দীপ DEEP
দ্যা লাইট The Light
Vol.: 226 Monthly Newsletter of the Diocese of Durgapur (CNI) September 2026

Bishop's Meditation

Topic : Social And Community Engagement
Theme -Sharing abundant Life Together

Jesus Christ came that we may have life, and have it abundantly (John 10:10). This promise of abundant life is at the heart of the Gospel and reflects God's desire for the flourishing of all creation. Abundant life is not a personal blessing to be enjoyed individually rather it is a gift that calls us into fellowship with God and with one another. It is expressed through love, compassion, justice, peace, and care within communities where we live.

The theme, "Sharing Abundant Life Together," reminds us that Christian faith is lived out in relationship and service. As followers of Christ, we are called to engage actively with society, responding to the needs of our neighbours and working for the common good. Through acts of kindness, advocacy for justice, care for the vulnerable, and responsible stewardship of God's creation, we bear witness to the transforming power of the Gospel.

In a world often marked by division, inequality, and isolation, the Church is called to be a living sign of God's inclusive love and hope. When we walk together in faith, support one another, and share our God-given gifts, we become instruments of God's grace. May this theme inspire us to reflect the abundant life of Christ in all that we do. ■



The Rt. Rev. Sameer I. Khimla,
Bishop, The Diocese of Durgapur (CNI)

ISPCK Hosts Writer's Workshop on Communication for Change

A 3-day Writer's Workshop was organised by the Indian Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge (ISPCK), in partnership with United Women in Faith and the Diocese of Kolkata, from 20th to 22nd August 2026 at Bishop's House, Kolkata, under the theme- 'Communication for Change'. Rev. Babul Sardar, Rev. Santosh Soren, Miss Shanti Priya Tudu and Miss Debonmita Biswas from the Diocese of Durgapur, CNI, got the opportunity to participate in this workshop. The workshop was inaugurated by Revd. Dr (Prof.) Sawarup Bar, Acting Principal, Bishop's College, Kolkata, who shared the aim of the workshop, highlighting the importance of communication in relevance with Christian faith in today's changing world. The workshop was facilitated by Mrs Praveena Balasundaram, Director of Communications, United Women in Faith, and Dr. Ella Sonawane, Associate General Secretary, ISPCK. They led interactive sessions on various ways of communication and what type of audiences we want to reach based on their context and circumstances, understanding the various perspectives of the biblical characters and enhancing Christian communication. The workshop helped the participants to reflect on creative communication aligning with the Church and society as well as share experiences and strengthen their dedication to writing spiritual reflections that inspire, inform, and uplift others . ■









Holy Confirmation Service Held at Raniganj Pastorate

On 13th September 2026, a Holy Confirmation Service was held at Wesleyan Methodist Church, Raniganj Pastorate, under the Diocese of Durgapur. The service was presided over by The Rt. Revd. Sameer Issac Khimla, Bishop of the Diocese of Durgapur, and assisted by Revd. Sumanta Das, Presbyter-in-Charge of the Pastorate. In his sermon, the Bishop emphasized the significance of Holy Confirmation as a public affirmation of faith and commitment to follow Jesus Christ. He encouraged the candidates to remain steadfast in their Christian witness, grow in spiritual maturity, and actively participate in the life and mission of the Church.A total of 13 candidates were confirmed during the service. The congregation joined together in prayer and thanksgiving, celebrating this important milestone in the spiritual journey of the candidates. It was a meaningful time of praising and worshipping the Lord Almighty together, giving thanks for His faithfulness and grace in the lives of those who were confirmed. ■









Editorial

Topic : Social And Community Engagement
Theme -Sharing abundant Life Together

In a fast moving and increasingly digital world, the importance of community remains one the most vital segments of our lives. Community is about the connection, sharing experiences, offering support and building relationships that brings a sense of belonging and makes a powerful impact on our overall well being. It enriches life by creating familiarity and comfort, reminding us that we are seen, valued and part of something bigger than ourselves. For instance- checking in on our neighbours or making space for isolated or marginalized individuals can naturally bring people together, creating opportunities for bonds to grow and flourish.

