



The Official Monthly Newsletter of CSI Church, Toronto

Pilgrim

Volume 26 Issue 7

JULY 2026



2026 Motto

"Thus far the Lord has helped us" - I Samuel 7:12(b)

“ഇത്രത്തോളം യഹോവ നമ്മെ സഹായിച്ചു” I ശമുവേൽ 7: 12 (b)

July 4 - Youth Picnic

July 11 - Anglican Cricket Tournament

July 18 - KCEF St Thomas Day

July 26 - Half-yearly General Body Meeting

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Pilgrim

JULY 2026

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Editorial

Pilgrims led by Christ.

God created everything with definite purpose, structure, and timing. We know when the day turns into night and when the seasons change, but none of us know the length of our days in this earthly life. This great unknown also reveals a deep truth, that we are nothing but pilgrims sojourning the earth for a time. We came from God and from the moment of our birth we are all on a path to make our way back to Him. So then, what is life on earth for?

The word 'pilgrim' gives us a clue. By definition, a pilgrim is someone who undertakes a long, often difficult journey to a sacred or deeply meaningful place, or anyone traveling through an unknown land with a purpose. The root word is the Latin *peregrinus*, which translates simply to 'a foreigner' or 'a traveler through from abroad'. So, let us be reminded that we are only passing through, and no one or anything we have on earth is ours to keep. Yet life is not an aimless and pointless journey because as Christians we are shepherded by our Lord who lived on earth before us and experienced the vulnerabilities of human life - hunger, thirst, grief, tears, deception and ultimately death. Jesus moved among the crowds and fostered deep friendships much like we do. His ministry unfolded through His walk with people and in fact every miracle performed was to meet a human need whether it was to feed the masses, heal an infirmity or bring hope and transformation to a life situation. Jesus' resurrection defeated death - the ultimate snare of life - and showed us clearly and practically that joys and victories coexist with struggles and sorrows and that is often where our life's purpose unfolds.

Times of great tribulation or unexpected grief in our life or in the lives of people we know can affect us deeply and leave us feeling perplexed, somewhat fearful and confused. But we are not called to live with trepidation, as this life is not the way we will be for eternity. Faith in Christ is our assurance of eternity, and we are called to be of good cheer as He has overcome the world (John 16:33). However, this is only possible in Christ's strength, not with more of our own or someone else's strength. Let us then refocus, so that we do everything in dependence on Christ and live daily with eternity in mind.

Reshma George
Editor

Achen's Message



Dearly Beloved in Christ

Greetings in the name of our risen Christ!

We are entering into another month in 2026. Half of the year has passed since we started this year with a lot of dreams and expectation. When we look back, we are blessed with many things, and even though we have gone through adversity in the past, still we are living with hope.

Lin Yutang, a Chinese writer and philosopher wrote that, "Hope is like a road in the country; there was never a road, but when many people walk on it, the road comes into existence."

A beautiful story is told of a man returning home after a long day of labour who had to pass a river which was very scary as it had a lot of whirlwinds and dips. When he entered the boat, the ferryman asked only one question "Do you know swimming?" "No," the man replied. Unfortunately, the boat sank. The ferryman swam to the shore in a hurry to save his own life, although he was worried about his traveller. But when he reached the shore, the man who did not know how to swim, had made it through. The ferryman felt more anger than a sense of relief and asked why he lied? The man replied, "No I did not. I was drowning, but in my bag was what had been saving for my family for a long time, but the dream of a small house would sink with me. So, I wanted to get back to them and reached for the shore with one hand." It is a story to remember whenever we feel hopelessness.

If hope is removed from the Bible, what page is left of it? One cries out in afflictions and tragedies, but his/her inner mind cries that this is not the end. Our God is a God of hope. Even though Cain sinned, we see a God who seals his body so that no one would kill him (Genesis 4:15), and God makes a rainbow covenant in seven colours after the flood, saying, "The earth will not be destroyed by water anymore" (Genesis 9:11-13). We have the rainbow of hope in our mind when we go through the valley of tears. Let us rely on the God of hope. Psalm 146:5-6 says, "Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God, who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever." Let us walk in the road of hope.

