



The Official Monthly Newsletter of CSI Church, Toronto

# Pilgrim

Volume 23 Issue 7

JULY 2023



## 2023 Motto

**“A new command I give you: Love one another as I have loved you”**

നിങ്ങൾ തമ്മിൽ തമ്മിൽ സ്നേഹിക്കണം എന്നു പുതിയൊരു കല്പന ഞാൻ  
നിങ്ങൾക്ക് തരുന്നു

*John 13:34*

**Half-yearly General Body Meeting  
— Sunday, July 23**

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# Pilgrim

**JULY 2023**

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## Editorial

Let love win!

Measuring subjective things like love, happiness and contentment is not easy, and yet summer is unarguably a time when people are the happiest. But like everything in life there is always a flip side to the best of things. Summers can also be a stressful time as there are often more things around us to do and experience than we have time and resources for. Family vacations are much needed and a great way to build lasting memories together but trying to make everyone happy can often lead to butting of heads. Vacations can sometimes end up being a race for perfection, and we often push ourselves and our families to the picture perfect image that social media will relish. There's nothing wrong with wanting to be better or look better, but it's perhaps the motivations for it that need assessing. Ultimately, anything that divides a family is just not worth it! If we are honest with ourselves I think we will agree that most of the impatience we exhibit with others can often be traced back to irritation with ourselves for not fitting the ideal images and standards we hold ourselves to.

There are over 1,500 references to family in the Bible including instructions on how to treat our partners, children, how to parent, etc. It would seem that we should instinctively know how to do this correctly but given the extent of instruction in the Bible, I'm sure that even in Biblical times families struggled with each other and experienced some of the same challenges we may be facing today. It also seems ironic that despite these difficulties God intends for us to live in families, and not be lonely and isolated (Psalm 68:6). This is quite contrary to the self-centeredness that dominates world cultures today, but then again the Bible is often starkly juxtaposed to popular culture.

In this context I think what we need most is the discernment to accept that we are not created as perfect people so therefore we should not expect any level of perfection from our partners, children or anyone else. We are better off learning to bank on God's free gifts of mercy and grace shown to us as individuals, and choose to act in love, tolerance and patience with others, rather than being stubborn, argumentative and resentful. The cross of Christ stands as an eternal symbol of selfless love in a world permeated by discord and all kinds of evil. Each of us by the power of that cross can practice selfless love in our own spheres of life and influence, and find harmony and joy in our families that goes beyond just a vacation together.

Wishing everyone restful, safe and enjoyable summer!

Reshma George  
Editor

## Achen's Message



Dearly Beloved in Christ,

As we are in the month of July, I hope you all are in good health and spirits. With summer in full swing, it's time for many of us to take a well-deserved break and spend quality time with our loved ones. I encourage you to consider this vacation season as a time of rest, rejuvenation, and spiritual reflection. Let us remember to cherish the moments of relaxation and create lasting memories with our families.

We will observe the first Sunday of this month as Stewardship Sunday. This day gives us an opportunity to reflect on the blessings we have received and consider how we can further contribute to our church and community. Let us approach this day with gratitude in our hearts and a willingness to offer our time, talents and treasures for the benefit of the Kingdom of God. Let us join our hands as true stewards and work together to make difference in our surroundings.

In the month of July, we will also focus on the theme of marriage. Marriage is a sacred union that symbolizes God's love and commitment. It is a bond that requires nurturing, understanding, and constant effort from both partners. As we reflect on the significance of marriage, let us celebrate the beauty of this institution and remember to uphold the values of love, respect, and forgiveness. I encourage you to explore resources and ways that can help to strengthen and enrich your married life.

We also observe theological education Sunday and the Sunday of the ordained ministry in the month of July. This is a critical ministry as it equips individuals with the intellectual, spiritual, and practical tools needed to navigate the complexities of our world. These individuals go out into the world and inspire and guide communities of faith, fostering empathy, compassion, and moral discernment. Amidst challenges of our times, theological education and ordained ministry offer a ray of hope for the transformation of individuals, communities, and society.

