



World's Christian Endeavor News

For Christ and His Church

September 2016

News of the World's CE Union

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President's Word

WCEU News

Rights and Freedom Given by Christ

by Kálmán Adorján, President WCEU

The first from which every other right derives: "to those, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God." (John 1:12) As children we may "approach the throne of grace with confidence" (Hebr4:16) and call God our Father (Mt6:9). We also have the right to believe, that our sins are forgiven. Therefore we may have peace, joy and the confidence, that nothing will separate us from the love of God. (Romans 8:39)

We have the right to serve Him in the service He called us into. Servants have the right to receive their living from the gospel, having meanwhile the freedom to use or not to use this right. Christians have the right to live not heeding human opinions, yet they are free, to be bound by love, make themselves slaves to everyone (1Cor 9:19), in order to win people for Christ.

We have the right to enjoy in freedom whatever earthly goods God gives us, having still the obligation (= freedom in love) to be loyal to His people and to not forget the needy, the suffering, the persecuted: to pray for them and actively help them. **Let's pray for such life!**

News of the World's CE Union

Board Meeting 2016

September 15-18 the annual meeting of the Board of Trustees will be meeting in Cluj Napoca, Transylvania, Romania. Beside the regular business the board and the committees will discuss how WCEU is going to function with a "half-time" Gen. Secretary and make plans for the future activities of the WCEU.

Your participation / contribution is welcome. Write to the WCEU, if you have a suggestion for the work of the WCEU.

The main office of the WCEU will be moving to 403 E. Fulton St., Ephrata, PA 17522, Pennsylvania, U.S.A. (from Dec. 1, 2016). No changes of e-mail address and website.

Regional convention on Solomon Islands in the perspective of American Samoan youth

Due to logistics our group of 18 had to leave Pago Pago one week before the scheduled conference. Arriving on the second of July, our group was transported to SSEC transit up in the hills. The difficulties was with the transportation between the boarding house and the conference hall. There were other minor problems, e.g. meals, laundry, and not being aware of our environment. We fared well with assistance from above. Rehearsal were conducted at the conference facility, 6 miles from our boarding house. The church (SSEC) did provide taxi for logistic, for many times, we thought of walking literally. But considering the hills and many stray dogs, the preference was for taxi. Opening day, with all the pomp and circumstances was a sight to be hold; all that was lacking

was a main street parade. We were ushered into the hall by the deacons and received leis by the women folk. Music in its beauty was excellent. The sermon, however, was an hour long ... it put me to sleep.

The fellowship was out of this world. We made friends both old and young. The gospel was explained, I believe, thoroughly. However, the language used was a little difficult to understand. We were treated on the "red carpets" and the smiles on their faces made it all worthwhile to leave our homes and travel to the Solomon Islands.

The emotions felt during the services was at its peak. Whether God was there, is beyond my understanding but the feelings in its spiritual nature was overwhelming. I have no way to show my friends, brothers and sisters in the Solomons the gratitude, felt in my heart. I only wish, that God in His grace will provide for all the people in Honiara and the providence will smile upon the Solomon Islands continually. Thank you and God bless you all.

By Salata'i Tunufa'i / Pennywise Poufa / Sia'ifolo Lelea'i from Atu'u, Pago Pago, American Samoa

...to pray ... every day ...

By Andreas A. Rudolph, General Secretary, WCEU

A Christian Endeavorer promises in the pledge: "...that I will make it the rule of my life to pray ... every day,".

Humans have no access to God. (1Tim.6:16; Ex.33:20). Because of our sin and depravity to the core we have cut the line and lost the privilege to stay with him in garden Eden. Nevertheless God kept on talking to mankind and men tried to call on to God. Prayer is communication with our creator and savior. It is a great gift from the God whom John named 'love' (1John 4:16). It is to be used! (Ps. 50:15). Jesus did so himself and he encouraged his disciples to pray. Since endeavorers promise: "... to do whatever He would like to have me do; ..." we need prayer to know, what we are expected to do. That is why prayer is so essential for every endeavorer (or: Christian). After all we "... do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." (Eph.2:10). And of course: When we pray we talk to the heavenly father. He is the source of all consolation, hope, strength, courage and comfort. Make use of this fountain of life and be grateful for it always.

