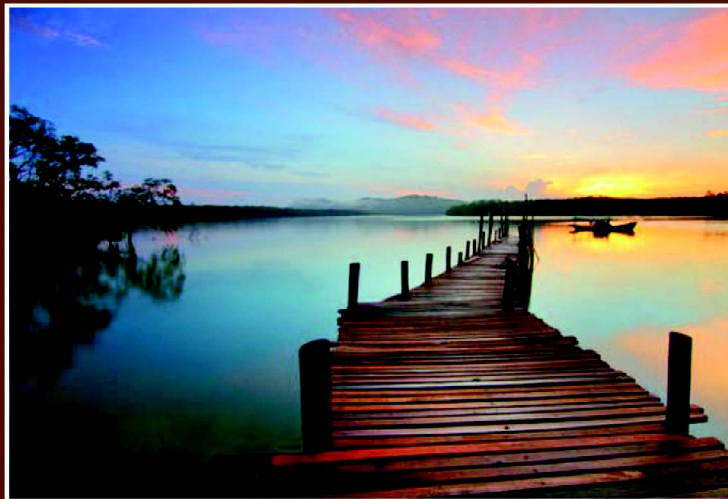


Kirkspire



Hebrews 10:23

AUGUST 2018

CONTENTS

Word from the Pastor - <i>Rev. Isaac Johnson</i>	3
A Cry for a Friend - in a lonely world - <i>Usha George</i>	5
Health Hazards of Air Pollution - <i>Rajini Kantha Narendranath</i>	7
Answers to Bible Quiz No. 90	
Bible Quiz No.90 - <i>Usha George</i>	8
Kirk Project Carnival – 2018 – An Amazing God at Work!	9
John's Corner - <i>John H. Bala Singh</i>	10
Our experience with the Truth - KYF Youth Sunday Report - <i>Adarsh Jacob</i>	11
Purpose of Life - Part 12 - <i>M M Narendranath</i>	13
Bible Quiz No. 91 - <i>Usha George</i>	15
Selflessness Versus Selfishness - <i>Snehalatha Bright</i>	16
Kirk News	17

"Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful." (Hebrews 10:23)

Editor : Mrs. R. Chandy

WORD FROM THE PASTOR



Only when our greatest love is God, a love that we cannot lose even in death, can we face all things with peace. Grief was not to be eliminated but seasoned and buoyed up with love and hope. - John Piper

Anyone can talk about life, its challenges and their solutions. But no one can assure of a certain glorious end and at the end of all problems. What good will it do to have a life of pleasures, joy and elation if there is no guarantee of lasting happiness beyond the grave. Some of you might have heard me quote the song sung by Mark Lowry called, 'First Class, Wrong Flight'. It's a small song that carries a very valuable lesson about how one needs to know of the destination. How horrible it will be for anyone to travel first class/business class and end up in the wrong destination.

The words of Jesus, as recorded in John 10:10, are "I have come that they may life and life abundantly". The same Jesus when He was hanging on the cross said "Father, into your hands, I commit my spirit". (Luke 23:46). Jesus was sure about death because He knew what will come thereafter.

I hope in God because:

1. He is my Creator, Designer and Master

Psalm 139:14 says 'I am fearfully and wonderfully made'. In all details in my life, for what He has given and what He has withheld individually in each of our lives, there is a purpose. When we realise that He is the grand architect and I know that He is smarter, stronger and safer to trust, I put my life in His hands.

2. He is Sovereign even in the face of death

Psalm 23:4 reads, 'Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me. Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me'. I spoke on this verse on August 1st in our morning Communion service. I was particularly encouraged by the fact that

God is with me. He is not a God who gives me tools and talents to live and leave me on my own. He is God with me; my Emmanuel, Jehovah Shammah (Ezekiel 48:35). My greatest pillar of hope is not the promise of God or the provision of God. My greatest point of hope and courage is the Presence of God.

3. He works on my eternity in my present

In July, we heard tragic news of the passing away of our loved ones in the church. It is heart wrenching when you hear of them. But the Bible says that in Christ, there is hope even in the face of death. Proverbs 14:32 says, '...even in death, the righteous seek refuge in God.' 1 Thessalonians 4:12 reads, 'Brethren, we do not want you to be ignorant like others and grieve like those who don't have any hope'. If Jesus died and He did, if Jesus rose from the dead and He did, then we too having a living hope. It is not only that we will have eternal life in heaven, we will be like Jesus and with Jesus. Therefore, even death is not a worst-case scenario.

