





ekindled for service; ooted in the Word, and outed for the World.

'They read from the Book of the Law of God, making it clear and giving the meaning so that the people understood what was being read.'. (Nehemiah 8:8 NIV)

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION WEEK 2025



Vision: To have a society which has children and adults who are God fearing and uphold Christian values of love, moral integrity, self-control and respect.



We endeavor to make disciples by instilling knowledge through Education for life.



Motto:

'My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge' (Hosea 4:6)





CHRISTIAN EDUCATION WEEK 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Receive warm New Year greetings from the Christian Education Department.

We are grateful to God for his faithfulness this last year. We give thanks for the peace in the Nation, the calmness in our Institutions, the provision for mission outreach, and the cooperation of all stakeholders in advancing educational programs both within the Church and outside.

Last year remains memorable because of the celebrations of PCEA Education at 133 since its beginning at Kibwezi. By God's grace, a caravan of 50 mission team members amongst them cyclists visited all the mission centers/ schools in PCEA (of both CSM & GMS origins). There was a lot of jubilation as the Caravan made its way across the country experiencing great joy and hospitality from the hosts. The grand Christian Education Climax Service culminating the 11-day 3R caravan was held at the Presbyterian University of East Africa and led by the General Assembly office. It is on this occasion that Education Torches were lit for the five PCEA Regions for onward transmission to Presbyteries, then Parishes, and eventually to the Schools Sponsored and Owned by PCEA as well as those owned by Presbyterians. The underlying message for the Torch lighting was a commitment to intentionally invest in mentoring young people in our institutions remembering that the missionaries who brought the mission to us in Kibwezi in 1891 were young. Those who adhered to the directive to light the torches in the Schools experienced a great reconnection and awakening. This exercise can still go on for those who are yet to do it.

It is with great joy and pleasure that we present the theme for Christian Education Week 2025. This year we are focusing on the Third 'R' in the theme i.e. 'Rekindle' where we shall be asking God to Rekindle our Service to him in 2025. This service begins right where we are to the uttermost parts of the World. We are reminded that we have all it takes to accomplish the purposes and the will of God. But in order to know and discern the will of God in our lives and mission, we must dig into the Word of God.

Let us first remind ourselves of the CE themes in the last three years. The 2022 theme was 'A call to Restoration and Revival' with the key verse coming from Psalm 80:19. The readings were drawn from Psalm 80:1-19 and Ephesians 3:14-21. We were firstly reminded of the need to make our daily prayers and actions a resounding call for God to 'Restore and Revive us' and secondly to stick to Godly ways and embrace God's love in totality in order to experience times of refreshing/revival, all to the glory of God. This is the year when the 'Revive & Restore' Tour of PCEA Schools was born and the theme has continued to speak in amazing ways. The theme for 2023 was 'Heard and Restored' drawn from Jeremiah 29:14a. The readings were drawn from Jeremiah 29:1-14 and Romans 8:18-28. We can be hopeful in that God is promising a great future and that he is already at work. Through this theme we were reminded that our responsibility is to continue serving faithfully as we look forward with hope and trust to the fulfilment of God's promises. God has promised and God will do it no matter what.



God hears and restores and therefore we can confidently confess that we have been Heard and Restored. In 2024 we drew the theme 'Remember! Retrace, Retell, Rekindle' from Deuteronomy 32:7. The readings were drawn from Deuteronomy 32:1-12 and Acts 7:44-55. Through this theme we were called upon to reflect on personal and institutional journeys so that we could REMEMBER, to RETRACE the journey, RETELL the story, and **REKINDLE** the fire.

The fire to keep and protect our traditions, the fire to continue impacting the society positively, the fire to continue being the voice of reason in our society, the fire to jealously protect our Schools and other institutions, the fire to intentionally mentor our children and youth in the ways of the Lord and on how we do things, and the fire to remain true to our calling and identity. Below is the theme for the year 2025: -

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION 2025 THEME Nehemiah 8: 1-16; Colossian 2:6-12

Rekindled for Service: Rooted in the Word and Routed for the World

'They read from the Book of the Law of God, making it clear and giving the meaning so that the people understood what was being read.'.

