



The Church of Bangladesh

# NEWSLETTER

● Newsletter ● July-August Issue 2020 ●

Volume 4

## MESSAGE *from the Moderator*



*Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,*

Warm greetings from the Moderator of the Church of Bangladesh. Hope this message finds you well and good. We three active Bishops and two former Moderators and all the clergy colleagues and members of the Church of Bangladesh have been keeping good as you all have been praying for us despite some minor problems and sufferings.

We are now in bit tension free although in India, the Corona situation has been prevailing seriously who are the closest neighbors. All sympathy and prayer goes for the sisters and brothers of India and Brazil. As I have had zoom meeting of the Global South Fellowship of Anglicans on 31<sup>th</sup> August 2020 with the Primates Steering Committee; the Archbishops of Myanmar, Malaysia, South Sudan, Egypt, North America, Chili, Indian Ocean and Bishop of Singapore they also said that in their country slowly they started reopening their churches for

We should be looking forward to facing the challenges of the COVID-19 has left for us with great hope and the aspiration to God our heavenly father and let us cast our nets into the deep of our faith, let us not give up ourselves to the turmoil of the pandemic and to the death and let us learn from the Gospel reading John 21:1-14 as the disciples they had learned after the death of Jesus in the sea of Tiberius.

the worship services and ours too by the grace of God. Yes it is still difficult to say that we are now in the Post COVID-19 and yet to set the national and international meetings physically with each other which we had to postpone due to the Corona pandemic. But have started telling people that now onwards we should be looking forward to facing the challenges of the COVID-19 has left for us with great hope and the aspiration to God our heavenly father and let us cast our nets into the deep of our faith, let us not give up ourselves to the turmoil of the pandemic and to the death and let us learn from the Gospel reading John 21:1-14 as the disciples they had learned after the death of Jesus in the sea of Tiberius. We almost finished very successfully distributing the relief and your generosity by this time among the targeted people. We thank you and the people who helped us to make the mission successful. Our prayers and good wishes for you all.

May you live long to serve and witness Christ Jesus wherever you are.

*Message from*  
**Bishop Shourabh Pholia,**  
**Barishal Diocese**



The present situation of the world has reminded me of the life events in Nehemiah's life. Henan's recent news (Neh. 1:3) was a shock that leads Nehemiah to discover a new vocation! The Church needs to take a moment to pray for people who are suddenly confronted by adversity. Let us ask God to awaken them to discover new potential with which to serve God and others. "Effective leaders have to do multiple things well, but in crises, three things must be done exceptionally well: absorb chaos, give calm, and provide hope" (Eugene B. Habecker, *The Softer Side of Leadership*, 17). Paul tells us in Rom 15:4, that there are lessons for Christians in Old Testament incidents. That today engaged in revitalizing weary and dying churches can find encouragement and hope in Nehemiah's rehabilitation project. Rejuvenating churches that have lost their sense of vision and mission is no less challenging than the task Nehemiah faces in Jerusalem. Barishal Diocese of Church of Bangladesh has been trying to follow the softer side of leadership in this crucial time. We are grateful to all our supporters nationally and globally, who are providing the supplies that we need to rebuild the hope of our people and make the wall of faith strong again. Our Living God our King has given the letter to the right peoples to come for our help in the time of need. We who are in positions of leadership in church and society, as well as our younger aspiring leaders, have so much to learn for Nehemiah. Reading the book of Nehemiah has inspired me to face this new season with conviction and authority while being a servant-leader.

**Blessings!**

*Message from*  
**Bishop Hemen Halder,**  
**Kushtia Diocese**



We are grateful to Almighty for his never ending blessings upon us. We believe that God is protecting us. We are really thankful to all of you who prayed for us during this COVID-19 pandemic. People of the Kushtia Diocese is not too bad. I think God is testifying us through this COVID-19 pandemic but he is also giving us courage to prevent this. I believe God never left us but he is always with us as he was before with our elders. May the peace of the Lord Christ go with us wherever he may send us. May he protect us through the wilderness, guide us from the storm. May our good and loving God keep us safe and sound. Please keep Kushtia Diocese in your everyday prayer so that God grant us to work for his kingdom.

