be the Tie that Binds (*John Fawcett - 1782*)
6. The Hope of Heaven- Living Life on Earth with the Joyful Anticipation of Eternal Life.
Hymn: When We All Get to Heaven (*Eliza E. Hewitt, 1898*)

The congregation was encouraged to reflect on each person’s journey of redemption from 1 Peter 1:18-21, for you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.



Glimpses of CBCD Hymn Sunday

What is YOUR redemption story? Many hymns emerged from a personal story of encounter with God. Some in despair, some during seemingly irreparable loss and tragedy, some out of deep conviction, and some out of overflowing joy of the gift of salvation. Through it all, it was a very personal choice to choose and love God above all situations and circumstances. This redemption love story resonated in the hearts and minds of the congregation as the Sunday wrapped up with a blessing over each other - the sevenfold Amen (Peter Christian Lutkin, 1900). We prayerfully look forward to many more Hymn Sunday celebrations at Covenant Baptist Church, Dimapur. Amen.



Covenant Baptist Church Dimapur Choir

3. *Sunday School Report*

Mrs. Zuthunglo Ezung

Indeed, it is praiseworthy to note that God is adding numbers to the Children's ministry at Covenant Baptist Church Dimapur. Till date, there is a total of more than 170 registered children out of which about 140 – 150 regularly attend Sunday school. It is encouraging to have one non-Christian student who has been attending with us. Along with the children from the church, the Sunday School also consists of Visually Impaired (V.I.) children, children from Prodigal's Home, missionary pastors' children living in a nearby hostel and friends and relatives of Sunday school children from around the neighbourhood. It is indeed a privilege for Covenant to reach out to the society. We praise God that through the children we also get to meet more people. Another praise point is that the department has seamlessly adjusted into the new Sunday school venue at *El-Shaddai Academy* (ESA). We pray that God will continue to bless the ESA family.

During the month of May and June, along with the Beginner's class teacher, we were able to visit a few family homes of our Beginner students for a meaningful fellowship. We will continue visitations in the upcoming months as well.

We are grateful for families of children who sponsor various refreshments on special occasions as well as share treats during birthdays. May God continue to bless them abundantly.

One of our teachers, Ms. Thungyani has left to pursue higher studies. We thank God for her brief investment among the children. We are so happy that teacher Alem has taken over as her replacement.

On Mother's Day, the Intermediate class presented a special song at the Sunday devotional service taught by the concerned teachers. They also participated in distributing the gifts.

On June 7th, around eight of our teachers attended the Vacation Bible School (VBS) teacher's training at Resource Centre under the theme '*Know More about Jesus*' (Phillipians 3:10). We are praying and looking forward for an exciting VBS where children will delve deeper in God's Word. We urge the church to continue in prayer support towards the event.

There are ongoing Bible lessons and memory verse reviews for each class. We encourage parents to take these reviews as an opportunity to engage with the children and make good memories as we train up children in the Lord. We are thankful to God for the dedication of our teachers and also praise God for Covenant Baptist Church for constantly supporting the Sunday School ministry.



Snapshots of Sunday School classes

4. VBS Teachers Training Report

Napem

I am delighted to share a brief report of the Vacation Bible School (VBS) Teachers Training that was successfully held on 7th June 2025 at the Resource Centre, Dimapur. The training was organized with the purpose of preparing and equipping the VBS teachers and volunteers for the upcoming Vacation Bible School.

The theme for this year, '*Know More About Jesus*' based on Philippians 3:10, set the tone for the entire session, reminding everyone of the joy and importance of drawing closer to Christ while serving the little ones.

Highlights of the Training:

- **Opening Session:** The programme began with a word of prayer and devotion, emphasizing the spiritual responsibility of VBS teachers in nurturing young hearts in Christ.
- **Theme & Curriculum Overview:** Participants were introduced to the theme and the teaching materials. Each lesson was designed to help children understand Jesus in a deeper, personal way.
- **Creative Teaching Methods:** Sessions on storytelling, music, memory verse games etc. gave teachers practical tools to engage students effectively.
- **Classroom Management:** Teachers were divided based on the classes they take. Tips and strategies for handling various age groups, discipline, and creating an encouraging learning environment were shared.
- **Workshops & Group Planning:** Attendees broke into age-specific groups to discuss lesson delivery, activity planning, and were based on the classes - Beginner, Primary, Junior, Intermediate, and Teens.
- **Material Distribution:** Teaching guides, badges and craft ideas, were distributed to all participants for use during the VBS.

The training concluded with a time of prayer and dedication, commissioning each teacher to serve with love, enthusiasm, and commitment.