--- Because he turns his ear to me, I will call on him as long as I live. (Ps 116:2)



Delegation from Samoan CE and Australia



American Samoan dancers



READ MORE on the REGIONAL CONVENTION in Solomon Islands on worldsunion.org.

Africa

VP Africa travels to Guinea Bissau

By Modou Kanteh, VP Africa

Glory be to our God!!

On July 26, 2016 I left The Gambia for Guinea-Bissau, a small Portuguese speaking country in West Africa, with the mission of introducing the Christian Endeavor idea to the flocks there. The journey was not easy with security check-points almost every kilometer. And when one sees a check point the next thing to do is to check your wallet and see what to give to them.

But as apostle Paul put it “I can do everything in Christ who strengthen me...” after all obstacles finally I reached Bissau and was able to meet the head of the Evangelical Church in Bissau, Pastor Carlos Quessanque. We had a fruitful discussion together with his vice president. Both leaders welcome the idea of having such a ministry like Christian Endeavor within the church. It is rather unfortunate that Guinea Bissau had never had the opportunity to be part

of such a worldwide ministry,” he continue “but I think with your coming here this is a big opportunity for the churches in Bissau,” pastor Carlos said.

Americas and the Caribbean

Esfuerzo Cristiano in Mexico fights for future

Report by WCEU Trustee Josué Fuentes Blanco, Merida, México Supporting team

As is known since the past 3 years, CE in Mexico has been struggling with new tendencies that want to change CE as a way of ministry to the young. The main factor is that church leaders nation wide are trying to move from CE societies to Youth ministry groups. This is not just an issue of name or strategy but an attempt of disappear CE from the Presbyterian Churches.

Thanks to good former leaders, former members of boards of directors and some church leaders and elders have integrated teams to

Modou Kanteh, WCEU VP for Africa (r.), with youth leaders he visited in Guinea-Bissau

support young people and set strategies and plans to reinforce CE in local churches.

In recent months Josué Fuentes, Ignacio Beltrán, Jorge Fuente and Carlos Preciado and other leaders, elders, young counselors and the minister of education of the Mayab presbitery are working in the Yucatán state to help pastors and young leaders to literally defend and argue in pro of CE. Other leaders are working by creating materials or giving speeches like Joel Cruz (Cofounder and publisher of Fondo Editorial del Esfuerzo Cristiano), o Noel Coronel and Juan Polo (recently completed their studies in a Presbyterian Seminary).