In Bangladesh we are facing huge challenges to run and sustain the school program. The teachers are not getting timely salary because the Church cannot earn from the parents of the student while the children are at home. Hope the schools will reopen soon after September as impact of COVID-19 has been reduced. Besides, the teachers are working and assisting the students virtually but there is no satisfactory feedback from the children as Government has announced close the educational institute due to OVID-19. We need your prayer so that we can survive even in the impact of COVID-19.

## News from Mission Support Programme (MSP-4)



In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, during this pandemic situation, we have managed to organize two three days long training workshop, maintaining social distance and personal safety in Kushtia Diocese from 6-9 August 2020 under the leadership of Rt. Rev. Hemen Halder and in Barishal Diocese from 12-14 August 2020 under the leadership of Rt. Rev. Shourabh Pholia, with the support of MSP4 project funded by CWM. The Project focal Paul Subrata Malakar took part in both the training programs.

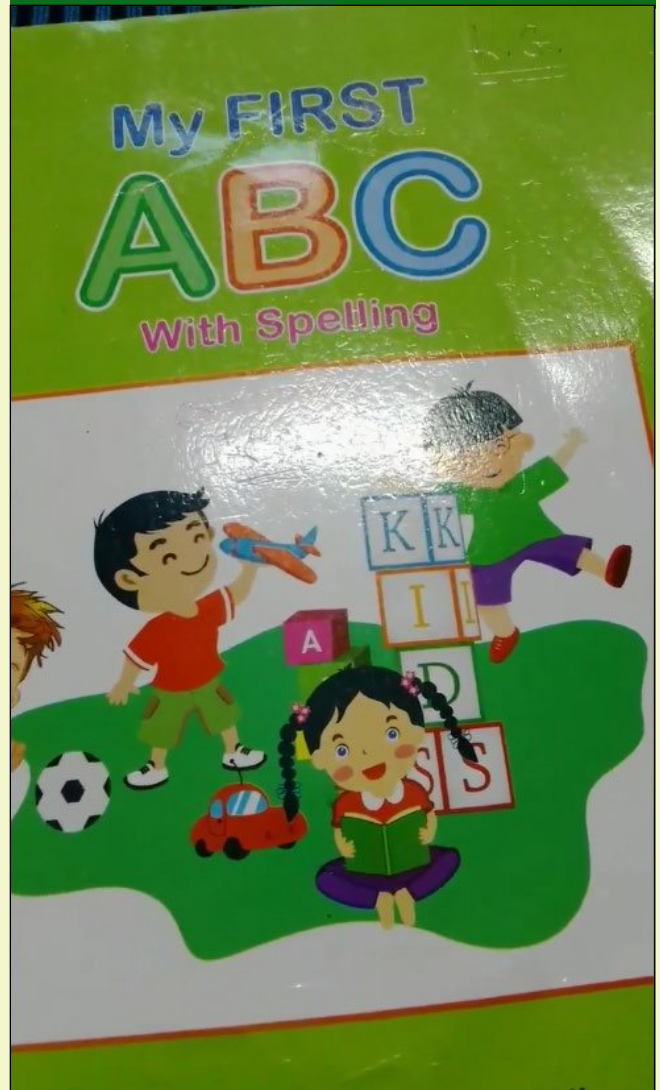
The training workshop focused on "Revised Liturgy and Marriage Counseling". In Kushtia Diocese 30 and in Barishal Diocese 25 Catechists and few Lay-leaders were present. In Kushtia Rt. Rev. Hemen Halder and Paul Subrata Malakar facilitated the sessions. In Barishal, Rt. Rev. Shourabh Pholia, Ms. Mridula Boidya and Paul Subrata Malakar facilitated the sessions. The participants were able to practice the mock sessions on 15 awareness issues, which were prepared by the thematic team members in 2019.



At the end of the training program all the participants felt confident about implementing the work at the Parish and community level, starting from 2020. They have expressed their interest to work for the Church with the new issues to aware the members of the Church of Bangladesh.

Paul Subrata Malakar

## Education Programme



Schools are going on during the COVID-19 pandemic through the online classes in city areas. Bangladesh Government extended the time of school close up to 3, October, 2020 due to COVID-19 pandemic. Schools of City are begin the class through the online and 2<sup>nd</sup> term exams are finished and published the results. Teachers and staffs are teaching the students to prepare them for final exam through the online classes according to the syllabus. Teachers go to home of each student and help them 3-4 days in each week how to do the regular studies because of the lack of internet service in the village areas. Question papers are prepared for the students to continue their studies as the environment is not in favor. As schools are not opened, teachers could not teach them in the class. Students are studying at home. Teachers teach the students how to accompany and wash hands at home, make social distance, wear masks and bring awareness to the students in every time.

