



World's Christian Endeavor News

For Christ and His Church

August 2015

60th Anniversary of the CE societies in México

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President's Word

WCEU News

Does it matter whether it rains or not?

by Kálmán Adorján, President WCEU

Certainly it does in the flooded regions of Pakistan. Does it matter whether people filled with hatred kill others because of different religious conviction, or not? It definitely matters everywhere, where such conflicts are reported. Does it matter, how Christians react in such situations, or what they endeavor to do, or not? Sometimes we say: 'No matter what happens...' Then, there are times, when the smallest difference matters. It matters a lot, whether you are famous or unknown; whether you are big or small, strong or weak, skilled or less skilled, a hero or a fearful person. Yet, God says to the heroes – to the famous, big, strong, etc.: "Cursed is the man <lit: hero> who trusts in mankind... Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord..." (NASB, Jeremiah 17:5.7) The same word is spoken to the fearful, the weak: to all that consider themselves anything but heroes. It doesn't matter for God, whether you are a hero or not. It matters, whether you put your trust in him or in yourself.

- WCEU issues a new flyer in September 2015 with very basic information about CE and the WCEU. It is designed to be a first-hand information for people who are interested or we want to inform. We are thankful to volunteer Paul Vilchez who successfully put a lot of work in the layout. You can order copies at the WCEU office in Kassel, Germany. [Check out a preview:](#)



- From September 17-19, 2015, the annual meeting of the WCEU Board of Trustees will be in the Knüll-House, the retreat centre of the CE State Union Hessen-Nassau in Germany. Prior to the Board meeting the WCEU Finance Committee, Nominating Committee and Convention Program Committee will meet.

Consecration Meeting

by Andreas A. Rudolph, General Secretary of WCEU

The consecration meeting is a unique and important part of the CE program. It needs commitment and discipline in a society to keep this meeting alive.

The consecration meeting is a regular point for reflection on where members individually and the society as a body are in their relation to Christ. It is a time for renewal and refreshing the commitment to Christ primarily and to active membership in Christian Endeavor secondarily. "At this meeting, in some way, some expression of renewed loyalty to Christ should be obtained from every active member." (F. E. Clark). Christians are always tempted to fall back in the old ways of life or get tired in their endeavors to live a committed Christian life. This calls for "reloading" commitment and dedication which is intended to happen in the consecration meeting.

To consecrate means to "set apart as holy, to make holy, to devote for sacred or serious use". Hence the Consecration meeting is a time to consider the dedication of our time, talents, and service to God. It is designed for worship, contemplation, and decision. It serves as an opportunity:

- to get spiritually refreshed
- to review the past activities and performance
- to praise God for what he has done and what happened
- to confess sins and failures
- to clear differences and tensions between members of the society
- to share personal experiences and difficulties
- for a renewed vision and re-dedication to Christ and the service he wants to be done
- to welcome new members in the society

It is recommended that CE societies hold this meeting monthly.

Americas and the Caribbean

60th Anniversary of the CE societies in México

by Anacarol E. de León Chapa, President of the Organizing Committee

2015 was the 60th Anniversary of the Union Sociedades de Esfuerzo Cristiano (UNSEC). We commemorated this significant event in three cities in Mexico: Merida, Yucatan; Mexico City and Saltillo, Coahuila. In Saltillo, capital of Coahuila state, Christian Endeavor societies and youth groups belonging to the National Presbyterian Church Saltillo joined on 12-14 June for a meeting of 89 representatives from all over Mexico.

Attendees who came from Monclova, Monterrey, Torreon, Zacatecas, Cancun, Mexico City, Toluca, Chilpancingo, Oaxaca, Chiapas and Nuevo Laredo were offered a commemorative bracelet of the 60th UNSEC Anniversary. They also received the program, map, and a badge with meal tickets that allowed them to taste regional dishes such as red chilaquiles, flutes, chicken fajitas and northern beef barcacoa.

On Friday, 8pm we had an opening worship chaired by the directors of the organizing committee: Pdt. Anacarol León E. Chapa, and Trsr. Estrella E. Escobar Santizo at the facilities of the Manuel Acuña Salon.