If one can entrust the design and construction of the house, what's the worst that can happen. The loss can be counted in terms of money. If one entrusts his health decisions to the wisdom of medical experts and things take a turn for the worse, the loss is counted in terms of health challenges. But when one entrusts his eternal soul to the wisdom of the world, there is an eternal consequence. No one who put their hope in the Lord will ever be put to shame. (Psalm 25:3) Trust in the Lord and don't despair for He is a friend so true. No matter what the troubles are, Jesus will see you through.

Have a blessed month of walking with Christ and walking for Christ.

Rev. Isaac Johnson

A Cry for a Friend – in a lonely world

“Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work: If one falls down, his friend can help him up...” Ecclesiastes 4:9-10.

All of us need to know that we are loved, needed and accepted. Our Creator has designed us in such a way that it is important for us to have emotional, mental, physical and spiritual support. We need friends at all times to stand ‘side by side, face to face, and back to back to beat the enemy’.

The skit presented by KYF on Youth Sunday unravelled a crazy world searching for sense and meaning, found only in a personal relationship with our Lord Jesus. The skit revealed moments of true, selfless friendship when in a desperate and tense examination situation, an equally stressed out student willingly helps to clarify his friend's doubts. We learn afresh that two acting together are better than a self-centred individual. The skit was revealing and a good lesson for all of us. May our Youth motivate each other to reap a rich harvest for the Lord.

Friendship needs to be based on Biblical principles. David and Jonathan spring to mind. Here is a classic example of a friendship with hardly a parallel in scripture or human history. Jonathan, a prince, heir to throne of Israel and David, a lowly shepherd boy from Bethlehem. Jonathan viewed David without a cloud of envy and recognised in him the capacity to reign as a great king. There is absolute nobility in this friendship.

When apostle Paul was locked in a damp Roman dungeon his heart was greatly warmed by the friendship and visits of Onesiphorus. “He often refreshed me, and was not ashamed of my chains” 2 Tim. 1:16.

We as human beings have the same needs and longings, hopes and despairs. Jesus made the boundaries of love and friendship so wide that they included all men. Nearly every day we meet people who face harsh and grating problems. In the Spirit of Jesus let us try and lubricate their lives. Just a word of encouragement, a small act of caring, could restore their hope.

At the final Passover celebration, Jesus did the unthinkable. Their

Messiah and Friend washed their dirty and dusty feet, the most menial household task. This is "Calvary love" which we can never, ever fathom. But with Jesus we will enjoy a divine three-fold bond in all our friendships.

Filled with the Holy Spirit of God may we be able to bestow on all our friendships the "crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair" Isaiah 61:3.

Let us paddle our lifeboat toward this enduring gift of friendship.

Usha George



If I belittle those whom I am called to serve, talk of their weak points in contrast perhaps with what I think of as my strong points; if I adopt a superior attitude, forgetting "who made thee to differ? and what hast thou that thou hast not received?" then I know nothing of Calvary love."

If I can enjoy a joke at the expense of another; if I can in any way slight another in conversation, or even in thought, then I know nothing of Calvary love.

If I can write an unkind letter, speak an unkind word, think an unkind thought without grief and shame, then I know nothing of Calvary love.

If, in dealing with one who does not respond, I weary of the strain, and slip from under the burden, then I know nothing of Calvary love.

If I can hurt another by speaking faithfully without much preparation of spirit, and without hurting myself far more than I hurt that other, then I know nothing of Calvary love.

"If I am afraid to speak the truth lest I lose affection, or lest the one concerned should say, "You do not understand", or because I fear to lose my reputation for kindness; if I put my own good name before the other's highest good, then I know nothing of Calvary love."

Excerpts from 'IF' by Amy Carmichael

Health Hazards of Air Pollution



“Doctors treat, but Jesus heals”

The World Health Organization (WHO) reports that 2.4 million people die each year from causes directly related to air pollution. This includes both outdoor and indoor air pollution.