We thank God for His presence throughout the training and express our sincere appreciation to all the resource persons, organizers, and participants. Let us continue to pray for the upcoming VBS, that many young



VBS teacher's training

5. *Women's Fellowship Report:*

Dr Michelle Kamei

We are grateful to God as our women's ministry continue to grow through supportive community, inspiring teachings and outreach initiatives.

Highlights of the month of May 2025:

1. On 5th May, some of us from our women's group had the privilege of attending a one-day retreat organised by the Dimapur Baptist Women Union (DBWU) in collaboration with Disruptive Women and City Impact on the theme, *"Disruptive Women: A Kingdom Call to Bold Leadership"* at Police Baptist Church, Dimapur
2. On 10th May, a one-day retreat on the theme, *"For Such a Time as This"* based on Esther 4:14 was organized at our church with Mrs. Twinkle Kiba as the resource person. The retreat was truly a blessed one where all the participants experienced spiritual rejuvenation, inspiring sessions and meaningful connections.
3. On 30th May, we had the privilege to host the 2nd executive meeting of the Dimapur Baptist Women's Union at our church, sharing a space of fellowship, growth and encouragement in faith. Around 80 women from different churches under DBWU attended the meeting.
4. We are also grateful for the opportunity to visit four families with new born babies with the purpose of sharing their joy and offering emotional, spiritual and prayer support.

Highlights of the month of June 2025:

1. On 7th June, we had our monthly fellowship at our church. We had a blessed time with Mrs Gerla Longkumer as our speaker who enriched us by her inspiring teachings and insights.
2. On June 15th, our women's group took the initiative to organize and lead our church's Father's Day programme expressing our appreciation and recognition of the fathers and father figures with Mrs. Watila Amit as the speaker.
3. On 20th June, some members from our women's group attended the DBWU combined fellowship at Kuda Village Baptist Church, Dimapur where around 400 members from all the churches under DBWU attended. It was a privilege to attend the combined fellowship and share the pulpit in prayer, uniting in worship and deepening our spiritual bond.

The Women's Fellowship core team is set to meet and finalize plans for the next half of the year focusing on the theme, *"Support, Equip and Empower"* based on Ephesians 4:16.

Join us for our women's fellowship where we can share, encourage and uplift one another in the spirit of love and community. We have our monthly fellowship on 2nd Saturdays of every month at 4pm. Stay updated for other activities like retreat, outreach, events and gatherings.



At the one-day retreat organised by the DBWU



CBCD Women's one-day retreat



2nd executive meeting of the Dimapur Baptist Women's Union held at CBCD



2nd executive meeting of the Dimapur Baptist Women's Union held at CBCD

6. MPB Fellowship Report

Dr. Temjen Longkumer

Greeting to you in the name of our Saviour and Lord Jesus Christ. The Men's Prayer Breakfast (MPB) group are having a Bible study every 2nd Saturday morning of the month. For the month of May, it was held on 9th May where we studied and discussed on Matthew 5:1-12 on a summary of The Beatitudes. We learned that Christ began His teaching, using the beatitudes as an introduction to His sermon on the mount. Beatitudes inherited its blessedness from the Latin word '**beatus**', meaning '*both happy and blessed*' - Happy because we are blessed in His sight. To understand the rest of His teachings, one needs to be extraordinarily joyful and know that he/she is blessed. Joy is not based on anything that's going on in and around, but instead is purely based on the relationship with God the Father.

The men's group had a Futsal match on the 16th of May and on the 31st of May, we played both badminton as well as futsal at Arena 365.

For the month of June, our Bible study was held on the 14th of June from the book of Matthew 5:13 – 16 studying our God given identity. Our God given identity comes with a great responsibility - One who understands and believes the teaching of Christ Yeshua not only realises that he/she is blessed in the sight of the Lord, will rejoice and be glad with the hope of a great reward in heaven, will also be faithful and content with God given identity and will live responsibly. And those who live responsibly with gratitude, naturally becomes fruitful.

Matthew 5, verses 17-20: Our Lord elaborates on how our righteousness can exceed the righteousness of those religious leaders in the following 9 case studies

1. Do not be angry which is equivalent to murder.
2. Do not be lustful which is equivalent to adultery.
3. Do not divorce it is adultery.
4. Do not take an oath at all.
5. Do not retaliate.
6. Be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect.
7. Do not give publicity.
8. Do not make prayer commercial.
9. Do not fast like a hypocrite.

The Men's group led the Sunday service praise and worship on the 22nd of June and also participated in the Church's hymnal Sunday on the 29th of June.



