



The Church of Bangladesh

NEWSLETTER

● Newsletter ● September–October Issue 2022 ●

Volume 17

Message from the Moderator ...

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Heartfelt greetings from the Moderator of the Church of Bangladesh! Hope and pray that all are keeping well in midst of many daily challenges by the grace of God. Soon after the Lambeth Conference held where three of us Revd. Probhudan Hira, Mrs. Monita Mankhin, and I had an opportunity to attend and represent the Church of Bangladesh at the General Assembly of the World Council of Churches held in Karlsruhe, Germany. It had been an ever-great Christian Ecumenical gathering where all the denominations represented them under the theme of Christ's Love moves us to Unity and Reconciliation. Many contemporary issues including the war between Ukraine and Russia have been discussed and consensus to respond to the problems unitedly towards peace and prosperity of the world. Climate justice and caring for the creation have been widely discussed and consensus to move forward the opportunities. We had an opportunity to meet the CEO of the USPG Revd. Dr. Duncan Dormor, Mr. Martin Teunissen-Programmamedewerker of Kerk In Actie, the Netherlands, and the GS of CWM Revd. Dr. Jooseop Keum during the Assembly, and had very good conversations with them. We are really grateful for their love and support for COB and the institutions from their hearts.



Soon after the WCC General Assembly, we had an opportunity to visit the KNH Head office in Duisburg, Germany. As we know that through this office and the ministry for the children many of us been much benefitted. There we met the concerned persons and conveyed our thanks and gratitude. They welcomed us warmly and have taken the initiative to put our visit on the website and press release in their present work circle. Through this visit, we have re-established our broken relationship and friendship with the KNH.

Then we had an opportunity to visit the CMD, Germany office situated in Meierndorf, Germany where the

Chairwoman Mrs. Sabine Eller, the Treasurer Mr. Willi Foell, and the CEO Mr. Markus Romeis warmly welcomed us. We had an opportunity to attend the Sunday Service where we shared the COB's vision and work and the work of the CMCY has been continuing to do the ministry for the poor and needy children in Bangladesh. We then had opportunities to sit with the Board members and later on the Foundation members where we shared some of our official sharing and thoughts and the present ministry of the CMCY.

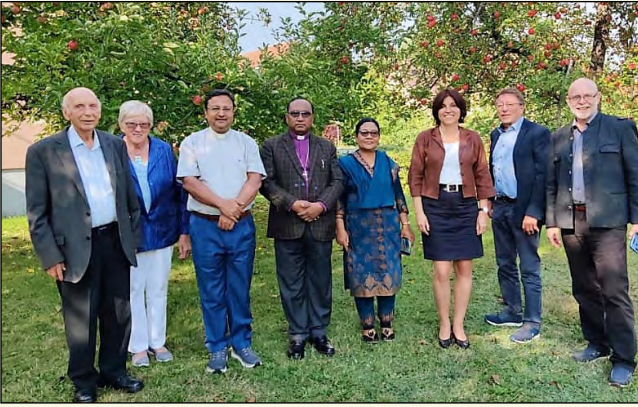
We met Dr. Horst Kowski and Dr. Markus Vogel and had a day-long fellowship and discussion and fun. We enjoyed visiting the families and places and having had fellowship meals

and piloting the Aeroplan with Mr. Thomas, driving the very big Tractor with Mr. Kurt, visiting some historical places, and making pizza for ourselves at Mr. Rudis' House and wonderful and amazing fellowship and the ever-great hospitality of our friends.

We were so moved by their spiritual lives and unity and Christian witness in and abroad indeed. Not only that we had an opportunity to meet the honorable Mayor of the Area City Hall, Dinkelsbuhl, Burk, Mayor George, who welcomed us so warmly and friendly that we can't forget such as wonderful mayor who has been serving the community with his servant leadership in Christ. We thank



Visiting KNH Office, Germany



Visiting CMD Office, Germany



After Sunday Service.



Riding Aeroplane



Visiting Mayor Office, Germany

God and thank the German Government for choosing such as excellent loving and friendly Mayor.

