

## Youth Programmes

### **1. Youth Training Programme – held at Thirukoilur**



Tamilnad Christian Council in partnership with Arcot Lutheran Church and CASA conducted a two day workshop for the Youth of Tirukoilur. About 70 youth both boys and girls participated in the sessions.

The main topics were self-esteem, confidence building, character development, youth governance and time management with bible studies under the

theme “Fullness of Life”. The youth participated in all the activities exhibited their talents and leadership skills. New songs and choruses were taught and the singing was lively.

### **2. Call to Christian Leadership-Retreat for College Students organized at Voorhees College, Vellore:**

The Tamilnad Christian Council in partnership with Students Christian Movement and Voorhees College, Vellore, conducted three-day Leadership training for the students of Voorhees College. The theme of the meeting was “Towards fullness of Life”. It was significant that about 140 students registered and participated actively in the camp.



The camp featured lively sessions, group activities, group discussions and singing and games. The resource team included Mr. Ebenezer Paul, Rev. Paul Prakasam, Dr. Ms. V. Esther Kathioli and Mr. Ezra Williams. There were sessions on, Call to Leadership, New Spirituality, Globalization-Its impact on Youth, Global Warming, Peace building-Youth as Agents, Q&A and Planning.

Feed back: Voorhees College Students, Vellore:

- Programme was super. Song sessions super. Action songs super. I received more happiness than I expected. Thanks for introducing new friends through this programme. Everything is super.

- This camp was very useful for us to develop leadership skill. The session taken by Rev. Paul Pragasam was very useful. The session on Global Warming and Peace-building was also very useful. The food also was very good.

- I have never attended this type of programme. I enjoyed it. I learnt many new things and it will be very useful. No one ever gave this kind of information before.

- I enjoyed your performance and also the valuable thoughts. Your speech inspired me. We need another programme.

- Your programme created a burden in my heart. It gave me the sense that I should do something to the Society. I learnt as how I should be! And How I should not be! in this my young age. - G. Mariadoss, B.Com.

- It was fresh and a new experience in God. I learnt many things from this programme. I got answers to many of the questions that were existing in my heart. It was just a very joyful experience. And I feel to be a part of this and I am very eager to walk more ahead in such programmes and be a good example to others and to lead others in the right path. - Samuel James, B.B.A- 1st year.

3. Retreat and training was conducted for the youth on the theme: “Challenges Youth Facing Today: Working towards Meaningful Response”. The main objective for the programme was to motivate the youth to become responsible partakers in the alarming social issues and to equip them to become effective leaders with special reference to peace and reconciliation. The topics were New Spirituality, Peace Building, Globalization and its impact on Youth, Peace Building and Ecological Concerns.

The programme was held at CASA Resource Centre, Madurai. About 45 youth participated. There were activities, practical talks, discussions and debates. The sessions were interactive. The Youth organized the worship service. Most of the young people took the sharing very serious and expressed their views upon changing themselves, their perspectives and ideologies and many of them committed themselves to the cause and for the good work.



Feed back: The students found the camp a blessing and responded to have been challenged in their thinking and action. They expressed openly their responsibility in the current Socio-political and economic scenario around them. Follow-up work is carried on by the leaders present at the camp and it is monitored by SCM.

4. 'One day Youth Retreat' – Two retreats were conducted at Tamilnad Christian Council Campus, Guindy on the same theme and topics. About 12 youth participated in the first programme and 21 youth in the second programme. There were games, discussions, group sharing. The program was interactive in nature. Young people had full opportunity for frank expressions. They found the program essential and meaningful. The participants



understood the issues and how these issues will have concurrent effects on their lives and on the generations to follow. They were able to identify their role and realized their responsibilities and dedicated themselves to develop into leaders by the endowment of God's power of love.

**5. Christian Leadership and Peace building- Training Programmes:**

a) Christian Leadership training camp was conducted for the youth of India Evangelical Lutheran Church at Yellagiri Rev. Victor and Rev. John, Presbyters of the IELC organized the programme. About 50 youth from different IELC churches participated in the camp.

b) Christian Leadership Programme conducted at TELC Church Chingleput Rev. Jacob Jeyaraj, the Director of the Youth Board, TELC organized the programme. About 70 youth participated.



c) Similarly the Christian Leadership training programme was organized for the youth at Tanjavur by the TELC Youth Board.. About 115 youth participated.



-Rev. Jacob Jeyaraj- Director, Youth Board-TELC.

This youth programme was entirely a different one. We have never conducted this type of youth programme so far. The Resource Persons dealt with the current youth problems and issues which the churches and even the parents neglected to speak on. The youth were highly enlightened through the programme. –

**6. Training-cum-Retreat for Youth:** Tamilnad Christian Council and Student Christian Movement of India North Tamilnadu Region jointly organized a programme for youth on the theme “Students Response to Migration, Peace Building and Conflict Transformation: Justice Perspective” at Padappai near Chennai. Students from various colleges attended the programme.



The main objective for the programme was to motivate the youth to become responsible partakers in the alarming social issues and to equip them to become

effective leaders with special reference to Peace and reconciliation. Following are the issues dealt:

- Migration – Theological perspective
- Migration – Gender Perspective
- Peace Building and Conflict Transformation – Justice Perspective

The discussions were supported by bible studies and presentations. Students involved in discussions as well as in practical activities. They also committed to explore the practical ways to overcome these problems.