(Nehemiah 8:8 NIV)

Reflections on the texts

Nehemiah 8:1-16

Nehemiah is the last of the Old Testament historical books. It records the history of the third return to Jerusalem after captivity, telling how the walls were rebuilt and the people were renewed in their faith. It was written approximately 445-432 B.C. Zerubbabel led the first return to Jerusalem in 538 B.C. In 458 B.C, Ezra led the second return while Nehemiah followed with the third return thirteen years later. The book shows the fulfillment of the prophesies of Zechariah and Daniel concerning the rebuilding of Jerusalem's walls. Nehemiah probably wrote the book with Ezra serving as editor. Nehemiah led the rebuilding of the wall, while Ezra led the spiritual revival of the Nation. Nehemiah was a political leader (a governor) while Ezra was a religious leader (a priest and a scribe). It is noteworthy that a Scribe was a highly educated person and a teacher who combined being a lawyer, public notary, scholar and consultant.

God gave Ezra ability and authority, and then the people gave him opportunity and willingness to listen. He was joined by assistants who helped in the work. What a blessing it is to have Ministers and other assistants in the Church who are suitable and willing to teach God's people. In the main verse under consideration (vs 8), the Word was read from morning to noon. Reading the scriptures in religious assemblies is an ordinance of God, whereby he is honoured and his church edified. We too must be willing to invest many hours together on the reading and expounding of the word of God. We see in the passage that the gathering which comprised of men, women, children, and leaders was attentive for six hours. A key lesson here is that those who read and preach the Word must be prepared to deliver it clearly, in a way that they too show understanding of what they are teaching.



The same Word they are teaching needs to have also affected them. The teachers of the Word must desire that those they speak to may understand the Word, retain it, and be affected with it likewise. What Ezra and the helpers read they explained, showing the intent and meaning of it. They also taught the people what the Word was calling them to be and to do. It is necessary that those who hear the Word should understand it (Mathew 24:15, Acts 8:30-31) otherwise, it will remain an empty sound of words. Reading is good, and preaching is good, but expounding brings the reading and the preaching together, thus making the reading more understandable and the preaching more convincing. The people conducted themselves very properly when the word was opened and read to them. They were focused and very well composed. This was a good sign that their hearts were tender, like Josiah's when he heard the words of the law.

The encounter with the Word of God brought 'revival' and the people entered the feast joyfully. This feast had usually been observed (2 Chronicles 5:3; Ezra 3:4), but never with such solemnity since Joshua's time. The joy of the Lord [being their] strength led to Service – where they reached out to those within as well as those far off. God's abundance should make us generous. The more cheerful we are in our religious exercises the more we shall prosper.

The book of Nehemiah shows us the kind of significant impact one individual can have on a nation. Nehemiah served in the market place/secular offices, yet he managed – in collaboration with the religious leaders, through his position to bring back to the Jews order, stability, and proper focus on God. God uses all manner of people in all manner of places doing all manner of work to accomplish His purposes. Hence the call for us to be Rekindled for Service, be Rooted in the Word, and recognize that we are Routed for the World.

Colossians 2:6-12

This letter was written around A.D 60 by Paul during his imprisonment in Rome. It was written to the Church in Colossae which had been infiltrated by religious relativism, syncretism, secular philosophies, and heretical teachings teachings contrary to biblical doctrine. Paul therefore wrote to combat the errors and to show that believers have all they need in Christ. Christ is supreme and sufficient. Even today there are wrong teachings that appear like 'well-crafted' arguments. These kinds of teachings can be combated by believers becoming thoroughly acquainted with God's Word through personal study and sound biblical teaching. As we continue on the path to the knowledge of Truth, we should not be too narrow that we become unteachable, or too wide to accept any teaching.

In order to resist heresy (false teachings), we must use our minds, keep our eyes on Christ, and study God's Word so as to be grounded. Paul uses the illustration of being rooted in Christ. Just as plants draw nourishment from the soil through their roots, so we also draw our lifegiving strength from Christ. The more we draw our strength from him, the less we will be fooled by those who falsely claim to have life's answers. We are called to always remember that we have been set apart as the last verse (vs 12) in this passage tells us.