# St. Andrew's Theological College, Dhaka

## B.Th. final exam held



Thanks God that we are in good health by the Grace of Almighty God during this COVID-19 Pandemic time. Our College set for the final B.Th. exam from 20 July to 31 July 2020. The online exam was held in SATC, Dhaka. Total 19 students attended the online exam. After completing the B.Th Final Year, College arranged farewell for outgoing students and sent them with blessings through the worship service on 27<sup>th</sup> July 2020 for 11 Students as every year we do. We also gave them a good farewell with thanks for studying with St. Andrew's Theological College.



*Commissioned students with blessings after completion of the course*

## St. Andrew's Church still arrange online Church service



We are still doing worship service through Online to give hope and courage to the believers and congregations in this of Global Crisis of Corona Virus Pandemic.

## COVID-19 Humanitarian Assistance



Our Church gave humanitarian assistance to the poor and needy people on 26 July 2020 to 1100 families irrespective of caste, color, religion and gender by the help of Church of Bangladesh Synod and SHALOM. We did it successfully to reach out to people and witness the Christ in the midst of Global Crisis of COVID-19 Pandemic. This Humanitarian Assistance Program inaugurated by Mr. Ronan Gomes, (Director-Shalom), Mr. Shyamal Sarker (CMCY Accountant, Purchase Com.), Alhaj Md. Ismail Molla (13-Word Councilor), Rev John Probhudan Hira (Parish Priest), Mrs. Rezina Nokrek (Church Secretary), Mamun Bin Md. Don (GS-AL, 13-Word), Rajjak Ahamad (GS-Religion, Mirpur Thana) and other Church and Local Leaders. We are grateful to all who extended their help and hands voluntarily in this humanitarian work.

**SHALOM**... a development organisation of Church of Bangladesh

# SHALOM has completed emergency response program for 6,095 households



SHALOM distributed emergency humanitarian assistance from seven places of Dhaka district by the financial support of Kerk in Actie, consortium member of ICCO cooperation. SHALOM supported to the most vulnerable and middle class 3,400 households including a significant number of ethnic people, Trans genders and city corporations cleaning workers. Honorable Moderator, CoB and Chairman of SHALOM were present in the opening ceremony at St. Thomas' Cathedral and started the program with his prayer and blessings. The distribution was held in 22 July to 27 July at St. Thomas' Cathedral- Sutrapur, Duaripara-Mirpur, Old Dhaka- MFA, St. Paul Church-Kalachandpur, St. Thomas' Church New Center- Moghbazar, St. Andrew's Church-Mirpur and St. Joseph Church- Savar. The food package included with 12 kg of rice, 1 kg of local lentils, 2 kg of potatoes, 2 kg of flour, 1 liter of soybean oil, 1 kg of salt, 2 lifebuoy and 2 wheel soaps, two surgical masks, a pair of hand gloves and COVID-19

awareness leaflet.

The Most Revd. Samuel Sunil Mankhin, Chairman, Shalom & Moderator, Church of Bangladesh inaugurated the relief distribution at St. Thomas' Cathedral, Dhaka, Bangladesh.





**Rev. Immanuel Mallick**, Presbyterian of St. Thomas Church, Moghbazar, Dhaka, said the provision of humanitarian food support to the victims of the COVID-19 Corona pandemic through the SHALOM was a testament to God.

- By providing adequate assistance to the poor and helpless it has been ensured that life is for the people; and we have been able to express the love of Christ.



**Rev. Solomon Kisku** Presbyterian Kalachandpur Parish said, almost all the members of Kalachandpur Parish are Garo tribes. Most of them worked in beauty parlors, houses, garments, and in schools. They have lost their jobs. Many are getting half salary. They can't rent a house. Many of them have

moved to their native villages. Many people have no way of returning home; they are now more vulnerable and destitute. They are starving and forced to live in Dhaka as they do not have ways to live in their native villages.

- For those who are still in Dhaka city, it would be very helpful to make them able by providing cash assistance for their house rent and living in low-cost. Those who want to start a small business can be given one-time assistance to become self-reliant.