At present in midst of the profound crisis of the world and in



Fellowship Dinner at Mr. Rudis' House

the country, we have been surviving by the grace of God and your prayers. In the Dioceses, we have had Diocesan councils and formed Diocesan Executive committees. We have had a revival meeting in Chittagong recently for the city pastorate and for the new mission area inviting some of them. We have been doing our rollout programs mostly every week in the deaneries, the Dioceses, and the Synod level which is the strategy of the Church of Bangladesh. Mr. Paul S. Malakar has been assigned to this very important ministry. We have been working with the CWM and the MSP 4 program and some other mission initiative programs. We have been keeping a good relationship with the OM, UK and have sent our report to them for the magazine and we are grateful to them for their love and concern for us. We have been also keeping a good relationship with other valued mission partners and friends and praying for their mission and ministry. The Christian Mission Hospital Rajshahi and Bollovepur Hospital have been running well and trying their best to be self-supported. Our dear Dr. Leslie Y Morgan has sent his greetings and love for all after a long time and wished us all the best. He has been reading the Bangla Bible regularly so that he doesn't forget us and Bangla which is great! We too wish you and Dr. Cynthia Morgan and the children all the best and always should be in good health. When you get time to travel, please both of you come to COB where you have spent your golden time of your lives and love most though there are many beautiful countries in the world to go and work.

COB are going to ordain 15 ordinands, out of these two are women Deaconess Suchitra Behera and Deaconess Mridula Boidya on the 8th of January 2023 in Oxford Mission, Barishal. May I heartily welcome and cordially invite you to join us on this auspicious occasion and bless us all. Please just let me know. All are most welcome! I look forward to greeting you with Christmas Greetings in the month of December in our next issue till then goodbye and God bless.

Message from Barishal Diocese



Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

Greetings to you all in the name of Jesus from the Barishal Diocese. This time please thank God with us for God's mercy on us. God saved us from cyclone Sitrang. Due to the Sitrang people suffering, as they were under water for two to three days, many houses and trees have fallen. For us climate change is a crucial issue to be aware of and to take initiative to reduce its causes. The Holy Scripture says, "We know that the whole creation has been groaning in travail together ..." (Rom. 8:20). Therefore, the Barishal Diocese is standing on to do justice with the creation and taking the side of those who are raising voices to stop global warming factors in this world to save the world for our new generations. We are God's church for God's world and so, we need to respond to the climate crisis issue to save God's creation.

You will be happy to know that the Barishal Diocese now becoming conscious and proactive regarding the need for appropriate policies and plans for persons with disabilities. We are moving on with our limited resources to respond to the need of persons with disability. We are proclaiming that persons with disability are God's gifts to us through whom God is glorified. They are created by the same God and God gave them (ISSAC who lost his eyesight, JACOB whose thigh was dislocated by the angel) an important place in the genealogy of Jesus (Mt. 1: 1ff). They were called by God and they were disabled in people's eyes but in God's eye, they all were able. We started sharing this good news with our people so that we all can stand together for their rights and their active participation in our churches. We need your prayer and presence for all our initiatives.

May God bless us all.

Yours in Christ;

Rt. Rev. Shourabh Pholia.
Bishop of Barishal Diocese.



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

On behalf of Kushtia Diocese, I would like to express my profound gratitude and deepest thanks for your prayers and kind support.

As I am writing this newsletter, Cyclone Sitrang has started its operations all over the country. (The present cyclone is expected to be named Sitrang). It has been raining and gusty winds since midnight. Although the main affected area will be the Sunderbans in the coastal areas in Bangladesh, therefore I am very scared as my relatives live there. Eventually this type of catastrophes are regular phenomena in our place and our people are now experiencing them with bitterness and fear.

In terms of our Diocesan activities, we have had a very busy time in the last two months. For example, we have completed the construction of the priest's residence at Koilhat in Rajshahi Denary. The construction of the priest's residence at Ratanpur in Bollovpur Deanery is almost at the final stage. The extension of the Church building at Nitthanadhapur in Bollovpur Deanery is coming to an end. One of the most important tasks we have completed is deanery and Diocesan Council. This time in the Diocese a total of 90 councilors joined and finally the new Diocese Committee was elected through a fair election. During our Diocesan Council we had a major discussion about "The Church of Bangladesh Strategy Paper on 2021-2030". Mission and evangelism activities are going well in Kushtia Diocese. Consequently of long-term efforts and careful preaching, 75 families are ready to accept Christ. If God wants next year we shall baptize them accordingly.

Although we have overcome the fear of coronavirus, yet it did not leave us completely. But at present in Bangladesh, one thing that is awfully dreadful than Coronavirus is dengue fever. Another painful issue is a dramatic price hike in every commodity. All this has made the life of common people miserable and the majority of the people are striving to cope with these realities.

At this juncture, as a Church we are trying our best to be with those who are suffering in abject poverty.

When grief lands on our doorstep we do not always understand God's will. But whatever we are facing right now it is not the end of our story. God is with us, and always will be.

Rt. Rev. Hemen Halder.
Bishop of Kushtia Diocese.



