

PRIORITIES OF THE NCCI—YOUTH CON- CERN

- Encouraging young people to be part of the National Ecumenical Movement.
- Networking with the Local and International Ecumenical partners for sponsorship and partnership.
- Connecting the member churches and the local youth movements with the Commission on Youth through organizing programmes both at regional and national levels.
- Strengthening direct partnerships with youth fellowships of the member churches and Commission on Youth and encouraging them to create ecumenical platforms for young people to Promote grassroot ecumenism.
- Identifying Young people to engage them in a process of articulating their faith and understanding about God.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

New Year Reflection	1
Youth Interface on Disability...	2
Disability Christmas	3
SCMI National Level Leadership	3
Ecumenical Youth Music Concert	4

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connect create change

YOUTH CONCERN - NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES IN INDIA

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NEW YEAR RESOLUTION

The practice of making New Year's resolutions has been an ongoing practice for many people. Common New Year's resolutions are commitments to lose weight, quit smoking, to stop drinking, to manage money more wisely, and to spend more time with family. These are all good goals to set. Many Christians make New Year's resolutions to pray more, to read the Bible every day, and to attend church more regularly. These are fantastic goals. However, these New Year's resolutions fail just as often as the non-spiritual resolutions, because there is no power in a New Year's resolution. Resolving to start or stop doing a certain activity has no value unless you have the proper motivation for stopping or starting that activity. For example, why do you want to read the Bible every day? Is it to honor God and grow spiritually, or is it because you have just heard that it is a good thing to do? Why do you want to lose weight? Is it to honor God with your body, or is it for vanity, to honor yourself?

Philippians 4:13 tells us, "I can do everything through Him who gives me strength." John 15:5 declares, "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." If God is the center of your New Year's resolution, it has chance for success, depending on your commitment to it. If it is God's will for something to be fulfilled, He will enable you to fulfill it. So, what sort of New Year's resolution should a Christian make? Here are some suggestions: (1) pray to the Lord for wisdom (James 1:5) in

regards to what resolutions, if any, He would have you make; (2) pray for wisdom as to how to fulfill the goals God gives you; (3) rely on God's strength to help you; (4) find an accountability partner who will help you and encourage you; (5) don't become discouraged with occasional failures; instead, allow them to motivate you further; (6) don't become proud or vain, but give God the glory. Psalm 37:5-6 says, "Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him and he will do this: He will make your righteousness shine like the dawn, the justice of your cause like the noon-day sun." As, a Christian the practice of making and following New Year's resolution can further strengthen our physical and spiritual growth in Christ which will not only mould us to remain firm in our commitments but it will also help us to remain faithful and righteous with GOD..

V. Shitovi Sema

Intern— Youth Commission, NCCI



Youth Interface on Disability
 “Under the Roof...A step beyond the stair”

The National Council of Churches in India – Indian Disability Ecu-
 menical Accompaniment (IDEA), Commission on Youth, Engage
 Disability and World Vision India along with CNI-SSI, St. Ursula Girls
 High School, YWCA and SAKSHAM organized two day workshop on
 Youth Interface on Disability from 2nd Dec to 3rd Dec, 2016 at NCCI
 Campus, Nagpur on the theme “Under the Roof...A Step beyond the
 Stair”. Around 50 participants including youth with disabilities along
 with their peers from different faith background accompanied by few
 senior citizens, government officials, Special educators, Theologians
 and few faith leaders and scholars from different faith background
 participated in the Youth Interface on Disability representing the ma-
 jor faith communities including Christianity, Hinduism, Buddhism and
 Islam. The purpose behind this program was to implement certain
 aims and objectives in the society such as

- To exercise and conscientize the youth about Equal Rights to all
- To facilitate youth from different faith communities to come to-
 gether and share what their faith say about PWD inclusion and also
 share their experiences and good practices
- To cultivate the youth towards becoming a responsible and pro-
 gressive volunteer to empower their Persons with Disabilities peers
 to realize their dreams of optimal independence, meaningful employ-
 ment, significant social relationships, and full participation
- To strengthen youth to promote social inclusion and empower-
 ing persons with disabilities in providing innovative interventions

The highlights of the two days program were as follows:

- **Interfaith Panel Speaks:**
- **Open house session**
- **Interfaith Inspiration on Disability**
- **Group Discussion**
- **Inspirational Video**
- **Interfaith Disability – Group Discussion**



The **concluding Session**
and building the road map
 was well summarised by **Mr. Kasta Dip, Director of India Peace Center, Nagpur** with perfect ease. . saying that there must be diverse flow, as resources are available and this should certainly be

starting point to begin.



Valedictory

Mrs. Aradhana Upadhaya, Director of CNI-SSI closed the two day workshop by thanking all the partners and the partici-
 pants for their presence and time. She also expressed that this was an opportunity for all

of us to know what disability is and learn to accept each other as we are encouraging to mainstream inclusion and eradicate the stigma of exclusion. She handed over the Certificate of participation along with a memento from World Vision to every participant. The participants shared that this was certainly a learning journey for both PWD and the Non PWD youths, experiencing the fellowship of building relationship, advocating for ones’ right and accompanying each other would certainly help all to come together as one single community. Mr. Sandeep k Lakshine, a PWD youth from Gondia closed the evening with a word of prayer. The benediction was pronounced by Roger Sir. The Team departure over a cup of tea after the Group Photo.

