UTH TURN

CONNECT-CREATE-CHANGE COMMISSION ON YOUTH-NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES IN INDIA

July 2023-Oct 2023

Volume 8, Issue 3

•Encouraging young people to be part of the National Ecumenical Movement.

- •Networking with the local and international Ecumenical partners for resource sharing and partnership.
- •Connecting Member Churches and local youth movements with NCCI youth concern ministry through organizing programs of the Regional and National levels.
- •Strengthening direct partnership with youth fellowships of the Member Churches, and NCCI youth concern ministry encouraging them to create ecumenical platform for young people to promote grass root ecumenism.
- •Identifying young people to engage them in a process of articulating their faith and understanding about God.



Invitation to Write

Constituent members of NCCI, especially Member Churches of NCCI, are requested to share recent reports of youth programmes with the NCCI Commission on Youth department for publication in the E-Newsletter.

For more details:

B. Asher

Executive Secretary-Commission on Youth

Phone no:9960780401

Email:

youth@ncci1914.com, asher@ncci1914.com

Youth, Ecumenism and Sustainability



The National Council of Churches in India (NCCI) and Student Christian Movement of India (SCMI) jointly organised a workshop on 'Youth, Ecumenism and Sustainability' on 1 st September 2023 at Bhubaneswar, Odisha. The program aimed at bringing young people together, listening to them, and enlightening them about sustainable ways of life as an individual and community. Young people are change makers in the Church and Society and for a sustainable future their active participation and involvement is necessary and it cannot be overlooked.

During this gathering, ecumenical leaders addressed young people. Rt. Rev. Surendra Kumar Nanda, Bishop of the Cuttack Diocese of the Church of North India, highlighted the need of working together for a better world in the present context. Ms. Dakerlin Mukhim, General Secretary of the Student Christian Movement of India (SCMI) inspired the participants to identify and address the challenges and urged them to connect it with the misdoings of human beings towards the entire cosmos. She expressed her trust in youngsters who have the ability to transcend this condition through constant efforts to achieve social justice and harmony. Rev.Dr.Asir Ebenezar, General Secretary of the National Council of Churches in India, expounded on the importance of youth engagement in public issues. Mr. Asher Noah, Executive Secretary for the Youth Concerns, NCCI, elaborated the history and establishment of Ecumenical Movements and the path it traversed to restore Peace, Unity and Harmony in the world highlighting the role of the young people in this journey. Mr. Sudhanshu Naik, General Secretary of Bhubaneswar YMCA

Prayer Points:

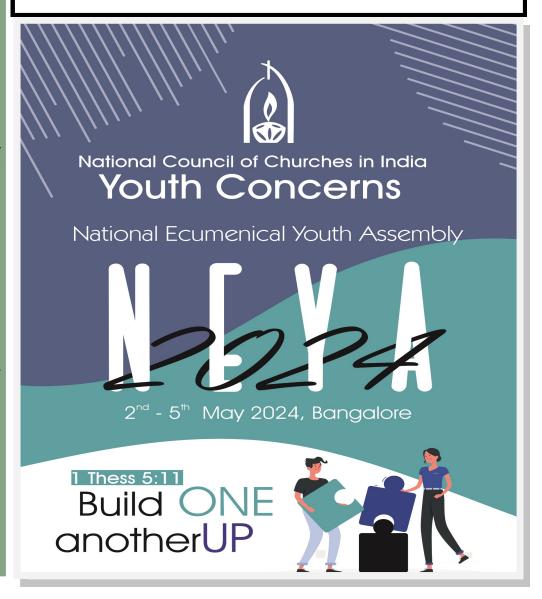
- We pray for the young people who lost their Jobs and are disturbed mentally during the pandemic.
- •We pray for the young people who are affected by the new policies introduced by the Government.
- •We pray for the Churches, Institutions, NGO's, who are facing huge financial crisis in the Post-Covid era.
- We pray for peace between the young people especially in the context of religious violence happening around us.
- •We pray for the people in Manipur who are affected by ethnic conflicts. We pray for the bereaved families who lost their lives in this conflict. We pray for peace and protection in Manipur.
- We pray for the young people in Manipur, who are affected by the conflict situations and we pray for their education, health, job and security.
- •We pray for the young people whose rights are denied and justice delayed.