We all cry for revival to come but from the passages under consideration it is clear that it takes some spiritual disciplines, dedication in the reading and understanding of God's Word as well as diligence in the Service. We are reminded that we are called to serve God in all spheres of our lives and with the talents, gifts, positions and expertise that God has given us. We are also called to walk in the realization that we are already wired and equipped for greatness and for transformation. We are the salt, light, ambassadors and whatever we do should be done as 'Kingdom agenda'. The only way to stay connected to God, discerning His will and continuing in fruitful service, is by digging from the wealth of the Word of God - not just reading, but seeking to understand as well as applying it in our everyday lives. As we do this there will be no room to be swayed by the evil teachings that are very rampant. These are the ingredients for revival.

Yours In Christ's Service, Rev Lucy W. Waweru – Director Christian Education/Education Secretary

CALL TO ACTION

1.PCEA Sirai School

The school is in Rumuruti - maundu ni meri, where PCEA owns land that has a number of mission oriented establishments. The school (ECDE) was started in 2014 and the Primary section in 2016. We now have a Junior Secondary School - Grade 7 & 8. It currently has a population of 170 children mainly from the pastoralist community. In the earlier years, the CE department was able to run the school comfortably through the cess to groups (building, payment of teachers, and feeding the children). The situation is different now. In the year 2023 our first and last class Eight candidates sat for the exams and performed relatively well given the conditions. We have the recurrent expenditures to take care of besides the infrastructural needs. Though registered as a Private School it is a proper mission school and most of the children even survive on the one meal per day given at the school. In a recent visit in January dubbed 'Twende Sirai' the participants interacted with the children and their parents and appreciated that there is a need to fully support this school. We are happy to report that two of the top students in 2023, a girl (Schola) and a boy (Samuel) have now been admitted at PCEA Booth Girls High School and PCEA Booth Boys High School respectively under the sponsorship of the Department. We look forward to starting the construction of classrooms as we begin consolidating the school in the land allocated to the Department. We invite you to consider making a contribution towards the school and to also adopt the School as your mission project:

PCEA Christian Education A/C 031000038612 Family Bank, Industrial Area Paybill: 4161694 Account: Sirai



2. Tour De Kirk

This is a cycling brand created under the Department's Sports Ministry resolution. The annual cycling event was established in 2019 as a way of teaching Christian values through sports. It also honours the bicycle rides by the early missionaries and Church leaders who traversed distances to serve and preach the Good News. The route between PCEA St. Andrews as the starting point and PCEA Church of the Torch as the finishing point in a special way retraces the journey by the missionary Dr. Henry Scott as he served the black/African congregation in Thogoto on Sunday mornings then cycled to St Andrews Nairobi to serve the white congregation in the early 1900s. This year the Tour De Kirk event will take place on 8th March 2025 and the flag off will be done 8am. Elite and amateur cyclists – both junior (9-14) and adults are invited. Charges for the race are Ksh. 1,500 for juniors and Kshs. 1,800 for Adults payable through Paybill: 4161694 Account: Tour De Kirk. There will be prizes to be won. The proceeds from the event are dedicated to PCEA Sirai School.

3. Revive & Restore Tour of PCEA Schools

This is a mission outreach to PCEA Schools that was launched in 2022. The inspiration came from the CE theme then, which was drawn from Psalm 80:19 'A call to Restoration and Revival'. Considering that 24 million Kenyans are in institutions of learning, the Church cannot ignore the importance of reaching out to this great demography. PCEA Church is blessed with many Educational Institutions established over the period of 134 years since the first school in Kibwezi was started in 1891. Since the launch of the Tour, over 200 schools have been reached with amazing reports of transformation. This year, the R & R Tour was flagged off on 1st February, 2025 by the Moderator of the 24th G.A. Rt. Rev Thegu Mutahi at PCEA Thika Town Church during the 2025 PreSPA Prayer Day. This mission calls for prayers and all kinds of support.

PRESBYTERIAN SCHOOLS ASSOCIATIONS

1. (a) Presbyterian Schools & Principals Association (PreSPA)

PreSPA brings together all Principals in PCEA Sponsored Schools, PCEA Owned Schools, and Schools Owned by Presbyterians. It also incorporates Principals who are Presbyterians (in other schools) as Associate members. It started with a general meeting called in 2022. The first National Conference took place in April 2023, and the Second one in August 2024. This year the 3rd Conference is scheduled to take place in August. Through the support of this association, plans are underway to capacity build Christian Union Patrons and Student Leaders in CU, Guidance and Counselling Teachers, as well as Games Masters. The objective is to ensure Christian values impartation as well as maintenance of Presbyterian tenets.