Asia

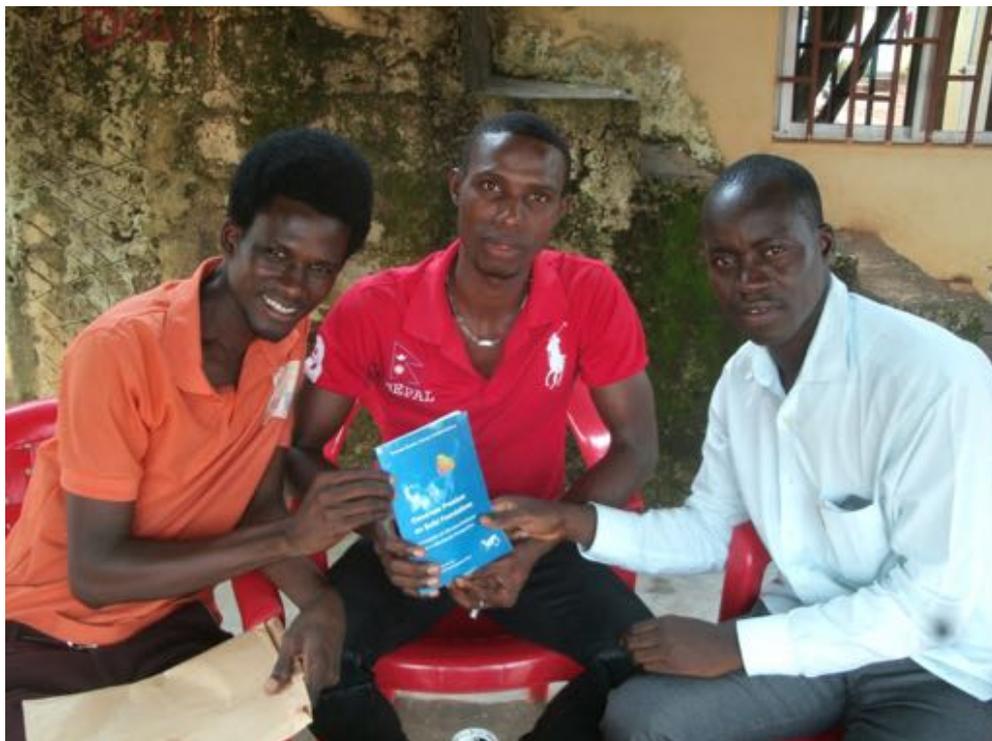
Visit to CE in North East India

By Rev. Surendra K. Sahu, VP Asia

The Executive Committee Meeting of CE in INDIA (CEiI) was held on June 25th, 2016 in Baptist Church, CBCNI in Guwahati. It was a time of introspection, commitment, and motivation to engage ourselves in prayer and hard work for furtherance of Christian Endeavor movement in India and participation in various program of WCEU.

June 26th Sunday: Visited the family of one of the veterans Endeavorer of C.E. in North East India (NEICEU), Mr. Andreas Kharmuti. The rooms are decorated with photographs of various CE conventions, and CE souvenirs.

Attended Sunday Holy Communion worship service in Pynthorumkhrah Presbyterian Church at 1.00 pm. and brought the greetings from CEiI and WCEU. Shared God’s Word in the Hindi Congregation Worship service



A time of fellowship and sharing was arranged in the church at 4.30 pm in which leaders of the CE Society of Mowkhar Presbyterian Church, Pynthorumkhras Presbyterian Church, and other churches participated. Shared the vision, strategies, action plan, and activities of CEiI and WCEU followed by discussion on various matters by the leaders of NEICEU.

Visited Ms. Mercy Kharlong's house. Mercy is one of the veteran leaders of CE in North East India and CEiI. Now she is confined to her home due to age factor. In spite of her sickness, she enquired about the activities and leaders of CEiI and WCEU.

June 27th Monday: Visited Bible Society of India, Shillong Auxiliary, shared Word of God and the ministry of Christian Endeavor in the morning devotion.

The visit to North East India Region was a time of blessing. The relationship in CE movement in India has been strengthened. The leading of Mr. Banteilang Latam, Vice-President of CEiI and General Secretary of NEICEU during this visit is highly appreciated.

Europe

Swing - Impressive youth convention in the transcarpathian Ukraine

By Váradi Enikő

The event called 'Swing - Lendület' was organized for the 12th time by KRISZ. Almost 2000 youth gathered from the whole Transcarpathia, Ukraine. This time the location was an entertainment park in Tiszapéterfalva. The event was opened by devotion of Sándor Fábián, bishop of the Reformed Church in Transcarpathia. He encouraged the youth to spend the day with the King (the theme being Who is the King?). The oath of the

new KRISZ members followed. We couldn't imagine Swing without proper music. The Trinitas band has taken care of the good atmosphere. János Sóskúti, pastor of Budapest Rákoskeresztúr church was our main speaker this year. He gave the message on the theme 'Who is the King?' He reminded us that there is only one King and our hearts can not belong to two kings. If we choose Jesus, we must follow this way with love and peace.

The spare time was dedicated to listening to several Christian music bands. There were also other options like handicraft, painting, pottery, weaving etc. The organizers provided food and drinks for everybody, members of the churches in Tiszapéterfalva, Tiszaújlak, Tivadar and other villages helped at cooking.

Swing was a good opportunity for fundraising too. We gathered almost 400 euro for people who were affected by heavy storms.