Dhaka Diocese Council 2022 held

Dhaka Diocesan Council 2022 was held last October 6-9, 2022 at Savar Prayer Garden. Bishop S. Mankhin was present as the chief guest. The said Spiritual Revival Council was held in 2022 AD. The title was, "God is our refuge and strength to help us in times of trouble. (Psalm 46:1 verse)

The Moderator of the Church of Bangladesh gave an orientation speech on theme of the council. 60 representatives from different parishes of Dhaka and Haluaghat deanery were present in the council.

In his speech, he said that many people have died due to Covid-19, the country has lost hope and hope for life. When many people in the world are struggling with huge problems and leading inhuman life due to war but Almighty God has wonderfully placed and guided us, the people of the Church of Bangladesh, in his shelter and under the shadow of his power. Therefore, God is the refuge of our faith through the Lord Jesus.

He also said that the Church of Bangladesh congregation is focusing its strategic plan 2021-30 based on the SDG and MDG for spiritual and economic self-reliance. After the Chairman's speech, various agenda reports were presented. Many reports are discussed through these events. On the last day, the new committee was elected for the next three years. Later the Diocesan Council concluded with the blessing prayer of the new committee.

Spiritual Revival Meeting at Chittagong

The 31st spiritual revival meeting was held at Chittagong Christ Church. The theme of the meeting was "The day of the Lord is near; It is coming like a flood from the Almighty." (Joel:



1-15). Church of Bangladesh Moderator was present as the chief guest. 370 members of the local church attended this meeting. Church of Bangladesh at 11 am. Moderator prayed and lit candles as a keynote speaker. He said that in the 5th century BC the prophet Joel referred to plagues, droughts and locusts. But repentance can avoid punishment and be blessed. Only by repentance we can enrich our spiritual life.

Chittagong Christ Church 31st Special Prayer for Spiritual Patients 'The 31st spiritual worship ends with healing worship.



Youths of Dhaka Deanery Participated in the Revival Meeting of Chittagong

The 13 youths from Dhaka Deanery joined the 31st spiritual revival meeting at Christ Church, Chittagong. This revival meeting was held on 21 October 2022. The Moderator encouraged and supported the youth to join this revival meeting. Youths assist the revival meeting with the choir team. They also delivered the word of God during the revival meeting. Besides this, they get the opportunity to explore Chittagong city and the nearest sea beach. They were spiritually enriched through the visit and participation and gathered knowledge and experiences.

Workshop for the teenager at the Deanery level



Last September 2022 Madhupur and Halughat Deanery organized a workshop on Social Issues for teenagers in both the deanery. During the workshop, they discussed various important contemporary issues, especially early marriage, Daily Bible study, Mental & Physical health care, Modern technology, Child rights, etc. The workshop was a successful workshop with the active participation of the teenagers.

Workshop for the Youth at the Deanery level



Last September 2022 Madhupur and Halughat Deanery organized a workshop on Social Issues for young leaders in both the deanery. During the workshop, they discussed various important contemporary issues, especially Bible Study, Social media awareness, Gender equality, Health concern, Drug addiction, etc. The workshop was a successful workshop with the active participation of the Youth leaders.



Communal Harmony Dialogue

On last 13/10/2022 Karpasdanga Christ Church Central and South Bangladesh Child Development Project BD-0330 organized a one-day dialogue on communal harmony with 50 Muslims, Hindus, Christians and LCC committee members/members. Honorable Bishop Hemen Halder of Kushtia Diocese lit the candle and initiated today's dialogue meeting. Later he gave a brief history of all religions. He said that peace is spoken in all religions, but many people create disputes like fools without knowing their religion. Ignorance creates sin. He called everyone to love one another. We are human being. We must live in this world together

Dr. Habibur Rahman mentioned the role of all castes in building communal harmony. He said Allah created human

being male and female. We are all our own people. May we treat each other as brothers and treat each other well. We should not hurt anyone's religious sentiments. We shouldn't do injustice to anyone. He said let us respect all religions and live together in this world peacefully. Hindu priest Shri Raghunath Pal focused on the role of people in establishing harmony among mankind. He said, non-violence is the ultimate religion. We must avoid greed, lust, fighting, anger for the sake of peace. He wished all the people of the world to be happy.



Rt Reverend Hemen Halder and his wife visited Astapukur of Rajshahi Deanery on 28 October 2022 to attend and enjoy the finale of Rajshahi Deanery Football Championship.



Adolescent Workshop

On the last 19th and 20th October 2022, Saint Peter's Church, Ratanpur organized a two-day youth workshop. Youth from all the churches of Bollovepur Deanery participated in the workshop. Mr. James Probir Sarker discussed child rights and child abuse. He divided the teenagers into four groups and discussed the topic in the light of the Bible. The Bible study group discussion was moderated by Dean of Bollovepur Deanery, Rev. Lorance Mritunjoy Mondol.

