

Kirkspire



Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem."

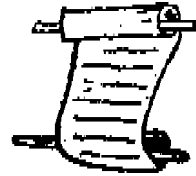
DECEMBER 2017

CONTENTS

Word from the Pastor	3
A Witness	5
The Language of God	6
Victory for the Upright	7
Bible Quiz No. 83	9
Who am I that You think of me?	10
John's Corner	11
The Silent Survivor	12
Purpose of Life - Part 6	13
Medical Corner	16
Greyfriars Kirk (Church of Scotland) won social entrepreneurship award	17
Kirk News	18

Editor : Mrs. R. Chandy

WORD FROM THE PASTOR



There are two parts to my message this month. One is about Christmas and on request, I'm including the story of Cliff Young that I shared in my message in the church on 19/11/17.

UNSTOPPABLE JESUS

Psalm 115:3 says, 'Our God is in heaven; He does whatever pleases Him'. The more I ponder on the meaning of this verse, the more I realize that indeed, we should all stand in awe of God. (Psalm 33:8). The key word I want to focus on at this time is the word, 'whatever'.

All men want to feel that we have the liberty to do 'whatever' we want to, say 'whatever' we want to etc. But that is practically impossible. We are bound by time, space and natural limitations. We cannot live tomorrow, today. We cannot know what someone else is thinking, we cannot control what someone else does or says and much much more. While we are limited in so many ways, the Bible reminds us in so many verses and with so many examples how God truly does '*whatever*' pleases Him. One of the greatest examples of this *Omnipotence* of God is the **Birth of Christ on earth**. I present three fundamental lessons of God's omnipotence in the event of Christmas which when we understand fully will enhance our worship and relationship with our awesome God.

1. God's plans are unstoppable - Ezekiel 12:25 - But I the Lord will speak what I will, and it shall be fulfilled without delay...The birth of Jesus on earth through a virgin was foretold through the prophets of the Old Testament and no power on earth was able to stop it. Our God is God and there is none to stop what God has planned. Today, words of blasphemy, abusive words and even threatening words are spoken against Biblical truth. It is not new and it is a sign that mankind has not understand how *awesome* our God is.

2. God's plans are unfathomable – John 15:16 - You did not choose Me but I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and bear

fruit... The choices of Bethlehem, Joseph, Mary, shepherds etc were not done with mutual consent but by God's independent, exclusive choice. Today, people question God as to why He does this or has not done something else. What we should realize ourselves is the fact that His ways are unfathomable.

3. God's plans are unparalleled – Jeremiah 10:6 - There is none like You, O Lord; You are great, and great is Your name in might. While we all have questions as to the manner in which our God is at work in our lives or in the world, one thing we cannot deny is that *no one can duplicate His ways*. Creator God came down for cursed humanity, Glorious One came in humility, Awesome God came in simplicity, Sovereign King came selflessly and much more. The Birth of Jesus Christ is a *unique* event, never before, never again. Anyone can claim, power, authority or even divinity, but Jesus Christ is *unparalleled*.

The Son of God became a son of man so that the sons of men might become sons of God." - **C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity**

YOUNG'S SHUFFLE

When a 62-year old toothless potato farmer walked into a crowd of young well-sculpted athletes, he was looked down and jeered at. That's because he wanted to sign himself in an ultra-marathon of over 800 kms from Sydney to Melbourne. The year was 1983 and this was the first of its kind and it drew everyone's attention. In a group of about 150 athletes, this farmer whose name is Cliff Young stood out as an odd man being in the 'wrong place at the wrong time'. But Cliff had made up his mind to run the race in spite of all that he saw, heard or felt about the other people. Cliff Young was not only a farmer, he also had about 2000 sheep in a 2000 acre farm which he would physically walk around and take care of his sheep. He was used to long distances and did that for many years. Now back to the race, the athletes were to run for about 16-18 hours every day, sleep for 6 hours and run again. One had to do that for about 6-7 days to complete this mammoth task. *Someone forgot to tell about the sleeping part to Cliff Young*. The race started where all the athletes were in their shorts, t-shirts and the best running shoes, except Cliff who decided to run with his overalls and boots. Many mocked him and even wondered if he was there on a suicidal mission. For almost the entire first day, everyone was ahead of Cliff and he was literally 'shuffling' about in his boots. But he kept running *his race*. He was not wondering about how others ran but just kept *shuffling* forward. Let's keep in

