

COVENANT 2026

A bimonthly bulletin of COVENANT BAPTIST CHURCH DIMAPUR

ISSUE #17 / MAR-APR

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 : 2nd Saturdays at 4 pm
- Prayer Meeting : Wednesdays at 6:00 pm
- Men's Prayer Breakfast : 2nd 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.

Women's Fellowship Report

Dr Michelle Kamei

Our hearts are filled with gratitude as we recount the mercies God has extended to our women's ministry thus far .

Bi -Monthly Highlights (March and April)

- 7th March: Our women's group was given the privilege to lead the church fasting and prayer program.
- 7th April: Attended the DBWU women pastors / leaders monthly dawn fellowship at Sangtam Baptist Church, Dimapur.
- 10th April: DBWU 1st executive meeting at Chang Baptist Church, Dimapur. Mrs Zuthonglo attended.
- 11th April: Monthly fellowship.
- Mrs Santi Keyho blessed us by sharing her heart, testifying God's unwavering faithfulness and the promise of Isaiah 41:10 as her family prepares to follow His call to Thailand.
- Mrs Kewi pfuno encouraged and challenged us from the life of Mary of Bethany (Luke 10: 38 to 42) to stop and "Choose what is better" by making time to sit at Jesus's feet ,even when life feels overwhelming and give our absolute best in worship.

- 28th April: Had an enriching experience as some of us attended a seminar on women's mental health on the theme, "*Transformative role of faith in women's mental health and wellness*" jointly organized by DBWU and OM books at Yimkhuing Baptist Church, Dimapur. The resource person was Mrs. Bokali Chishi Mughavi.
- Our home visitation team had the privilege of visiting 2 families to share the joy of new births, celebrating the precious gifts from God.
- We also visited a sister recovering from surgery.

It was a blessing to provide encouragement and prayers for our sisters, reminding them of the church's love and God's faithfulness through every season .

Deeply grateful for the hands that serve and the hearts that pray and we move forward together in His grace .



Monthly Fellowship



Home Visits



Attending a seminar at Yimkhuing Baptist Church, Dimapur

Men's Prayer Breakfast

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

In the month of March we had the 2nd MPB Bible study from the book of Revelation 2:1-7 at NMM conference hall on 14th. Special breakfast was prepared and sponsored by Bro.B.V.Sridhar.

The Bible study was on the letter to the different Churches.

The common elements in each letter are:

1. Name of the Church.
2. Title of Christ Yeshua.
3. Commendation.
4. Complaint.
5. Command.
6. Promise to the overcomer.
7. Closing phrase.

We studied the first of the letters to the Churches, that is to the Church in Ephesus.

Bible studies are being conducted once a month on the 2nd Saturday of the month.

In the month of April we had a talk on the topic "Genetics and Marriage" on the 18th at the NMM conference hall.

Some of the points that we discussed were on

1. What is a gene,chromosome,RNA and DNA ?
2. What is the human genome?
3. Genetic disorders, genetic mutation and genetic inheritance.
4. Marriage, incest and consanguineous marriage.



Selfie after a blessed fellowship

DECOMPROMISED LAND

Whence is the place of no compromises?
Does it even exist?
Is there ever a time, do we not compromise?
Surely not!

Life indeed is a compromise,
Full of compromises is it.
Sane are we cause of compromises.
Compromising, to be sociable.

But, the deepest of our heart longs,
Longs for order, justice and perfection.
O! Why does an imperfect being seek perfection?
Why? O! Why is my heart unsettled?
Why can't imperfection be the norm?

Life indeed is a compromise,
Full of compromises is it.

They say nobody is perfect.
But who is this nobody?
Does He exist?
Am I His Imager?

Compromises are for parents, not to discourage them.
Compromises are for siblings, for peace.
Compromises are for friends, for friendship sake.
Compromises are for lovers, for love's sake.
Compromises are for our children, because how can we ask, perfection from them?

Life indeed is a compromise,
Full of compromises is it.

Whence is the place, of no compromises?
Does it even exist?
Is there ever a time, do we not compromise?
Surely indeed!

Is it not heaven?
No more compromises in heaven.
When relationships are in perfect harmony.
Why would we need compromises?

One with YHWH-Christ is the 'Decompromised land.'