(b) Presbyterian Deputy Principals Fellowship

Following the composition of PreSPA above, this fellowship is intended to build a community of Deputy Principals who espouse the core-values as stipulated in the PreSPA Constitution, working towards Excellence in Education. It is also a space for networking and growth. The first National meeting is scheduled for the 15th February, 2025 at Milele Nairobi.

2. Presbyterian Primary and Junior Secondary Schools

The gathering for the above already started and the main objective is to build a 'Presbyterian Schools' strong brand that is known for excellence in all spheres and especially in Spirituality and academics. We look forward to a number of meetings this year for the different categories of leaders and especially tackling the issue of CBC transition.

Presbyterian Schools Service Book & Age Based Bible Study

The department has the resources mentioned above for use by our schools as well as congregations for Bible Studies. The service book will ensure that communal Services in all our Institutions will be conducted within the Presbyterian traditions while acknowledging the School context.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION WEEK FOR SCHOOLS/ INSTITUTONS OF LEARNING

The above mentioned institutions will observe the Week from Monday 3rd March and climax on 9th March, 2025 mainly because of mid-term break. The institutions are advised to follow the guidelines given below but also to be creative within their contexts. ALL the institutions are expected to climax the week with a special service on 9th March, 2025 as guided or for Day Schools, on a suitable day in the Week. The proceeds from communal Week day or Sunday Services are dedicated to PCEA Sirai School and should be sent to: PCEA Christian Education

A/C 031000038612 Family Bank, Industrial Area, Paybill: 4161694 Account: Sirai School.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION WEEK 2025 PROGRAMME 24th February – 2nd MARCH 2025

The Parish Committee is advised to familiarize with the program as soon as they get hold of it in order to go through the program and plan appropriately.

Depending on the contexts, the Sunday preceding the Week – in this case 23rd February, perhaps in the afternoon, can be used as a time to gather as a Parish team drawn from all the congregations where applicable for fellowship and prayers. It is important to share with the congregation (s) the anticipated activities of the CE week before it begins and invite them to pray and join where possible. Members should be encouraged to interact with the theme and share it in their homes, schools/institutions, workplaces and in all their interactions in the course of the week. We are also encouraged to make use of social media platforms to spread the message as well as sensitize people on the week and the activities - Facebook, Youtube, X, Tiktok, Instagram etc serve different audiences and should be utilized.

Kindly use Sunday 23rd February 2025 for sensitization. This could be done through CE members participation in all Church activities, Services, and meetings taking place in the congregations on that day (Church school, Youth, service, other groups' meetings etc).

DAY 1: Monday 24th February 2025

This is the opening day of the Christian Education Week and is very crucial in setting the pace for the rest of the Week. Plans for the whole week are discussed and finalised on this day. The day is dedicated to Prayer and Fasting, exposition of the theme and launch led by the Parish Minister. For those who may launch the week on Sunday 23rd February, Monday 24th should still be maintained as a day for prayer and study.

DAY 2: Tuesday 25th February 2025

This day is dedicated to Institutional visits. The Christian Education teams to visit all the local institutions of learning around them and pray with them – with learners at assembly, in class, with teachers, non-teaching staff, and in any other opportunity provided. In the absence of schools around the Congregations, the team can visit other institutions. Remember to include Junior Secondary Schools in the visitations as well as nursing schools, TVETS, TTCs etc.

DAY 3: Wednesday 26th February 2025

This is the CE 'Touch a Life Day'. While it depends on your context, the idea is to reach out to people and share with them testimonies and activities for example, where ordinarily it would not be expected. Plan an event to reach a group of people or institution to share moments through which they get a sense of being 'remembered' and the history of the Church will be shared and appreciated. For a school setting, the 'Touch a Life' can either be done within the school or in the neighbouring community.