mind that he did not think about sleeping and nobody had told him about it. This whole race was telecast live on TV and people had a curiosity about Cliff. Lo and behold, Cliff Young kept running and running or shuffling until he finished the race **FIRST**. He ran so well that he did not finish seconds or minutes before the person who came second. He finished more than 9 hours ahead of the person who came second. He instantly became a national hero. Everyone wondered how he ran his race and started studying about his aerodynamic style and they even coined the term "**Young's Shuffle**". A memorial in the shape of a gumboot in Beech Forest, Victoria in Australia is dedicated to Cliff Young, and the Cliff Young Drive and Cliff Young Park there are named after him. A captivating story and an inspiring event. The key to all of this is **Cliff Young ran his race**. Not on other's terms or style. ...let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. (Hebrews 12:1).

Rev. Isaac Johnson



A WITNESS

On the day of my grandson's wedding on October 29th 2016 in Canada, I developed a pain in my back and it became unbearable.

I was in agony and was crying and I thought that I would miss the wedding. After an hour, the pain eased a little. I was told that it was due to a stone in the kidney. Slowly I got ready and by our God's immense Grace, I was able to attend the wedding.

My God held my tears in His Palm. With His mercy, grace and strength, from that day till today, I am completely well.

Thank you, Jesus. Thank you.

A. Selvanayagam

THE LANGUAGE OF GOD

Have you ever wondered how in the world the child looks like either of the parents? How they inherit certain physical traits that are found in their parents? The answer to this question lies in the most wonderful and fascinating word called genetics. All the information needed in the formation of the complete baby is stored in a code called "genes". We find these genes in the form of DNA (acronym for deoxyribonucleic acid). A child inherits 50% of the genes from the father and the other 50% from the mother. This DNA is in the shape of a twisted ladder and it is so compactly arranged in a specific part of the cell called Chromosomes. Each cell in our body has 23 pairs (46) of chromosomes. The information carried in this DNA is greater than the information of the entire set of books in the college library.

The entire set of genes responsible for all the traits and functions of the complete human body was studied by a project called the "Human Genome Project". This was a multi-billion dollar mega project conducted by the world's best scientists both from the U.S and Europe. Dr. Francis Collins was the director of this project. He was a staunch atheist before this project. When the project was complete and the entire set of the Human Genes was mapped, he had no other option but to come to his knees and acknowledge that there is an Intelligent Designer called Creator God. Only he could have designed such a huge database and could have arranged it so compactly inside the human cell. He became a Christian and wrote the book "The Language of God".

Bill Gates wrote "DNA is like a computer program, but far more advanced than any software we have ever created". Dr. Francis Collins wrote "It is humbling for me and awe-inspiring to realize that we have caught the first glimpse of our own instruction book, previously known only to God".

This is what the Psalmist means when he writes in Psalm 139:14 "I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well".

May the Lord Bless You !



Victory for the Upright

*He holds victory in store for the upright,
he is a shield to those whose walk is blameless,
for he guards the course of the just
and protects the way of his faithful ones. Proverbs 2:7-8*

Doing the right thing is not always easy. In fact, many times it is very difficult, as one has to go against the established pattern of the world and often has to face a lot of opposition and hostility. Sometimes doubts creep in – “I am trying to do what is right. Why is it so difficult? Why doesn’t God help me? Make it easier? Why doesn’t he vindicate me?” It may seem like God is distant and unconcerned about our difficulties, since he doesn’t step in and help.

