



# World's Christian Endeavor News

For Christ and His Church

May 2013

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## WCEU News

## CE Basics

### Concentrate on Your Task

by Krisztina Berke, WCEU Board of Trustees from CE Romania

(John 21,20-25)

We can't live without sensing the influence of nowadays psychological and self-knowledge trends. The 'be your self and you can do it!' slogans got to be important to us. We get sad against our will, we consider that we are not smart or clever enough in a situation, we can't accomplish things or we can't be joyful the way that we imagined to be and we can't be released like our co-workers, friends and brothers. These problems occur in our Christian communities too.

The book of John ends with an interesting conversation. We meet a disciple who relies himself totally on Jesus when about self-knowledge: he defines himself as a person who is loved by Jesus and the people see him this way also. On the other hand there's Peter, who receives a new calling from Jesus, but his curiosity diverts his attention from the task ('follow me') and he compares himself to John.

Jesus intervenes: 'I gave you a huge task, Peter, you don't have time for other disciples' business. Concentrate on one thing, let this be the fulfillment of your life: follow me!'

To be continued on [www.worldsceanion.org](http://www.worldsceanion.org).

### Annual Meeting of the WCEU Executive Committee

by Andreas A. Rudolph, General Secretary of WCEU

April 4-5 the Executive Committee of the WCEU met in Ephrata, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, USA. The committee met in the home of Dr. Dave Coryell and the members were accommodated in private homes. Regular business was transacted, which means checking all areas of the work, whether the right things are done and whether they are done right. One decision was to include the CE union of Lebanon and Syria, the youth of the Armenian Evangelical Church there, into the European region. They feel a greater affinity to the Western culture than to the African or Asian and the European CE unions are the geographically closest neighbors too.

It was recommended to have in future a column in the WCEU News where basic CE ideas are explained. CE is quite different in the various

parts of the world and partly not anymore doing, what Francis Clark intended to achieve with the 'Society for Christian Endeavor'.

Further it was decided to stricter follow the WCEU bylaws regarding membership. Article 6.2 states that a national CE union „is a group of at least 5 societies...“. The Executive Committee recommends to the WCEU council to amend the bylaws and add a membership class 'Associate Membership' which would be open for all groups and organizations that seek closer cooperation with the Christian Endeavor movement. This would be the membership class also for national CE unions with less than five local CE societies.

April 6 the committee attended a Youth Workers Conference at Messiah College near Harrisburg, PA. and got some insights of how youth ministry is done in the USA.

### Why CE?

In the course of the 132 years Christian Endeavor exists, the movement was developed in different directions, depending on culture, church developments, individual ideas, etc. For CE unions with a long tradition and for people and organizations who got to know about CE just recently it may be useful to learn about the basic ideas of Christian Endeavor.

To begin with I try to answer the question: What was Francis E. Clark's (founder of the movement) reason to start CE?

Pastor Clark was wondering how to help a group of youngsters grow in faith. They had given their life to Christ recently and the pastor feared their zeal for serving Jesus may grow cold soon if there was no opportunity for them to become active. In the traditional church activities was no active part for the youth. So Clark developed the idea of a society for Christian Endeavor. It was meant to be a youth-only group. The structure with president,

secretary, treasurer and various committees was not much different from that of an American church. The CE society was a training field for the young Christians where they were on their own with freedom to try out their ideas. The pastor and the elders of the church were always around to get advice from, but they were not to interfere in the regular activities. The Learning-by-doing effect was one reason for the great success of CE. The zeal of the youth got drive by the fact that they were taken serious, were given responsibility and had room to make mistakes. Since they understood the feelings and desires of their fellow-youth and spoke their language, they could reach out to them successfully.

### 2013 expenses of WCEU covered

At the recent Executive Committee meeting the WCEU treasurer, Jonathan Stewart, reported that funds from the bequest of a life-time endeavorer came in and will help cover most of the expenses in 2013. The Ex. Committee suggested to continuously remind the national unions on supporting the WCEU. Several other sources of financial support were discussed. We are very grateful to God for his provision in the recent years.