-Dr. Temjen

Mission Trip Report

On 26th April 2026, a team of four representatives from Covenant Baptist Church Dimapur travelled to the Church's mission field at Namrup, Assam, to fellowship with the Harishpur congregation and participate in their Sunday devotional service. The team journeyed by train and returned on the same day. Upon arrival at Namrup station, our missionary, Brother Ashi, warmly received the team at the station and faithfully accompanied them throughout their visit.

The visiting team was graciously welcomed by Pastor Barnabas and the members of the fellowship. The service commenced with a spirit-filled time of praise and worship, led by Brother Vepu and Brother Ashi, drawing the congregation into heartfelt adoration. The women's group ministered through a special song, conveying a message of encouragement and devotion. Pastor Barnabas shared updates regarding the life and growth of the fellowship and led the congregation in hymns, fostering a sense of unity and gratitude among those gathered.

Dr. Noktang delivered a sermon on the topic 'Why we fall sick', where he highlighted four main reasons why we fall sick – (i) We fall sick because of the Fall of man/creation, (ii) We fall sick because of our own poor health choices since the Bible clearly tells us that we reap what we sow, (iii) Sickness is often caused by satan to create hatred from us towards God, (iv) Sicknesses are often allowed by God to reveal His power and to discipline us.

Dr. Noktang further reminded the congregation that, while we may not always understand the reasons behind suffering, we must remain steadfast in our faith. He emphasized that Christ's primary mission was not merely the healing of physical ailments, but the salvation of souls. He challenged the congregation with a reflection: what value is physical health if one ultimately ends up in hell?

A few individuals had some urgent prayer requests so the congregation had a time of prayer and intercession after the service. A special lunch was thoughtfully arranged for the visiting team, providing an opportunity for further fellowship and encouragement before their return journey.

Prayer requests:

1. Continue to pray for all the believers at Harishpur fellowship and their Pastor Barnabas and our missionary Ashi Konyak.
2. Pray for a suitable accommodation near the mission field for Ashi, so that he can serve more effectively.
3. Pray for the individuals who are requesting water baptism in the near future, that God will prepare them for the baptism.
4. Pray for the Mission Committee members, that God will continue to give them wisdom in all their planning and future mission trips.
5. Pray that God will open up more opportunities for us to get involved in the great commission given by Christ, and that we will be willing to be a part of it in any way possible.



Report on Mission Seminar 2026

As part of observing Mission Month in the month of March, a one-day seminar was organized on 21st March, 2026 on the topics “How do we work for the Lord?” and “The rewards promised to believers” spread over two sessions. The resource person for this seminar was Rev. Boipu Serto, who is the Mission Secretary of the Council of Baptist Churches in North East India (CBCNEI). He belongs to the Aimol tribe of Manipur, representing the Manipur Baptist Convention (MBC). Prior to his coming to the Council, he had served as the Mission Secretary, Kom Rem Baptist Churches Association (KRBCA), Youth Director/Pastor of MBC Centre Church, and Secretary for Youth & Education, MBC. He completed his BA (Manipur University), M. Div. (Calcutta Bible College), and M. Th. (Torch Trinity Graduate School of Theology, Seoul). He married Wungramwon Makakopo and is blessed with a beautiful daughter. A brief summary of the two sessions is given below.

Session 1: How Do We Work for the Lord?

The first session emphasized that the mission of the church begins within - through unity, spiritual health, and Christ-centered living - before reaching outward. True ministry is not defined by busyness, but by the lasting legacy of transformed lives and faithful discipleship.

Five key attitudes for effective service were highlighted:

1. Servanthood as co-labourers: Jesus modelled humble service, reminding believers that no act of service is beneath them. (Matthew 20:28; John 13)
2. A teachable spirit: Growth requires humility and openness to correction, enabling believers to mature and lead effectively. (Proverbs 15:32)
3. Willingness to be Second: True ministry prioritizes others, reflecting compassion, sacrifice, and a readiness to go the extra mile. (Matthew 5:41; Luke 10:25-37)
4. Raising the next generation: The church must intentionally disciple and equip future leaders to ensure continuity of God’s work. (2 Timothy 2:2)
5. Surrendering to Christ’s plan: Believers are called to let Jesus shape their lives for His greater purpose rather than personal recognition.

The session also addressed factors that divide believers, including pride, selfish ambition, doctrinal conflicts, gossip, and the desire for control. Scripture calls the church to unity, humility, and love as essential foundations for effective ministry. The session concluded with group discussions focusing on key takeaways, challenges to church health, and practical ways to equip emerging leaders.