After providing humanitarian food assistance, SHALOM arranged customer online satisfaction survey to the recipients beneficiaries and documented with 'KoBCollect' app.

## Emergency humanitarian assistance for COVID-19 supported by Methodist Church in Britain



SHALOM distributed to emergency humanitarian assistance in Rajshahi, Haluaghat and Netrokona area by the support of Methodist Church. SHALOM supported to the poor and marginalized people including vulnerable Church members and middleclass 1,300 households. The food package included with 7 kg of rice, 1 kg of local lentils, 2 kg of potatoes, 2 kg of flour, 1 liter of soybean oil, 1 kg of salt, 1 lifebuoy and 2 wheel soaps and COVID-19 awareness leaflet.



## COVID-19 Response: Phase-II, supported by Tearfund

SHALOM distributed to emergency humanitarian assistance in Mongla area by the support of Tearfund. SHALOM supported to the poor and marginalized people as COVID-19 response to the 870 households. The food package included with 20 kg of rice, 2.25 kg of local lentils, 2.25 kg of gram pulses, 2.25 kg of mug pulses, 2 liter of soybean oil, 1 kg of salt, 1 kg of flattened rice, 1 kg of sugar, 2 lifebuoy soaps, 500 gm detergent and 2 masks.

## Relief Program to the Amphan affected people in Bangladesh

SHALOM distributed to emergency assistance in Mongla area by the support of Methodist Church. SHALOM supported food assistance to the Amphan affected poor and marginalized 525 households. The food package included with 15 kg of rice, 2 kg of local lentils, 3 kg of potatoes, 2 kg of onions, 1 liter of soybean oil, 1 kg of salt, 2 lifebuoy and 2 wheel soaps, 500 gm detergent and 2 masks.



# CMCY Christian Ministry to Children & Youth

Christian Ministry to Children and Youth (CMCY) is a child friendly project of the Church of Bangladesh that runs to mitigate sufferings of the destitute poor children and school-drop-out teens receiving generous supports from the Partners of CMD Germany, CMS Switzerland, Operation Agri –UK and Compassion International Bangladesh. CMCY supports help participants' to grow up holistically for their bright and prosperous future. In the reporting period, CMCY has carried on Primary Survey works to start Child Development Support Program (CDSP) at Panihata, Thannarbaid, Nimghutu and Nittyandapur receiving kind fund from the Compassion International Bangladesh. We are much thankful to our kind donors and also Rt. Rev. Samuel S Mankhin, Moderator, Church of Bangladesh and Chairperson, CMCY, CMCY- Board members and well-wishers, as their self-sacrifices and prayers help to grow up holistically to enjoy bright and prosperous future.

## COVID-19 impact at CMCY



Due to the COVID-19, still the CMCY supported programs are remaining closed. Yet, at almost residential projects, there are two to five children of far distances are living in the hostel along with their staffs and take care of the project belongings. There are COVID-19 anxieties' everywhere. The new humanenemy is still indomitable. Still to date, Director-CMCY is suffering from corona Driver and Ayah have been infected and also have received healings from the COVID-19 and rest of all are saved by the blessing of Almighty. The food supports received from their foster parents. Parents, project staffs, Priests, Pastorate Committee members and Church leaders are found supportive to carry on the

Moderator and CMCY's instructions so that CMCY participants can equip with health, education and nutrition, while they are with their families in the situation of the COVID-19.

## Academic care

During this COVID-19 crisis, CMCY participants' are concentrated with education through online coaching, and counseling. They receive education materials on time from their respective project. It is hoped that after October 3, 2020; Bangladesh Curriculum Board may open school and colleges for the students and will arrange final examinations in a suitable time. As CMCY participants are kept busy with education, it is expected a standards academic result, whenever they sit for the annual examinations for getting promotions.

## Food relief and safety materials distribution



CDSPs and DFDP participants' also received food rations for COVID-19 support with rice 14 kg, lentil 2 kg, salt 2, kg, onion 2 kg, potato 5 kg, detergent powder and 4 soap. These food supports were much supportive to the needy families. Also the Personal Protection Equipments (PPE) was distributed to the Thana Nirbahi Officers' by the CIB finances CDSPs.

### Challenge:

- To recover academic loss of the weak students, who are absent from classes for long times.
- To bring back project children on time as soon as the educational institutions are opened.
- To support COVID-19 and Flood victims, are not easy to address their need.