### Africa

#### Van for Nigeria CE

The CE friends in the Lagos area of Nigeria are about to establish a home for orphans and other needy children. They got already a building and requested the WCEU to provide a van for the project. They hope to get a used car from Europe and will care for the shipping to Nigeria. If you can provide a van, please contact the WCEU headquarters at <centraloffice@worldsunion.org>.

### Americas and the Caribbean

#### News from CE Mid-Atlantic, USA

##### Rebirth Campaign

The Rebirth CE Campaign continues in the US Mid-Atlantic states. Last

newsletter we stated five churches were in process of starting CE. Since then, two additional churches have made this same commitment. The overall interest continues to be positive. We are still praying for thirteen more churches to make a verbal commitment to use CE in their local church setting by the end of 2013.

##### Teen Bash

Last year CE Mid-Atlantic started an event with friendly competition and a brief message about using a person's gifts and interests for God's glory. This event, called Teen Bash, occurred for the second year in a row. It grew from four churches and about forty-five people to nine churches and over one hundred people. The dates are already set for 2014! Teen Bash is also about to go multi-site. Teen Bash will be happening in central Pennsylvania during the fall of 2013 as a group of CE churches want to have a Teen Bash in their area. Materials from the event have been put in a binder in order to help Teen Bash expand to more regions in the future.

##### Monthly Blog and Download

A monthly blog and downloadable resource are being created to serve local church youth workers. This resource will begin going to interested people in May. Please send a message to mstrayer@cemidatlantic.org if you would like to receive this resource.

##### Hosting the World CE Executive Team



*Vicepresident Eliseo Vilchez-Blancas (left) and President Kálmán Adorján enjoy the meeting*

My family had the pleasure of hosting the World CE Executive Team meetings in our home April 4-5. Team members stayed with host families in the Ephrata, Pennsylvania region of the USA. Ephrata is right in the middle of Amish Country. The Amish are people who

choose to live without electricity and other modern conveniences. They are known for their craftsmanship, work ethic, and committed faith. The Team was able to complete its business on Friday before going to the famous Shady Maple buffet. The next day the Team traveled to experience a US Youth Worker Conference at Messiah College.

By Dave Coryell, Executive Director, CE Mid-Atlantic

### Pray With Youth, a CEI campaign

Michigan based Christian Endeavor International develops helpful activities and campaigns mainly for churches in the US promoting the ideas via internet. In the following **Timothy Eldred**, President and CEO of CEI, invites all endeavorers to join them in promoting the idea of mature Christians praying with youth and help them thus finding their place to serve:

"Once again, CEI is leading the charge for The Global Pray With Youth Sunday being held this year worldwide on September 22, 2013. Since we launched this campaign a few years ago, thousands of congregations of multiple denominations and doctrinal perspectives have set aside their distinctive beliefs to join in this international call to pray with youth for God's leading, blessing, and calling to take their rightful place as active participants in the cause of Jesus Christ. The Pray With Youth campaign has always provided promotional and program materials free of charge for any church or ministry who desired to participate, and we will continue that practice to make sure no one is ever left out. Our sincere prayer is that your national CE union would partner with us to promote this catalytic campaign in your country as well. If you are interested in joining with CEI to make this global plea, we urge you to contact us at [admin@christianendeavor.com](mailto:admin@christianendeavor.com). We will put all the necessary tools in your hands, so you might be able to translate and contextualize them as needed. Your wisdom and prayer is also welcome and appreciated.



Let us unite together for this vital message and bring generations together in prayer before the throne of grace, so we might join in God's mission of mobilizing this generation to put their faith in action for Jesus Christ as they endeavor daily to live for Him."

