

CEO SPEAK



Mark Clive
General Secretary & CEO

The cool December morning breeze reminds me of Christmas. I have shifted to the official residence of the General Secretary. And chirping of early morning birds in this beautiful NDY campus reminds me of Joy to the World with those lovely lines of heaven and nature sing. It will be my first Christmas as a resident of the campus with several colleagues. And I am excited at the prospect of sharing the love and blessings of the Lord on this occasion.

But for the pandemic the festivities would have been different. I am sure there would have been several rounds of late night carolling, bonfire and parties. But it is going to be a different Christmas this time. I am absolutely sure that the good times will come again.

I am looking forward to an online Pipe Organ concert, which some members and staff have put together. On December 12 five top organists in the country and one from Bonn in Germany will play Christmas music on Zoom platform. There are other events lined up too.

It is also to remind you all to be present in large number for the Annual General Meeting on December 5 at 5:15 pm.

As you are aware the pandemic has resulted in economic downfall all over. It has impacted NDY too. The management has taken appropriate steps and all of us have to face some hardship. But then life has to go on.

During these difficult times the President and the Board have spent considerable time trying to find a way out. Secretaries, Executives and staff have also put up a brave face. I am sure we will sail through and this shall also pass.

God bless all

Mark

AGM: PRESIDENT REQUESTS FOR LARGE TURN OUT

As you all are aware we are going through a challenging times. Physical meetings are not possible. But here I must say that members were really supportive and turned up in large number at the Special Online Meeting of the Members held on 29th September. As President of the New Delhi YMCA I seek a similar support by you all for the AGM on December 5.

The meeting will be Online Video Conferencing on Zoom and immediately followed by E-Voting on www.right2vote.in for passing three (3) Resolutions that the Members have to give their approval for.

Jovial Vaghela, *President*



The meeting will commence on Zoom at 5.15 pm. The login ID for the meeting: 98511476698 and Passcode is 966322

As we are entering the Christmas season there are plenty of online events planned. I request you to participate in them with your family and friends. ■

BONN ADDS GERMAN FLAVOUR TO NDY ORGAN RECITAL



VIRENDER JOSHUA



MARKUS KRAS



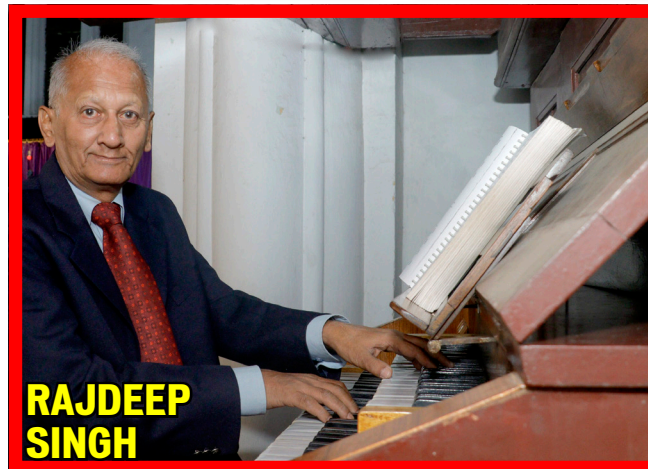
ANDREW BHAGYANATHAN



LYDIA JOAN



AMARJEET FRANK



RAJDEEP SINGH



MANISH EKKA

Participation of internationally acclaimed organist Markus Kras has added extra sheen to the online Pipe Organ musical event to be organised by New Delhi YMCA on December 12. The event will be live on Zoom and streamed on Facebook also.

Kras is organist at the Bonner Munster (Bonn Minster), one of Germany's oldest churches in Bonn. Besides Kras, some of the leading pipe organists in the country have already confirmed to participate in a unique Christmas musical event. Musical genius Andrew Bhagyanathan, whose national anthem clip on pipe organ has gone viral in virtual world, will play from St Andrew's Church in Bengaluru. Another stalwart, Rajdeep Singh will join in from Ranchi, playing on a historic 140-year old pipe organ at St Paul's Cathedral.