May the blessings of this season of warmth be upon you and your families. May your stewardship bring abundant blessings to our community. May the reflections on marriage strengthen your relationships and may the call for ordained ministry inspire you to live for His glory.

With warm regards,

Binu Achan

<b>02 July 2023</b> <b>Stewardship Sunday</b>	<b>Stewardship: Responsible Resource Management</b>		
	Old Testament	Exodus 18:13-27	<b>English Service</b>
	Psalm	147: 1- 11	Read by
	Epistle	2 Corinthians 8 :1-15	<b>Samuel Anselm Samuel &amp; Family</b>
	Gospel	Matthew 25:14 -30	
<b>09 July 2023</b> <b>6th Sunday after Pentecost</b>	<b>Equipping the People of God</b>		
	Old Testament	Deuteronomy 6:1- 17	<b>Malayalam Service</b>
	Psalm	119: 89 - 104	Read by
	Epistle	Ephesians 4: 7- 16	<b>Ajoy Leonel &amp; family</b>
	Gospel	Mathew 7: 24-29	
<b>16 July 2023</b> <b>7th Sunday after Pentecost</b>	<b>People of God: Ambassadors of Christ</b>		
	Old Testament	Joshua 1: 1-9	<b>English Service</b>
	Psalm	18: 1-6, 20-30	Read by
	Epistle	2 Corinthians 5:16 – 6:10	<b>Siby Jacob &amp; Family</b>
	Gospel	Mark 6:7 -13	
<b>23 July 2023 8th</b> <b>Sunday After Pentecost</b>	<b>Transformed to Transform</b>		
	Old Testament	Ezekiel 33:1-9	<b>Malayalam Service</b>
	Psalm	99	Read by
	Epistle	1 Timothy 3: 1-13	<b>Jefferson Sam &amp; family</b>
	Gospel	John 21: 15- 19	

Marriage: Celebration of Covenant			
<b>30 July 2023</b> <b>9th Sunday After Pentecost</b>	Old Testament	Genesis 2:18-25	<b>Malayalam Service</b>
	Psalm	127	Read by
	Epistle	Hebrews 13:1-6	<b>Jijo Abraham &amp; Family</b>
	Gospel	Matthew 19:3-6	



### Half yearly general body meeting

The half yearly general body meeting of our church will be held on July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023 immediately after the worship service.

### Board Meeting

An in-person meeting of the board will be held on Sunday, July 09, 2023, at 1:00 pm .

### Cottage Prayer Meetings

- **Jordan** area prayer will be held on **Saturday, July 22, 2023, at 7:00 PM**. This **virtual** prayer meeting will be hosted by Mr. Shijo Perumannoor John and Ms. Donna Deena Varughese.

If you wish to be included in the parish e-mail list to receive special notices, please send your e-mail ID to the Secretary at [secretary@csichurchtoronto.org](mailto:secretary@csichurchtoronto.org)



**BIRTHDAYS**

03	Bishan Ghosh	11	Anna Esther Samuel
04	Angelina Victor Philip	12	Joshua George
04	Rejy Elizabeth	12	Habel Jacob Kingson
04	Siji Joseph	14	Shibu Paul Pulikaparambil
04	Premax Christudas Prema Persis	14	Rabina Leethiyal
05	Mohan Philip	15	Sumin George
05	Jovin Mathews	15	Ayaan Vivek
05	Dhyan Vivek	16	Mridul Mathew Kuruvilla
05	Sini Pramod	18	Nathan Abraham
05	Ajay Thomas	19	Aleyamma Jacob
05	George John Philip	19	Shanto Sydney
05	Maneesh Manikuttan Sheeja	19	Sheno Sydney
06	Saurang P. Thampy	22	Manu Pothen
07	Ajoy Lional	23	Narmada Malayattil Jayan
07	Sneha Thomas	23	Christopher Johnson Moothedom
08	Shalin Jacob	25	Selva Kumari
09	Darshan John Binu	25	Bino Oommen Samuel
10	Rajitha Jinoj	25	Jish John Varghese
10	Sarah Abraham	26	Jevin Koshy
10	Ishana Miriam Jeffin	26	Steffy Jenson
10	Jaaziel Wesly Samuel	28	Sneha John