### A Visit to CE Peru

By Andreas A. Rudolph, General Secretary of WCEU

Andreas A. Rudolph, General Secretary WCEU, visited the 'Esforzadores' in Peru. Beside meeting endeavorers and experiencing a teenager program, the anniversary of a society and attending an area-meeting of local CE leaders, he met with leaders of the national union for an exchange of thoughts about the CE work in Peru. Presently the union tries with a number of training sessions for leaders to strengthen the knowledge about what Christian Endeavor means. The president, Mercedes Pizarro Chamorro, travels to the remote areas in the Andes to meet the endeavorers there and to teach Christian Endeavor basics. To instigate the youth's interest in CE a competition was started to send in 'Peruvian-Style'-designed CE logos. The winner's logo will be used as the official Peruvian CE union logo.



*A. Rudolph and translator, speaking at the anniversary of CE Canto Rey, Lima, Peru*

### Asia

#### Fasting Prayer Meeting in India

Reported by Makarbag CEU, Cuttack, Odisha, India

Ms. Nabanita Naik, Secretary, Girl's CE  
Mr. Avinash Das, Secretary, Boy's CE

Makarbag CE Union, Cuttack, Odisha is happy to announce you that, we have conducted a half day fasting prayer meeting on 1 April 2013 successfully in

which 57 individuals prayerfully participated and Bro. Niranjana Turuk (Missionary, Blessing Youth Mission) and Rev. Nicolas Christ Das (Director, Hindustan Institute of Missions) shared the word of God in two respective sessions. As we are preparing ourselves with the hope to enter into the eternity with the Eternal God. So, our chief intention behind this program was to revitalize our spiritual warrior and strengthen him to be a "Living Gospel" to the gentiles, which will be a letter from Christ written with God's Spirit on human hearts (2Cor 3:3 – NIV). And we strongly believe that, if we adhere to be a Living Gospel then Churches can grow globally and His second coming will be faster. By the grace of God only we got a good response from our fellow community members. It was really an awesome time for all of us to fast and pray for the growth of our Spiritual warrior and Churches.

### Australia and Pacific

#### Leadership Seminar in Honiara

The Solomon Islands Christian Endeavor (SICEU) successfully completed a three days CE Leadership Seminar in Honiara for 25 CE leaders of South Sea Evangelical Church (SSEC). The seminar covered the CE Handbook and the members were pleased to learn that CE is for the church. The workshop was conducted by the SICEU President, Pastor Derek Pongi, and the SICEU Secretary, Rev. Timothy Laesanau. They taught how to introduce CE in their churches and youth groups. Rev. Bishop Mathias Lima was so pleased with the outcome of the seminar and urged the members to take CE to 40 associations of the church and reach the 636 local churches of SSEC. Door for CE is open and please pray that we have the resources to take training to other Christian denominations as well.

From reports by Derek Pongi and Timothy Laesanau

### Europe

#### News from CE Scotland

By Elizabeth McGrouther, Secretary of CE Scotland

CE Scotland sponsored a concert for Michael Harcus of Orkney, Scotland on 23 March. Michael testifies to the part CE played in strengthening his Christian faith as a boy. His folk-style singing communicated many Christian truths and spoke to all who heard him.

The 2013 Gathering (Convention) took place on 27 April in Alloa with the theme "More than you imagine". The speaker, Gordon Roy used his circus skills to illustrate the Bible truths.

#### Can we be sanctified? - Revitalizing weekend in Ukraine

by Julianna Kocsis, CE member, Ukraine



'Can we be sanctified?' was a question which came up several times at the Béthel Convention Center in Balazsér, where a branch of Krisz, the Ukrainian CE had a program called 'Revitalize' for youth that recently passed through confirmation. You probably heard this question already: are you a saint?, when astonished about people's christian life. The 72 youth who attended searched answers to this question through small group activities, where they could share opinions in a familiar environment. Most of the participants expressed, that they hoped it's not their last time on the Revitalizing weekend.