DAY 4: Thursday 27th February 2025

This is set apart as the 'Fellowship day' – a day to join the other groups of the Church/fellowships like Districts, Woman's Guild, PCMF, Youth, Children etc and fellowship with them (this can be interchanged to suit the different contexts). The day can also be used to bring together professionals in their areas of expertise for a time of fellowship and study of the theme. An environmental exercise like cleaning/sweeping some streets, unblocking systems, cleaning some bushes can also be incorporated and any other suitable activity depending on the context. It is the fellowship and environmental Day.

For School settings, the fellowship could be in the form of Clubs, Societies, or Subject interests where all reflect on areas that need Rekindling and Rooting. Coaching can be done here for the sake of future paths (Routing).

DAY 5: Friday 28th February 2025

This is the day to reflect on areas of our lives that need to be Rekindled and Rooted – as families, and as Congregations, Schools and other Institutions. It is a day to look back at the past one year and measure growth. It is also a time for experience sharing – from senior and other more experienced members in order to learn from them in relation to the theme.

DAY 6: Saturday 1st March 2025

This day is dedicated to cleaning and preparing the Church/School for Sunday. It is also the day to pray for the Service and share duties in collaboration with other teams like praise and worship teams, choirs and others who participate in the Sunday Worship. Use of Skits, spoken words, Solo verses etc should be encouraged to pass the message – these should be polished on this day. All the details should be taken care of. It is also a good time to polish the message to the congregation detailing the Work of the Christian Education team throughout the past year, summarizing the activities of the just concluded week as well as giving a projection of the annual activities highlighting areas of collaboration. The use of technology – the audio and visual facilities available helps to drive the message home in a better way. The reports, notices and intimations can also be put in audio/visual formats where the technology is available. If there is anything that can be done to improve the ambiance of the Church/School for Sunday, it should be done to give a refreshing and welcoming feeling.



DAY 7: Sunday 2nd March 2025 (or 9th for the Schools)

This is the climax of the week. The team meets early in the Church/Vestry to pray and plan for the Worship service. A 'morning glory' session can be organized for the congregation to pray and prepare for the Service.

The Christian Education team gathers in the vestry together with the other leaders to pray and share duties.

- 1. Opening Hymn: Revive us Again/Twakugatha Ngai
- 2. Call to Worship

'They read from the Book of the Law of God, making it clear and giving the meaning so that the people understood what was being read.'. (Nehemiah 8:8 NIV)

- 3. Opening Prayer
- 4. Praise and Worship
- **5.**Prayers of Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, and Supplication. End with the Lord's Prayer
 - a. The Apostle's creed
 - b. Prayers for Children
 - c. Prayers for Teens and Youth
- 6. Presentations:
- 7. Intimations and Welcoming of Guests
- **8.** Brief talk on the role of Christian Education and reading of the report.
- 9. Bible Readings:

1. Nehemiah 8:1-16 (Two readers can share the text)

(a) Nehemiah 8: 1-8

(b) Nehemiah 8: 9-16

2. Colossians 2: 6-12

- 10. Preparatory Hymn: Deeper, Deeper in the Love of Jesus (theme song) Or Take My Life and Let it be
- **11.** Sermon & Altar Call Prayers for salvation and needs
- **12.** Tithes and Offerings/Special collection to support Christian Education work
- 13. Offertory prayers
- 14. Closing Hymn: Come to the Saviour/Uka kwi Jesu/Njoo Kwa Yesu
- 15. Benediction

NB/- The Christian Education Committees will be expected to submit their Parish reports through the Presbyteries by the first week of April. Schools to submit their reports directly to the Christian Education Department.



A BRIEF INTRODUCTON ON THE WORK OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Christian Education is about discipleship – equipping the learner to become like Christ (Ephesian 4: 11-16). Teaching is the chief missionary task of the Church (Mathew 28:19-20). We need to teach people to obey the Word of God in all aspects of their lives.

Christian Education is defined as a Bible-based, Holy Spirit empowered (Christ-centered) teaching/leaning process. It seeks to guide individuals at all levels of growth through contemporary teaching means toward knowing and experiencing God's purpose and plan through Christ in every aspect of living. It equips people for effective ministry, with the overall focus on Christ the Master Educator's example and his command to make disciples. It helps people to manage transitions properly covering the span from 'womb to tomb'.