The Planning Team:

- Rev. Dr. Roger Gaikwad, General Secretary, NCCI
- Rev. Christopher Rajkumar, Executive Secretary, NCCI-CJPC
- Mr. Jianthaolung Gonmei, Executive Secretary, NCCI-Youth Commission
- Mrs. Cynthia Shinde, Coordinator, NCCI-IDEA
- Ms. Arina Murrian, NCCI-IDEA-CJPC
- Mr. Shitovi, NCCI-Youth Commission
- Mr. Shirishi Darwhekar, Special Projects Director - Saksham
- Mrs. Aradhana Upadhaya, Director – CNI-SSI
- Mrs. Nancy Lokhande, YWCA-Nagpur
- Mrs. Alice Mathew, St. Ursula Girls High School-Nagpur
- Mr. Sushil Kase, Manager, World Vision Nagpur



DISABILITY CHRISTMAS 2016

The Disability Christmas Program a first of its kind at Nagpur especially for PWD's was jointly organized by Indian Disability Ecumenical Accompaniment (IDEA), standing forum of NCCI, Youth—Commission—NCCI Accompanied by Commission on Justice Peace and Creation, and World Vision India on 2nd December, 2016 at St. Ursula Girls High School hall. where around 100 of people gathered to celebrate the Disability Christmas program. The Disability Christmas program was a platform of inspiration and encouragement to see the season of Love, joy and happiness from a different perspective. Rev. Rony, gave an encouraging Christmas message about accept-

ing Christ once again back in our lives, The Mizo Christian Fellowship of Nagpur enthralled the audiences with their beautiful traditional song, the main attraction of the program was the special presentation by the children with disabilities from Jeevodaya Special School, the presentation



touched and inspired the hearts of all the audiences as thunderous claps began from the moment the children began to perform., the program further concluded with a prayer and group photo shoot.



Report By,
Shitovi Sema
Intern, Youth Commission—NCCI.

Report on

**Student Christian Movement of India
National Level Leadership Training Camp**



The Student Christian Movement of India (SCMI) hosted a National level Leadership Training Camp from 12th – 15th January 2017, at SDC (Pastoral Centre) at Khunti which is around 40 km away from Ranchi. There was around 150 students who participated in the program, the students came from various states such as Nagpur, Karnataka, Bangalore, Chennai, West-Bengal, Shillong, Ahmednagar, Assam and so on. During these three and half days of camp the student learned about Understanding Indian Society, Tribal Communities in Jharkhand, Leadership Skills, Personal Growth Development and Aims and Basis of SCMI. The resource persons were Fr. Ashok, Dr. Abhay Sagar Minz, Rev. Sudhakar Joshua, and Inbaraj Jeyakumar, apart from these learning's there was also cultural exhibition and cultural program where the students from different states where able to exhibit some of their cultures through dance, skit, items and

foods. The NCCI team from Nagpur also took part in various programs, the students involved in various committee such as physical committee, documentation committee, cultural committee and media committee. Apart from that the students also presented a skit on "Gender Discrimination" and a song called "Let Love Be Real." Mr V.Shitovi Sema, Intern of Youth Commission-NCCI who took the students to Ranchi for this



program was given the opportunity to preach on 14th of January during the worship hour, he preached on the topic "Love One Another"



The National Level Leadership Training Camp was a successful program as the students who took part were encouraged and inspired to become an effective leader in the days to come.

Report By,

V. Shitovi Sema,
Intern, Youth Commission – NCCI.

Ecumenical Youth Music Concert Unity Octave (NCCI) 18th January 2017



The Youth Commission of NCCI organized The Ecumenical Youth Music Concert at NCCI campus on 18th January, 2016 at 6 pm. The Ecumenical Youth Music Concert was part of the Unity Octave (*Week of Prayer for Christian Unity*, from 18th – 25th January 2017). The main focus of Ecumenical Youth Music Concert was to extent the ecumenical bond and bring unity among the Christians, especially the Youths in spreading the message of peace and hope through music in the midst of turmoil and tragedies in our society. There was around 150 youths representing various

The concert was successfully organized due to the team work of the organizing team of NCCI-Interns and AISSA-Interns. Some church leaders who were present in the concert appreciated the organizing team for putting up the efforts in bringing the churches and especially the youths by uniting them through music, some of the church leaders even urged the organizing team to continue such kind of programs where the churches and come together for a common cause .Mr. Hrudhay Addurwar, intern of NCCI – Admin gave the vote of thanks to the people who were present in the concert. Pastor Satyajit of Community Baptist Church said the closing prayer after which the entire member present said the Lord's Prayer

Report by organizing team

NCCI-Interns & AISSA-Interns

Arina Murrian, Jyotirmaya Tandi, Hrudhay Addurwar, Shitovi Sema, Bernadette, David Jadhav.



Churches and 12 Christian bands took part in the program. Miss. Bernadette, a voluntary intern of AISSA (All India Sunday School Association) hosted the program, Mr. V.Shitovi Sema, intern of Youth Commission – NCCI gave the welcome address and he also shared about why Unity Octave is observed every year in the month of January.

Dr. Avish Petras, a Professor of Baba Sahib Ambedkar College was the speaker, basing on this year's theme of Unity Octave 'Reconciliation: The Love of Christ Compels Us' (2 Cor. 5: 14 -20) he encouraged the youths to stand in spirit of unity and reconciliation.

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