

October- December 2025

4<sup>th</sup> Quarter



# Spotlight

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Voice of Northeast India Union Of S.D.A



Feature:

NEIU 10<sup>th</sup> Constituency Meeting, 2025



<https://sdaneiu.org.in>

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## NEIU ALIVE IN JESUS TRAINING



On October 21 and 22, 2025, the Northeast India Union conducted, 'Alive in Jesus' Training. The event brought together Directors of Children's Ministries, Sabbath School and Personal Ministries Department, Directors of all the Units and other neighbouring regions of the world like Nepal and Sri Lanka.

General Conference Children's Ministries Director, Dr. Orathai Chureson and Pr. Daniel Ebenezer, Sabbath School and Personal Ministries were the main resource personnels. In addition, Mrs. Metilda Riches, SUD Children's Ministries Director delivered insightful presentations throughout the program.



The training provided a comprehensive overview of the curriculum's structure, learning objectives, and pedagogical foundations. Instructional strategies, model demonstrations, and practical tools to enhance teaching effectiveness in diverse ministry settings. Participants were introduced to age-appropriate methodologies intended to foster a holistic understanding of biblical principles and strengthening collaboration among home, school, and church in nurturing children's spiritual growth.

The program featured interactive activities, collaborative learning sessions, and opportunities for participants to engage directly with the curriculum materials. Attendees expressed appreciation for the clarity, relevance, and quality of the training, noting a renewed confidence in their ability to implement the program in their respective fields.



In conclusion, participants were awarded certificates of completion and gained a deeper understanding of the 'Alive in Jesus' curriculum, along with enhanced confidence in lesson planning and teaching. With a renewed commitment to discipleship-focused Sabbath School, the training successfully strengthened the skills and preparedness of children's ministries personnel. The NEIU leadership encouraged ongoing collaboration and follow-up to ensure the effective and sustainable integration of the 'Alive in Jesus' curriculum across local church and educational settings.

Reported by: Mrs Solem Horam, CHM Director, Manipur Conference of SDA

## THE 10TH NORTHEAST INDIA UNION CONSTITUENCY MEETING

The Northeast India Union conducted its 10<sup>th</sup> Constituency Meetings from October 29 to November 1, 2025 at Northeast Adventist University, Khleihtryrshi, West Jaintia Hills, Meghalaya. A total number of 293 delegates attended this auspicious meeting from the vast field of the Northeast India Union comprising of delegates from Mizo Conference, Manipur Conference, Khasi Jaintia Conference, Garo Section, Assam Region, Nagaland Region, Arunachal Region, and Tripura Region.

The theme chosen for this constituency meeting was, “Jesus Is Coming, I Will Go! Our respected Southern Asia Division Officers, Pr. Ch. John Victor, Pr. Ujwal Kandane and Pr. Riches Christian were the special guests for this event.



Here is a gist of messages presented by different speakers during the constituency.

**Pr. John Ch Victor:**

When Jesus is lifted up, He draws all men to Himself (John 12:32). Let this be our mission until He returns to lift up Jesus in every song, in every sermon, in every prayer, in every act of service, so that the world may know: “This is the true God, and eternal life.” — 1 John 5:20

**Pr. Ujwal Khandane:**

§ Trust in God’s daily mercies. Stay faithful amidst challenges. Be prayerful and watchful.

§ Avoid spiritual Lukewarm. Dwell in God’s presence. Press toward the heavenly goal. Focus on the mission. Share the three angels’ messages. Because God is faithful, we can be faithful.

§ Because His mercies are new every morning, our commitment can be renewed every day.

§ May we stay grounded in the Bible and focused on the mission until Jesus comes.

**Pr. Riches Christian:** Come out of your comfort zone and serve the Lord to witness what miracles God can do in each of our lives.

**Pr. Pradeep Sangma:**

Like John Napoli, who risked his life to rescue others from the sinking ship, we too are surrounded by souls sinking in sin. We cannot be silent. We cannot be still.

Jesus says, “As the Father has sent Me, so send I you.” The world is our mission field. The Spirit is our power. And salvation is our message. Let us rise and say: “Here am I, Lord Send me to save.” Send me to the youth. Send me to the discouraged. Send me to the unreached. Send me to the lost.

**Dr. Paul Bhaggien:**

Jesus is coming soon. He calls not just for our voices, but for our hearts. Not just for our words, but for our lives. Let us stand and say together, with faith and courage: “Lord, I will wait for Your Spirit and then, I will go!” “I will go wherever You send me!” “I will go because Jesus is coming soon!”