Christian Education is a transformational agent that covers the HOME, CHURCH, SCHOOL/INSTITUTIONS, and SOCIETY/MARKET PLACE in general with the role to advice, facilitate, sensitize, intervene, educate, and represent e.g. boards and such. CE is the quality assurance (in terms of the application of Biblical principles) arm of the Church including her Institutions and departments. As such, CE works with all the groups and committees.

God is calling us to lead in a pluralistic, relativistic, materialistic society that has even distorted the very meaning of Truth. Through Christian Education, the Truth can be re-defined for people of all ages in line with the Word of God.

(The following is a sneak view of the ongoing work in the Department as per the current 5-year Strategic Plan by the Head Office)

Strategic Objective: To transform the Church, Families, Relationships, and Society through TEACHING Christ-Centred Knowledge.

The following are the Nine Strategic Initiatives: -

1. Entrench and Expand PPI (Program for Pastoral Instruction) in learning Institutions. There are materials available from Head Office (prepared by Scripture Union in conjunction with the Churches amongst them PCEA) for Class one to Eight. These will be aligned with time to comply with the CBC model. Pastoral materials for high school are in the process of being developed. Through partnership with Rafiki Foundation, we now have age-appropriate Bible study materials for schools.

2. Establish and Expand Chaplaincy service in Institutions – Learning Institutions, Hospitals, Financial Institutions, Industries, Airports/Aviation, Transport (Motorbikes, Tuktuks, matatus, buses, lorries etc), etc.

3. Design and Implement Comprehensive Family Programs – Courtship, Pre-marital counselling, Parenting, Domestic Workers program, Widows/ Widowers, Orphans, Singles, Senior Citizens etc. We are looking into reviving the 'Marriage Encounter' program. As stated earlier, in partnership with Rafiki Foundation we now have Bible study materials for all age-groups in the Church and in families.

4. Establish and Initiate Christian Professional Fellowships – Teachers/ Educationists, Lawyers, Accountants, Medics etc. We have already started with teachers and Parishes are encouraged to form all the other professional groups.



5. Establish Leadership capacity building conferences for Church and Community – Church leaders and workers conferences, Institutional leaders workshops etc. We are already working with the Global Leadership Network (GLN) that organizes the Global Leadership Summit (GLS) for training leaders at different levels.

6. Design and Implement Sports Ministry Programs across the Church – Sports mentorship and evangelism, train Christian coaches who are entrenched in Christian values, encourage formation of Christian Sports clubs etc. For schools, plans are underway to train the school games teachers and coaches on instilling values through sports activities.

7. Design and implement music programs across the Church – capacity build praise and worship, choir leaders, instrumentalists, Sound technicians etc

8. Establish and Implement Environmental Programs across the Church and Institutions.

9. Research on emerging trends and issues

SCHOOL MINISTRY Why School Ministry?

Education is one of the three main pillars of mission in PCEA. According to UNICEF, out of the Kenyan population of 55 million, 7 million Kenyans are below the age of 5years while all under 18 years of age make a total of 24 million. This is a huge number considering that this is the school going age. If the number of the young people is added up to age 24, then it means that at least 50% of the Kenyan population is in school up to University. Education is termed as one of the seven main influencers of young people. The schools therefore provide the single biggest frontier of mission for us. The call to reach out to this great population is more urgent now than ever, as we consider the many vices that surround the young people. With the resolve for PCEA 133 and beyond, we must purpose to be intentional with the youth ministry and more so in schools.



PCEA Sirai School



PCEA Education at 133



Tour de Kirk



Revive & Restore Tour of PCEA Schools



Presbyterian Schools Associations









To be a great and dynamic Godly professional body for holistic service in pursuance of the great commission.



We exist to equip members, build collaborations through preaching, teaching and wellness for effective service



Knowing Christ and making Him known.

God Fearing | Orderliness | Integrity Stewardship | Professionalism Teamwork

espring

Excellence in Education





CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Jitegemea House, Muhoho, South 'C' P.O Box 27573, Nairobi 00506 **Mobile:** 0722205051, 0734333040 **Email:** info@pcea.co.ke **Email:** pceachristianeducation@gmail.com **Fb:** PCEA Christian Education **X:** pceachristianEd