Beyond the simple moments, community becomes especially powerful during times of change or challenge. Adjusting to a new stage of life, navigating health concerns, or simply adapting to a different routine can feel overwhelming. But within a supportive environment, those transitions become more manageable. A helping hand, a kind word, or shared advice can make all the difference, turning uncertainty into confidence.

Stories are at the heart of every community. Each person brings a lifetime of experiences, memories, and wisdom to share. When people come together and share their journeys, connections deepen, understanding grows, and relationships become stronger, not only honoring their life but also reminding us of our shared humanity.

When we see John 10:10 it reflects on "abundant life" that goes beyond worldly wealth. It represents a life of deep relational connectedness, justice, peace and purpose lived in communion with God and others. Jesus did not love the world from a distance, rather He prioritized those on the fringes of society (the poor, the sick, the outcast), demonstrating that an abundant life must be inclusive and of access to all. Similarly we as people of faith must be rooted in the belief that God's grace is not just for individual salvation, but for the holistic flourishing of the entire community.

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Ms. Debonmita Biswas
Diocese of Durgapur (CNI)

'Football for Peace' Tournament Held at Sarenga

On 28 August 2026, the Sarenga Pastorate Youth Fellowship successfully organised the 'Football for Peace' Tournament. The tournament brought together young people from different pastorates and shared a message of unity, fellowship, friendship, and peace. The event created an opportunity for the young people to come together through sports and showed a strong spirit of friendship, teamwork, and fair play throughout the day. The event was honoured by the presence of The Rt. Revd. Sameer Issac Khimla, Bishop of the Diocese of Durgapur, Bishop Madam, Mrs. Sarika Gracy Khimla,the Diocesan Treasurer and Clergy from different pastorate. Their presence, encouragement, and support added great value to the occasion and encouraged the young participants. Four teams, Sarenga, Durgapur, Bankura, and Raniganj, took part in the tournament. All the teams showed excellent sportsmanship, team spirit, and commitment throughout the day. After a number of exciting matches and thrilling tie-breakers, the Bankura Pastorate emerged as the Champions, while the Durgapur Diocesan Team secured the Runners-up position.

Awards - Man of the Tournament: Tubay Das (Bankura), Player of the Tournament: Dilip Marandi (Durgapur), Best Goalkeeper: Pranab Das (Bankura), The day was a joyful gathering of sports, fellowship, friendship, and peace. The organisers and participants thanked Almighty God for His guidance, protection, and blessings throughout the day. It is hoped that such initiatives will continue in the future and help to strengthen the bonds of unity among the youth of the Diocese, while also building a stronger spirit of friendship, cooperation, and peace among them. ■
















Youth Beacon

Topic : Social And Community Engagement, Theme -Sharing abundant Life Together

“Jesus tells us, ‘I have come that they may have life, and have it abundantly.’” (John 10:10). But abundant life is not simply about having more for ourselves; it is also about what we choose to do with what we have been given and how we share it with others.Community is built through simple things, such as giving our time to someone who feels lonely, helping a neighbour, encouraging a friend, welcoming someone who feels left out, or using our gifts to serve those around us. These things may seem small, but they can make a real difference. As Paul reminds us, “Carry each other’s burdens” (Galatians 6:2).The early Church gives us a similar example, as Acts 2:44–45 describes believers sharing what they had and caring for those in need. Our faith should be seen not only in what we say, but in how we live with and care for one another.Perhaps sharing abundant life begins with a simple question: What do I have that I can share? Our time, talents, resources, kindness and faith can all become gifts to others. When we stop living only for ourselves and begin looking for ways to serve those around us, we help create a community where everyone feels valued, supported and included.In sharing what we have, we discover that life becomes richer through giving rather than simply keeping more for ourselves. ■ (Crispin Joshua Nyss)