# Christian Mission Hospital, Rajshahi



runs between 2000 to 2500. The positivity rate of PCR testing also shows some promising figure; it is now 15 to 19% (it was more 21-25% only two month back). In the divisional city of Rajshahi, we also see the reflection in COVID-19 data.

As such the government recently decided to continue Corona Services at CMHR only till the 15<sup>th</sup> of September 2020. It also means that the partnership is of CMHR with the government in respect

We would praise the Lord because He has been abundantly using the Church of Bangladesh (COB) and its biggest health organ the Christian Mission Hospital Rajshahi (CMHR) as a channel of love for many in the days of pandemic in 2020. Till end of August 2020, this health centre in northern part of Bangladesh passed four and a half month time in its new role as the dedicated corona hospital. We have been richly blessed as we could come to the utter need of the people through this service.

In the divisional city of Rajshahi, currently only two hospitals are dedicated for corona services. One of them is the Rajshahi Medical College Hospital (RMCH) and the other one the Christian Mission Hospital Rajshahi (CMHR). And these two hospitals have been continuing a formal partnership as well. The Rajshahi Medical College Hospital (RMCH) has been in principal charge of maintaining the provision of the quality COVID-19 Clinical services, for local people. And CMHR is in the role of providing the necessary support and arrangements for this COVID-19 Clinical services. Over the last four and a half month, Christian Mission Hospital Rajshahi (CMHR) has been in limelight in media coverage and also in community acceptance, for its role and involvement.

We praise Lord also because He has provided His divine safety for us too. In this four and a half month time, none of Christian Mission Hospital's 35 staff members working and supporting COVID-19 services contracted the disease though they worked in the wards with the patients. Only one female staff member tested positive, and she was an office-based support staff and was at her home during leave.

It has been found, as per IEDCR report, that over the month of August 2020, daily count of new positive cases countrywide is gradually coming down; it now

of COVID 19 is coming to an end very soon. We take pride that we have profusely been used through this hospital when we were immensely needed, to support humanity, in time of the utter needs of the country. We feel it has been an opportunity for us by God. God used Church of Bangladesh and Christian Mission Hospital Rajshahi as per His plan, and He guided us through all this troubling time.

As such CMHR is now planning to come back to its older shape, after 15<sup>th</sup> September 2020. The hospital should again start its health care services, a model that cares for underprivileged poor patients, specializing on Maternal and Child Health provision, maintaining an outpatient and all in-patient departments and re-organising the previous diagnostic and surgical services as it had been doing before.

But there is a great concern as well as Board of Trustee (BOT) plans for that. We lost many crucial and dedicated staff, like doctors and nurses, who left after clinical and MCH services were closed here. During the COVID-19 services, there have been some modifications internally inside the hospital that needs again to be re-structured. Further there has been generalized fear among local people about CMHR as this hospital was long working as dedicated corona centre. Further, there is question of disinfecting the hospital as well. All these might not be very trifling thing, but they involve massive Endeavour, requiring our dedication and support as well. The Board of Trustees feels that it might be another phase of hardest and critical time for this hospital, a time of great challenge again.

We pray that God will guide us again showing His light in our path.

Let there be light!



# Bollobhpur Hospital



## Case Study

*I received a phone call from the burn unit of Dhaka Medical College Hospital at the beginning of April - a severely burned patients relative requesting admission for care of their patient. A burn unit in the capital city, is obviously a very advanced and specialized place and "She" the patient, wanted admission at Bollobhpur Hospital. But we never say no, and also have a wealth*

*of experience in caring for burn cases, and so on April 20th, Mrs Sheuly Khatun age 50years arrived.*

*Sheuly had been cooking the family rice at midday when her saree caught fire, and she was extensively burned from her waist to her feet, almost the whole of the back of her body. The wounds were smelly and infected when she came to us.*

*We admitted her to a side room with the own attached bathroom, turned her prone on a ripple bed to prevent further pressure sore, and dressed her wounds twice daily. Her condition has been carefully monitored by Dr. Oishee, prescribing the necessary medication at the right time and exhorting her from the beginning, not to rely on medicines but to eat housing food and drink milk to combat the infections and allow growth of new flesh to cover the burn areas.*

*Mrs Sheuly has been with us for over 4 months now, there has been steady healing, and her burned area is about 50% healed. All this, of course, is wonderful experience for our students in training. Please pray for us and our patient.*

*We hope to be able to send you a photograph of Mrs Sheuly on the day she walks out of the hospital, smiling and fully healed.*

*Thank you for keeping along side.*

**Sister Gillian Rose,  
Director**

## Dear Friends,

Another two months have flown by and have to share news of Bollobhpur Hospital with you once again. The main news is that we are all well and busy, the hospital open to all who came, both for admission on the wards and for consultation with doctor and treatment from the outpatient department. Mother admitted and delivered of their babies. No one is turned away. We are careful. Masks are ware during duty hours and hand washing advised.