However, God sees the struggles of those who try to do the right thing. Though it may sometimes seem like they are not getting anywhere, he is holding success and victory in store for them and will give it to them at the right time. He will shield them from harm and ensure that they do not stray from their course and give in to temptations. Those who are faithful to God, love him and want to please him will be especially protected from straying away.

The purpose of God is not to make our lives easy and comfortable. Today, many preachers preach a prosperity gospel. “Now that you are born again, you are a child of the King of Kings. Everything belongs to him and he wants to give it to you. You just have to claim it.” But that is not what the Bible teaches. We are to live not for ourselves, but for God. Christ gave his life for us – we are to lay down our lives for others. We are to BE Christ to them. The primary purpose of God is to form and perfect Christ-like character in each one of his children, not to ensure that they enjoy worldly prosperity.

When we understand this, we understand “victory” differently from the world. Our victory is not always over people who oppose us, or situations that come against us. Our victory is against our spiritual enemies. Against the temptations that try to persuade us not to do the right thing, that try to convince us to take the easy way out, that

try to make us give in to our unholy desires that conflict with what God's word says, that cause us to get discouraged and give up, that persuade us not to trust in God, but in ourselves.

God watches with concern as his children struggle with temptations. He is not distant or unconcerned, but is using these very same circumstances to work out something precious in us. He is right there with his encouragement when we turn to him for help in overcoming our temptations as we deal with our circumstances. Those who truly want to do the right thing, he strengthens and helps and protects them so that they don't slip and go the wrong way. And if we don't give up, but persevere, he gives us success in what we are trying to do as well.

However, such victories are not always guaranteed in this world. Sometimes an apparent failure may set off circumstances where someone else steps in to carry the baton and wins the victory, but the person who fought the fight and struggled is not around to see it. They will see their victory only in eternity, when they come face to face with their Master and he welcomes them with a smile and says, "Well done, good and faithful servant! Now come and share in my happiness!"

Abha Appasamy

"The first victim of the liar is the liar himself."

• • •

"It is what you are doing today that counts, not what you are going to do tomorrow."



Bible Quiz No. 84 - December, 2017

Special Christmas Quiz

Based on the Gospel of St. Luke (King James Version)

Give only 1 reference.

1. "Lord, now lettest thy servant depart in peace" said:
 - a. The shepherd who was needed by his flock
 - b. Mary, after the birth of Jesus
 - c. Simeon, who was not to see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ
 - d. Anna, the eighty-four-year-old prophetess
2. Mary and Joseph went from Nazareth to Bethlehem for taxation (enrollment) of Joseph, because
 - a. It had been the City of David
 - b. Micah had foretold Bethlehem as the birthplace of Israel's ruler
 - c. The three wise men had come from there
 - d. Everyone had to go to his own birthplace
3. Name of the angel who appeared to Zachariah, the priest?
4. "All mankind will see God's salvation". Who prophesied?
5. "A prophet who was mighty in deed and word"?
6. "The stones would immediately cry out", said Jesus, if the disciples
 - a. Acted unjustly
 - b. Betrayed him
 - c. Held their peace
 - d. Used violence
7. People who have taken away the key of knowledge?
8. The first woman who was filled with the Holy Ghost in the New Testament?
9. The person whom God "set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel; and for a sign which shall be spoken against"?
10. The author who had written an orderly account of life and time of the Lord Jesus?

Kindly send your answers to the church office by 17th December 2017.

Who am I that You think of me?

"Let the weak say, I am strong" Joel 3:10

Recently my daughter and I attended a morning service in a church nestled in the midst of mountains in California. The worship team with inspiring songs of praise held high the soaring majesty and power of our Jesus. A line in the lead singer's song touched me with a fresh revelation, "Who am I that You think of me?" It filled me with awe and gratitude that He who controls the entire universe, "upholding all things by the word of His power" (Hebrews 1:2-3) is the One who sustains the beating of my heart, the breathing of my lungs and indeed every atom of my being. Do I fully grasp the enormity of this truth that this Sovereign Almighty Creator cares for me, pouring out His sacrificial love on a wretch like me?