During the month of July, we observe some important Sundays as per the church calendar - Stewardship Sunday, Theological education Sunday, Sunday of the Ordained ministry. We are all sent into this world with a distinct mission to express God's love through our lives. To fulfill this purpose, the Master has entrusted us with numerous abilities and talents. On Stewardship Sunday, we reflect on the appropriate use of our God-given talents and capabilities. Let us have the courage to follow in the footsteps of Jesus as we fulfill our God-given responsibilities to improve this world for all.

In our contemporary society, theological education and ordained ministry require special attention and care, as ministers and their ministries have faced significant criticism and are currently under scrutiny from both believers and the broader community. The aim of theological education should be to prepare ministers to teach and interpret the Word in a way that is relevant to their congregations and assists them in applying it effectively in their lives. To achieve this, theological students and educators must be guided by the Holy Spirit, ensuring that ministers remain faithful and dedicated in their service, and that their preaching, teaching, and witnessing are impactful within their congregations.

May the God of Hope give you strength and courage.

Yours in Christ
SoorajAchen



Intercessory Prayer Cell Fellowship

The Intercessory Prayer Cell Fellowship will take place every Thursday from 10:00am to 12:00 noon in the church sanctuary. Please join the fellowship through the church Zoom line.

Youth Picnic

The Youth picnic will be held on Saturday, July 4, 2026 at The Hinder Area, 44 Don River Blvd, Toronto ON M2N 2M8. For further details please connect with Joshua George, Youth Director.

Anglican Cricket Tournament

The CSI Church Toronto Cricket team will be participating in the Cricket Fest hosted by The Anglican Diocese of Toronto on Saturday, July 11, 2026. For further details please connect with Febin Varkey Mathews, Men's Fellowship Director.

Monthly Board of Directors Meeting

The monthly board meeting will be held on Sunday, July 12, 2026, immediately after the social hour.

Youth Fellowship 30-Hour Fast

The Youth Fellowship will be holding a 30-hour fast over July 17-18, 2026. For more details please contact Joshua George, Youth Director.

St Thomas Day

CSI Church Toronto will be host to St. Thomas Day, organised by KCEF on Saturday, July 18, 2026, from 4pm to 6pm at CSI Church Toronto, 1315 Kipling Avenue, Etobicoke, ON M9B 3N7.

Youth Fellowship Bible Study

The Youth Fellowship Bible study will be held on Sunday, July 19, 2026, immediately after the social hour. For further details please connect with Joshua George, Youth Director.

Half-Yearly General Body Meeting

The Half-Yearly General Body Meeting will be held on Sunday, July 26, 2026, immediately after worship service. The meeting agenda will be announced later.

Cottage Prayer Meetings:

- **Gilead Area Prayer:** All Gilead area prayer group members are invited for the Memorial Service of late Mr. Mohan Philip on July 25, 2026, Saturday at 4:00pm at our church.
- **Shalom Area Prayer:** This area prayer will be hosted by Mr. Mathew George and Mrs. Susan Mathew on July 26, 2026 at 6.30pm at their residence (28 Coral Harbor Cres., Thornhill, ON L3T 2Z7).
- **Jordan Area Prayer:** No prayer meeting scheduled.



July 5, 2026 Stewardship Sunday	Work as Worship: Honoring God in Our Professions		
	Old Testament	Exodus 31:1-11	English Service
	Psalm	104:1-24	Read by
	Epistle	Colossians 3:22-25	Maneesh Manikuttan Sheeja, John Mathew & Shalini Enoch
	Gospel	Luke 17:7-10	
July 12, 2026 Theological Education Sunday	Theological Education: To Make the Church a Learning Community		
	Old Testament	Nehemiah 8:1-12	Malayalam Service
	Psalm	1	Read by
	Epistle	I Corinthians 14:20-23	Ashwin Jose & Family
	Gospel	Matthew 13:16-23	
July 19, 2026 7th Week after Pentecost	Ordained Ministry: Call to Serve not for Glory		
	Old Testament	Jeremiah 1:4-10	English Service
	Psalm	132	Read by
	Epistle	I Peter 5:1-4	Daniel Thomas & Family
	Gospel	Matthew 20:20-28	
July 26, 2026 8th Week after Pentecost	Marriage: Celebration of Unity and Partnership		
	Old Testament	Ecclesiastes 4:9-12	Malayalam Service
	Psalm	128	Read by
	Epistle	Ephesians 5:21-33	Suby Mathew & Family
	Gospel	Matthew 19:4-6	

August 2, 2026 Laity Sunday	Christ who Restores		
	Old Testament	Ezekiel 36:22-31	English Service
	Psalm	23	Read by
	Epistle	I Peter 5:6-11	Jeferson Sam & Family
	Gospel	John 21:15-19	

Receiving invitations to the 31st CSI North American Family & Youth Conference from
Rev. Sherwin Doss, Vicar CSI Church, Dallas, Texas.