Events:

- Capacity Building Program for Youth leaders-Webinar
- 2) AELC Youth Convention 14th-17th Jan 2024 in Andhra Christian College, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh
- 3) NEYA 2024, 2nd May-5th May, Banglore.
- Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Chattisgarh Regional Youth Assembly NCCI, YMCA Feb 2024.



and Mr. Angelious Michael, Director of India Peace Centre shared greetings. About thirty youngsters from different denominations and SCMI units in Odisha participated in the program. They actively shared their concerns and suggested alternate ways, like, awareness through social networking, avoiding plastic, healthy lifestyle, eco-friendly campuses which can be easily practised for a sustainable future.



Youth Health Matters: Campaign on Substance Abuse

The NCCI Commission on Youth has launched a Campaign on Substance Abuse— Youth Health Matters. The complex social and mental health of young people is leading to excessive use of psychoactive drugs showing results in declined holistic health. This campaign surfaces as a safe space for young people who are struggling with addiction and invites all, especially the youth, to comprehend substance abuse and addiction, and its overall impact on physical and mental



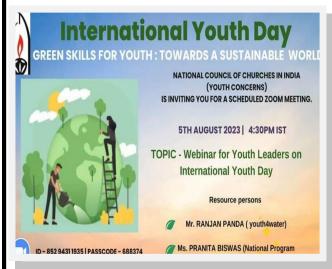


health, societal and familial affairs, academic and professional performance, spiritual and environmental facets. This campaign has been promoted in three places—at Bhubaneswar on 24 July, at Kottayam on 27 July and at Koyambedu Chennai, on 30

July. NCCI Youth Concerns desires to make a better tomorrow free from addiction and substance abuse by fostering the campaign with all its constituents members in future.



Green Skills for Youth: Towards a Sustainable World: International Youth Day



A meeting for Youth Leaders on International Youth Day was organized by the National Council of Churches (Youth Concerns) on 5 th August, 2023, Resource people as Mr. Rajan with Panda (youth4water), Miss. Pranita Biswasi (National Program Manager, YWCA of India). The one hour meeting commenced with the introductory as well as acknowledgement note by Mr. B Asher Noah, Executive Secretary Youth Concerns, NCCI followed by greetings from Mrs. Sharon Das, Vice President Youth Concerns, NCCI and Angelos Michael, Director, India Peace Center, Nagpur. The effort of NCCI youth concerns to inspire youth and deliver the motivation to one's own churches based on the theme Green

Skills for Youth: Towards a Sustainable World has been contributed impressively by the speakers uncovering wide spectrum of facets on the natural green resources. Realities like the availability, challenges, significance, impacts of and for green jobs for a sustainable future has not only broaden the limited mindset of the attendees but also acted as a source of hope for the already existing crisis of unemployment due to population expansion. Additionally, the illustration of the current threat to sustainability of the natural resources has shed light to the naïve outlook on the concern and thus managed to stimulate great apprehension for the sustainability of environmental resources especially for the generations ahead. The webinar observed positive suggestions from attendees in order to achieve greater accomplishment for green sustainability. More than 50 people attended the webinar. The webinar ended with a gratitude note by Mr. B Asher Noah.



Asian Ecumenical Youth Assembly 2023



The Asian Ecumenical Youth Assembly of Christian Conference of Asia was held from 26th-28th September 2023 at Vimalagiri Pilgrim Centre- Kottayam, Kerela, preceded by CCA 15th Assembly in Kottayam Kerala. The theme for the CCA Youth Pre Assembly was "God Renew us In Your Spirit And Restore The Creation". Around 90 Participants from CCA member Churches of various countries in Asia - India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Indonesia, New Zealand, Philippines, korea, Samoa, East Timor, Thailand participated. The Youth Pre-Assembly started with an opening worship by National Council of Churches in India by Commission on Youth Mr. Asher Noah, The Executive Secretary of Commission on Youth welcomed the participants and led the opening worship. Ms. Karen Erina Puimera, the Youth Moderator of World Council of Churches from Indonesia, had given Inaugural Greetings and encouraged the participants to see the emergency of climate change and restoration of Gods creations.