Session 2: The Rewards Promised to Believers

Drawing from the story of the rich young man in Mark 10:17-27, this session explored the contrast between outward success and inward spiritual lack.

Three factors of his life were examined:

- What he had: Youth, knowledge, religious practice, and spiritual curiosity.
- What he lacked: True joy, peace, a relationship with God, and spiritual understanding.
- What he could have received: Eternal life, heavenly treasure, and the privilege of discipleship.

The session highlighted key lessons for modern believers:

- Religion without Christ leads to emptiness.
- Choosing temporary gain over eternal reward is a tragic exchange.
- Possessions can become idols when they take God’s place in our hearts.

The teaching concluded by reflecting on the five crowns promised to faithful believers:

- The Imperishable Crown
- The Crown of Rejoicing
- The Crown of Righteousness
- The Crown of Glory
- The Crown of Life

The session ended with a personal call to evaluate one's faith, priorities, and commitment to fully follow Christ.



Cell Group Orientation

28th March, 2026, CBCD

Essence of Small group in the church (Devotion)

INTRODUCTION: Scripture calls us not only to proclaim the Gospel but also to share lives transformed by the Gospel. Christian community is not merely about communication of truth, but the embodiment of that truth in relationships. Jesus said: “Love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” (John 13:35). Similarly, the Paul the Apostle describes a ministry that goes beyond preaching to deep relational investment: “...we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well...” 1 Thes. 2:7-12

This model of ministry includes:

- Nurturing care — like a mother tenderly caring for her children
- Relational sharing — giving not only the Gospel but our very lives
- Sacrificial service — laboring day and night for one another
- Godly conduct — living holy, righteous, and blameless lives together
- Spiritual leadership — exhorting, encouraging, and guiding one another like a father Such a lifestyle is most effectively practiced within small, relational settings in the local church, while remaining rooted in the reality of the universal Church.

BUILDING STRONG BOND IN THE TRUTH AND FOR THE TRUTH:

1. Jesus’ Model of Small Groups Jesus Christ modelled intentional, relational discipleship by investing deeply in a small group of followers rather than focusing solely on large crowds. His aim was transformation, multiplication, and leadership development. This model emphasized: Life-on-life discipleship; Intimate fellowship; Servanthood; and Equipping for mission Jesus prayerfully chose His twelve disciples:

Luke 6:12-16 — He spent the night in prayer before choosing them

Mark 3:13-19 — He called them to be with Him and to be sent out

Matthew 10:1-4 — He entrusted them with authority This demonstrates that effective ministry flows from deep relationship and intentional formation.

2. Apostle Paul on Small Group: The ministry of Paul the Apostle consistently reflects the importance of small, relational gatherings, often expressed through house churches. These gatherings were marked by: Close fellowship; Shared life and meals; Mutual encouragement and Doctrinal teaching. As the Scripture says Teaching both publicly and from house to house, declaring the whole counsel of God (Acts 20:20, 26-27). In Acts 21:1 — Reveals the deep emotional bond between Paul and the Ephesian believers; “we had torn ourselves away from them” highlights their strong relational connection. Romans 16:5; 1 Corinthians 16:19; Colossians 4:15 refer to “the church in their house”; and Emphasis on mutual encouragement through shared faith (Romans 1:11-12). Paul’s teaching shows that these small gatherings were essential for:

Mutual Encouragement — building one another up (1 Thess. 5:11)

Bearing Burdens — fulfilling the law of Christ together (Gal. 6:2)

Unity in Faith — strengthening one another spiritually (Rom. 1:12) John Piper views small groups as essential, not optional, for the church, acting as a vital, “face-to-face” complement to corporate worship that helps believers - persevere in faith, combat sin, and apply the Gospel to one another’s lives, to reach out to those whom pastor’s preaching cannot reach through loving, intimate support.