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## Vertical Conference in Romania

By Szidónia Szigeti, Program Coordinator, CE Genézius, Cluj-Napoca

The Christian Youth Conference 'Függőleges' (Vertical) gathered from May 3-5 more than 400 participants in Turda, Romania. The theme 'Gender Identity' made many young adults become interested about the event. On Friday a young couple held a presentation about issues concerning ones family life and to what extent these do influence one's identity. On Saturday we could hear the testimonies of young believers, who were telling about what it means to be followers of Jesus and the impact of this on their daily life. The afternoon was dedicated to femininity and masculinity and how precious these are in the Kingdom of God. With the help of more than 25 workshops (eg. The War of Genders, Fashion Show, Homosexuality) the participants could get familiar with these themes. The sermon on Sunday summarized the messages of this conference placing great emphasis on the act of creation and on the church as the body of Christ. And besides all this, we could also experience "the depths and the heights" of God's endless love, whilst visiting the salt mine in Turda and the cliffs above the gorge of Tureni.



## Visitation - The secret of youth work in Germany

Extracted from an interview by Jörg Maushake

Two traveling secretaries of the German Youth Federation for Christian Endeavor (GYFCE), each one going in a caravan, are visiting 44 local CE societies in 44 days. The project 'Heimsuchung' (= visitation) is actually a field study

through which Karsten Hüttmann and Bernd Pfalzer want to find out: What makes a local CE effective? Asked what is "effective youth work", Bernd said: It is the relation between a given goal and what is achieved. In CE the 4 principles are the main objectives. We want to see how they are realized". And Karsten added: "We will try to find parameters that determine functioning and effective youth work. And we hope this will help those groups whose activities are not running smoothly." Bernd: "All the four principles are about relations; with god, with each other, with the world and with the Christians worldwide. I believe that youth groups function well where all this relations are balanced. Sometimes it results in bigger numbers, but quality is more important." Karsten: "Yes, we do not visit just the big societies but the 'effective'. With the help of our State Unions we selected the 44 we are visiting." Asked how the findings will be used, Karsten said: "We will be traveling in April and May. During the summer months we will analyze and evaluate the data and write a short summary. For 2014 we plan to publish a book with the results and the presentation of some exemplary CE-societies." Last question: Today everything is made public. Is it possible to follow your tour online? Bernd: "There will be a blog, a kind of travel diary ..." Karsten: "You can follow our tour on a virtual map and you will be able to contact us and perhaps we will upload short videos or pictures. We will see."

## Youth Leader Club in Hungary

Reported by András Bogyó, Executive Director of CE Hungary

We started an 8 sessions youth leader training in 2012 which will end on 18 May 2013. 12 youth leaders of 4 churches (evangelical and reformed) participated in this program. We believe that these practical seminars were useful and offered support for those working in the field of mission among youth. In the fall of 2013 we will announce this program again, so we are expecting to share our experiences with 12-15 leaders starting from September.

## Who is... **Krisztina Berke?**



My name is Krisztina-Ágnes Berke. I live in Romania in a beautiful city called Cluj-Napoca. My husband, Sándor and I work in Christian Endeavor youth mission as full time youth workers. My husband works among students, he organizes Bible studies, prayer groups, camps. He also does the administration and fundraising part of this work. He supervises the "Brick in Kenya" project of the students through which we help a small community in Kenya, on Rusinga Island to build a school for children and adopt some of these orphans. My youth ministry is about training students and teenagers to become Christian leaders. With 60 volunteers I organize our national youth conference in every May for 500 young people. I also lead forums for youth workers where we help each other and learn together to serve Christ and the Church more efficiently. I am also a member of the WCEU Board.

## CE Volunteers



Verena Gühne (19) from Nidderau near Frankfurt, Germany prepares for a three months assignment with CE in Nepal. She is asked to support the growing work with teenagers in Kathmandu and beyond.

## CORRECTION

The previous edition of the WCEU Newsletter announced an incorrect date for the **World's Convention 2014**, please note that the correct date is 16-19 July. We apologize for any inconvenience!



## Support for CE Ukraine



KRISZ, the Ukrainian CE Union, has every year a youth conference called 'Dynamics'. They expect about 1800 youth to attend.