MPB Futsal at Arena 365



MPB Bible Study at NMM Conference Hall

7. *Youth Express Report*

Mrs. Kewi Pfüno

Our church's Youth Express ministry had a blessed Evangelistic week from June 6th to 8th, with Mrs. Tovikali Shohe, Assistant Youth Pastor, DSBC, as the speaker. The theme was 'Encounter' based on Acts 8:27-40. We praise God for the opportunity to reach out to young people, and around 120 youths attended.

Many accepted Christ Jesus as their personal Savior and Lord, recommitted, and renewed their relationship with God. We dealt with life's big questions, such as:

- *Have I accepted Christ as my Personal Lord and Savior?*
- *How do I know if I'm saved?*
- *Can I still mend my relationship with Him?*

We are grateful to God for helping many young people understand what it means to be saved. Notably, around 7 youths made a commitment to serve God full-time. We also thank an anonymous family for sponsoring refreshments. May God bless them for their heart for the youth.

On 14th June we had a special session with Pastor Yabang on '*Worship*' which was a blessing to many. Our regular Youth Express services continue every Saturday at 5 pm. We invite all youths to join us for fellowship, worship, and growth in God's Word. We also invite the youth to join us every 2nd and 4th Sunday as we have an ongoing Bible study with Mrs. Watila Amit on the Gospel of Mark.

We covet your prayers as we follow up with the young souls who made commitments during the Evangelistic week. For prayer needs, please contact our Youth Pastor at 7005416351.



Glimpses from the Youth Express Evangelistic week from held June 6th to 8th

8. *Crossover Fellowship report*

As we move into the second half of the year, we are grateful to God, He has been faithful in carrying us through.

On the 10th of May, a potluck picnic fellowship was organized at Atoqa Tea Factory, Nikheku Village, Nuiland where Miss Yatetla Longkumer shared on the topic, *“The mind of Christ”* (based on Phillipians 1-3). The day ended with a scrumptious meal and much joy.

Our monthly Fellowship meeting was held on June 1st, 2025 where we had Bible study, challenges and practical tips taught by Mr. Len Jose Haokip based on the topic: *‘Faith in the marketplace: Understanding your evangelistic calling’*.

We earnestly wait for His teachings and purposes fulfilled for the rest of the year. Keep us in your prayers.



Potluck picnic fellowship organized at Atoqa Tea Factory, Nikheku Village



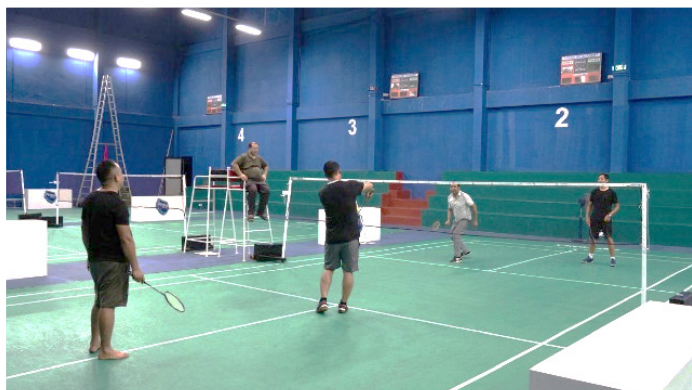
CBCD Crossover monthly Fellowship meeting

9. *Member Care Fellowship*

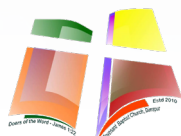
As part of the ‘Member Care’ programme of the church this year, a Member Care fellowship was held on the 28th of June at Arena 365, Kacharigaon, Dimapur bringing together the members of the church for a special time of fellowship, connection, encouragement and community. The event was well attended, with approximately 95 to 100 people participating. It was a vibrant and joyful gathering, reflecting the heart of the church to care for and build deeper relationships among its members.

The fellowship lasted for about three and a half hours and included a variety of activities aimed at fostering unity and enjoyment. The evening began with games of futsal, badminton and swimming, allowing both the young and the young-at-heart to engage in fun physical activities. These activities and games set a cheerful tone for the rest of the event.

During the fellowship, each family was invited to introduce themselves. This simple yet powerful moment allowed members to get to know one another better and fostered a sense of belonging. Words of encouragement were shared by several members, uplifting one another with testimonies and kind words. The pastor also shared a brief exhortation, reminding everyone of the importance of unity, care, and spiritual support within the church family. Overall, the fellowship was a blessed time of joy, bonding, and spiritual encouragement that left everyone refreshed and looking forward to future gatherings. The fellowship concluded with a delicious potluck dinner, where everyone contributed and shared food.



Snapshots of Member Care Fellowship at Arena 365



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