Young Manish Ekka, also from Ranchi, will perform at Evangelical Lutheran Church. Virender Joshua, music faculty head, Oakridge Interna-

tional School, Hyderabad, will be there in Secuendrabad.

In Delhi it will be Lydia Joan who will regale the audience from the Cathedral Church of the Redemption.

From the city of Nawabs, Lucknow, Mr Amarjeet Frank will herald the Christmas on a heritage pipe organ in the Chapel of La Martiniere College. ■

Meeting ID: 97423056442, Passcode: 855333



'YESHU' - TV SERIAL IN HINDI SOON

A new television serial on Jesus in Hindi is set to begin in middle of December. The story for the serial, "Yeshu" deals with life of Jesus and is based on the research work of Father John Paul Herman of Divine World Missionary.

According to Utkarsh Naithani, writer and an actor in the serial, as many as 90 episodes are planned with a plan to extend depending on viewership. The running time for each episode is 22-25 minutes.

The tentative date to begin tele-casting is December 15. Showtime will be in the evening from every Monday to Friday. ■

DELHI YWCA-NIDM TRAINING

The Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) of Delhi conducted a 3-day online training programme in New Delhi and Assam on Child Centric Disaster Risk Reduction in October-November with the Home Ministry's National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM). More than 1,000 participants joined the training programme conducted via Cisco Webex online platform. Eminent Guest Speakers from the Social and Education sector inaugurated the two sessions.

In New Delhi Prof Sonajharina Minz, Vice Chancellor of Sidho Kanhu Murmu University was the Guest Speaker while in Assam Mr Shammi J Tigga, Regional Labour Commissioner (C) for the North East region, Ministry of Labour and Employment joined as the keynote speaker.

The certificate training program was intended for middle level officials of various Departments, Civil Society Practitioners, Community and Social workers and Students to help build their knowledge, skills and perspectives towards child centric disaster risk reduction.

Explaining the need for such a training programme, Abha Ekka, General Secretary of Delhi YMCA said "Children may not be the face a pandemic but they risk being among its biggest victims. The data is already showing the negative effects of COVID-19 and the unprecedented measure to contain it on maternal and child health." Delhi YWCA will again collaborate with NIDM to conduct a similar training programme for the State of Nagaland. ■

FOUNDER PRESIDENT OF AHMEDABAD YMCA NO MORE

New Delhi YMCA mourns the passing away of Dr John Geevarghese, President of the YMCA International Centre, Ahmedabad.

A noted philanthropist, John was founder president of the Ahmedabad YMCA. He took the leadership to purchase 10 Acres of land and mobilised huge resources for the establishment of YMCA International Centre. It is the largest sports facility in Ahmedabad.

Spread out 4-lakh square feet, YMCA International Centre will remain as a living monument of John's contribution to the YMCA Movement and to the community.

Some of Bollywood's leading singers like Sonu Nigam, Hariharan, Alka Yagnik, and Udit Narayan have performed there.

As a business tycoon, John established big presence in the electronics and home appliances retail chain in the state. He also established educational institutions including a university.

Some time in 1991, the leading members of the Association of South Indians in Ahmedabad approached John and told him that the school they were running was in financial difficulties. Initially he was not keen to interfere but some time later took over the management.

Soon, John put all his

efforts to make the school a success. Then he started another one. Now there are five schools.

Then he ventured into colleges and set up the JG (his initials) International School. Now there are 25 colleges all over the state. In total, there are 12,500 students, of which 4,700 are in the schools. The schools are run almost in a philanthropic way.

He also looked after the cost of uniforms, books, and travel of deserving students.

John also set up a Performing Arts College, which offers Bachelor's and Master's degrees in classical dance, drama, and music. ■



World YMCA has entered into two new partnership agreements in two of its four main areas of impact: health and the environment.