Since no church is big enough for that crowd they have to meet open-air. To be protected against weather, a tent would be needed, but they do not have the means to rent one (expected cost: € 5000). If you want to support this event, send a check to the American office of WCEU or transfer your donation to the WCEU account in Germany (details below). Key word: Ukraine. You can also donate on **Go Fund Me** through PayPal on this link:

<http://www.gofundme.com/2q1uis>  
(you can also share this link)

## Calling for Daily Devotion authors!

The WCEU Application for iPhone and iPad is available in the App Store and has been through a few updates since. Also, we are working on launching an application for Android with the same features: daily devotions, news, events. In order to continue the daily devotions project in 2014 we are calling You or Your CE group to participate in writing devotions for one week's time. In the past authors from over 20 National Unions contributed to this program. If you are interested, write to [centraloffice@worldsunion.org](mailto:centraloffice@worldsunion.org)!

### WORLD'S CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR UNION

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## Events

2013

June 8 - **Dynamics**, Transcarpathia, Ukraine

July 23-27 - **Biannual Convention**, Comalcalco, Tabasco, México

July 27 - **National Celebration** of 106 years of CE Peru and Simultaneous Prayer

July 28-August 2, 2013 - **Summer Assembly** - CE Youth Conference of CE-Midatlantic at Refreshing Mountain, Stevens, Pennsylvania; Theme: 'iPledge'

August 1-4 - **Connect Europe**, Hattingen, Germany

September 21 - **99th Irish National Christian Endeavour Convention**, Raffrey Presbyterian Church, County Down

September 22 - **Pray With Youth Sunday** organized by CEI

October 4-6 - **Annual General Meeting**, Romania CE Union

October 24-27 - **WCEU Board of Trustees**, Korea

November 9 - **'Motivational Prologue'** in Kassel for 111th anniversary of the German Youth Federation for Christian Endeavor in 2014

December 28-January 2 - **Mission Net**, 3rd European Youth Mission Congress, Offenburg, Germany

2014

April 11-13 - **33rd Biennial Convention** of NEICE, KJCEU, Meghalaya, India

July 16-19 - **CE World's Convention**, Jeongsun-kun, Gangwon province, Korea

**The deadline for the next issue of the WCEU Newsletter is 15 July 2013. Please notify us about news, events, announcements etc. if you want them to be listed here.**

**PLEASE DISTRIBUTE THE NEWSLETTER TO ANYBODY WHO MIGHT BE INTERESTED, AS THE WCEU DOES NOT HAVE ACCESS TO ALL ENDEAVORERS!**



## Pray for...

- peace on the Korean Peninsula
- preparations for the World's CE Convention 2014
- the development of CE in the Solomon Islands
- dedicated leaders in all national CE unions
- focussing on youth in the Samoan and Tongan CE
- the various programmes of CEI and CEMA in the USA
- fruitful relations of the Mexican, Guatemalan and Peruvian CE union with their churches
- for CE societies and endeavorers in the remote areas of this world
- peace in Syria and the whole Arabic world
- Christians in Islamic countries
- Endeavorers who are under pressure because of their faith
- sisters and brothers who suffer from injustice and poverty
- for encouragement of the local CE - leaders
- for wisdom and guidance through the Holy Spirit for all Endeavorers in charge

## Register to Connect Europe 2013!!!



**Connect Europe** will be held from August 1 to 4, 2013 at Haus Friede ([www.hausfriede.de](http://www.hausfriede.de)) in Hattingen, Germany. Hattingen is close to the airports of Dortmund, Düsseldorf and Cologne (Köln).

### Registration:

Download the flyer with detailed information and the registration form. Print the form, fill it, sign it and send it to your National CE Union or to Daniel Hoffmann, Schreppingshöhe 3, 45527 Hattingen, Germany **BEFORE 15 JULY!**

Here is the flyer for download:

[http://www.worldsunion.org/files/connect\\_europe\\_registration\\_flyer.pdf](http://www.worldsunion.org/files/connect_europe_registration_flyer.pdf)