### BIRTHDAYS

28	Tijin John Cheriyan	30	Thankaraj Rajeni Sobana
28	Ashley Jeji George	30	Sandra Samuel
29	Vijish Vijayakumar	31	Anushka Aley Abraham
30	Nithin Chemmanoor		

### ANNIVERSARIES

01	Prem Narayan & Reshma Maria George
14	Siby Jacob & Ancy Jacob
14	Ashwin Joe Varghese & Ajisha George
14	Abel David & Jenny Mathews
16	Daniel Thomas & Mariamma Thomas
17	Ruby Mathews & Suby Mathews
21	Jefferson Sam & Shona Sam

## Another Men's Fellowship Annual Fishing Event: A Splendid Day of Fellowship and Fun!

Dear Church Community,

As the Men's Fellowship director, I am thrilled to share with you the incredible success of our recent annual Men's Fishing Event held on June 10<sup>th</sup> at WaterLily Retreats, Roseneath. As usual, this event was a true testament to the vibrant spirit and unity within our church community. Nearly 65 men came together for a day filled with laughter, friendship, and delightful activities.

The event kicked off with a song by the participants and a word of prayer by Binu Achen. From early morning gathering at the picturesque fishing spot at Rice Lake, excitement filled the air as the men showcased their angling skills in the tranquil waters. Besides fishing, our event offered a diverse range of activities that gave opportunity for our members to bond over. A warm welcome was extended to newcomers, our senior members, brothers from the youth group and guests. The day progressed with engaging Biblical games, fun games, pool games and sports, where our men reveled in friendly rivalries and showcased their athletic competence. Games, music, and dance infused the day with liveliness, laughter and celebration as members cheered on their teammates.

No gathering is complete without a delicious feast, and our Men's' Fishing Event did not disappoint. We had a variety of refreshments, snacks and meals including a traditional Kerala lunch and kappa and fish curry for supper. The event concluded with a prayer by Binu Achen.

My heartfelt appreciation goes out to the dedicated volunteers who worked tirelessly to ensure the success of this event. I extend gratitude to all the men who participated, bringing their energy, enthusiasm and positive spirits to the event thereby making this day truly remarkable, and strengthening the bonds of brotherhood within our church family.

On behalf of the Men's Fellowship, we express our deepest gratitude to God for blessing us with a joyous and memorable event, and to Binu Achen for his unwavering support and active participation in this annual event. Achen's vibrant presence and enthusiastic involvement in all activities truly made a significant impact on the success of the event.

I am immensely proud of the fellowship and unity displayed during the event. Let us carry this spirit into our daily lives, supporting and uplifting one another as we continue to grow in faith and fellowship. I eagerly look forward to future events that will provide us with more opportunities for collaboration and enjoyment.

Blessings to all,

Varghese John  
Men's Fellowship Director







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

<b>President</b>	Rev. Binu Philip		
<b>Vice-President / Rector's Warden</b>	Mr. Zac Santhosh Koshy	<b>Secretary / People's Warden</b>	Abraham K Varghese
<b>Joint Secretary / Trustee</b>	Joby Mathew	<b>Treasurer</b>	Mr. Betson Abraham Mathew
<b>Joint Treasurer / Trustee</b>	Mr. Shijo Perumannoor John	<b>Sunday School Director</b>	Mrs. Beena Annet Hans Thomas
<b>Choir Director</b>	Mr. Chris George	<b>Men's Fellowship Director</b>	Mr. Varghese V John
<b>Women's Fellowship Director</b>	Mrs. Binssy Mathew	<b>Youth Fellowship Director</b>	Mr. John Cheriyan Mathew
<b>Mission Director</b>	Mr. Christopher Moothedom	<b>Public Relations Director</b>	Rijo George Cherian
<b>Social &amp; Recreational Director</b>	Mr. Jacob P. John	<b>Malayala Lokam Director</b>	Mrs. Eva Bose