"We are expanding our scope to collaborate for bigger impact, while advocating for a more active role for young people in facing the challenges of our times", said Secretary-General Carlos Sanvee.

In health, its agreement with The Global Fund to fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria will focus on malaria education and advocacy; and in the environment, its agreement with the Worldwide Fund for Nature will empower young people to be active agents of climate action.

Under World YMCA's agreement with the Worldwide Fund for Nature the two organisations will work together to promote young people's meaningful participation in sustainable development, as guided by the Agenda 2063 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), and specifically in the areas

WORLD YMCA AND WWF ENTER NEW PARTNERSHIP

of conservation, biodiversity and the WWF's New Deal for Nature and People. WWF and World YMCA have already worked together in October this year on the Youth led Solutions Summit for Climate Change.

"It is inspiring to see the enthusiasm of young people in the search for solutions to climate change and protecting our planet", said WWF International Director General Marco Lambertini. "Empowering them to work on these solutions is vital if we are to build a more sustainable future, for people and planet. I am looking forward to our on going collaborations with World YMCA."

YMCA is committed to helping young people overcome barriers to accessing quality health education and services to improve their holistic wellbeing in spirit, mind and body.



Every young person has the ability to contribute to improving their own health and the health of the communities in which they live. Through YMCA programmes, young people care for their physical, spiritual and mental health. ■

MEMBERS SPEAK

● Thanks Mark. Congrats on all the good work done/being done, that has been nicely highlighted in this edition, apart from other interesting news clippings.

— Bennet Pinto

● Very informative. Congratulations to Brother John Dayal for his selection as an Editor's Guild member.

— Isaac John

● Thank you, Sir, for that excellent NDY digital newsletter. And special thanks to the Editor and the Consulting Editor for including that little note on me. Most grateful. God bless.

— John Dayal

● Dear Mark. Greetings of the season to you. I thank you for sharing a soft copy of the 7th Volume of NDY's digital newsletter. I am enjoying reading its ever-improving, candid, colourful, wide and wonderful coverage. Keep up the good work.

— Aloke Michyari



POPE SELECTS SJM SCHOLAR FOR GLOBAL SUMMIT

sub-group. Her proposal was selected to be presented as one of the 12 best proposals that would help the world move forward through the Economy of Francesco, and will be promoted to national governments, international agencies and organizations. Caren proposes a new HRM paradigm that can serve as a gift to employees while creating economic value for organizations.

Caren's research integrates the fair principles of the free market with organizational social responsibility and other practices that promote the common good. ■



MOLDOVA



ESTONIA



NEW ZEALAND



USA



GERMANY



FINLAND



DENMARK

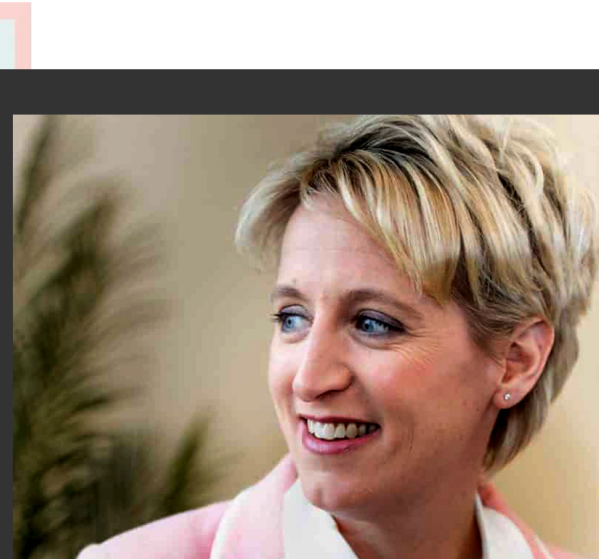


ICELAND

THE NEW LEADERSHIP



YMCA EUROPE



Emma Osmundsen (YMCA England and Wales) has been elected as President of YMCA Europe, succeeding outgoing President Mike Will (YMCA Scotland). Quoting US Vice-President-elect Kamala Harris, Osmundsen said, "I may be the first woman in this role, but I will not be the last". She cited Patricia Pelton as the first woman President of World YMCA, and

EMMA FIRST WOMAN YMCA EUROPE PRESIDENT

said how her roots in the Girl Guide Movement bequeathed her the preparedness with which she takes up the YMCA Europe role.

