

Office Meetings

Triennial General Assembly:

The 16th Triennial General Assembly of the Tamilnad Christian Council was held on the 11th and 12th of April 2012 at Holy Trinity English Church, Thoothukudi. Rev. D.G.A. Thomas, Convener of the Organising Committee, CSI - Thoothukudi-Nazareth Diocese, greeted all the Officers and Members and welcomed to the Holy Trinity English Church, Thoothukudi. On behalf of the CSI Thoothukudi Diocese, he expressed great joy in hosting the 16th General Assembly at Thoothukudi. The Assembly began at 10 am on the 11th April and closed after lunch on the 12th April 2012. Out of 48 voting members, 34 were present.



The theme chosen was "The Gospel in a Groaning World-Romans 8:22-23. The Rev. Dr. Samuel Meshach, Principal - Concordia Seminary, Nagercoil spoke on the theme. He drew parallel on the Gospel truth and the way men have denuded the environment for selfish needs. He emphasized that every individual will have to contribute and to save what is left for the future generation.

The former President, Rt. Rev. V. Devasahayam delivered Lord's Message in the Holy Communion Service. The Assembly members belonging to various denominations united together at the Lord's Table and it is a great witness to the Lord.

The Rev. D.G.A. Thomas conducted the Bible Study that was meaningful to the theme. He took the Bible Study through a power point in a lively manner with lots of humor and the members enjoyed the bible study. We cannot forget to thank the Choir members of the Holy Trinity English Church for their inspirational songs. Once again we record our great appreciation and thanks to the Bishop and all the officers of the CSI Thoothukudi Diocese.



Ambur Resource Center - Dedication:



The newly constructed Ambur Resource Center was dedicated by our President Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Dr. V. Devasahayam, The Rev. Dr. J. Samuel, President of the I.E.L.C. opened the building by cutting the ribbon. Mr. Sunder Kumar, our treasurer and some



of our Members, Staff and the beneficiaries attended the programme. Dr. Ms. V. Esther Kathioli, Director welcomed and honored all the dignitaries. Dr. Jayakaran Isaac, our member, Dr. Joel Nesakumar, Medical Director, Bedestha Hospital, Rev. John Baskaran, Vice President, CSI Vellore Diocese offered greetings. Our President delivered Lord's Message.

Construction of Rural Community Development Center:



We have started the construction of the Rural Community Development Centre at Chinglput branch office with God's abundant mercy and grace. The building work is going on. The approval from the Directorate of Town and Country Planning is awaited to get bank loan. At this juncture I would like to express my sincere thanks to our President – Rt. Rev. JAD Jebachandran and Rt. Rev. Paul Vasant Kumar who

visited the building site and offered prayers. We were very much encouraged by their concerns. We are requesting the member churches and Institutions to extend their help to complete the construction work. We hope God willing; it will be completed before our next meeting.



Officers and Members of our Executive and Economic Life Committee



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Meetings with Regional Officers of the Funding Agencies:

I met the following representatives of the three of the Regional Office of the Funding Agencies at New Delhi in June. The main aim is to raise funds for our Projects.



Mr. Anand David, Regional Officer of the Irish Aid. I held detail discussions with them and informed of our Council's activities for the past 45 years. I presented a project proposal. He assured to look into it and try his level best to help our Council.



Ms. Mousumi Sarangi, Representative of ICCO at the Netherlands in India. I met her and submitted a project proposal on Computer Education.



Mr. Anand Kumar Bolimera, India Representative of Christian Aid.

I tried my level best to convince these representatives and to raise funds for our projects. But they informed that their priority is to help the poor people in the northern part of India and have less priority for Tamilnadu State.



Overseas visit: I was invited by the Christhava Tamil Koil, New York, USA for their 30th Anniversary. During my visit, I convened a meeting with the members of the "Friends of Tamilnad Christian Council". They assured to help our Council in raising funds for the projects. I am able to raise some funds for our Council's programmes and for Manai Malar.

Visitors:

Visit of Rev.Dr. Michael Kinnamon, General Secretary, NCCC-USA.



The Rev. Dr. Michael Kinnamon, General Secretary, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. and his wife visited our office and had a meeting with the Staff. He appreciated the various activities carried out by our Council. He also shared his experiences during his stay in India as well as NCCC-USA.

Rev. Christopher Rajkumar, Ms. Anjana Masih, Mr. Mar Atsongchanger of NCCI Secretariat and Mr. Samuel Jayakumar, Secretary of the SCMI visited our organization

Ms. Elsa Marty, University of Chicago Divinity School, USA

Mr and Mrs. Antony Dhas, New Jersey, USA.

Rev. Sunder Devaprasad, NY, USA.

Mr. Stephen Abraham, NY, USA.

Mr and Mrs. Shodavaram, USA.