Mr. Edison Mollick discussed the Secret of Power. He said, Jesus always sees what we are doing. He sees and knows all our deeds. So, we have to live in love, faithfulness and dance. Work for society. May we be beautiful people. The seminar was organized with the initiative of the youth of Karpasdanga Jubo Sangha and the encouragement of Pariest Priest Reverend Dipak Uzzal Biswas.



Holy Confirmation Service

22 youth have been confirmed at Christ the King church, Khalishpur. Honorable Bishop of Barishal Diocese Shourabh Pholia had a confirmation preparation session with them on Saturday evening. On the 16th the confirmation service held. Bishop Pholia preached and led the service. After the service the confirmed youth have planted trees in the church campus. They will take care of the trees and in this way honorable Bishop encouraged them to care for the creation. It is in response to the Lambeth call to have a community forest to save the world.

Women Empowerment Workshop



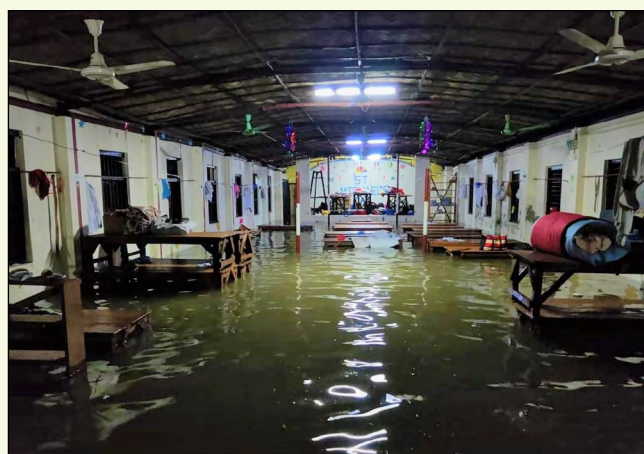
On 2nd and 3rd September Bangladesh Bible Society arranged workshop on women empowerment at Oriental Retreat Center, Barisal. There were 20 participant from Barishal Diocese. Women rights, empowerment, violence to women, social status of women, etc topics were discussed on the workshop. Participants got awareness of their rights and got a clear concept about what is written about their rights on Bible from this workshop.

The workshop was lead by Mrs. Grace Dewan, Ms. Mitu Sarker from Barishal Diocese and Mrs. Suchitra Boiragi. Honorable Bishop of Barishal Diocese and Mrs. Angela Baroi were present as speaker. Honorable Bishop focused on women empowerment and equity through his speech.

Cyclone Sitrang struck Bangladesh

On 24th October Cyclone Sitrang struck the southern part of Bangladesh. At least 24 people have died and millions were without power after Cyclone Sitrang struck, forcing the evacuation of about a million people. Nearly 10,000 homes were either “destroyed or damaged” in the storm and about 1,000 shrimp farms were washed away in floods at Khulna, Mongla and Bagerhat area. Heavy rains lashed much of the country, flooding cities such as Khulna and Barisal which received 324mm (13 inches) of rainfall on Monday.

Members of the Barishal Diocese also have been affected by the Cyclone. Church Members of Barishal, Mongla and Khulna are still under water. During the Cyclone people took shelter at the Church in Mongla and at the Barishal Housing Project School. We thank God to save our people from this disaster.





Last 18-19 September Synod office led a memorial service in remembrance of the Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in the synod office meeting cum prayer room with all the Synod, Shalom, and CMCY staff by the leading of the Moderator. All shared about the gorgeous life of the Queen. As the Church of Bangladesh, it is our honor that Her Majesty Queen was part of the Anglican Communion. It is said that Queen visited the St. Thomas Cathedral, Dhaka during her state visit to East Pakistan (present Bangladesh) in 1963. She also gave a photo of Her own portrait to the Cathedral. We still have that photo in the Synod Office. In deep condolence for Her Majesty's death Synod office kept the national flag at half-mast. The Moderator also declared a day off on the day of the queen's last funeral to show her deep respect.

Peace Making Workshop held



Last 30th September 2022, NCCB organized a workshop with collaboration of COB addressing contemporary issues on peace making. The inter faith people (Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist and Christian) attended this workshop. Most of them is involved with a team of NCCB called IPT (Interfaith Peacemaker Team) Team. This team works in their local villages for social works and NCCB assist them in many kinds. The deans and church leaders joined this workshop from the COB. The Honorable GS Rev. David A Das introduced about the work and vision of the IPT teams and he encourage all to be the part of that team.