BIBLICAL BASIS FOR SMALL/CELL GROUP:

1. Church and Small/Cell group ministry- The early Church functioned through both large gatherings and small house-based fellowships, creating a balanced and dynamic model of ministry. “And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching that the Christ is Jesus (Acts 5:42). Communities - Believers are encouraged to engage in both corporate worship (temple-like gatherings) and intimate discipleship settings (house-to-house). This dual structure fosters teaching, fellowship, accountability, and mission. The mission of the Church remains central: “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations... teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you...” (Matt. 28:19–20). Small groups serve as a primary environment for disciple-making and obedience.
2. Communal Devotion to the obedience of the Word of God/truth and Prayer The strength of the early Church lay in its shared devotion to truth, fellowship, and prayerful living. “They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers...” (Acts 2:42–47).
 - Devotion to Scripture: Grounded in sound teaching and truth
 - Fellowship: Genuine sharing of life and resources
 - Prayer: A continual dependence on God
 - Obedience: Living out faith in practical, sacrificial ways This kind of community produces spiritual growth, unity, and daily transformation, as the Lord adds to His Church.
3. Meeting together to stir up one another to love and good works Regular gathering is essential for mutual encouragement and spiritual activation. “Let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together...” (Hebrews 10:24–25)
 - Encouragement: Strengthening one another in faith
 - Accountability: Guarding against spiritual drift
 - Activation: Inspiring love and practical good works Consistent fellowship helps believers remain steadfast and fruitful.
4. Growing and Building the Body of Christ in Love (Agape). The growth and strengthening of the Church are rooted in Christ-like love (agape)—a selfless, sacrificial love that reflects the very nature of God. This love is not optional; it is the defining mark of true discipleship and the bond that unites the body of Christ. Jesus commanded His followers: love one another... By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” (John 13:34–35). This divine love originates from God and must be reflected in our relationships with one another: “Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another... if we love one another, God abides in us (1 John 4:11–13). As we live out this love, the Church grows into maturity (Eph. 4:15–16).
5. Unity, Mutual Care, and Encouragement in Small Fellowships Even small gatherings carry Christ’s presence and purpose. “For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them” (Matthew 18:20). Small fellowships are vital for personal care and spiritual restoration: “If anyone is caught in any transgression... restore him in a spirit of gentleness... Bear one another’s burdens...” (Gal. 6:1–2). “Exhort one another every day... that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.” (Heb. 3:12–14)
 - Restoration: Gently bringing back those who fall
 - Burden-bearing: Walking together in struggles
 - Daily encouragement: Preventing spiritual hardness

The Church flourishes and grows strongest when believers gather both corporately and in small groups, devoting themselves to the Word, prayer, fellowship, and mutual care—where truth is not only proclaimed but lived out in close, committed relationships, as they share life, nurture one another, and grow together in unity, maturity, and mission in Christ.

Crossover Fellowship Report

Second Fellowship: Bible Study

The second Crossover Fellowship of the year was held on 1st March 2026. The passage for the study was from the book of Proverbs, chapter 2:1–11. Thirteen members were in attendance. The session facilitated spiritual edification and mutual encouragement among the members.

Third Fellowship: Community Outreach On 12 April 2026,

The session for April was held on the 12th. During the third session, thirteen members participated in a community outreach with specially-abled friends of Prodigals' Home and Tikvah Center, held at The Prodigals' Home. The program included congregational singing, personal testimonies, and fellowship over a meal. The outreach was well-received and provided meaningful engagement with the residents.

Youth Express

We thank God for His faithfulness and guidance over the Youth Department during the months of March and April. It has been a time of spiritual growth, fellowship, and meaningful engagement.

- On 6th March, the youth gathered for a futsal fellowship, where both boys and girls participated enthusiastically. Along with the games, we had a meaningful time of devotion at the venue, encouraging one another through God's Word. It was truly a refreshing and blessed time of fellowship.
- On 14th March, we were blessed to have Mrs. Watila Amit share the Word of God, which encouraged and strengthened the youth in their walk with Christ.
- On 21st March, we had a special session with representatives from the Nagaland Pollution Control Board.
- Ms. Rongsenben Longkumer spoke on "Ambient Air Quality and Its Impact", while Mr. Yanathung Kithon addressed "Solid Waste Management". We thank them for sharing their knowledge and for the meaningful time with the youth.
- On 22nd March, during the church's Mission Month, the Youth Department had the privilege of presenting a short skit on missions. We thank God for the opportunity to be part of the wider ministry of the church.
- On 4th April, we were blessed by the Word shared by Mrs. Zuthunglo Ezung, Associate Pastor, Christian Education. We praise God for her life and ministry.
- On 11th April, we had a combined fellowship with the Evangelical Union of Immanuel College. The Word was shared by Mrs. Kewi, Associate Pastor, Youth, followed by a meaningful time of worship and fellowship. We look forward to more such enriching times together in the future.
- On 18th April, Pastor Yabang Longkumer ministered to the youth. We thank God for his leadership and continued encouragement.

