



The Official Monthly Newsletter of CSI Church Toronto

Pilgrim

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SEPTEMBER 2012



2012 Motto

*See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?
I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.* Isaiah 43: 19



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Pilgrim

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EDITORIAL BOARD

Chief Editor

Rev. Shaji M. Johnson

Editor

Samuel Anselm Samuel

Publication Team

Shini Samuel

Suja Sarah Koshy

Annie Koshy

Abraham P. George

Samuel Chacko

Address

CSI Parsonage
1311 Kipling Avenue
Etobicoke M9B 3N7 ON
(416) 231- 1717

Articles/ Feedback

May be sent to
pilgrimcsi.to@gmail.com

Editorial

The cradle of diversity.....

God created man in His image. He showered all His love at him. *'For God so loved the world that he gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.'* [John 3:16] But man seems not to have understood the extent of God's love. Being earthly, he's more concerned about mundane glory; and usually aspires to attain heavens. In his quest for the unknown and the unattainable, man has completely forgotten the grace of God and tried to rely completely on his own muscular and intellectual power. This has been his attitude for ages; and got clearly reflected long ago when people started building a city and a tower under the patronage of Nimrod, the mighty hunter.

Soon after the annihilating flood, the people moved to a plain in the land of Shinar and dwelt there. They were well advanced in thoughts and intellect as they learnt to use burned brick and slime. They wanted to show the world that they could do the impossible. So they decided to build a city and a huge tower to reach the heavens. They probably wanted to display their united strength. Alas! This decision just followed the great flood. The single language was the unifying force that triggered the reins to imagination and accomplishment. The Book of Jubilees, an ancient Jewish religious work, raises claim about the height of the tower to be around 5433 cubits and 2 palms (approximately 3 times the height of Burj Khalifa). God, in His infinite wisdom, saw the plight of man. The agape love of God didn't want man to run away. Consequently, different languages were born and people got shattered.

God confounded the language which shattered the tower of Babel and brought man again to nothing. As Gray says, 'the paths of glory lead but to the grave.' A real retrospection can reveal the towers that we have in our lives. These usually grow to unassailable heights, making it difficult to make a touchdown. The omniscience of God can reveal our stupidity and help us understand the infinite grace and fill us with peace that passeth all human understanding. Are there any towers that grow daily? *The arrogance of man will be brought low and the pride of men humbled; the LORD alone will be exalted in that day.* [Isaiah 2:17] Be of good cheer! Jesus says, 'I've overcome the world.' [John 16:33].

Samuel Anselm Samuel
Editor

Achen's Message



Dearly beloved in Christ,

Greetings to you all in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ!

We've come to the end of summer season and our children and teachers are busy with their preparations to go back to school after the vacation. Everybody gives serious attention to education and has great anticipation of the new academic year. The very first step of education is to get a person's inner eyes opened and to get darkness transformed into light. All the teachers and teaching institutions are awaiting to feed students with knowledge. The word of God speaks about the need and importance of getting an individual educated. Prov. 4:7 says: wisdom is supreme; therefore get wisdom. Though it costs all you have, get understanding'. The word of God gives us light and it should enlighten the life of our students. The teacher as guru receives this light from God and transmits to his /her pupils. As learners we should realize that God is the source of Sophia –wisdom and education starts off from God. May the divine wisdom purify our children and equip them for a meaningful life.

I thank God for the successful accomplishment of this year's VBS programme. The whole parish is grateful to our Sunday school department for providing our children three lively days packed with learning, fun, creativity and association. This year, VBS focussed on the theme-'Adventures on the promise Island'. 40 children learned the promises of God which gave them courage and power. It was a very creative and interactive time this year! I appreciate the Sunday School Director, VBS teachers, volunteers, parents and all others who lent their hands where it was needed.

Second Sunday of this month will be observed as Men's Sunday and the members of Men's Fellowship will lead the worship service. During biblical era and the history of the universal church, men were employed by God to cooperate with Him in the everlasting plan for His people. On many occasions, the Bible reveals the intention of God to designate men for His projects. The role and responsibility given to men in church is of leadership. It is to be implemented in love and with a good and caring outlook. May God help our men's Sunday to be an opportunity of commitment and service.

Bishop Dr. George Ninan will visit our church and will lead the Holy Communion service on September first Sunday. He hails from Kaviyoor Pastorate of Madhya Kerala Diocese and was the Bishop of Nasik Diocese of Church of North India. Presently, he ministers at the Episcopal Church in the United States. I am thankful to him for his support and prayer during the time of our crisis last year.

Let us continue our journey of faith with hope and prayer.

May God bless you all.