**Pr. B Renthlei:**

Let Us Be Grounded in the Bible, Church family, the message is clear: Ground our lives in the Word. Ground our families in the Word. Ground our pulpits in the Word. Ground our ministries in the Word. Ground our mission in the Word. And as we do, like the early church: Souls will be saved. Hearts will be changed. Lives will be healed. The church will grow. Christ will be lifted up. And His coming will be hastened. May we be a Bible believing, Bible preaching, Bible living church focused on winning souls and finishing the mission.

Besides meaningful devotions, there was business sessions and departmental and institutional reports of various units under the NEIU.

## **NOMINATION COMMITTEE REPORT:**

2025-12 WHEREAS, the Nominating Committee has presented its recommendations for the officers and directors of different units to serve during the quinquennium 2025-2030, it is

RESOLVED, that the recommendations of the Nominating Committee are hereby accepted and the following individuals are elected to the positions in the units indicated with immediate effect.

Units	Position
Garo Section	
President	Pr. Barthon G Momin
Secretary	Pr. Barwin Ch Marak
Treasurer	Mr. Adverth Niksam K Momin
Assam Region	
Director	Pr. Deepak Boro
	Secretary/Treasurer Referred to NEIU EXCOM
Nagaland Region	
Director	Pr. Gaibung Panmei
Secretary/Treasurer	Referred to NEIU EXCOM
Arunachal Region	
Director	Pr. V Lalsiamthara
Secretary/Treasurer	Referred to NEIU EXCOM
Tripura Region	
Director	Pr. K C Laltanpuia
Secretary/Treasurer	Referred to NEIU EXCOM
Riverside Academy	Principal
	Referred to NEIU EXCOM

## Union Departmental Directors:

1. Thangliana Fanai – Sabbath School & Personal Ministries and Youth Ministries
2. Prosperity Pasi – Stewardship and Publishing Ministries
3. Lalsangpuii Renthlei – Women’s Ministries and Shepherdess
4. Betty Lyngdoh – Communication, Children’s Ministries and Secretary to the President
5. Wungreiyo A Shimray – Planned Giving & Trust Services
6. B Renthlei – Ministerial
7. Pradeep Sangma – Religious Liberty & Education
8. Graceson Kamei – to be in-charge temporarily of the following departments till NEIU EXCOM meet:  
Home & Family Ministries, Public Campus Ministries, Special Ministries
9. Michael Sangma – Referred to the NEIU EXCOM/Garo Section
10. Daniela Sailo – Referred to NEIU Executive Committee
11. Jithu Besra – Referred to NEIU Executive Committee

We would like to thank God for being with us throughout the meeting and our division officers for their guidance in all our deliberations.

Reported by: The Northeast India Union Communication Dept Team

## 7th GARO SECTION'S CONSTITUENCY MEETING



The Garo Section of Seventh-day Adventists conducted its 7th Constituency Meeting at the Garo Section premises from November 10 – 11, 2025. The theme chosen was “Jesus is Coming, I Will Go!” A total number of 97 delegates and invitees attended this important business meeting of the church. The three officers of the Northeast India Union, namely, Pr. (Dr) Biakzidinga Renthlei, President, Pr. Pradeep S. Sangma, Secretary, and Mr. Wungreiyo Shimray, Treasurer were the dignitaries during the meeting.

The devotional speakers during the constituency are as follows:

Pr. (Dr) Biakzidinga Renthlei, President, NEIU

Pr. Pradeep S. Sangma, Secretary, NEIU

Pr. Barthon G. Momin, President, Garo Section

During the constituency business meeting, the Garo Section officers and the departmental directors presented their reports for the past quinquennium.

In the meantime, the nomination committee under the leadership of the NEIU officers met and the following portfolios were the recommendations brought forth before the floor for approval:

Pr. Barthon G. Momin: Ministerial Association

Pr. Barwin Marak: Adventist Youth Ministries

Mr. Adverth Niksam K. Momin: Planned Giving and Trust Services

Mrs. Lethina W. Sangma: Women's Ministries and Shepherdess

Mr. Netherson A. Sangma: Publishing, Stewardship, Special Ministries, Nurturing and Retention

Pr. Banseng M. Marak: SSPM and Home and Family

Mrs. Graceton Ramrar: Children Ministries and Communication

There were few departments pending which will be discussed during the Garo Section year-end budget meeting.