The thematic session on biblical and theological perspectives on "God Renew us in Your Spirit and Restore the Creation" was taken by Dr. Anish K Joy, Professor of Christian Anthropology. Dr. Anish, highlighted the promises of redemption, and he mentioned that Restoration through God's grace and Love, and also stressed on creation as divine expression, fall and brokenness, redemption and restoration, the role of holy spirit, eco-theology, and eschatological hope. Dr. Anish also shared the outcome should be that sustainable development as an act of renewal, local communities as an act of agents renewal, ecumenical movement as action in unity, education and awareness as tools for renewal. Thereafter a panel discussion on youth leadership in church and ecumenical movement was led by Yowanda Yonggara from the World Christian Student Foundation (WCSF)- Asia Pacific region and Mary (Christian Conference of Asia)- sub regional level on the ecumenical youth movements Myanmar and in Philippines. The icebreaking session was lead by Ms. Rosiana Punarnimo and Ms. Yuliana and Mr. Nathan. The day was ended by evening prayer lead by Mr. Nathan from Indonesia.

On the second day the worship and Bible study wasled by Lee Chang Gee (South Korea), who spoke about the need for repentance in our lives. Following the Bible study was a panel discussion on Youth Ecumenical movement in Global and Asian contexts, wherein the speakers Ms. Karen Puimera from WCC, Mr. Fan Wei Liang from NC Taiwan, Ms. Catherine Almario from NCC Philippines, Mr. Imran Mrong from NCC Bangladesh, Mr. Asher Noah had moderated the session.

They reflected on the journey and the challenges that young people are facing in churches in the Asian countries. They shared recommendations and key strategies for broader participation and eucharistic fellowship among the youths from different church denominations.



A group discussion on various important topics like climate crisis, economic empowerment, secularism and democracy, indigenous groups, technology/artificial intelligence etc. Participants intensively engaged in different groups and shared the outcome that they are going to work and implement in their context. Rev. Dr. Asir Ebenezer, the General Secretary of National Council of Churches in India, had greeted the participants and encouraged the young people to work towards renewal and restoration of creation, emphasizing that

young voices are important in the Assembly. Dr. Foezullah Talukdar from the Christian Commission for Development in Bangladesh shared insights on the climate crisis and its mitigation and challenged the young people with his presentation. Rev. Prof. Dr. Jerry Pillay, General Secretary, WCC graced the Youth Pre-Assembly with his presence and shared the importance of participation of young people in decision making and especially working towards the sustainable world and importance of restoration of creation for the wellbeing of whole earth communities. Dr. Manoj Kurian, staff from WCC also attended the program and encouraged the participants. The second day was concluded by evening prayer conducted by Ms. Rosiana and Mr. Nathan.

A group discussion on various important topics like climate crisis, economic empowerment, secularism and democracy, indigenous groups, technology/artificial intelligence etc. Participants intensively engaged in different groups and shared the outcome that they are going to work and implement in their context. Rev. Dr. Asir Ebenezer, the General Secretary of National Council of Churches in India, had greeted the participants and encouraged the young people to work towards renewal and restoration of creation, emphasizing that young voices are important in the Assembly. Dr. Foezullah Talukdar from the Christian Commission for Development in Bangladesh shared insights on the climate crisis and its migration and

challenged the young people with his presentation. Rev. Prof. Dr. Jerry Pillay, General Secretary, WCC graced the Youth Pre-Assembly with his presence and shared the importance of participation of young people in decision making and especially working towards the sustainable world and importance of restoration of creation for the wellbeing of whole earth communities. Dr. Manoj Kurian, staff from WCC also attended the program and encouraged the participants.

Team: Dr Anish K. Joy (Local Convenor), Rosiana Purnomo (CCA), Yuliana M Benu (CCA), Asher B (NCCI - Youth), Ms Rincy John, Ms Betcy K Jayims, Cyril B John.