Dr. Yonus once again come for a weekly "Eye clinic" welcomed by the many folk suffering from eye problems in the surrounding villages. And the Saturday morning Ante natal clinic is packed out.

Our three village outstation clinic are running as usual too, a busy general and Ante natal clinic one day a week staffed by a team from the hospital, and the residential staff admit and deliver mother during the week, and are always available with medicine for those who come there.

We are seeing surge of new mother to be booking in at the ante natal clinics, many very young teenage "school girls". When I remonstrated with the guardians, I am told "Sister what can I do with her? The schools are all closed, so we married her off". There is going to be a huge drop out from schooling of adolescent girls, due to the closer of the Educational institutions, and an invariably increase in number of teenage mothers.

We are blessed with new Ultrasound System 4D Colour Doppler recently by the generous donation of our dearest brothers & sisters of Methodist Church. We are very much grateful to them, and Dr Oishee has started doing ultrasonography of patients with this new one.

## Workshop on envisioning the targeted people and Church leaders held at Haluaghat Deanery, Dhaka Diocese



about Umoja process and got clear idea through the session. Participants are presenting how local people face challenges and solutions about the Umoja Bible Study and groups in the Church. Umoja Bible study groups are formed among the Church members with the concern of Parish priest.

Workshop was very good and participants were actively attended and learned to use the Umoja process in the Church and agreed to lead Umoja Bible study group.

Workshop on envisioning the targeted people and Church leaders was held on 3<sup>rd</sup> of August, 2020 at St. Andrew's Mission, Panihata, Nalitabari, Sherpur. Rev. David Mridha shared the Word of God and motivated the Church members basing on the holy Scripture John 15:4, in his reflection, he told, without connection with Jesus, we cannot bear much fruit at all, we can bear fruits only when our relationship with Jesus become strong and rely on him.

It was shared about the concept of Umoja: importance, steps, benefits, principles, challenges and solutions, when and how to start Umoja group in the Church. Participants are motivated to learn



*Adolescent Seminar held at Panihata by the financial support of CWM*

## News from Kushtia Diocese

It was organised few event during the COVID-19 at St. John's Cathedral, Kushtia Diocese. Evening prayer and Communion service on Sunday was held at the Cathedral. The Bishop visited family and prayed for the sick people and also served communion at their home those who were not able to come to attend the Sunday Service. Training Programme on revised Liturgy and Marriage Counseling is held on 6-8 August 2020 at St. John's Cathedral, Kushtia Diocese with Catechists through MSP-4. The purpose of the training is to transform the lives of the Church with the fullness of life and new efficiency according to the Scripture.

One day youth seminar was held on 29<sup>th</sup> August 2020 at Rupantor Center, Kushtia Diocese. The main theme was- 'Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity' (1 Timothy 4:12). A youth team was started at the Cathedral Church. The honorable Bishop Hemen Halder organized the 'St. John's Cathedral Youth Club'. It was formed a committee for two years term, St. John's Cathedral Youth Club as the first youth committee in the history of St. John's Cathedral. The committee members are President- Mr. Austin Biswas, Secretary-Ms Eden Shathy Biswas, Treasurer- Kolins Sarker, Executive member-Mr. Rickson Roy, Mr. Protick Mondol, Ms Tina Ratna, Mr. Parosh Mondol, and Argho Biswas. They are welcomed with flowers by the Church on Sunday service. They have planted Mango Tree in the Cathedral and after Sunday service, women fellowship meeting was held on 30<sup>th</sup> August 2020 at St. John's Cathedral, Kushtia Diocese.

## Rajshahi Deanery Women's Fellowship Seminar 2020

Theme: Seek the Lord and his strength, seek his face continually.' 1<sup>st</sup> Chronicle 16:11.