Main causes of air pollution

Emissions from different transport modes, the burning of fossil fuels, industrial production, forest fires, aerosol use and radiation, are some of the main causes of air pollution. Such sources of emissions liberate gases and substances that are toxic for human beings.

Fine air particles can accumulate in the lungs

We can divide pollutants into two types:

1. Gas pollutants (e.g. carbon monoxide, sulphur dioxide, etc.) and
2. Particles in the air

Broadly speaking, gas pollutants can be detrimental to our health as they take part in gas exchange during each breath we take. However, they are not retained in the body and are excreted. Particles in the air are another story. While the bigger particles are filtered by the respiratory tract, the finer particles are deposited in our lungs and may build up over a prolonged period. Such prolonged exposure to pollution can lead to the onset of chronic lung diseases.

Respiratory system disorders are directly related to air pollution. These disorders have severe effects on human health, some leading to death. Air pollution related respiratory disorders include asthma, bronchitis, and emphysema. Asthma is a respiratory disorder characterized by wheezing, coughing, and a feeling of constriction in the chest. Bronchitis is inflammation of the membrane lining of the bronchial tubes of the lungs. Emphysema is a deadly lung disease characterized by abnormal enlargement of air spaces in the lungs and destruction of the lung tissue. Air pollutants can cause an increase in cancer including lung cancer, eye problems, and respiratory allergies. Air pollution can lead to heart disease, including heart attack and stroke. Smog is a low-hanging, fog-like cloud that seems to never leave the city. Smog is caused by coal burning and by ozone produced by motor vehicle exhaust. Smog can cause eye irritation and respiratory problems.

Ways to protect yourself

There are steps you can take to decrease your exposure to indoor air pollution, such as having carbon monoxide detectors in your home and keeping your home as clean as possible from pet dander, dust, dust mites, and mold. In many cities around the world, the air quality is so poor that people are often told to stay indoors when possible. Lowering exposure to air pollutants with a face mask which can catch the smallest particles is especially important for people with existing heart or lung conditions. Look for filters that contain an electro-static charge, which can trap fine dust and particles below 0.3 microns. As for inside your home, using an air conditioner may help remove air pollutants. Stand-alone HEPA air cleaners can also be considered. The best ones are those equipped with True HEPA filters, which can capture high proportions of very small particles.

Dr. Rajini Kantha



Answers to Bible Quiz No. 90 (July 2018)

The answers are :

1. Eagles - Isaiah 40 : 31
2. Ravens - 1 Kings 17 : 4
3. Sparrow - swallow - Psalm 84 : 3
4. Hawk - Job 39 : 26
5. Vulture / Fowl - Job 28 : 7
6. Pelican - owl - Psalm 102 : 8
7. Stork - Jeremiah 8 : 7
8. Peacock - ostrich - Job 29 : 13
9. Cormorant - bittern - Zephaniah 2 : 14
10. Crane - swallow - dove - Isaiah 38 : 14

The winners are:

Mr. Jayapal .K

Mr. I. Abraham

Mrs. Indira Rajanayakam

Ms. Minnie Devadoss

Mrs. Peace Rani Sudhakar

Mrs. Snehalatha Bright

Mrs. Victoria Basker

Hearty congratulations!

Usha George

*Youth Sunday - 9am service,
15th July.*



Carnival 2018 - 8th July



Kark Women's Fellowship Retreat - 21st July - SALLC hall



St. Andrews Kirk Project Carnival – 2018 – An Amazing God at Work!

The Projects Carnival of St. Andrews Kirk was held on 8th July in aid of its outreach missions. The event was prayerfully planned, put-together and well-attended by the abounding grace of God. It was an incredible opportunity to witness God's power at work in our midst. The many answered prayers that covered even the minutest of details testify to God's goodness and faithfulness. We praise and thank God for the blessing of favorable weather, good participation, safety and protection of all in the campus and much more that happened throughout the event.

Pastor Isaac Johnson declared open the 'Project Carnival Sale' with prayer at 10.30 am after the 9.00 Worship Service. Many visitors from other churches participated in the sale that was held for over 3 hours till lunch time. It served as a great opportunity to fellowship leisurely with family and friends over a delectable spread of goodies, games, delicious flavorsome takeaway biriyani and interesting gift-items that were made available at the stalls. The support, involvement, eager participation and creative sale-items of all stall holders contributed largely to the fun-fellowship environment.