Statement of the Asian Ecumenical Youth Pre-Assembly (AEYA)

We Have a Vision of Heaven on Earth

26–28 September 2023 | Vimalagiri, Kottayam, India

"But the Lord said to me, "Do not say, 'I am too young.' You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you," declares the Lord." (Jeremiah 1:7-8)

- (1) We, ecumenical youth from different countries in Asia, gathered for the Asian Ecumenical Youth Assembly (AEYA) organised by the Christian Conference of Asia in the city of Kottayam ,Kerala,India state, on 25–28 September 2023.
- (2) The previous AEYA, held in 2018, called on the CCA to "organise AEYA at least once in five years," appreciating the fruitfulness of spaces in which young Christians are reminded of their ability and power to analyse issues and determine solutions in collaboration with experts, victims and survivors, among others. Five years, various political upheavals and a pandemic later, the AEYA has remained a platform for young ecumenists to address problems and challenges concerning and frustrating them as individuals, and as members of church and society.
- (3) The Youth from Called from 12 countries and territories under the theme, "Asian Youth Affirming Renewal and Restoration of God's Creation," we brought with us stories from different faiths and spiritualities, cultures, ethnicities, socioeconomic classes, sexualities and more—some from our very own lives and the lives of those whom we consider friends and family, others from the vulnerable peoples with whom we express solidarity. These are narratives of suffering and survival, of hope and despair, of tragedy and victory, of gloom and festivity, amid the realities of a climate crisis that prevents the flourishing of a full and dignified life for all—concerns that we considered and discussed at AEYA.
- (4) As the 15th General Assembly of the Christian Conference of Asia gathers, the AEYA participants acknowledge the urgent need for renewal and restoration in God's Creation, including humanity as part of God's design. Through prayer, reflection, learning, and dialogue, we found the trouble and despair that overwhelm today's young people but also found glimmers of hope in those among us whose faith drives them beyond helplessness into agency: into concern and activism for social and environmental justice and compassion for fellow humans and the rest of Creation emanating from Christ-like radical love.
- (5) Inspired by youth in the Asian region who struggle for a vision of heaven on earth, and who have been made new by faith in Christ to partake in the divine mission of renewal and restoration, we pray:

God, Renew Us in Your Spirit:

- (6)The youth of Asia find that many people undervalue our capacities and capabilities. In societies, we are often ordered around, people perceiving us as inexperienced or unprepared, and thinking we could not stand by ourselves or contribute valid ideas. Assuming we will have our day sometime soon, they often dismiss or altogether neglect our thoughts, feelings, and opinions. The Church has been no different, relegating us to "reserves" who must begin in the lowest rungs and should stay behind others until our time comes.
- (7) But history has shown that youth taking leading roles in the contexts where they are planted have positively disrupted communities, forcing difficult conversations into the light, and helping communities transform. God also chose youth like Jeremiah, Timothy, and Esther as leaders in Biblical times. Churches must take heed and see young faithfuls' vital role in the church, not only as the future of the church but as partakers of God's mission now, one with the rest of God's children. We would like the CCA General Assembly to allow the young generation to be part of the pursuit of church growth in Asia; to contribute to the adaptation of the churches to changing times, passing generations and diverse contexts; to be examples for youths across the globe.
- (8) Hope, energy, and idealism may lead to criticism of church structures and policies; but churches must take criticisms for self-reflection and evaluation and pray for humility and wisdom to discern which ones could lead to better life, work, and witness. As such, the church must equip more young people for Christ-like leadership and expand the decision-making table to accommodate more youth. While we appreciate the concern for the youth, young Christians everywhere would much prefer churches that worry with us, not just about us.
- (9) May churches be renewed so they become worthy signposts heralding our vision of heaven on earth to the rest of the world.