Oxford Misson UK General Secretary, visited

This is our Joy to share with you that on the 28th of September 2022 we were blessed by a visit of the Oxford Misson UK General Secretary, Mrs. Dipti Pender, who came to visit us in the Synod office in Dhaka. We welcomed her with the flower as the symbol of our love and joy. We had a very good and friendly discussion and sharing with her at the Synod meeting cum prayer room. We were honored to get the opportunity to welcome her into our midst.

Ministry for the Aged & PWD People



We are really grateful to share this Joy with you that CoB has officially started the ministry for Aged persons and persons with disabled persons with COB'S other 9 continuous ministries. This ministry will open many doors of support for Aged persons and persons with disabled persons and families. From the last 25th to the 27th of October 2022 COB held a workshop at Savar RPG on this ministry where the Moderator, Deputy Moderator, all the deans, and representatives from the lay people and deaneries joined this workshop.

Mr. Paul S. Malakar & Mr. Albert Mollah, Co-Founder of Access Bangladesh, was the key resource person and Bishop Pholia shared Biblical thoughts on Aged and PWD persons. This workshop helps the participants to gather vast information on PWD and aged services in Bangladesh. The Moderator encourages everyone to work in unity to support this ministry to stand beside the aged and PWD persons and families. He also requested to do it cheerfully and with joy. We are hoping and requesting your kind prayers for this ministry.

Workshop on Bible Study Material Development



COB organized a Material developments workshop with the support of the CWM in last 5 to 9 September 2022 at Savar RPG. The seven Deaneries' youth,

women, and teenage representatives were present at the material development workshop. The Bishop of Barishal Diocese and the seven deans were also present. Mr. Paul S. Malakar the Program and Communication director instructed all in this workshop. This workshop produces three Bible study materials for the Teenage groups, and Youth and Women groups. The developed Bible study material will be printed out as a colorful book and will be distributed to every family of the COB so that they can do the Bible group as a family or Church.

South Asia Christian Youth Network (SACYN) 2022



It's a blessing for me to share about SACYN 2022. First, I want to thank COB for giving me this great opportunity to be a part of the conference. The theme of the conference was "rebuilding our broken walls," which means to reflect, renew, or restore ourselves spiritually and mentally with each other by creating networks and good connections through worship and sharing spiritual bonds. There were group projects for better communication, a worship concert, lunch and dinner in different places, games, and lots of fun activities. I've learned a lot from this conference, including the fact that different cultures have different personalities, even though the young people were Asian. I learned about network building through communication and spirituality. This conference taught me how to rebuild our spiritual connection with God and how grateful I am today. Attending the conference was a blessing and a privilege for me. Once again, many thanks to COB for giving me the



WCC 11th Assembly 2022 held

World Council of Churches (WCC) 11th General Assembly held at Karlsruhe, Germany on 31 August-8th September 2022. The theme was “Christ’s Love Moves the World to Reconciliation & Unity”. There are about more than 4000 delegates and church leaders came all over the world from different Protestant Churches, Orthodox and Roman Catholic Church too. We participated 3 persons from Church of Bangladesh and some from other churches about total 6 persons attended from Bangladesh in this WCC Assembly. We 3 COB are The Most Revd. Samuel S Mankhin Moderator-COB, Mrs. Monita Mankhin Education Coordinator-COB, Revd. John Probhudan Hira Synod Secretary-COB & Principal-SATC.

It was really great fellowship and celebration time together to meet all the world leaders from all over the World. We experience the presence of God and spirit filled experience being together the world Church leaders, living together, praying together, share with each other, having meal together. The leaders, speakers and facilitators share on local, regional and global issues like ecological disaster, war between Ukraine and Russia, Youths Leadership, Women Issues, Religious Freedom etc. We got opportunity to share with different groups i.e., regional and global issues in different places.

- Rev. John Probhudan Hira, Synod Secretary-CoB

The 71 AGM of NCCB held



The 71 AGM of the NCCB (National Council of Churches in Bangladesh) was held on 28th of October 2022 at the NCCB office in Moghbazar, Dhaka. The Respected Moderator of COB is the running President of NCCB. With his extraordinary leadership NCCB’s all ministries running smoothly even in the midst of many challenges

like COVID-19 and the war between Russia and Ukraine. The President congratulated the WCC Central Committee member nominated from Bangladesh Mr. Christopher Adhikary (who is the president of the BBC) and the newly consecrated Bishop Rt. Revd. Dr. Simon R Biswas of the Methodist Church in the event held. He also distributed Awards among the students of different denominations who got the GPA 5 and Golden in their SSC examination. Aiming its many ministries, mainly NCCB is working to build a good relationship between all faith people in Bangladesh. They are also working for ecumenism. NCCB is the National Christian Protestant Churches’ platform of the 21 denominations and 13 associate bodies. Among the many members Churches of NCCB. The Church of Bangladesh and the Bangladesh Baptist Church Sangha are the founder members of the NCCB. The moto of the NCCB is unity in diversity. We wish every success for NCCB.