World Day Against Human Trafficking Observed in Dinajpur, Malda & Bankura

On 30 July 2026, the Anti-Human Trafficking (AHT) Program of the Diocese of Durgapur (CNI) marked World Day Against Human Trafficking with awareness rallies at Hemtabad (North Dinajpur), Baldahura (Malda), and Sarenga (Bankura), in collaboration with police, civil administration, health officials, schools, and local communities. Hemtabad: Supported by Hemtabad and Kaliaganj Police Stations and the BMOHs of both blocks, with participation from Rev. Sudhir Hembrom (Diocesan Treasurer & AHT Overseer), Rev. Santosh Mardi, Mr. Tuhin Ghosh, the AHT Field Team, coaching centre teachers, and students. Saplings were distributed to students symbolizing hope for a safer future. A separate rally was held with students of Maheshpur Ideal Coaching Center. Baldahura, Malda: Led by Rev. Kishanto Tudu (Presbyter-in-Charge) with Mr. Shyamal Kisku, Mr. Rabi Hembrom, Mrs. Phulin Hansda, and Safe Home participants, spreading awareness among village residents. Sarenga: Rev. Swapan Dorman (Vice President), Rev. Sandipan Sinha (AHT Interim Coordinator), Rev. Pankaj Pande (Presbyter-in-Charge), Rev. Simon Mandi, and Mr. Sandip Singh joined Pastorate Committee, Women Fellowship, Youth, and Sunday School members, plus students and staff from Sarenga High School, K.S.N. Nursing Training School, St. Michael's School, and the E.S.E. Project. The programmes aimed to raise awareness about trafficking tactics and the need to protect women and children, receiving a strong, positive response from local communities. ■


























WOMEN'S VOICE

Topic : Social And Community Engagement, Theme -Sharing abundant Life Together

Social and community engagement means actively connecting with people and working together for collective welfare and improvement. Being a part of family, school, church, and the wider society, helping others and working for social progress is everyone's responsibility. Christian faith also gives special importance to love, service, forgiveness, empathy, and responsibility. The core teaching of Christianity is "Love your neighbor as yourself." Jesus Christ taught people to show love and care for others, through which we can stand by the helpless, poor, sick, and elderly. Serving without expecting anything in return is an important part of Christian life.
'Service' is a primary value of Christian faith. Jesus' life teaches us that leadership is not just about giving orders, but also serving others in need. Therefore, participating in voluntary work like cleanliness drives, tree plantation, or creating awareness is a way to express Christian values. Empathy is highly crucial in Christian faith. The Bible's 'Parable of the Good Samaritan' teaches us to stand by any person in danger, whether known or unknown. Furthermore, it is necessary to build a peaceful environment through mutual respect, tolerance, and forgiveness. Since nature is God's creation, keeping the environment clean, conserving water, and reducing pollution are parts of our duty. Engaging in social work develops cooperation, leadership, responsibility, and humanity among students. The Bible states, "Faith without works is dead." This means true faith is expressed through people's good deeds and service. By following Jesus' teachings and working for society, we can build a loving and beautiful society. Main Aspects of Social and Community Engagement Social and community engagement means actively connecting with people to help them and collectively building a supportive society. Its main aspects are: Helping others: Standing by the helpless, elderly, children, and people in need.
Social service & awareness: Cleanliness, tree plantation, and making people aware of education, health, and safety. Cooperation & respect: Respecting all people in society and working together. Environmental protection: Conserving water, planting trees, reducing waste, and keeping the environment clean. Voluntary work: Contributing to the welfare of society using one's own time and labor. ■

POWER OF PRAYER



I am Upendranath Murmu, a resident of Bhatmura Notun Gram and a member of the Raniganj branch church. For the past few days, I was suffering from severe gastric issues and stomach pain. Following a doctor's consultation and several tests, I was diagnosed with jaundice and kidney complications. This report left my family and me deeply frightened. In this time of distress, we placed our faith in the Lord and began to pray. Prayers were offered for my healing at our church, and my elder sister even observed a fast and went to Raniganj to pray specially for me. Later, I was taken to Durgapur Mission Hospital, where the doctors repeated all the tests. By the miraculous grace of God, all my reports came back completely normal! I am now fully recovered. Lord Jesus has healed me wonderfully. I offer my endless thanks and glory to Lord Jesus for His great mercy. ■

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Bible Quiz 166

1) Who was the first person to recognize Jesus as Messiah in the temple?
2) How many years Adam lived?
3) How many seals were in the scroll ?

Answer of Bible Quiz 165

1) Enoch (Genesis 4:17)
2) People in Berea (Acts 17:11)
3) Eunice (2 Timothy 1:5)

Name of those who submitted the Correct Answer

Ans.-165 Punit Horo, (164-Anjana Murmu & Brajendra Saniyel)

Please send answer of Bible Quiz in this no. -9064863735

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