The Carnival saw the coming-together of representatives/volunteers from all age-groups within the congregation, who coordinated to offer their time and resources, all for the cause of missions. The resources rallied in by enthusiastic volunteers of Men's Fellowship, culinary experts of Women's Fellowship, budding musicians of Sunday school and helpful KYF members need special mention here for it made this event both enjoyable and purposeful. Colet Selwyn's incredible bass number thrilled the audience, while Elvis enriched the event with his gospel country music & personal testimony.

The event that began well with great excitement and expectation concluded with much praises and thanks to God. All participants of the Carnival's planning, preparation and implementation team witnessed God's faithfulness proven over and over again throughout

with every need being met superabundantly. The 2018 Project Carnival, from beginning to its conclusion was a testimony to God's amazing work in our midst that just humbles us and causes us to break forth with praises as in the words of Apostle Paul declaring:

'now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than we ask or imagine according to His power that is at work in us, to him be glory in the Church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever! Amen.' (Eph.3:20-21).



John's Corner

Looking Beyond Disability

(Read 2 Cor. 12 : 9, 10)

Aug. 12th is Asha Sunday

'What have I done that I should be
Cursed with a disability?'
So questioned I the Lord with grief,
But found no answer or relief.

In deep distress I chanced to see
A child limp singing cheerfully.
What was his song I tried to hear,
As smiling he to me drew near.

'Thanks, Lord,' he sang, 'that I can see
The beauty of the flowers and trees;
And since I can't walk fast, You know,
I can admire them all the more.

'Thank You that I can hear the lark,
The cattle call, the puppies bark;
They seem to glorify Your name,
Should I murmur, Lord, what a shame!'

As he passed by I wept and thought,
To be like that lame boy I ought,
Thanking You, Lord, for all You've done,
And not complain when trials come.

John H. Bala singh



Our experience with The Truth – KYF Youth Sunday Report

What is your idea of perfection? That was the question that initiated the discussion on ideas for the skit. We had received from the Lord the theme verse for conveying His message – 'I am the Way, the truth and the Life'. Perfection – the word lingered in our minds. How does the world view perfection? What should be a Christian's view on perfection and how do we correlate it with the idea of truth? And not just any truth but The Truth- a bold statement for any man to utter, had He not also been Truth personified. How could we explain Pilate asking to The Truth standing before him, 'What is truth?' and turning away from The Answer? God had given us the wisdom to convey this message through our own personal situations in schools, colleges and workplace.

We figured as we are led, to just tell it as a personal experience, and a testimony of what God has done in our lives, whether standing up for the truth, hardships faced for it or the ever reassuring faithfulness of Truth himself. And so started our 'sharing' so to speak. "What hardships did you face for standing up for God? Do you remember when you gave your life to Christ? What moved you to do so? How does the world view perfection? What does the bible tell us about excellence?" Sharing turned into conversations, conversations into dialogues on paper, and dialogues into a full narrative that is the skit. The script began to take form, and with more and more polishing, it became clear what God intended to speak through us.

Through our narrative (both figurative and literal), we had learnt many things sitting at the feet of Our Lord. On working diligently and being disciplined, not just working but giving our best, for the Lord asks that of us. Prudence, discernment and wisdom became familiar terms. Most importantly we learnt not to be blinded by the world's ideals of excellence, disregarding values for the sake of pursuit of wealth and material possessions, but seeking first the Kingdom of God and His

righteousness! For only in Christ is found true purpose and peace, and rest for the weary soul, a thirst the world can never quench. And that is the truth! And above all, recognize the gift of Grace, through Christ's work on the Cross, not by our works that any man can boast. We just ought to be faithful stewards.