BIRTHDAYS

1	Asha Kurien	7	Vishnu Vijaykumar
1	Amith John	8	Shalin Jacob
1	Sachin Abraham Varghese	10	Rajitha Jinoj
2	Jijo Daniel	10	Sarah Abraham
2	Reenu Susan Varghese	10	Ishana Miriam Jeffin
3	Bishan Ghosh	11	Anna Esther Samuel
4	Angelina Victor Philip	12	Joshua George
4	Rejy Elizabeth	12	Habel Jacob Kingson
4	Siji Joseph	13	Adira Senen Onteru
5	Jovin Mathews	13	Teena Merin Mathew
5	Sini Pramod	14	Shibu Paul Pulikaparambil
5	Ajay Thomas	14	Zacharia Mathew
5	George John Philip	15	Sumin George
5	Maneesh Manikuttan Sheeja	16	Mridul Mathew Kuruvilla
5	Luca Sunny Cijo	18	Nathan Abraham
6	Saurang Thampy Puthenkulangara	19	Aleyamma Jacob
6	Dan Russel	19	Shanto Sydney
7	Ajoy Lionel	19	Sheno Sydney
7	Sneha Thomas	22	Manu Pothen
7	Issac Job Stanly	23	Christopher Johnson Moothedom



BIRTHDAYS

25	Selva Kumari	28	Tijin John Cheriyan
25	Bino Oommen Samuel	28	Ashley Jeji George
25	Jish John Varghese	29	Vijish Vijayakumar
26	Jevin Koshy	30	Thankaraj Rajeni Sobana
26	Steffy Jenson	30	Sandra Samuel
28	Jonathan Koshy Zac	30	Nithin Chemmanoor
28	Sneha John	31	Anushka Aley Abraham

ANNIVERSARIES

1	Prem Narayan & Reshma Maria George
5	Rohit Thomas Koshy & Preethi Elsa Thomas
7	Michael Prince Mahendran & Reshmi Chandy
9	Suraj Saju & Christina Mary Aby
10	Shekin Modayil Eapen & Aneetta Mariam George
14	Siby Jacob & Ancy Jacob
14	Ashwin Joe Varghese & Ajisha George
14	Abel David & Jenny Mathews
16	Daniel Thomas & Mariamma Thomas
19	Suby Mathews & Ruby Mathews
20	Ashley Jeji George & Divya Wilson
21	Jeferson Sam & Shona Sam
29	Jithun Thomas Varghese & Sonia Johnson Thomas



Sunday School Anniversary





Sunday School Anniversary



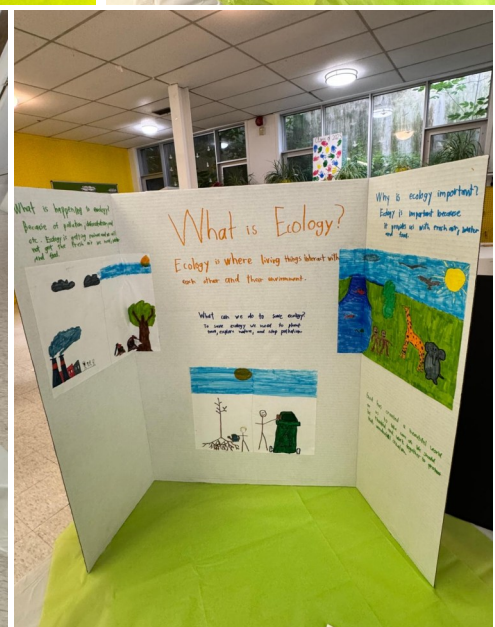
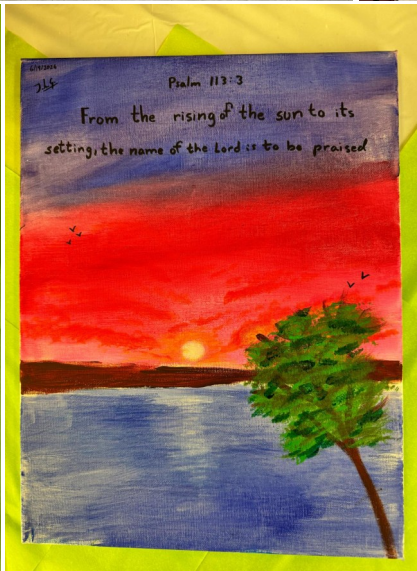