On July 18, 2020, at St. Joseph's Church, Rajshahi a day-long women seminar was held. The seminar was moderated by Mrs. Minoti Biswas, Convenor of Deanery Women's Fellowship and were assisted by Mrs. Golapi Hembrom, Mrs. Pansuri Hembrom, Mrs. Tabitha Soren, and Mrs. Jesmita Baskey. At 8o'clock in the morning, Bishop Hemen Halder cut the ribbon and lit the lamp through the prayer to begin the program. The seminar was attended by Right Rev. Hemen Halder, his wife Kushtia Diocese Women's Fellowship Convener Mrs. Suparna Halder Rimi, Dean Rev. Billiam Sarder, Local Parish Priest Rev. Ashish Mondol, Synod Treasurer Mr. Lawrence Mondol, Mr. Ephraim Hembrom, Mr. Raju Mardi, the secretary of the local parish, and 35 women from different regions were present in the event.

Bishop Halder said that mothers have an important role to play in the church, their involvement, meditation, prayer, and support keep the church awake. The most interesting part of the program was the speech on the theme. Mrs. Suparna Halder Rimi, Diocese Women's Fellowship Convener, delivered a very lively, easy-to-understand speech while Mrs. Minoti Biswas was the Moderator of the session. Mrs. Rimi brings out the underlying theory and information of the theme through various stories. She told-how we can taste Jesus, how to walk in order to receive the Holy Spirit, what COVID-19 teaches us. The gifts of the Holy Spirit are our driving force. She concludes with a very heartfelt speech on how we can hold on to God's grace. Mrs. Golapi told about what to do in Corona pandemic.



## Bishop visited Jobarpar and Khulna deaneries and planted fruit trees



fairness and humility. Bishop encouraged the church members to plant trees in the compound.

In August Bishop visited different assemblies of Jobarpar and Khulna deaneries. He visited Rahutpara, Indrokani, Oicharmath, Shuagram, Chourkhuli, Chitolia, Koligram and Rajshahi under Kushtia Diocese. During his visit, he met the local church individuals, pioneers and talked about with them various issues of the church which they were confronting and particularly he discussed in regards to the stewardship, self-reliance of the local parish and the Diocese. At the point when he travelled, he was accompanied with Barishal Diocesan Secretary Mr Ratan Halder, Mr. Polash Biswas, Secretary, Jobarpar Deanery, Mr Manik Talukder, Secretary, Khulna Deanery, Rev. Santi Mondal, Dean, Jobarpar Deanery and Rev. Monindra Baidya, Dean, Khulna Deanery and Mr Swithin Malaker, Manager cum Accountant, Barishal Diocese.

Bishop visited the Micro-Credit program office and also met some of the church members at Indrokani. There he encouraged people to use the land as fruit orchard instead of keeping it idle land. By planting fruit trees, he motivated the tree plantation program. He instructed the area dean and local leaders to repair the tin-shed house and make it usable and income-generating.

This month Bishop also visited Suagram parish and conducted communion service. The local leaders had a meeting with the bishop and discuss the progress of embankment of the church pond. He also listens to some of the local problems and asked the local church committee to solve the matter immediately with

On eighth July Bishop joined the Oicharmath High School meeting and took initiative to ensure the school land is protected. The students originate from the villages. It was built up by Late Bishop B.D. Mondal. The school is serving the communities and many have developed their lives from this school.

15th of July Bishop S. Pholia, Mrs Suchitra Behera, Bishop Hemen Halder, Mrs Rimi Halder, Mr David Pandey and Rev. Ashish Mondal was invited by SHALOM office in Rajshahi as a courtesy visit by Manager Mr Muntasir Rahman and other staff. They heard the work that is going on in the district. On the same evening, Bishop along with the team visited the bereaved family of the late Mr Andrew Kishore to console and pray with the family. Later in the evening, Bishop visited some church members living in Dingaduba area of Rajshahi.



# Clinic Based Community Health and Nutrition Program



Mr. Philip Mondol, Programme Coordinator visited and met with local committee in different clinic management committees in Barishal and Dhaka Diocese



Meeting with newly formed management committee for Jobarparpar clinic.



Meeting with staff and PMT members at Katalmari Clinic.



Meeting with staff and PMT members at Panihata Clinic.



Meeting with the staff at Baraujani Clinic