Sharing on a personal note my experience with Truth (yes, reference used intentionally), one day while doing the final editing, this question dawned on me, 'Am I just a hearer of the Word, or a doer?' God's spoken word was exposing the nature of my own heart! 'Lord how can I speak your Word when I can't make a resolution to wholly follow you, no turning back?' The Lord was convicting "You have chosen My way, received My life which I give freely, won't you accept Me as the truth in ALL areas of your life and not just some? Speaking on My way of excellence, are you conforming to society's ways? Are you doubting the life you have in me?" And then on our very own Youth Sunday, I heard it through the lyrics of Amazing Grace. I never thought I would share this with you the readers, but such is the power of The Truth. "T'was grace that brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home." Well it can't be Lord', I said, 'maybe not for what I am going through', and then again, and again, the truth spoke to me during the service, until finally, as if in climax the Lord spoke through our own youth member (an impromptu for himself) uttering the words "Faith can move mountains" & Ebenezer- thus far the Lord has helped us (1 Sam 7:12). "You got me Lord!! How can I remain in this unbelief? You have searched the inmost depths of my heart and I can no longer put off your promises!" Standing before Truth himself, much like Jacob wrestling God (coincidentally even my name is Jacob :p) our bare naked selves are exposed, and if we confess our sins, He is gracious to forgive us, and much like Jacob he will bless us and make us a channel of His blessing.

So dear readers with this I encourage you, having been crucified with Christ, and not us but the Truth living in us, can we let Him examine our inmost beings? For The Word is living, breathing and active, it examines every heart and searches our inmost being. Then we can be transformed more into His ever increasing likeness.

*Adarsh Jacob
KYF*

Purpose of life - part 12

The type of questions one should ask.

Open ended question – Part 1

In our earlier write-ups, in Part 9 we saw that our GOD, being omniscient, would know the end from the beginning and therefore He would not have ventured into the whole creation without a plan. In Part 10 we dealt with some of the basic questions that one should ask and in part 11 we saw what could happen if one does not ask questions.

In this part we shall discuss about the type of questions one should ask. Usually teachers “deliver” material from the textbooks and ask a few **close - ended questions** to ensure that the students are listening and that they get right answers. Rarely do we see teachers asking **open - ended questions** that actually stimulate thinking. Like questions that start with “**Why & What?**”

Sometime ago I read in the “The Hindu” dated 14th May 2018 an article by Ms.Maya Thiagarajan on the topic strangely titled “ **Rule # 1: No thinking allowed**” as how our educational system seems to be pushing teachers and students to forget about thinking and focus only on rote learning from a text book and not meaningful learning. The author had written that when she visited a school she happened to observe a Biology teacher teaching about human waste and she taught that sweat, urine and faeces were the three wastes. When one student, who pondered on the subject, asked if vomit would also come under the same category, the teacher seems to have brushed aside the question and said that only three types of waste are there as per the text books as she had already explained. We too do not think and ask **such open ended questions** like “**Why & What?**” on what God had revealed in the scriptures.

In this part let us ask the open ended question “**Why**” to understand God’s intentions in creation.

Earth is a transient place and not a permanent abode.

Scripture begins with:

*In the beginning God created the heavens and the **earth**. Gen 1:1*

We find the heavens were created for earth and the earth was created for man as an abode for Adam and his race. Usually one would keep the newborn child with him at his home. Heaven is God’s dwelling place and earth is His foot stool.

*This is what the LORD says: "Heaven is my throne, and the **earth is my footstool**. Isa 66:1*

Why God did not create Adam in heaven and keep him there, His dwelling place, but created him on earth, His foot stool?

It is true God blessed mankind to increase in numbers.

God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Gen 1:28

But earth having a specific area that cannot be expanded, compared to heaven which is not bound by space, could not have accommodated all mankind from Adam's time till date unless they physically passed out and gave room to the subsequent generations. So, we can infer that **earth was never intended to be a permanent abode or destination** for mankind but only a transit place or a stop gap arrangement similar to the cultivation of paddy. The farmer initially sprinkles the seeds randomly where the seeds fall and die but grow into tender shoots/plants which he later transplants to another place where they ultimately yield their fruits.

Similarly God would have prepared earth as a place for initial cultivation, **for training**, of mankind and the real assignment (ruler ship) would be given in eternity after due teaching and training here on **earth to become disciples**.

*Therefore go **and make disciples** of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. Matt 28: 19-20.*

From the above passage we find God wanting "Man" to become his **disciple through learning to obey all that he had commanded**. Only on earth God can teach and train and not in heaven where everything is complete and perfect. And from the passage below we find that God would make such learners (**Overcomers**) to sit with Him in His throne to rule over.