Yours in Christ

Shajiachen

VBS

Adventures on Promise Island

Pilgrim



Courage in God's service			
September 02 14th Sunday after Pentecost	Old Testament	Isaiah 43: 1-7	English Service Read by Mr. T. Mathew Chacko & family
	Psalm	71: 12-24	
	Epistle	Acts of the Apostles 4: 13-20	
	Gospel	Luke 12: 4-12	
Laity: Partakers of the suffering and the eternal glory of Christ			
September 09 15th Sunday after Pentecost <i>Men's Fellowship Sunday</i>	Old Testament	Isaiah 49: 5-18	Malayalam Service Read by Men's Fellowship members
	Psalm	18: 1-33	
	Epistle	1 Peter 5: 1-11	
	Gospel	John 16: 20-33	
Jesus the Guru			
September 16 16th Sunday after Pentecost	Old Testament	Proverbs 4: 1-19	English Service Read by Mr. & Mrs. Phil Z. Mathai
	Psalm	111	
	Epistle	Acts of the Apostles 22: 1-5	
	Gospel	Luke 4: 31-44	
Equipping local congregations in mission			
September 23 17th Sunday after Pentecost	Old Testament	Nehemiah 2: 11-18	Malayalam Service Read by Mr. Abraham P. George & family
	Psalm	100	
	Epistle	2 Timothy 4: 1-8	
	Gospel	Luke 24: 44-49	
The Aged: sharing wisdom and experience with the young			
September 30 18th Sunday after Pentecost	Old Testament	Joshua 23: 1-6	English Service Read by Mr. Benjamin Chacko & family
	Psalm	71	
	Epistle	1 Timothy 5: 1-10	
	Gospel	Luke 2: 25-35	

Report - VBS 2012

Raimole Joseph

The Vacation Bible School of our church was held from August 24-26th at our church premises. The theme selected for this year's VBS was 'Adventures on Promise Island'. These three days were the days of adventures on the promises of our Lord for a group of 39 students, 4 teachers and many volunteers.

The session for children started at 9.30 with a word of prayer by Achen. During these two days we followed a balanced schedule of 45 minutes periods of Bible classes, Craft work, Singing session and Games. Kids were divided into four groups based on their age. Pre school kids were led by Sangeeth Kochamma and assisted by Mr.Samuel Chacko, elementary kids by Mrs. Sheena Mathew, pre teens by Mrs. Mira Chacko and the teens by Mr. Philip Z Mathai & Mrs. Diani Mathai.

Kids had a wonderful time in singing and worshipping with Diani & Sam. Ms.Priya Abraham did a wonderful job in planning and coordinating the craft sessions. We are indeed blessed with vast open land surrounding our beautiful church building. Our youth team of Thomas Joseph, Akshay Koshy & Joshua Moothedom did a great job in keeping the kids busy with various sports and games activities.

The Promises the students studied during these two days were

(Continued on page 8)

BIRTHDAYS

01	Jacob M. John	02	Sarah M.John
07	Elizabeth Verghis	08	Priya Rachel Abraham
08	Toby Jacob	09	Ancy Jacob
13	Shiny Paul	13	Raj Hariharan
13	John Mathew	13	Tessly Chungath
14	Rachel Cherian	19	Rohit Mathew Oommen
21	Mathew Chacko	22	Eva Bose
24	Annika Cherian	28	Elizabeth Mathai
28	Suja Sara Koshy		

ANNIVERSARIES

10	Mathew Chacko & Meera Jacob
10	Selvarajan Thampy & Eva Bose
11	Prashanth Koshy & Sheena Mathew
16	Rennie Philip Joseph & Preetha
28	Aaron Fredrick & Mini Fredrick





Fasting Prayer

Our monthly fasting prayer will be held on September 1st 2012 Saturday at 10.00 AM. All are invited.

Bishop Rt. Rev. George Ninan

Bishop Rt. Rev. George Ninan is visiting Toronto and he will be leading our Sunday worship service on September 2nd 2012. All are invited

Cottage Prayer

Cottage Prayer for SHALOM Group (Scarborough, Richmond Hill, Markham Whitby) will be held on September 8th 2012 at 6.30 PM at Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Mathai's residence. All area members are invited.

Cottage prayer for JORDAN Group (Brampton Area) will be held on September 15th Saturday at 6.30 PM at the residence of Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Gajraj . All area members are invited.

Cottage Prayer for GILEAD Group (Mississauga, Toronto, Brantford, Stratford, London) will be held on September 22nd 2012 at 6.30 PM at Mr. & Mrs. Jacob Cherian's residence. All area members are invited.

Men's Sunday

Sunday September 9th will be observed as Men's Sunday. Our Men's fellowship members will be taking an active part in the worship service. Prof. Victor Sam will be preaching to us. He is the former principal of Bishop Moore College, Mavelikara.

Thanksgiving service & Harvest festival on October 14th 2012

Our this year's Thanksgiving and Harvest festival is scheduled for October 14th 2012. All our members are requested to attend this special day service. As a Church family we have lots to thank for . The Almighty God is so Good to us and guides us and provide us with all our needs.

This year also I request participation from our Sunday School children and Youth members for the Harvest festival.

Everybody's co-operation is greatly appreciated.

Back to Sunday School

Our Sunday School classes will resume after the summer break on Sunday, September 9th. All parents are requested to send their children for Sunday School.

The Executive Committee Members of the CSI Church, Toronto

President	Rev. Shaji M. Johnson	Men's Fellowship Director	Mr. Abraham P. George
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Sunday School Director	Mrs. Raimole Joseph		Mr. Benjamin Chacko

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1. I am with you
2. I care about you
3. I give you what you need
4. I will save you
5. I will answer you

We earnestly pray that the seeds planted in the young minds will be nurtured in the right way so that they may bear fruits in abundance.

This is the result of a team effort-many passionate volunteers worked tirelessly, many contributed generously and above all many prayed continuously. Thank you all and we believe your riches in heaven is manifold.

As we look back, most of us are the result of a VBS or a Sunday School ministry. So the time, effort, money we spent here will never go in vain.

Thank you