The event had a strong message for us: the community is strong, the youth of Transcarpathia Reformed Church have a future, but we have to hold together and help each other.

Connect Europe 2017

Connect Europe will be held 14th – 18th of June in Neukirchen/Knüll, Germany, combined with a major youth event of the regional Hessen-Nassau CE Union. We expect about 300 German participants and hope many other European Endeavourers will join us. We invited the new General Secretary, Dave Coryell.

This is a great opportunity to meet many young people who are involved in local CE activities and it can help to set up new activities in your own church and society. More details in the next Newsletter.

Call to collect donation from friends

Endeavourers, who like WCEU because of the international



J-camp

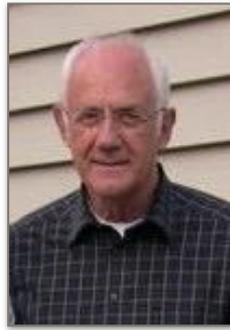




relations that CE provides, share with WCEU the concern to raise within this year USD 80 000 in order to break even with the budget for this year. Because of the not very lively economy, the proceeds from the WCEU portfolio have been much less than hoped for.

The Finance Committee of the WCEU has put a lot of energy in finding ways how best to raise funds for the World's Union. So it seems best if many people collect something in their place in a way fitting best to their local customs. Hence I would like to challenge you, to ask one friend, relative or other CE well-wisher who can afford, for a donation for the international ministry of Christian Endeavor. If you have no ways to transfer the money to the WCEU directly, the money should go to your national CE union, earmarked for the WCEU, and transferred from there to the WCEU.

Konrad Brandt turned 80



On July 22 former WCEU President Rev. Konrad Brandt, turned 80! Conny, as he liked to be called by friends, was born in Liepaja, Latvia, grew up in Germany and moved 1957 to the United States. He returned to Germany for theological studies and got soon involved in Christian Endeavor. The German Youth Federation for CE made him responsible for the German CE sponsored projects in India (1972). He got involved in WCEU as interpreter and became member of the Board of Trustees 1974. Conny was elected President at the World's CE Convention in Korea, 1986 and served two terms. Today Konrad Brandt lives near Marburg, Germany, well taken care of by his wife Jutta. Several years now he suffers from a disorder of his nervous system which limits him considerably.

Events

2016

Sept. 15-17 – **WCEU Board of Trustees meeting**, Tirgu Mures, Romania
 Sept. 16-17. - **102nd Irish National Convention**, Ballygomartin Presbyterian Church, Belfast
 October 1-2. - **CE National Convention**, Targu-Mures, Romania
 November 4-6. - **PLUS Kongress** for Young Adults, Marburg, Germany
 October 9 - 11. - **27th Biennial Convention** of Odisha State CE Union at Balasore.

2017

June 14-18. - **Connect Europe**, Neukirchen, Germany
 January 29-February 4 - **Prayer Week**

Who is... Siolo Tauati?



Rev. Tauati is pastor in the Samoan capital Apia. Since 32 years he cares for the nearly 200 parishioners of the congregational

church in Apia, Vaivase Uta, which is his only assignment as pastor until date. He is married to Merita and they have five sons: Joane, Paulo, Tiperio Chashuto, Utatau and Apiauta. Meanwhile he is happy about 10 grandchildren.

15 years ago he was appointed General Secretary of the Samoan CE Union. This national union has groups in the whole Pacific area, wherever Samoan Congregational churches are found and counts about 100 000 members. Every member of the church, regardless of age is automatically CE member. Rev. Siolo Tauati likes CE because it "helps youth to cope with time", to develop aims and programs to serve others. 2002 he attended the World's CE convention in Singapore as proxy for his predecessor Rev. Tanielu Situfu; and was later elected a member of the WCEU Board of Trustees.

The deadline for the next issue of the WCEU Newsletter is October 15, 2016. Please notify us about news, events, announcements etc. if you want them to be listed here.

PRAY WITH US!

Subscribe to our monthly newsletter, focused only on prayer points:

<http://eepurl.com/b03Y7v>

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