To him who overcomes, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I overcame and sat down with my Father on his throne. Rev 3:21-2

Jacob and Peter too had realized that they were **strangers here on earth** and treated their journey as a **pilgrimage**.

And Jacob said to Pharaoh, "**The years of my pilgrimage** are a hundred and thirty." Gen 47:9

Since you call on a Father who judges each man's work impartially, live your lives **as strangers here** in reverent fear. 1 Peter 1:17-18.

As we proceed we will ponder on more "**Why?**" questions to understand God's hidden plan for mankind but revealed progressively in the scriptures.

To continue
MM Narendranath



Bible Quiz No. 91 - August, 2018

A Horticulturalist's Quiz

Based on King James Version.

Give only 1 reference.



1. There are only two gardens in the Bible. What are they?
2. Which are the two most famous groups of trees mentioned in the Bible?
3. When Jesus said we "are the branches" to what did He liken Himself?
4. In which Old Testament is he called 'The Branch'?
5. What did a man 'cast into his garden' which grew and "waxed a great tree"?
6. In one of the parables, what did one man wish to do, because he had so much produce he didn't know what to do with it?
7. What was "uncircumcised fruit"?
8. According to Jesus, how is a tree known?
9. Of what was the baby Moses' ark made of; and among what plants was it hidden?
10. Among Paul's wise statements is this: "I have planted, Apollos watered but _____" finish this.

Kindly send your answers to the church office by 19th August 2018.

Usha George

SELFLESSNESS VERSUS SELFISHNESS

(based on the family of Isaac and Rebekah)

- The selfless services of the oldest servant of Abraham
- the selfless prayers of the servant leading him with divine guidance to find a suitable bride for Isaac
- the selfless hospitality of Rebekah in quenching the thirst of the stranger and his camels
- the selfless compliance of Laban and Bethuel in sending Rebekah with a stranger
- the selfless obedience of Rebekah to the Lord's Word in marrying Isaac
- the selfless acceptance of Isaac taking Rebekah's hand in marriage before he had seen her beauty and
- the selfless, direct inquiries of Rebekah to the Lord, when she had the discomfort during her pregnancy made a perfect and profound, romantic and divine love story of Isaac and Rebekah.

But

- the selfishness of swearing and selling the birthright of Esau to Jacob for a mouthful of food,
- the selfishness of Esau in marrying the daughters of Hittites and grieving the minds of his parents,
- the selfishness of Rebekah in deceiving the blind, old father to grant Jacob the blessings of his birthright,
- the selfishness of Jacob's deceptive disguise in order to possess Esau's birthright and,
- the selfishness of Rebekah's favouritism in bringing the enmity to the sons and separating them made the family extorted and distorted.

In the midst of the mixed feelings,

GOD'S WORD LIVES!

And the Lord said unto her,

Two nations are in thy womb, and two manner of people shall be separated from thy bowels; and the one people shall be stronger than the other people; and the elder shall serve the younger. - Genesis 25:23 KJV

(Please see Genesis 24, 25 & 27)

Snehalatha Bright

Kirk News



Guest Speakers

- 1st July, 6pm** Mrs. Meera Ninan, our member, spoke on Form-fitted Mercies from Lamentations 3:19-40 at the Healing service.
- 8th July, 6pm** Mr. M.M. Narendranath, Elder, spoke on "Naaman the Syrian - The Chosen" from 2 Kings 5:1-27, Luke 4:27.
- 15 July, 7am** Mr. Joshua Mascree spoke on "Pressing on towards the Goal - Christ Likeness" from Philippians 3:7-14.
He also gave the message at the 9am Youth Sunday service based on John 14:6 and Philippians 4:4-9.
- 22nd July, 6pm** Mr. Thomas George spoke on "How then should we live?" from 1 Peter 4:7-11 at the Youth & Koinonia service.

Monday Bible Study Rev. Isaac continued with the study of Ezekiel.

Friendship Club for elderly brothers and sisters met on Tuesday 3rd July. Please pray for God's guidance, comfort and strength for the participants in this ministry.

