

Hermon Marthoma Church

MIDLANDS

March 2009

www.hermonmarthomachurch.org.uk

Volume 2, Issue 10



Next Service:

14 Mar 09 -Holy Communion

28 Mar 09 -Holy Communion

From 4 – 6pm

At

St. Francis Hall,
The University of
Birmingham- Chaplaincy,
Edgbaston, Birmingham
B15 2TT.

Highlights

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Special services

Good Friday 10th Apr09

10am to 12pm

Easter Sunday 12th Apr09

10am to 12pm

There will be no service

on 11th Apr09.

From Achen's desk

Friday March 6th is the World Day of Prayer which is also known as Women's World Day of Prayer. The World Day of Prayer is an international, ecumenical, Christian laywomen's initiative. It is run under the motto "Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action," and is celebrated annually in over 170 countries on the first Friday in March. The movement aims to bring together women of various races, cultures and traditions in a yearly common Day of Prayer, as well as in closer fellowship, understanding and action throughout the year.

The origins of Women's World Day of Prayer date back to the 19th century when Christian women in the USA and Canada initiated a variety of cooperative activities in support of women's involvement in mission, at home and abroad.

Through the World Day of Prayer, women affirm their faith in Jesus Christ. They are encouraged to become aware of the other countries and cultures and no longer live in isolation. They are also encouraged to take up the burdens of other people, to sympathize with the problems of other countries and cultures and pray with and for them. They are further encouraged to become aware of their talents and use them in the service of society. The World Day of Prayer aims to demonstrate that prayer and action are inseparable and that both have immeasurable influence in the world.

Every year, worship service focuses on a different country and a specific theme. For this year, the theme is 'In Christ, There Are Many Members, Yet One Body;' from the women of Papua New Guinea. For this year they want to stress two points.

- 1) To have the confidence of Ruth, who left what was familiar to her and went with Naomi to another land.

- 2) We are also invited to reflect on the collaborative networks among women. In Exodus, the story of deliverance from bondage begins with women's non-violent intervention. Their actions ignore the social forces that are rooted in the fallacy that one group is superior to the other and is entitled to exploit them. Together, the women overcome evil with good.

The World Day of Prayer reminds us of several things. One is the importance of prayer in our lives. Two is the fact that prayer and action should always go together. Three, it reminds us that any one of us can make a positive change in the world. It reminds us to use the abilities that God has given us to help those around us. It also invites us to study the bible from different points of view.

For example we are usually taught that the Exodus of the Israelites from Egypt started with Moses. But this year we are asked to consider the roles of the women in the Exodus story. They did not let social or political pressure force them to do the wrong thing. They fought against the forces of exploitation and it was only because of their efforts that Moses was able to live and become an instrument for God to use to deliver the Israelites.

Let us never forget the power of prayer and the power of an individual who is directed by God.

Rev. Shibi Abraham

We thank you, God, for directing our lives. As women united as one in your body, with your love and your power in us, we pray that we would be your instruments for peace and reconciliation.

**Hermon Marthoma Church-
Office bearers for the Year
2009-2010**

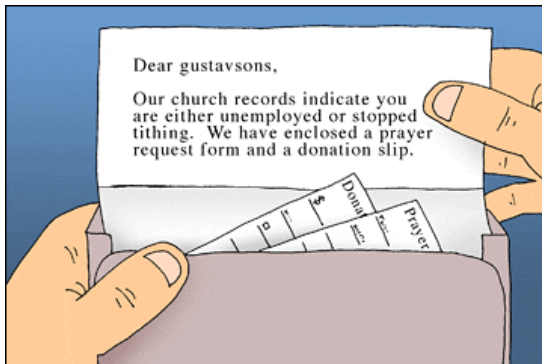
Vice President: Dr. Jacob Samuel
Trustee : Dr Simon Idiculla
Trustee (Accounts): Elizabeth Thomas
Secretary: Thomas K Mathew
Lay Leaders: Thomas Koshy & Sanu Varghese
Diocese Member : Dr Sunny Thomas
Internal Auditors: Varghese Philip & Dr. Mathew Patteril

Organisation Representatives:

Choir: Jinu Varghese
Sevika Sangham: Marykutty Thomas
Sunday school: Susan Abraham

Area Representatives:

Birmingham- Mathew Samuel
Burton upon-Trent & Derby,
Wolverhampton- Dr Susy Jacob
Solihull: Dr Reji John
Stafford: Anil K Mathew
Walsall- Thomas Oonnooni
Nuneaton & Coventry V V Abraham



**From the editorial desk
A final word**

Beloved members of the Hermon Marthoma church,

My term as the editor has come to an end as I take up the post of Trustee (Accounts). I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for the advice, support and encouragement given to me during the past few years.

I hope you will enjoy this final edition of the newsletter. In order to save the planet, the newsletter will be sent by email and posted on to the website in future. Please note the new id of our website.

The life, power and glory of the Church is prayer. The life of its members is dependent on prayer and the presence of God is secured and retained by prayer. The very place is made sacred by its ministry. Without it, the Church is lifeless and powerless.

I hope you will attend Church services regularly and support the causes for the unity of Hermon Mar Thoma Church. We are brothers and sisters in Christ. We have come to this land far way from our homeland. Let us continue not to forget our roots and traditions.