God, Restore the Creation

- (10) Ecumenical youth today, like young people in other arenas of discourse, do not simply ask for representation. They seek values that matter to them. They call for greater inclusiveness across all the structures of the Church, down to the congregations; a readiness to bring unconventional or varied siblings in humankind and the rest of Creation into the fold, understanding that they are brought into existence by a mighty God who "creates diversities," as noted by AEYA–2018.
- (11) AEYA participants also espouse a perspective of God as an active creator. This unlocks a sustainable view of Creation that is holistic, interrelated, and cosmic; not partial, fragmented, and androcentric. The Church should be an advocate not only for order among human beings, but in the whole of Creation.
- (12) AEYA—2023 places a specific emphasis on the climate crisis, but we find this global occurrence to be exacerbated by and contributing to issues of unpeace, displacement, and inequity, among others. In order for more church youth to respond to the groaning of Creation, the church must ensure that it has ministries open to the youth that go out to society, among the victims of climate-induced disasters and climate refugees and for the conservation of plants and animals endangered because of human intrusion and distressed habitats, among others. These programmes must address adaptation and resilience, safeguards ensuring people would not be caught up in endless cycles of trauma and devastation. These also include reforms in land distribution, indigenous peoples' rights, and equitable and sustainable industrialisation, among others.
- (13) With God and the rest of the household joining us in this pursuit of renewal and restoration, we will succeed in our mission.

God, Be Present in Our Pilgrimage

(14) And so, with a wholehearted trust that God is with us, we enjoin the rest of the ecumenical household to realise the vision of heaven on earth. We issue calls to our fellow stewards to express their concern in actions that contribute to the active participation of more young people as stakeholders in the restoration.

We ask the CCA to listen more to the voices of young people who share concerns for peace and justice in Asia, and to create spaces where more youth could participate in healing works with Christian compassion. It should open more opportunities to equip young people with Christ-like leadership.

We ask the national ecumenical councils and churches to send more youth representatives to places where policies are set, encouraging and empowering them to bravely share their stories and ideas in those spaces. They should formalise youth participation in local canons and policies. They must also help youth come face to face with the issues challenging humanity and Creation, aiding the establishment of ecumenical youth movements that gather not only for worship but also for life-committed service and prophetic witness.

We enjoin young Christians to collective responsibility. More young people should go beyond themselves and their comfort zones to understand the pains of their fellows and of Creation as their own. With a deeper understanding of the complicated and intersectional nature of the climate crisis, they should address the concerns with other sectors and demographics—in multisectoral work and intergenerational dialogue among others.

(15)Ecumenical youth in Asia must remain committed to our role as siblings to one another and as stewards of Creation, sharing hope, love, and compassion. With God in us and with us, inspiring and accompanying us, we must not stop achieving our vision of heaven on earth.

South Asia Christian Youth Network: Inspiring Youth Led Good Governance



South Asian Christian Youth Network (SACYN), a program of ASIA CMS was held from 15 to 19 September 2023 at Nepal Theological College, Kathmandu. The Theme for the Year 2023 "Leadership for Change: Inspiring Youth Led Good Governance" focused on Good Governance, Safeguarding and Sustainability. The program inspired youth leaders from South Asian countries to be change makers and given inputs on the governance with integrity, morals, ethics side by side addressing and drew lessons from the life of Joseph and also given inputs on the key themes on women safeguarding, fundraising and ideas of sustainability for youth programs. A total of 30 participants from South Asian Countries, and 10 participants from India and NCCI member churches along with the Executive Secretary, Commission on Youth, NCCI were present. The young people from South Asian countries expressed the contemporary struggles from each country and left with determination to bring change.

The Mar Gregorios Orthodox Christian Student Movement (MGOCSM) hosted a 3-day con-



ference for high school and higher secondary students from October 21 to October 23. The conference, held at Peermed MBC **Engineering Col**lege, centred on the theme "Journeying with Christ" and was inaugurated by the President of MGOCSM Bishop Dr. Abraham Mar

Seraphim. The conference aimed to provide students with a platform to deepen their spiritual connection and explore their faith through the lens of "Journeying with Christ." It featured a diverse range of activities and discussions, fostering an environment of learning, reflection, and growth. Around 485 students were attended the Conference.