Saturday was the most energetic day. A workshop was held in the morning by the brothers Eliud Cabrera and David Orta V. ("Faith and Hope Mexico"). It was followed by a "Torch March" through the main streets and avenues of the host city. We carried the Mexico's flag, the Christian flag and a burning torch. The tour's aim was to evangelize and impact the society with the army of God proclaiming the gospel.

On Sunday we rose to God, our Lord. A special service of thanksgiving took place with ex-presidents of the UNSEC and representatives of R. National Assembly of the Presbyterian Church present. 225 people attended the service. God blessed us so much. The meal was donated by the Coahuila's Youth Secretariat (SEJUVE Coahuila).

We appreciate greatly the churches, as well as each and every sister and brother who collaborated economically or materially. We are thankful to those who were with us in prayer: pastors, parents and counselors. But we give all the glory and honor to our God for his faithfulness shown in perfect time. To Him be the glory forever and ever.



Asia

Personal reflections on situation after earthquake in Nepal

Extracts from Verena Gühne CE Volunteer's blog
from Germany

6 August

I had prepared myself mentally for streets with gaps, destroyed houses on every corner, people in mass-tents. Everything seemed normal instead. [...] After some conversations I found out that some houses seem to be ok from outside, but have actually many cracks and they are not habitable. For example the house of my hosts is visibly sunken in the ground and after the earthquake it gets much more easily damaged. Sometimes it's the water tank, other times just little cracks. The whole valley of Kathmadu was lifted about 3 meters and moved to West.

[...]

But what is more important: Something had changed in people. This motivates me to engage in Trauma Relief Work. I have met a young Spanish lady on my flight to Kathmandu who is involved in a similar work. It is good to see, that so many people help including my church.



One family has opened a little orphanage for children who have lost their family or have little care. A lot of young people have been active to join several Relief Actions in and around Kathmandu.

12 August

Last Sunday I was together with Reach Out Ministry in Gorkha - the most damaged area of Nepal after the earthquake. 20 volunteers, including me, have visited a school there and conducted an Art Trauma Relief Program. We played, sang, did handcraft, talked with the children and gave them a little present (copybooks, tooth pasta, pencils etc.). ROM has

expanded this program to other schools as well. The purpose was to spend quality time with children, explain them the consequences of traumas or just talk to them about what happened. We tried to encourage and appreciate the children and have fun with them.

Daily Vacation Bible School in Lebanon

Interview by Raffi Messerlian, President CE
Lebanon

In order to gain further knowledge about the DVBS, we had this quick interview with Ms. Liza Barsoumian who is leading this year's summer school for the third year now.

Raffi: What will the children learn this year, regarding Christian principles?

Liza: Daily Vacation Bible School is one of the most successful forms of outreach for children. Every child needs to hear about God, not only once, but multiple times. This year Children will learn the basic concept of praising God for His power, providence, love, authority and greatness.

Raffi: How many children have registered in DVBS?

Liza: More than 150 Children.





Raffi: The number of children registering has increased, what do you think are the reasons?

Liza: Children's ministry is fun, rewarding and an opportunity to make a long-lasting impact on children and their families. Daily Vacation Bible School is simply fun and children love it. When children have fun, they are more likely to pay attention, learn and invite their friends. We make sure that our Vacation Bible School is worth attending through its organized and prepared activities.

Promotion is vital to any successful program, and it can turn a simple event into a significant outreach program. Vacation bible school needs special promotion, for that reason we used posters, fliers, announcements and reminders. Social media is significant as well in promoting an important program as Vacation Bible School, so we created Facebook page dedicated to our DVBS to share lots of pictures of our fun and

exciting activities and children being part of that excitement.

Raffi: How did you choose your teachers and helpers?

Liza: There are certain characteristics leaders of DVBS need to have, and they are chosen accordingly:

- Good relationship with God
- Biblical knowledge
- Loves Children
- Teachable
- Team player
- Cooperative
- Responsible
- Ready to learn
- Dependable

Raffi: Why is it important for the church to initiate a DVBS?

Liza: There are many institutions and NGOs organizing summer school activities for children. The major difference between these institutions and our churches is on what they focus, while other institutions focus on creating fun, recreational activities for children, our focus is on biblical priorities. DVBS is an outreach ministry focusing on Jesus and helping children to have loving and good relationship with Him and eventually becoming mature adults of faith.