Giants of faith and men of God have felt greatly humbled and have asked the question "What is man, that Thou art mindful of him" (Psalm 8:4). Job has indicated clearly "Behold, I am of small account" (Job 40:4). In the 1700s, William Carey, known as the father of modern missions, considered himself a wretched sinner and a worm before his Holy God. The best of men understood that only on the footing of free grace can one approach the throne of mercy.

We Christians young and old often get complacent and comfortable in just superficially knowing our Lord. Our lives are often based on false values, relying on our puny, meagre and futile capabilities. We claim that He is "our God" and yet we seldom seek His counsel and guidance. We constantly stagger and struggle to bear our burdens ourselves. O God, forgive us! We need to burn away the worthless dross in our life and seek His grace, or else we will be building our lives on shifting sands. We are merely empty clay jars to be filled with His holiness, mercy and love.

Let us not fall into a sad state of despair and despondency. Jesus has purchased us with His precious blood and in Christ we are a part of Him as the branch is one with the vine. Our Saviour and Redeemer will never put out the faintly burning wick nor break the bruised reeds that we are. His boundless grace will refresh and energize us to carry sunshine and diffuse happiness to all around us, all for His wonderful Name's sake.

The love of Jesus raises us up to climb the roughest mountains and to walk on the stormy seas. In joy, we are carried on His shoulder, in pain we find refuge and rest on His bosom. "Behold, I have carved

you on the palm of My hands" (Isaiah 49:16) says our Lord, not just our name, but everything about us – our image, our sin, our weakness, and wants. What should we fear when we have our Shepherd King beside us as we walk through life's perplexing and dark mazes?

I close with an ancient folklore "The Rose and the Clay". When a piece of perfumed clay was asked in what favoured region of the earth it was found, the clay modestly replied, I am nothing but common clay, but I had the good fortune to lie for many years at the foot of a rose bush. The sweet influence and essence of this intimacy had produced this pleasing effect.

We too are ordinary, mundane lumps of clay with no virtue of our own till we live in close communion with our Lord Jesus Christ and soak in the rich aroma of His amazing grace. We will then be cleansed, restored and bask in the fragrance of the beautiful Rose of Sharon.

Usha George

John's Corner



Emmanuel

(God with us - That's Christmas!)

Read Matt 1 : 23, Deut 31 : 6

Why do you tremble, why do you fear,
Imagine no help for you is near?
Jesus is with us where'er we go,
Rely on His strength and onward go.

Put on the armour Jesus provides,
Do as He commands, go where He guides;
Vanquished shall be every foe you face,
When you depend on His saving grace.

However strong the adversary,
Jesus has promised us victory;
He is our refuge, our strength, our shield,
A crown awaitss all who will not yield.

'**Emmanuel**', that bless'ed name heed,
Our God is with us, He's all we need:
May Christmas so remind us that we
Remember this, and live cheerfully.

John H. Bala Singh



THE SILENT SURVIVOR

Hardly mentioned and rarely spoken about
Noah's wife, though her role was vital and difficult
To leave her unnoticed with no personal identity,
For the shadowed self-merit caused the anonymity.

Noah was righteous, a man of undeserving punishment.
Lot, due to Abraham, is saved by his righteousness.
His daughters - like Shem, Ham and Japheth were saved,
His wife, unlike that of Noah, perished due to her guilt.

Noah's wife was mentioned in the Bible only five times.
Neither her name nor her personality was revealed.
But, only through the assumptions and probabilities
In accordance with the character of Noah, presumed.

She was a woman of God and she was a woman of faith;
She waited for no divine bush nor divine confirmation.
Was led to help in Noah's ark by her unquestioning faith
And served him as a helpmeet to be the servant of God.