Methodist Youth Fellowship



Methodist Youth Fellowship (MYF) of Methodist Church Sonipat, Harayana organized their Youth Camp at YMCA Campsite Sattal, Uttarakhand from 21st- 23rd October 2023. A Place of immense beauty surrounded with lush green mountains & serene freshwater Lakes dotting the landscape of Sattal, which

provided an ideal setting for camping and Spiritual Growth for the Youngsters. 25 Participants led by Rev. Anugreh Peter (Pastor in Charge & Youth Director of DRC) and Mr. Gaurav Massey (District Youth Advisor) as they were Taught about the Only Way and **One Direction** to Salvation, Fulfilling the Will of God and Building a Strong relationship with God. Apart from the Spiritual Nourish-



ment the group had Fun Activities like Boating, Trekking, Sports, Cultural Program and Bonfire, Evening Session and Silent Meditation at Panna Lake. On October 23rd 2023 the Group had visited Nanital, a Himalayan resort town in the Kumaon region of India's Uttarakhand state, at an elevation of roughly 2,000m where the First Methodist Church in India was Established in 1858. The Camp was concluded with a Powerful Prayer of Repentance and Dedication and commitment to work for God and God's



kin'dom to come and concluded with vote of thanks.

Church of South India-Department of Youth





Health Care Training for Migrant Rural Youth at CSI Diocese of Nandyal Church of South India – Department of Youth and the Diocese of Nandyal (DON) and Krishna Godavari

Diocese conducted 'Health Care Training for Migrant Rural Youth'. Rural Youth from CSI Nandyal Diocese and Krishna Godavari Diocese became the beneficiaries. This training was designed for the rural youth who migrate to different urban sectors for education or employment. Resident urban youth will have access to health facilities but the Migrant Rural Youth does not have much access to the health facilities. In such a scenario Health care training will equip them to be more conscious about the health. This training gives more emphasis on the concept of, 'Health is Wealth' and sensitize the target group with, 'prevention is better



than cure.' This project will create a great impact on the lives of migrant rural youth in CSI. Rural youth in Indian context are economically backward and cannot afford medical expenses in corporate hospitals. The health care training gives them awareness about health care which prevents many diseases at an early stage with out spending much money to the hospitals.



This programs conducted in Krishna Godavari from , 05th to 06th September 2023, Nandyal from 08th to 09th September 2023. Around 80 rural young people from both the places have attend and encouraged to have a healthy life style habits. This program explained Prevention, Symptoms, Causes and Treatment of several diseases like Dental Care, ENT Problems, Ophthalmology problems, Orthopedic issues, respiratory diseases (Asthma, Lung Disorders/Pneumonia, T.B), heart diseases (Causes, Signs, Stages, Tests, Treatment and First Aid -CPR), kidney diseases and Liver Diseases. Different Types of Neurological Diseases like Alzheimer, Spinal Cord Injuries, Brain Tu-

mors, Seizures, Dementia, Strokes and so on – Signs, Causes, tests and treatment; Abdominal Diseases, GERD, Ulcers, Hernia, IBS, Pancreatitis and so on – Prevention, Symptoms, Causes and Treatment, Various types of Cancer and its Prevention, Causes, Symptoms and Treatment, Gynaecology Issues, Pediatric care, Care to the Elders, Psychological and Emotional Problems and support, Healthy Life-Style in the present Digital world.

Chaldean Syrian Church of the East

"Save Food, Donate Food"

Under the leadership of Youths' Association Chaldean Syrian Church of the East, the Youths' Association Central Committee and the Parish Youths' Associations of Nellankara, Kuriyachira and Nellikkunnu jointly organized "Save Food, Donate Food" Campaign as part of the International Youth Day program which was inaugurated by Clergy Secretary Fr. K.R. Inasu at Bishop Paulose Mar Paulose Memorial Tournament held on the 20th of August.

In the above project, the aims to avoid unnecessary wastage of food in the church and society. Along with that, it is an action plan to feed the needy people of the society by donating a small amount on each of our special days.