Evangelism and Missions Movement's Fasting and Prayer met on Thursdays with prayers for the church, evangelists, outreach areas and national issues. Please join us between 10.30am and 1.30pm on Thursdays as we petition the Lord with the day-to-day needs of the church.

Friday Prayer Rev. Isaac continued leading the prayer group with the study of Proverbs.

House Church was held on Fridays in the homes of Mr. J. Ramesh Lesley & Mrs. Anitha Lesley (6th July), Mr. & Mrs. Jebasingh Jothi (13th July), Mr. Sudir Paul Karunakaran & Mrs. Ann Sudir (20th July) and Mr. & Mrs. B. Christ Das (27th July).

District Meeting District 5 met on 1st July in the SACCE hall for a time of Bible Study and Fellowship. District 1 met on 14th July in the home of Mr. & Mrs. Dalton and Valerie Eddy.

We thank the members for opening their homes in Christian love and fellowship.

Sunday school retreat was held at Joe Beach Resorts on Sunday, 15th July. Classes were held on 22nd and 29th July.

Kirk Youth Fellowship met for prayer and fellowship on 1st July. KYF participated in the Projects Carnival 2018 on the 8th with a stall and by volunteering. The Youth Sunday service was held at 9am on 15th July on the theme "One Way, Jesus". The Youth led the service with praise & worship, choreography, skit and special songs (*Please see the article in this issue*). Catalyst Youth Worship Service was held on 22nd July. KYF conducted the service at Tirupalaivanam on the 29th. (*Contact KYF: Suman – 9840326078, Judith – 9884555573*)

The annual Youth camp will be held at UESI Highfield Campsite, Kotagiri from **21st Sep. to 23rd Sep. 2018**. All youth are invited! Please register at the special desk outside the church. Or call Suman (98403 26078) or Judith (98845 55573).

The Kirk Men's Fellowship met on 22nd July. Rev. Isaac Johnson spoke on the role of believing men as members of the Kirk: "What does 'We are the church' mean in terms of practical action in a fellowship?"

Kirk Women's Fellowship held an on-campus Retreat on Saturday, 21st July in the SACCE hall. Mrs. Meghala Ratnaiya was the resource person.

Monthly Night Prayer was held in the manse on Friday, 27th July, focussing on Isaiah 43.18-19.

Projects Carnival We thank and praise the Lord for His abundant blessings on the entire event and the wholehearted participation of worshippers! The net income was around Rs.22nd lakhs.

Attn: Book lovers! RMDCC will be hosting a general sale of books after the 9AM service on 12th August. If you have books that you don't mind giving away, we thank you for your generosity! (Please give the books at RMDCC/Church office.) Everyone is invited to participate with your family and friends. You may find a book you like or need!

An evangelical evening in Hindi will be held on the Church grounds at 6 pm on Independence Day (15th Aug '18), organised by the Kirk Hindi Fellowship. It will focus on reaching Hindi speaking non-Christians with the Gospel through songs, dance and skits. An opportunity awaits

us to touch our nation itself by reaching out to the North Indians of our city from different states of our country. Prayerfully, let us join hands in inviting our Hindi speaking friends, neighbours and colleagues.

Bible Quiz Competition This year, the Quiz Competition features the Book of 2 Samuel! It will be held on Sunday, 7th October after the 9AM service in 2 categories: School students (classes 1–12) can take the quiz on Chapters 1 to 10; College students and adults can take the quiz on the whole Book. Please give your names in the church office.

New missionary-couple for Karanodai project By the Grace of God, the Hindi ministry has progressed well in Karanodai. Many local Hindi-speaking people have taken a liking towards the film ministry in particular. In line with the Church's vision of expanding ministry in the area, we need a dedicated Hindi-speaking missionary couple who can live and minister in Karanodai. We request the congregation to let the Church office know (044-25612608) if any suitable candidates are available.

OBITUARIES

Mr. A.N. Kumar Raj, our member, passed away on Wednesday, 25th July 2018 in Nagercoil, aged 67 years. The funeral was held at CSI Home Church on 26th July.

Dr. (Mrs.) Rajeswari Rowlands, our member, passed away on Friday, 27th July, 2018 aged 93 years. The funeral was held on 29th July in the Church followed by burial in Kilpauk Cemetery.

We convey our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families.

Sunday School Retreat - 15th July 2018