Sunday School Anniversary



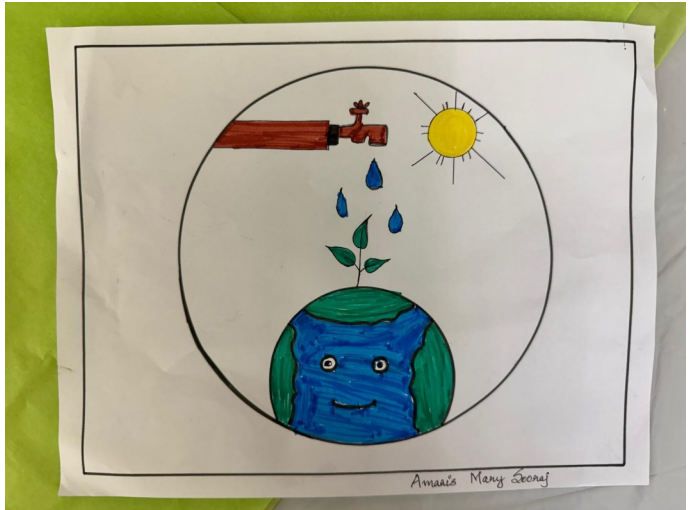
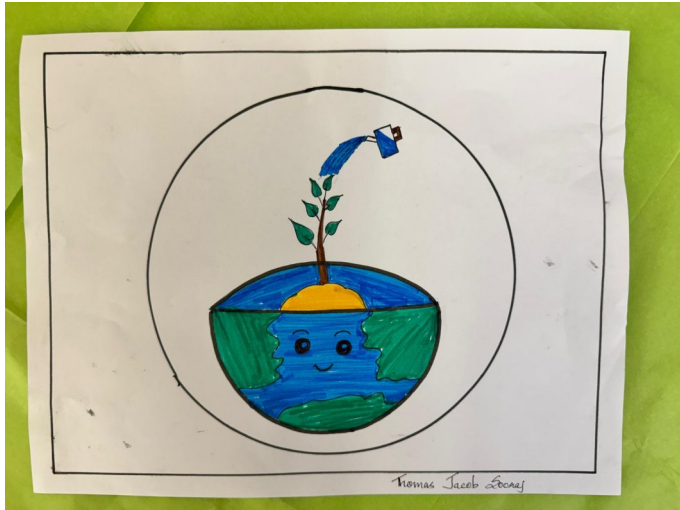


Ecology Sunday





Ecology Sunday







Women's Fellowship Retreat



Women's Fellowship Retreat



PIC•COLLAGE

Missions Team —Tree Planting



**The Executive Committee Members of CSI Church, Toronto**

President	Rev. Sooraj Paulose Thomas		
Vice-President / Rector's Warden	Mr. Santhosh Cherian	Secretary / People's Warden	Mr. Abraham K Varghese
Joint Secretary / Trustee	Mr. Joby Paul Mathew	Treasurer	Mr. Samuel Anselm Samuel
Joint Treasurer / Trustee	Mr. Shijo Perumannoor John	Sunday School Director	Mrs. Ani Chacko
Choir Director	Mr. Jefin Mathews	Men's Fellowship Director	Mr. Febin Varkey Mathews
Women's Fellowship Director	Mrs. Asha Susan Joy	Youth Fellowship Director	Mr. Joshua George
Mission Director	Mr. Joshua Moothedom	Public Relations Director	Mr. Calvin Jacob
Social & Recreational Director	Mr. Ashley Jeji George	Malayala Lokam Director	Mrs. Stephamol S.S

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- If you wish to be included in the parish e-mail list to receive special notices, please e-mail the Secretary at secretary@csichurchtoronto.org

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