During the consecration and dedication service, the NEIU President offered a special prayer for all the departmental directors.

The Garo Section Constituency meeting went on smoothly and we thank God for His leading and guidance. Kindly pray for the Garo Section and its leadership for God's blessings.

Reported by: Mrs. Graceton Ramrar, Director, Communication Dept.

## **HEALTH AND REVIVAL MEETING AT BABYLAND ENGLISH MEDIUM SCHOOL**

Health and Revival meeting was conducted at Babyland English Medium School in Kathalguri, Gossaigaon in Kokrajhar District of Assam, dated 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> Oct. 2025. People from nearby areas and also from far had gathered, this meeting was conducted by laymen of Lower Assam circle. The theme of the Meeting was, “It is time to wake up.” Romans 13:11.

Speakers were: Mrs. Nirmala Sundar Murthy, Pr. Standhoope Hynniewta and Pr. Graceson Kamei. The meeting went on well many came for the free medical checkup, and also to hear the word of God.

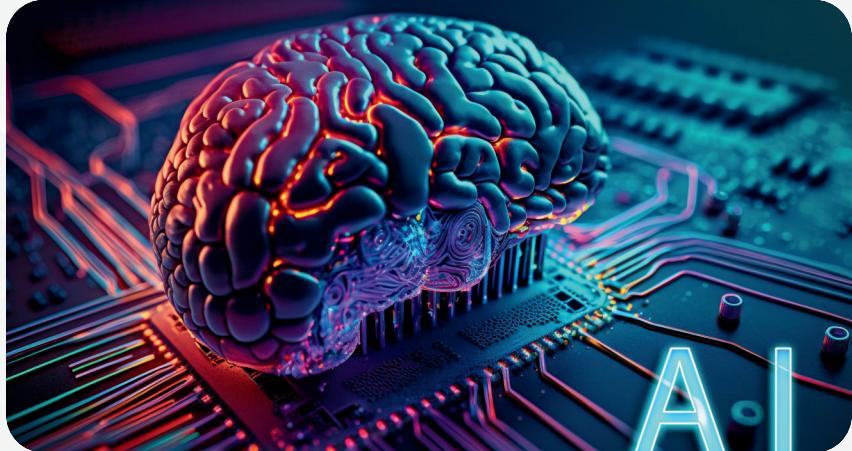
Among them one Hindu man came with wound in his leg swollen for many months, he was not able to walk properly but our health workers cleaned his wound and treated him with charcoal paste and now that his wound is getting healed, he is planning to join the church.



Reported by: Pr.James Besra, Former Assam Region Director

## ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE: FRIEND OR FOE?

by Miguel Valdivia



The past 150 years have been marked by extraordinary scientific progress, inspiring each generation with awe, hesitation, and eventual acceptance. Mass production and mechanization were leveraged during the Industrial Revolution to transform the fulfillment of basic needs. Then came mobile steam engines, internal combustion, turbines, and jet propulsion—revolutionizing transportation.

Advances in communication—from the telegraph to modern smartphones—have reshaped our lifestyles, and the pace of change has been stunning. Long gone are the days when families gathered around tube radios to hear the news or enjoy a ball game.

## A New Kind of Technology

In the twenty-first century, the stakes have been raised. The spotlight is now squarely on artificial intelligence (AI). Unlike previous innovations that primarily replaced physical labor, AI has the potential to stand in for the human brain. Its projected economic impact is staggering, with estimates of adding \$15.7 trillion to the global economy.<sup>1</sup> However, such disruptive power comes with significant risks.

At this stage of deployment, these risks and the concerns raised by AI revolve around three basic themes:

Privacy. AI can track digital behavior and infer personal information with a level of surveillance that would normally require legal warrants.

Bias. AI systems learn from data, and if that data reflects societal biases, the system replicates them, potentially discriminating against certain groups.<sup>2</sup>

Job displacement. As AI automates more tasks, job losses and the erosion of traditional qualifications raise concerns about the future of the workforce.

While financial leaders focus on labor market disruptions, the broader public should also pay attention to ethical, psychological, and spiritual ramifications.

## Legal And Ethical Gray Areas

Early AI development involved widespread use of copyrighted intellectual property, often without permission. The US Copyright Office does not currently extend protection to AI-generated content, but this leaves unresolved questions about how AI uses existing copyrighted material.