St. Andrew's Theological College



Lay People's Courses

Lay People's Courses started for Youths at St. Andrews Church Mirpur: On 7-07- 2022 Lay People's Course was started with about 12 youth students (boys and girls). Rev. Adhir Gathia, the local priest, inaugurated the ceremony along with College Admin cum Accountant Mrs. Sanchita Talukder and Office Assistant Mr. Sumon Mondal were present. This course will be conducted by SATC College.

Youth Seminar and International Youth Day Observed



On 08-07-2022 Deanery Youth Seminar held at was Mogbazar Church. Young people from different parishes participated in this seminar. Our college students also join this seminar.

12th August International Youth Day: Mirpur Church BBS Youth group organized the International Youth Day. The theme was of International Youth Day 2022 is "Intergenerational Solidarity: Creating a World for All Ages". To achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. The world needs to leverage the full potential of all generations. And all our SATC college students participated in this day.

BTH Online Zoom Class

This online class starts from 8 July 2022 to 26 July 2022 for internal BTH students. In which teachers take subject-based classes as following: Rt. Rev. Shourabh Pholia- Introduction to Dalit/Adivasi/Tribal Theology; Rt. Rev. Hemen Halder - History of Christianity; Rev. Jonarson Dio - Mission and Ministry of Paul; Rev. Martin Hira Mondol - Ethical Response to some of Contemporary Issues; Rev. Deacon Suchtaria Behera - Introduction to Christian Education; and Principal Rev. John P Hira took class on- Prison Ministry.

Thanks God for All His Blessings and All Glory to God!

Brief Report of Christa Sevika Sangha (CSS)



ST. AGNES HOSTEL: Since 2012, our CSS Sisters have been running St. Agnes Hostel. Sister Dorothy (now Sister Superior), who was first in charge of running this hostel, she had enough trouble from the girls and the staff but despite everything, she worked at St. Agnes Hostel for five consecutive years.

SHARBHO DHUTER GIRLS' HOSTEL: On 6 September 2022, our girls returned from home to the hostel after their vacation. All their programs are going on as usual.

29 September 2022, St. Michael and All Angels Festival Day, that day, was the birthday of All Angels Girls Hostel, on that day our girls held a small ceremony with the responsibility of all Angels.

Girls Brigade: Girls Brigade class is held every Saturday, this class is conducted by Sisters. In one such class, Sister Agnes taught the girls, in a new way, the names of the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit. Our girls do this class with great joy.

PLAY CENTRE: One day they were so happy with our baby goat. When children laugh, God himself laughs. And when children rejoice, God is present among those children. We are very lucky to have the opportunity to work among such children.

ST.GABRIEL PRIMARY SCHOOL: Sister Superior, Sister Dorothy is the Headmistress of St. Gabriel's Primary School, she has been holding this position since 2018.

MAKING CHURCH'S BREAD AND WINE: Our sisters are able to make church bread and wine and deliver it to different parishes, which is a sign of spirituality. We are grateful to God for the opportunity to participate in this beautiful work. This beautiful work is done by the sister who is in charge of

the chapel. This year, Sister Shobha is in charge of the chapel, so, she is doing such a beautiful work and the other Sisters are helping her.

WORKSHOP ON STRATEGIC PLAN: We are 8 Sisters from the Christa Sevika Sangha (CSS) and 2 Sisters from the Sisterhood of St. Mary's, totaling 10 sisters, participated in a 3 days workshop at Savar, Dhaka. Through this workshop, we tried to find out the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats of the Sisterhoods by doing the SWOT analysis. Besides, through this workshop we discussed about the future plans of our Sisterhoods. Mr. Paul Subrata Malakar



the program & communication director did facilitate the workshop. This is the first time we have had the opportunity to attend such a workshop, glory be to the great God.

Stay well everyone and stay healthy, may the most merciful God bless and protect all people.

Sister Dorothy, CSS
Sister Superior,
Jobarpar and Barishal.