Noah's walk with God, proved her righteousness too,
Which protected her generation through and through;
Through the stories of Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel
To differ good from the evil, as related in the Bible.

Her compassion was duly and undoubtedly remarkable
For pushing the animals into the ark, in twos of all species,
By feeding the fodder dutifully and cleaning up the places
Probably proved her to have strong work ethic as well.

The scripture paints them as a Godly family with priorities.
She kept God in the forefront in spite of her responsibilities.
Seek His Kingdom first and the rest will follow in our lives,
As Jesus had instructed in the stories of Martha and Maria.

Snehalatha Bright



Purpose of life – Part 6 “God and Creation”

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

God and Creation

In the last part of the write up (Purpose of Life Part 5 - “In the Beginning”) we saw about the “beginning” and dealt on the aspect of “Big Bang” theory as an explanation for the expanding Universe. We reasoned that if we see ripples, the “Result”, in a pond then there should have been a “Cause” - a fall of a stone. In a similar way when we see nature and the creation, the “Result”, we cannot but admit the presence of a “Cause” - The Creator God.

When we see the masterpiece of a designer watch made by man we marvel at his ability to create, for it could not have come into existence by itself. Similarly, when we marvel at the heavenly bodies such as Sun, Moon and the Planets going about the sky in an orderly fashion like a giant watch in their respective orbits without colliding with each other, in spite of some planets crossing each other’s orbits, we cannot but admit God’s gracious hand in creation and thus revealing His invisible presence through nature.

Heavens and the Earth

In the early days people thought that earth was the centre of the known universe and all the other planets, Sun, Moon and Stars were revolving around the earth. This theory was called “geocentric” meaning earth is at the centre. Philosophers such as Plato and Aristotle propagated this theory and notable scientists such as Pythagoras had approved it and the theory remained popular for a long time as it explained why all things fall freely towards Earth, and also why all planets stay at a certain distance away from the Earth.

This theory was challenged by the development of telescope by Galileo in the 16th century and "geocentric" theory was replaced by "heliocentric" theory. In the 16th century, astronomer Copernicus compiled the works of the previous astronomers and proposed a theory that placed the Sun at the centre of the solar system with all planets, stars and earth circling it.

In the 1920's, Edwin Hubble found that the Sun of our solar system is but one of the stars in our "Milky way" galaxy and there are billions and billions of other stars in this one galaxy of ours. In fact our Sun is situated somewhere at two third distance away from the centre of the "Milky way" galaxy and looks so bright because of its proximity to earth. If viewed from far, Sun too would look like a star. Later it was discovered that there was another group of stars which turned out to be the nearby galaxy and Scientists named it as "Andromeda" galaxy which again contains billions and billions of stars. Now scientists have discovered using "Hubble" telescope installed in space that there are billions and billions of galaxies each containing billions and billions of stars in each of these galaxies!

Vastness of Heavens

We are accustomed to measuring distances in miles and kilometers here on earth. However, when coming to measuring the distances between celestial bodies a different measurement is used called "light years". The speed of light is 3 lac km per second meaning light travels 3 lac Km in one second. Suppose if that light had travelled at that speed for a whole one year period then the distance covered during this one year period is called one light year distance. It takes around 8 minutes for sunlight to reach earth from sun and so we say that the sun is at 8 light minutes distance away from the earth. The next closest star "Proxima Centauri" is about 4.22 light years away from the earth.

However, when measuring the distances between stars in a galaxy it is all in millions and millions of "light years" and between galaxies it is billions and billions of "light years". Now we can imagine the grandeur of our God when the scripture makes the following descriptions.

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

To the LORD your God belong the heavens, even the highest heavens,
the earth and everything in it **Deut 10:14-16**

Earth

Scientists have so far not yet come across another "earth" with suitable atmosphere to support life. While we may not understand the purpose behind God's vast creation of the heavens, as far as the sun, moon, planets and stars in our solar system are concerned they seem to have been created for supporting the earth and all that is on earth were created for supporting man. If God had created all these for us then there should be a great purpose behind creating man.