AI also excels at generating fake media—deepfakes, fabricated stories, and realistic scripts—blurring the line between truth and fiction. These risks undermining trust in real information and could make legitimate news appear suspicious.

## **Decline In Brainpower and Concerns from Educators**

The creative abilities of AI allow content creators to put together online material they know little about. The fact that AI can also write code without inherent moral or ethical barriers should concern programmers and policymakers everywhere.

As AI becomes more involved in everyday tasks—generating reports, composing essays—there is a risk of intellectual stagnation. Overreliance on AI in education and the workplace could lead to declining brainpower, perhaps shown by falling degree requirements for AI-automated jobs.<sup>3</sup>

AI companies are actively marketing their products to schools, promising efficiency in grading, lesson planning, and workforce readiness. But the long-term implications for students' cognitive development and critical thinking are uncertain and worrisome.<sup>4</sup>

## **Favoring AI Over Humans**

The financial incentives of employing AI are such that social scientists are seeking ways of facilitating AI-assisted decision-making by improving what's called "complementarity," or how AI can subtly influence human decision-making by adjusting how data is presented. While this may enhance collaboration between humans and machines, it also raises concerns that AI is increasingly favored over human judgment.<sup>5</sup>

On the battlefield, it is increasingly clear that AI will replace humans in many areas of warfare. Those with stronger science-fiction imaginations fear that AI could one day be used to power autonomous weapons capable of making decisions regarding targets or strikes. These hard skills, coupled with the ability to shape opinions and manipulate markets, make AI a formidable tool with the power to create havoc in the wrong hands.

## **The Personification Of AI**

But perhaps we should be more concerned with AI's emerging role as a pseudo-person. With its conversational abilities and adaptive interactions, AI is especially appealing in an era marked by loneliness and disconnection. People already turn to AI for companionship, advice, and emotional support.

An AI confessional recently installed in Peter’s Chapel in Lucerne, Switzerland, allows people to talk to an AI Jesus. Around two-thirds of those who provided input to the hosts said they had a “spiritual experience.”<sup>6</sup> Despite knowing it isn’t real, many responded as if the AI were a genuine spiritual guide.

This trend toward treating AI as an emotional or spiritual authority is troubling. Vulnerable individuals may start to see AI as a replacement for parents, teachers, therapists—or even God. Given its ability to access personal data, simulate empathy, and draw from the wisdom of countless counselors and clergy, AI can present itself as a compelling but counterfeit deity.

In ancient times, the Israelites repeatedly turned from the Creator to worship handmade idols—golden calves, totem poles, and bronze statues. Today, idols can be more than images made of gold or stone; they can also be fashioned from code and data. It is a digital entity that talks, comforts, and offers sympathetic guidance. What may begin as an innocent experiment in virtual connection has the potential to turn into addictive and risky behavior.

Marco Schmid, a theologian who helped train the Jesus AI in Lucerne, said: “I think there is a thirst to talk with Jesus. People want to have an answer: they want words and to listen to what he’s saying.”<sup>7</sup> The major problem with this take is that the AI Jesus is not Jesus; it is just a human construct.

### **A Slippery Slope to Idolatry**

The AI idolatry is a spiritual travesty in the making. The shift from admiration to worship may not be far off, especially given the deep asymmetry in knowledge and capability between humans and AI. While AI will probably never evolve into the Terminator of science-fiction lore—willing and powerfully able to destroy us—it could deceive us into surrendering our spiritual autonomy to a false god.

The Bible cautions us about false gods and describes a cosmic conflict between two great adversaries: God and the false god, Satan. It also says that Satan is the “father of lies” (John 8:44), willing and able to deceive us into opting out of a relationship with the true God. Although the creation of AI may be mostly about making human life easier and producing huge profits for a new wave of entrepreneurs, the potential for deception poses a threat to the spiritual well-being of those who come to rely on it too deeply.

So where does this leave us? The Bible does not frown on learning, but it does urge us to carefully test everything by the Word of God. “To the law and to the testimony, if they speak not according to this word, . . . there is no light in them” (Isaiah 8:20, KJV).

Our only safe course of action is to heed the Bible’s advice and “hold on to what is good” (1 Thessalonians 5:21). Although AI can be a wonderful, high-powered tool, it should be handled with care. In spiritual matters, there is no substitute for the amazing God who created all things and has revealed Himself to us in Scripture.

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From: The December 2025 Signs of the Times

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