We also thank God for a special testimony among us. Our visually impaired (VI) friend, Lesing Sangtam, took water baptism. Having committed his life to the Lord during last year's evangelistic week, he has now joined Bible school to prepare for ministry. We praise God for his life and pray for his continued growth and faithfulness.

As a department, we remain grateful for God's leading and look forward with expectation to what He will continue to do in and through the youth.

From fellowship to service and learning, God is shaping and strengthening our youth. May these glimpses inspire us all to remain faithful, committed, and passionate in our walk with Him.

Hebrews 10:24-25: *“And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.”*

Renewed for the Call

A Day of Fellowship and Faith at Noune Resort.

“Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another.” — Proverbs 27:17

Under the sun and in high spirits, we the Sunday School teachers headed out to the peaceful Niathu Resort for a much-needed retreat. Usually, we’re the ones pouring our hearts into the kids every week, but this day was all about filling our own cups. It was a perfect chance to slow down, reconnect with each other, and remember why we love doing what we do.



Navigating the Waters Together

Our journey began on the water. After strapping on our life vests, we hopped into a motorboat and let the operator take the lead, allowing us to simply sit back and soak in the view. It felt like a nod to those moments when Jesus used the water as a backdrop for His peace.

As we glided along, the life vests felt like a gentle reminder of God’s grace—always there, keeping us safe and buoyant even when life feels deep or uncertain. It was a time of pure, quiet serenity. Without the need to steer or strive, we just enjoyed the beauty of His creation and the calm that comes from simply being in the same boat with our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Overcoming Mountains: Trust in Action

The afternoon nudged us out of our comfort zones and into the fresh air. We split up to take on different “trials,” each one a beautiful physical reflection of our spiritual walk:

- **Rope Cycling:** Pedalling through the air reminded us of the steady, quiet endurance it takes to run the long race of faith.
- **Zip Lining:** This was a true leap of faith! Gliding through the sky, we had to let go of control and simply trust the harness designed to hold us safe.
- **Rope Climbing:** This was the heavy lifting of the day. It took sweat, focus, and plenty of grit to reach the top.





As we pushed ourselves, the Holy Spirit whispered a gentle but profound lesson: we weren't meant to do this alone. Whether we were high in the air or balanced on a rope, those on the ground were right there, shouting encouragement and guiding our steps.

It was a beautiful reminder that no teacher is an island. To be the mentors our students need, we first have to allow ourselves to be mentored by God and carried by our peers. We walked away realizing that "trust" isn't just a lesson we teach in a classroom; it's a muscle we have to flex and strengthen every single day.

One Body, One Spirit

In between the big adventures, we spent time playing games that were about much more than just having fun. These moments were designed to break down walls and weave us closer together. We were reminded of 1 Corinthians 12:12—that even though we all have our own unique teaching styles and personalities, we are truly one body.

Whether we were finding our rhythm or mastering a tricky movement, we found so much joy in simply figuring things out together. Those games were more than just fun; they were a beautiful lesson in patience, timing, and coordination. It showed us that when we align our hearts and our steps, we can handle anything that comes our way. That beautiful synergy is the heartbeat of our Sunday School family; we're at our best when we're working, laughing, and growing together.



A Feast of Gratitude

After working up a hearty appetite, we gathered around the table for a magnificent lunch. We enjoyed a variety of “Thalis”, a beautiful representation of diversity coming together in one tray. As we broke bread, the conversation shifted from the excitement of the activities to the goodness of God’s provisions. Just as the Thali nourished our bodies, the fellowship nourished our souls.

Closing Reflections

We headed home from Noune Resort with tired muscles but completely ignited spirits. We are so deeply grateful for this time to just be together—to bond, to laugh, and to come away with a fresh understanding of what it means to be anchored in Christ and held up by one another.

As we bring these lessons of trust, teamwork, and mentorship back into our classrooms, we’d love your continued prayers for our teaching team. Our prayer is that we can lead the children with the same joy and courage we rediscovered on this retreat.



To God be the glory for a day of perfect fellowship!

“And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another...” — Hebrews 10:24-25

Gallery



CMFL Teachers Training



CBCD Teachers Training



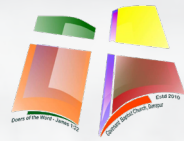
Teens Class: Special Presentation on Palm Sunday



March Bible Study



Outreach



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