To continue,
M M Narendranath

● ● ●

**Answers to Bible Quiz No. 83 (November 2017)
Based on the Book of Ezekiel (King James Version)**

The answers are :

1. (a) The Lord God - 36:5
2. (d) came together - 37:7
3. (d) Tyre 26:4
4. To Jerusalem 22:14
5. Jerusalem 16:44
6. Four 1:5
7. Under the threshold of the house 47:1
8. Pelatiah 11:13
9. Ezekiel 18:2
10. Spoken of Tyre 27:33

The winners are:

1. **Mrs. Victoria Basker**
2. **Mrs. Aruna Asir**
3. **Mrs. Suguna Joseph**

Hearty congratulations!

Usha George



Medical Corner

ALLERGIC CONJUNCTIVITIS

“Doctors treat, but Jesus heals”

In allergic conjunctivitis the eyes become red, with a watery discharge. Itching is a very common symptom. Contact with animals (dogs, horses, cats), pollens of certain flowers is a frequent cause. Some chemicals, cosmetics like mascara, eye liners, kajals and eye shadow can cause severe conjunctivitis and inflammation of the eye lids and cheeks (dermatitis). The cosmetic must be completely stopped for complete recovery. Hair dyes when shampooed and washed can run into the eye and cause allergy.

Eye drops used for eye diseases like glaucoma (e.g. eserine) and some dilatation drops like atropine can cause swelling of the conjunctiva and eyes lids. These must be stopped and substitutes used. Sometimes the allergen is a protein from bacteria in the sinuses, nasal cavity, adenoids or tonsils. Tubercular (T.B) protein is another source of allergy. Gardeners using manure, fertilisers and herbicides can develop allergy to these. Pollen allergies are also commonly seen in them. During festivals like deepavali, the smoke from crackers, and other fireworks can cause allergic reactions in the eye. Some people are allergic to incense sticks (Agarbatti) burnt in the pooja room.

Spring catarrh is a bilateral conjunctivitis occurring with the onset of hot weather and is found in young people, usually boys. Burning, itching, some intolerance to light and ropy secretions are the symptoms. In cooler months the condition subsides and gives no trouble.

Treatment is to identify the allergen and avoiding it. Anti histamine eye drops, 2% sodium cromoglycate eye drops are used to treat mild allergies. Severe cases respond well to steroid eye drops, which must be strictly monitored by an eye doctor since prolonged use of steroids (self medication) can lead to fungal infection, cataract and glaucoma.

Greyfriars Kirk (Church of Scotland) won social entrepreneurship award

Grassmarket Community Project has been developed in partnership by Greyfriars Kirk (Church of Scotland) and the Grassmarket Mission. The Grassmarket Mission was founded in 1890 and has historically provided a variety of services to homeless people in the Grassmarket area of Edinburgh where they traditionally gathered. The two partners have been working alongside each other since 1982 and have developed the joint Project over the last 30 years working out of the building previously used as Greyfriars' church halls. Grassmarket Community Project was formed as a stand-alone charity in 2010 by the two partners, to take forward the vision, mission and work they had established. grassmarket-vision-mission-and-objectives

Grassmarket Community Project takes an innovative approach to creating community and providing sanctuary and support to participants, many of whom are amongst the most vulnerable of our citizens. Through mentoring, social enterprise, training and education in a nurturing environment, the Project develops skills which enable participants to develop to their full potential and move away from cycles of failure.

For us Social Enterprise is core to our sustainability as an organisation. Although our roots are in working with people who were traditionally homeless, we have realised that community has a wider definition and we now work with people who experience mental/physical health issues and learning support needs.

As well as operating a community café and woodwork and tartan social enterprises, the Grassmarket Community Project offers a range of social integration and educational activities for members aimed at enhancing life skills and developing confidence. These include cookery and baking classes, art, drama, IT, reading and writing, sewing and photography.