Shalom

... a development organisation of Church of Bangladesh

Honorable State Minister of Public Administration attend the Leprosy Patients Care Program of Shalom



Shalom, Church of Bangladesh and Leprosy Mission International Bangladesh are jointly working in Meherpur and Barishal district through the “Advocacy Empowerment Project (AEP)” and FREE projects. Shalom is working in partnership by giving emphasis to leprosy control, leprosy awareness, leprosy case identification, community based rehabilitation, advocacy on leprosy, referral to medical service providers (Govt, NGO’s) and follow up support. 1st October 2022 there was a mass awareness program held at Meherpur district on the current picture of leprosy patients and mental, medical, and financial support to the leprosy patients. Professor Mr. Farhad Hossain MP, Honorable State Minister of Public Administration was present as the chief guest; Dr. Md. Jawaharul Anam Siddiqui, Civil Surgeon was present as the special guest; Prof. Dr. Sakil Ahmed, Director MBDC, DGHS was present as the guest and Dr. Mohammad Munsoor Alam Khan was present as the Chairman of the program.

Bread for the World (BftW) appointed CPA Services in Bangladesh

Bread for the World (BftW) appointed CPA Services in Bangladesh as a new consultancy for Financial Management first. Mr. Prazzal Kumar Sarker is playing the role as a Financial Consultant and Ms. Sujata Samal is the Director of Advisory & Accompaniment Services and looks after the BftW projects in Bangladesh. CPA Services arranged



training on “BftW Standards and Compliance” at 54 Johnson Road, Dhaka 1100 from 15th to 16th October 2022. Shalom central and field level 14 staff participated in the training. CPA Services assists civil society organizations to achieve development effectiveness by promoting transparency and accountability.

Advocacy, Lobbying, Rights and Social Safety Network Workshop held



Baromari village near Garo hills of Durgapur. Shalom, Church of Bangladesh office is in the end of this village near the border line. There is an infinitely impressive nature, struggling life and full of simplicity people living in these villages. In this area Shalom arranged a Workshop on advocacy, lobbying, rights and social safety net with a total 40 members. Mr. Chandan Kumar Laheri was the main facilitator to facilitate the training and Mr. Jones Loton Roy, Advocacy and Documentation Officer was present in the workshop. The workshop discussed different types of development, differences in needs and rights, various social security programs, social security benefits and strategies for advocacy and lobbying to solve social problems in the community. The program is implemented by the financial support of Bread for the World (BftW).



CoB-CMCY

Christian Ministry to Children & Youth

Budget Orientation 2023



Three days yearly Hostels budget orientation was held on September 8-10, 2022 at 5th floor of the Synod Office of the Church of Bangladesh. All hostels in charge were present with their yearly drafted budgets, aiming to improve it further. Director, accountant and other senior staff helped and guided them as per financial rules and counseled them to face the rocket-high-market trend, wisely.

CMD- Germany Visit



The Most Revd. Samuel S. Mankhin, Mrs Monita Mankhin and Revd. John Probhudan Hira, a Synod secretary, had visited the CMD- Germany office and some churches in the second week of September, 2022; with an aim to acknowledge donors' kind contribution and also to take mutual understanding in the highest esteem. For this purpose, as a token of love and thanksgiving, CMCY made a Crest and handed it over to the Moderator for the donors. The CMCY Chairperson presented the crest to Mrs. Sabine Eller, Chairwoman of the CMD- Germany.

CMCY is much thankful to the kind donors for very much appreciating support and entertainment towards the Bangladeshi team. CMCY personnel are also very thankful

to the team members, who returned back to Bangladesh shared details about their visit and showed lively and lovely videos that helped office staff to gather new knowledge, experiences, and future working strategies of the donor.

Residential hostel news

Hostel children are well and grow up holistically. SSC candidates have appeared at their examinations successfully and are waiting for the result. HSC students get ready for their examination from November 6, 2022. High school and Primary students are studying with attention for their forthcoming annual examinations.

Compassion international Bangladesh



CIB has changed its development programs and strategies to serve the poor children and their families. Now children stay in their homes and attend classes. CIB staff counsel parents on their children's education and supply educational materials. CIB works for the development of both the parents and children. To raise family income, CIB supports poor parents with livestock and need based training. All project worker are playing key roles to change the attitudes of the family members and make them self-reliant in Economical.

CIB-visits CMCY run projects areas

Mr. Michael Dey, Senior Manager Partnership, Mr. Lalchuck Pangkhua, Manager of Partnership, Mr. Simon Mir, Partner preparation Specialist, have kindly visited CMCY- run projects areas- Telekhali, Buruagani, Panihata, Katolmari, Dharati and Idilpur shisupalli on 19-20 September 2022, with an aim to assess the tribal poverty prone areas and improve the existing relations further with PDA as well. Tarun Mondol, director-CMCY and Mr. Charles Sarkar-PMO have led the team. The visiting team has gained a lot seeing the area and taking to the local priest and people.