Road Safety Awareness Campaign

Road Safety Awareness Campaign conducted under the supervision of Mundur, Tirur, Kunnamkulam and Pattikad parish youth association branches, was conducted at Chelakottkara Center Trissur, Kerala. The program was inaugurated by Thrissur Motor Vehicle Department Asst MVI Shri Gio J Vazhapilli. the program was presided over by Fr. Pauly-vicar of Mar aprem chrch, Trustee board Vice Chairman *Shri Rajan Mannuthi, Central Youth Secretary Shri Jofin John Ollukkaran, Convener Jiss Shaji, Asst MVI Shri Payas were present.

Then the Road Safety Awareness pamphlet was given to the drivers to drive safely and follow the traffic rules



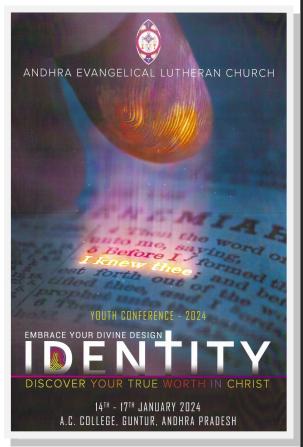


Andhra Evangelical Lutheran Church



A one day youth retreat organized in the Andhra Evangelical Lutheran Church in Lakdikappol, Hyderabad on 14th October 2023 on the theme "Why do you persecute me?". Rev. Sajeevan and Associate pastor

Rev. Gnana Prakash Rao were the key organizers of this retreat, Mr. Ravi Teja, Youth Secretary AELC, Youth President UELCI had shared the greetings. Around 100 people from Lutheran Churches in Hyderabad attended to deliberate on why persecutions happens in Indian Churches. Rev. Srikanth James from Trinity Lutheran Church, Vishakapatnam had shared about why persecutions happens to Christians? and how young should be prepared to face persecutions and role of youth in persecutions? Mr. Asher Noah, Executive Secretary Commission on Youth, had shared on how to be perseverant during persecutions. Mr. Asher reminded on how humans usually react to during persecution, and are encouraged to embrace persecutions as we stand for Justice. Justice is costly in the context of current political situations and for young people should stand for justice and peace in the context of war and peace. Mr. Asher also encouraged on saying church is empty without young people and church should listen to young people. A workshop was also conducted along with that by Mr. Asher and led them in discussion session. Mr. Ravi Teja shared about the AELC youth convention in January 2024.



Jeypore Evangelical Lutheran Church



A Special Youth meeting organized in Jeypore Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jeypore on 3rd September 2023. Around 50 young people from Jeypore had attended the special youth meet and had interactions. Rt. Rev. Bidan Kumar Nayak, Bishop JELC had greeted and encouraged the young people to work towards church and society as their role is very important for the existence of church and encourage the support for the youth activities in JELC. Mr. Asher Noah, Executive Secretary NCCI had shared the need of Young people to rise up from the slumber, and encouraging them to look at Christ as young person as the point of reference for young people to be active in the Church and society and also must be active in voicing out for Justice issues, be it political, environmental, economical, cultural, etc..Mr Asher encouraged the youth to be active in the ecumenical movement and to contribute for the Ecumenical Youth Movement. Mr. Bikash, Central President shared the greetings to the participants and encouraged young people. Mr. Sidarth Naik Youth president and Ms. Natasha Jena, youth secretary shared their interested in working with Ecumenical Youth movement and also expressed their concerns from the church.

Arcot Lutheran Church



Arcot Lutheran Church organized one day youth retreat on 15th August 2023 at Virdachallam, Kadaloor District Tamil Nadu. The theme was on "Covenant" around 50 young people from Arcot Lutheran Church, virdachallam. Rev. Dienert Vincent the Youth Secretary of Arcot Lutheran Church and Mrs. Anne Steffy Associate youth secretary had encouraged the young people to follow Christ and explained the covenant relationship from the Bible. As Youth are growing towards a globalized and glocalized word the program reminded that God wants to work trough young people as he worked in Christ. The resource persons encouraged the young people as the future leaders

should follow the footsteps of Christ as the world is surrounded with full of chaos in terms of relationships, moral values, violence, abuse, and discriminations. Rev. Dineret shared that the role of youth in the world full of chaos. This program aid young people to realize their potential and role to act wise in the crucial time.