"We are 4,100 local YMCA branches in Europe, reaching over 2 million people a year", she said, "inspiring, uniting, and creating space for young people". She set

out a vision based on Relevance, Representation, Relationship and Resilience, and — quoting St John's Gospel (chapter 10, verse 10) called on the YMCA to be "life-givers, Ministers of Life".

Raised in Wales and with Norwegian roots, Emma has over twenty-five years

This year, the World Council of Churches (WCC) is highlighting the links between the household of God, and the fundamental need to make our homes safe and loving spaces.

The "16 Days" campaign is an annual international initiative that began on November 25, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, and will end on December 10, the Human Rights Day.

In a unified statement, the 17 ambassadors reflect on why it is so important to protect those who are vulnerable and abused. "We can create safe spaces for all people who are targets of this violence, especially women and girls in our societies," reads the message. "We should promote transformative masculinities and femininities based on respect and equality."

The message also honours

"THE RESOLVE TO END GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE MUST REMAIN STRONG"

resistance and resilience to violence, and expresses a vision of a world without fear of sexual and gender-based harassment, abuse and violence.

"And with on going physical restrictions due to the spread of the coronavirus,

violence against women and girls has intensified," the message reads. "The resolve to end gender-based violence must remain strong."

The Thursdays in Black ambassadors, in their various spaces, are working to effect change in policies and practices in churches, workplaces and communities.

"Together with the WCC we are actively involved in preparing liturgies and Bible studies, which challenge attitudes and norms that foster gender-based violence," reads their message. "As people of faith and of goodwill, we appeal to individuals and community agencies to stop the spread of gender-based violence. ■



HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD FOR PANDEMIC HEROES

The Human Rights Commission will honour pandemic heroes in the Turks and Caicos Islands for their kind gestures and helping others in need as the world continues to face the coronavirus pandemic.

The felicitation ceremony for the award winners is slated to take place on International Human Rights Day on December 10.

According to Sabrina Green, Director Human Rights, "This year is quite an extraordinary one and with the pandemic we had so many persons and organizations

who stepped up to the plate when persons needed essential items like pantry items and we've had so many food drives."

Green added: "For those persons out there they are unsung heroes, and I am sure that they didn't do it to get any recognition, but I think it would be an excellent gesture if we can highlight these individuals that gave selflessly to assist others that are in need." The Human Rights Director added that in the midst of all that is going on; this event will be good for everyone to celebrate people doing good work around us. ■



CHRISTMAS SERVICES IN CHURCHES ALLOWED IN BRITAIN

Christmas services with congregations attending church rather than having to watch online will go ahead in Britain, following the Government's announcement to ease restrictions on places of worship.

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson appeared via video link from 10 Downing Street to make a statement to the House of Commons in London, setting out plans for a new three-tier system of Covid controls.

The Government's 60-page Covid-19 Winter Plan confirms that "collective worship can resume, subject to social distancing" and that "Communal worship will be possible for all faiths in all three tiers and faith leaders continue to play a key role, consulting on how to make religious practice as safe as possible."

The change of heart after many weeks of a second lockdown where all church services went online and nobody could attend Mass is a success for those who lobbied to persuade the Government that worship was not only safe but also vital for people's well-being.

The Faith Task Force last week handed a dossier of evidence to Cabinet Office Minister Michael Gove and Communities Secretary Robert Jenrick that argued that places of worship are Covid-secure and worship benefited the congregation. ■