CoB-Christian Mission Hospital, Rajshahi



Patient care of the hospital especially who needed to use 1st floor was risky and difficult for service providers and recipients. As per the decision of the last Board of Trustees-BOT meeting, the CMHR have completed the main work of the Ramp. The Chairman Bishop Samuel S Mankhin blessed and opened the ramp for use on 29 September 2022.



Missionaries from Saint Mark Coptic Orthodox Church (SMCOC) of Egypt, Team Coordinator Honorable Fr Augustine, Neuro Specialist Dr. Abanoub and Lab Specialist Mr. Emad visited CMHR on 29 October 2022



On behalf of the Hospital, being the Chief Executive Officer, I and Principal of the Nursing Institute Ms Sulata Drong attended the 60th Annual Conference of Christian Medical Association Bangladesh (CMAB) during 20 to 22 October 2022 at Cox's bazar. Representatives of most of the Christian faith based hospitals of the country attended this meeting. Two of the last biennial meetings were not held due to Corona pandemic. In the conference, the participants discussed what should be done through the hospitals in Christ name and why these hospitals are not being run properly etc. Bible and Medical Science-based sessions are conducted on various topics. This gathering was very important for me.

The Nursing Institute of the Christian Mission Hospital is being run well by God's will. All the students at the nursing

institute were given awards and certificates for their service during COVID and better result in the last year.

The Hospital is not to bad now as trust of the patients on this hospital is regaining gradually. The challenges is- the number of patients may decrease in the coming winter. Therefore, please remember us in prayer so that we can try our best to run this hospital at our own cost in any difficulties.

-CEO, CMHR



Before



After

With cleft and pallet problems 22 patients underwent plastic surgery on 16 and-17th October 2022. We are happy to serve them.

CoB-Nursing Institute, Rajshahi

I would like to share about some activities, joys and pains of the Nursing Institute (NI). NI is providing training to students for 3 years in the Diploma of Nursing and Midwifery Science course. NI had a total of 184 students (137 female, 47 male). 42 third year students have successfully completed their internship



Currently, the total number of students in NI is 144. The Principal of NI discussed in the last board meeting that hostel accommodation for male and female students is not adequate. BOT Chairman, Honorable Moderator, and other members agreed and informed the NI Director to construct a new hostel building. NI is constructing a 3-Hall room building for male students in Dr. Conan Memorial campus located



from Christian Mission Hospital. On October 14, 2022, NI held their farewell ceremony. A felicitation ceremony was organized for 43 new students on the same day on 14th October. NI and CMHR presented crests and certificates for dedicated service during Covid-19 pandemic as academic achievement to outgoing students. They will take their license exam in March 2023. After passing the licentiate exam, they will become registered nurses.



at the opposite to the zoo. The work on the new building is almost complete. 43 students enrolled as the new 1st year and class started on August 9, 2022.

CoB-Bollobhpur Hospital



We take two intakes of students a year, In January and in July, In order to full fill our late Bishop Mondol's urging "Sister, take more, train more".

Due to the lingering covid scare and other reasons only nine out of the expected eighteen new students arrived on the date in Mid-July. Our aim is for a new group of sixteen girls but as one or two drops outs are expected, we send letters to eighteen of the applicants.

NTC principal, Sister Nilsury rushed to her filing cabinet pulled out the files of applications for January 2023, and started phoning everyone "there is a seat available now if you would like to come"!

The response was more than hoped for, first one, then two, then a group of three, the sixteen seats were filled. Two days later the late night bus from Rajshahi brought the number up to eighteen. Another two girls who were not sure were informed that the seats were filled and that they would have a chance in January next year. "Oh no was the swift answer, we are all ready and are coming tomorrow"!! and so they did, bringing the number up to twenty, a large group.

And as for the expected drop outs they never happened! The twenty students squashed in together in the two eight bedded PTS rooms, extra seats pushed in. They have settled in

together well, living, studying and working on the ward together happily.

And finally on Friday 21st October`22, they sat the three months PTS final examination. A three hour written paper in the morning, and the practical examination that I enjoyed taking in the afternoon, all had prepared so well.

They now await the result and afterwards their new uniforms and caps, but news of that later.

Financially times are tight now, not only for us trying to keep them well fed and cared for with the price of all basic commodities raising daily, especially the rice which is the staple for their meals, but also for the students families struggling to keep up the payment of the small monthly fees which they are asked to pay for their training.

Please keep our new group of twenty girls as they step into their first year of training and indeed all of us and our little village hospital in your prayers.

Sr. G M Rose

Director, Bollobhpur Hospital.