Reflections

by Paul Vilchez, Volunteer for WCEU



One of the first thoughts I had entering the World's Union's office was how from that small space the whole CE movement was organized; but I was wrong. The office only serves as a base from where we connect with our brothers and sisters from Pakistan, Romania, Peru, Australia, and so on... But the World's Union is organized by many people from wherever their ministry is at, and that can be anywhere in the world. To myself, now living in a place in the United States where the movement has slowly disappeared, it was a surprise to see how alive the movement is in other places, and how different it is in other countries. The movement lives up to its name, as it is being challenged by other more "permissive" movements, where being called a Christian results easier. The movement represents something beautiful about the Bible that can be easily forgotten: the struggle of walking a Christian life. We call ourselves endeavorers because we try to walk that way and we endeavor throughout all of our mistakes and failures. Clearly, this is not an easy 'title', regardless of age or culture; but I found motivation knowing that there is a group of people in every continent that prays for me when every time they pray for all the endeavorers.

My time in Germany was very gratifying, and I see the work I did very small compared to all I gained. But I couldn't be more proud of my history regarding the movement and I have faith God will keep us alive and fruitful until he comes back.



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www.facebook.com/worldsunion

Events

2015

- September 17-20. – **WCEU Board of Trustees Meeting**, Neukirchen/Knuell, Hessen, Germany
- September 19. - 101st Irish National CE Convention, Carrickfergus, N. Ireland
- October 21-23. - **Triennial Convention of CE in India**, Chennai, Tamil Nadu

2016

- January 31 – February 6. – **CE Prayer Week**
- April 21-22. – **WCEU Executive Committee Meeting**, Leesburg, Western Pennsylvania, USA
- July 6-10. - **Regional meeting Pacific**, Solomon Islands
- September 25-27. - **General Assembly - National Convention**, Cluj-Napoca, Romania

The deadline for the next issue of the WCEU Newsletter is October 15, 2015. Please notify us about news, events, announcements etc. if you want them to be listed here.

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Prayer Request for a Secular State of Nepal

Extracts from letter by Rev. Dr. Mahendra Bhattarai

As the National Coordinator of Christian Commitment to Building New Nepal (CCBNN), an organization advocating for Churches to be involved in leading communities on socio-economic issues based on Proverbs 31:8-9, I have been involved in organizing and participating in public debates with politicians and public interactions/advocacy in all regions and districts for Nepal to be declared a secular state in the new draft constitution being finalized. I am not working alone in this but am with Dharmik Chautari, a religious liberty forum, comprising of Hindu, Buddhist, Islam, Jain, Bahai and Kirat leaders. [...]

The work is quite demanding and needs to be carried out very carefully as the fundamental Hindus supported by well known Hindu associations and a political party in India are up into their arms against Christians and are supporting Nepali Hindus to use any means to have Nepal declared a Hindu state in the new constitution. [...]

The main issue against Christians is that of conversion and their rising numbers. Serious articles are being published daily in national newspapers against Christian conversions. Some churches have been attacked too. [...]

We will be grateful for your prayers that Nepal be declared a Secular State in the new constitution being finalized. Please do continue to pray for us in Nepal.

Please distribute the newsletter to anybody interested as WCEU hasn't got access to all the endeavorers.

Who is... Peter Jenkins?



I am an Australian Representative on the WCEU Board of Trustees and a member of the Finance Committee.

I am 58 years old, single and live in Brisbane, Queensland, Australia. I have been associated with Christian Endeavor for the past 38 years. I have served as the President of the Queensland and Australian Christian Endeavor Unions. Currently, Christian Endeavor is inactive in Australia but a small group called the Australian Christian Endeavour Board of Trustees of which I am a member continue as points of contact.

I am an Accountant by profession and hold a number of treasurer positions in my local church and community organisations.

I am a member and elder of the Geebung Uniting Church in Australia and have supported my local church over the past 45 years. I work for the Queensland Government in the Office of the Ombudsman and am an Active Reservist in the Australian Army. I remain committed to the principles of Christian Endeavor and its value for young people. to meet modern challenges, working together, and ultimately spread the Good News of Jesus Christ!

PRAY WITH US!

We started a new monthly newsletter, focused only on prayer points check it out here: <http://eepurl.com/bu6dTj>.