**NEICC DAY OF PRAYER**

**18th October 2020**

**Theme and Prayer Points**

1. Theme: ‘**The New Commandment’** (John 13:34,35)
2. Preachers may include the following sub-themes in their message.
3. A commandment is not a choice, but a divine rule that must be obeyed.
4. The greatest commandment refers to our duty to God,

to love him with our whole being (Mt 22:37)

1. The second greatest commandment refers to our duty to our neighbour,

to love them as we love ourselves(Mt 22: 39)

1. The new commandment refers to the family of believers

– to love each other as our Master loves us.

1. The standard of Christian loving each other is how the master himself loves us.
2. It is by loving each other that the world will know we are his disciples.

**BRIEF REPORT OF NEICC**

The North East India Christian Council (NEICC) was established in 1937 as Assam Christian Council. The name was changed into North East India Christian Council (NEICC) in 1962. Under the umbrella of NEICC, its two wings NEICC Youth Assembly (NEICCYA) and NEICC Women Assembly (NEICCWA) exist with their own leaders, functions and activities. There are now, at present, 35 member churches and 17 Associate members, totalling to 52 units.

NEICC was established to promote unity among the Churches of North East India, and to liaison in the arising matters between Government and Churches/Christians, between ethnic groups or tribes to promote peace and mutual understanding. The Council often organize Seminar/Consultation on church union and other burning issues arising in the North East India.

The Council is affiliated with National Council of Churches in India, and it is also taking active part in the United Christian Forum North East India, which is a forum inclusive of most churches in the north east including Roman Catholics. The Secretary of NEICC is now functioning as the present Secretary of this Forum.

In 1952, the Council started its important project, the Union Christian College (UCC) in 1952. The college, which is co-educational and residential, offers graduation course in Arts, Commerce and Science streams. It started another project, the UCC Higher Secondary School in 2016 within the UCC campus. Although classes cannot be conducted till date this year, quite a number of students have been admitted to the College and Higher Secondary School.

The NEICC has been having Sessions biennially (every two years). The Biennial Session of the Council which was supposed to be hosted by Nagaland Baptist Church Council at Jalukie Town Local Baptist Church during 14th-17th May, 2020 had to be postponed indefinitely due to the outbreak of Corona Virus in the country. Since any sort of meeting is impossible till date, the Office Bearers and Committees that have exhausted their terms have to continue their office till the next meeting of Executive Committee.

**Office Bearers of the Council:**

President : Rev. Dr. Kethozelhou Keyho, Nagaland Baptist Church Council, Nagaland

Vice President : Rev. Dr. Laiu Fachhai, Evangelical Church of Maraland, Mizoram

: Rev. H.L. Myrsing, Ri-Bhoi Presbyterain Church, Meghalay

Secretary (full time) : Rev. Dr. Ramengliana, Manipur Presbyterian Church Synod, Manipur

Treasurer : Rev. Dr. Brightstar Syiemlieh, KJP Synod Sepngi, Meghalaya

**PRAISE AND PRAYER POINTS**

1. Praise God for the prevailing spirit of oneness solidarity among the member units of NEICC.
2. Praise God for the newly constructed concrete fencing. The NEICC compound is wholly fenced now.
3. Praise God for the safe-keeping of all the staff, officials and committee members of NEICC till date, in the midst of this coronal virus pandemic.
4. Praise God for the ministry of the UCC Chaplain, Rev. VL Malsawmdawngkima, who will be leaving us at the end of this year after serving in UCC for 8 years, and also the sending and sponsoring church, the Evangelical Church of Maraland.
5. Pray for the 52 units of the NEICC –that the 35 churches and 17 para-church organizations would fulfil each of their missional and ecclesial tasks- and that the spirit of unity and brotherhood shall prevail among the member units.
6. Pray that the NEICC 4th Biennial Assembly that has been postponed due to the Covid-19 pandemic will not affect the functioning and ministry of the NEICC in all spheres of activities.
7. Pray for the NEICC Women Assembly- that the Women Secretary Ms. Emidaca Kharshiing and her colleagues would work together in good spirit to bind together the womenfolk of NEICC for the extension of God’s kingdom.
8. Pray for the Hostel ministry of NEICCWA which is facing hard times due to the unavailability of inmates due to the suspension of schools and hostels
9. Pray for the NEICC Youth Assembly- that it will grow from strength to strength in ministering to the youths of North East India, and that Youth Fest which they planned to organise in the month of October had to be postponed. Pray God that we’ll be given another opportunity for such meetings.
10. Pray for the staff of the NEICC office and their families- that God would give wisdom, health, undying commitment, skill and knowhow to run the ministry of NEICC smoothly and successfully.
11. Pray for the Office Bearers, the Executive Committee members, and the six Standing Committee members- that they will have the ability to discern the need of the people, possess the courage to do what is best, and the resource to fulfil the task set before them.
12. Pray for the Principal, Staff, and students of Union Christian College and UCC Higher Secondary School - that the college will be a place where everybody grows intellectually, as well as spiritually, even though at this time things are difficult.
13. Pray for UCC Chaplain Rev. VL Malsawmdawngkima, who is expected to continue his ministry with his church as Mission Field Director in Nepal from 2021, and also pray for a new chaplain to carry on the torch of chaplaincy with dedication and zeal.
14. Pray for Jalukie Town Local Baptist Church, Nagaland, the host church for the next Biennial Session of NEICC - that their physical and spiritual preparation will continue with enthusiasm and commitment.
15. Pray for the Covid-19 pandemic situation all over the world - for comfort and strength to the relatives of those who have succumbed to this virus attack; for speedy recovery of patients who are suffering in pain right now; for strength, motivation, and protection of the medical teams who are exposed to the deadly virus every day; for wisdom and skill for civil authorities to handle the situation in the most fruitful way; and for those who are working hard without rest to find the cure for this dreaded virus.

Note: *All the headquarters of NEICC member Churches are requested to translate the above programme Prayer items and reports in your respective dialect and circulate to your local Churches.*