The project also offers a drop-in free meal service on a Monday from 5pm to 6:30pm which is open to anyone in the wider community.

J.C. Thomas

Kirk News



Guest Speakers

5th Nov. 6pm Mr. D. Shanthakumar, Elder, spoke at the healing service on "Sanctification - No Pain, No Gain" (Job Ch 1:13-22; Ch 2: 7-10 & Ch 42:1-6)

26th Nov. 7am Rev. Dr. Isac Soundara Raja spoke on the topic "Unique example" based on Hebrews 12:1-2

6pm Mr. Thomas George spoke at the Youth & Koinonia service on the topic "Be gracious!" (Matthew 20:1-16)

House Church was conducted in the homes of Mr. & Mrs. Prabhakar John Durai (3/11), Mr. & Mrs. Anil Oommen (10/11), Mr. & Mrs. Dilip John Chacko (17/11) and Ms.K.V.Saramma (24/11).

District meetings District 5 met on 5/11 in the home of Dr. Praise Joseph Ambrose & Dr. (Mrs.) Christina Ambrose; District 3 met on 12/11 in the DCC hall; District 9 met in the SACCE hall on 26/11.

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

Friday Prayer Cell met regularly with Pastor continuing the study of Proverbs.

Friendship Club meeting on the 7th Nov. was cancelled due to heavy rains. Please pray for the club members who are mostly elderly people needing support and encouragement.

Monday Bible Studies were held regularly with Pastor leading the study of Ezekiel.

Monthly Night Prayer was held on 27/11 focussing on "REPENTANCE" (Jonah 2 & 3), with special emphasis on the Kirk family and her worshippers. We invite you to join us for Spirit-seeking prayer every fourth Friday of the month.

Kirk Sunday school classes were held regularly.

Kirk Youth Fellowship met 5/11 for prayer and fellowship. On 12/11, the youth conducted the service in Tirupalaivanam. Bible Study on

the Life of Jesus was conducted on 19/11, and Catalyst youth worship service was conducted on 26/11. All youth are invited to weekly youth meetings.

Kirk Men's Fellowship for a time of prayer & fellowship on 19/11, focussing on: 1) Praying for the upcoming activities of the church in the Season 2) Planning to participate in the Christmas Sharing Sale with a MF Stall and 3) Time of sharing & testimonies. All the men in the congregation are invited to participate.

Kirk Women's Fellowship met on 19/11 in the SACCE hall.

Evangelism and Missions Movement's Fasting and Prayer was held on Thursdays. Please join us between 10:30am and 1:30pm as we continue to pray for our Evangelists and Missionaries and the life and activities of our Church, concerns for the present situations of our nation, which are of great importance, and for the world. **"What a privilege to carry Everything to God in prayer!"** – SCRIVEN, from Our Daily Bread

AKCDC Sunday service was held at 9AM on 12/11. The Project Committee member, staff and children participated in the service with a report on the past year's activities and a programme by the children.

JUNIOR PIANO RECITAL for Children and Young Adults was held on Saturday 25/11. Young people showcased their musical gifts and the fruits of practice. Thanks to God and the parents who have led them in the way pleasing to Him.

The Church Annual Camp 2018 is planned for the **26th, 27th & 28th** of January 2018 at the C.S.I. Retreat Centre in Yelagiri. **Theme: "Are You Ready? – 'Prepare to meet your God'" Amos 4:12b. Speakers:** Mr. & Mrs. Rampert Ratnaiya, Mr. & Mrs. Thomas George and Mike Collins & team (for children). Kindly block these dates in your calendar, pray and attend.

CONGRATULATIONS!

By God's Grace, **Mr. Kishi Raj and Dr.Suruchi** were blessed with a baby girl on 21st November. Granddaughter to Vivek and Sangeeta Harinarain.

Mahendra Kumar



Chess class at AKCDC



Piano recital by Young Musicians