Thanking you once again
Yours in prayer
Sajini (aunty)

A message – from our Secretary, Thomas Mathew

"Our Church conducted the VBS on the 21st Feb09. Most of the children from our parish attended the session which was a huge success. The managing committee would like to express their sincere thanks to Mrs Susan Abraham and Mrs Jinu Varghese for the leadership and participation in this event. Special thanks to all the parents and children for taking the time to attend this function which is a first for Hermon Mar Thoma church."



Anger vs. Love

A saint asked his disciples, 'Why do we shout in anger? Why do people shout at each other when they are upset?'

Disciples thought for a while, one of them said, 'Because we lose our calm, we shout for that.'

'But, why to shout when the other person is just next to you?' asked the saint. 'Isn't it possible to speak to him or her with a soft voice? Why do you shout at a person when you're angry?'

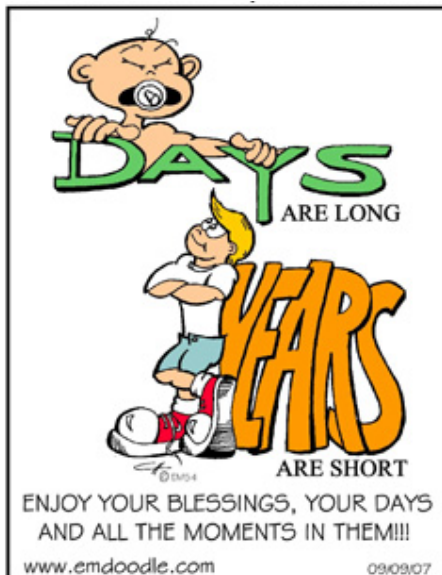
Disciples gave some other answers but none satisfied the saint.

Finally he explained, 'When two people are angry at each other, their hearts distance a lot. To cover that distance they must shout to be able to hear each other. The angrier they are, the stronger they will have to shout to hear each other through that great distance.'

Then the saint asked, 'What happens when two people fall in love? They don't shout at each other but talk softly, why? It is because their hearts are very close. The distance between them is very small...'

The saint continued, 'When they love each other even more, what happens? They do not speak, only whisper and they get even closer to each other in their love. Finally they even need not whisper, they only look at each other and that's all. That is how close two people are when they love each other.'

MORAL: When you argue do not let your hearts get distant; do not say words that distance each other.



Funny though real definitions

Life Insurance: A contract that keeps you poor all your life so that you can die Rich.

School: A place where Papa pays and Son plays.

Nurse: A person who wakes u up to give you sleeping pills.

Marriage: It's an agreement in which a man loses his bachelor degree and a woman gains her masters

Tears: The hydraulic force by which masculine willpower is defeated by feminine waterpower.

Lecture: An art of transferring information from the notes of the Lecturer to the notes of the students without passing through 'the minds of either'

Conference: The confusion of one man multiplied by the number present.

Compromise: The art of dividing a cake in such a way that everybody believes he got the biggest piece.

Dictionary: A place where success comes before work.

Conference Room: A place where everybody talks, nobody listens and everybody disagrees later on.

Father: A banker provided by nature.

Boss: Someone who is early when you are late and late when you are early.

Politician: One who shakes your hand before elections and your Confidence afterwards.

Doctor: A person who kills your ills by pills, and kills you by bills.

Classic Books : books which people praise, but do not read.

Smile: A curve that can set a lot of things straight..

Office: A place where you can relax after your strenuous home life.

Yawn: The only time some married men ever get to open their mouth.

Etc.: A sign to make others believe that you know more than you actually do.

Committee: Individuals who can do nothing individually and sit to decide that nothing can be done together.

Experience: The name men give to their mistakes.

Atom Bomb: An invention to end all inventions.

Philosopher: A fool who torments himself during life, to be wise after death



Useful contacts

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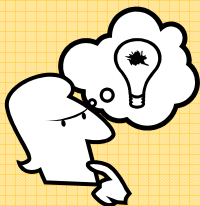
Mr Thomas K Mathew
0121 772 8697

Dr Simon Idiculla
01902 380 363

Sevika Sangam
Marykutty Thomas
0121 772 8697

Sunday school
Susan Abraham
0247 632 7334

Choir Convener
Jinu Varghese
01922 62 8343



Special Greetings this month

Birthday greetings to

Thomas Abraham, Abey Thomas, Sanu Varghese, Reggie Sam John, Reji Simon Idiculla, Bobby Thomas, Vineet Abraham, Joji M Philip, and Sunil Simon

Congratulations on the Wedding Anniversaries of

Viji George & Sunila Viji Thomas, Abraham & Reena Abraham

Sunday school

At 3:30pm every 2nd and 4th Saturdays at the Church.



Teacher: 'What is your name?'

Student: 'Mera naam Suraj Prakash hai.'

Teacher: 'When I ask a question in English, answer it in English.'

Student: 'My name is Sunlight.'

Teacher: 'What is your name?'

Student: 'My name is Beautiful Red Underwear'

Teacher: 'What kind of a name is this? Don't joke tell me the right name'

Student: 'My name is Sunderlal Chadda.'

Teacher: What is the full form of maths?

Student: Mentally affected teachers harassing students

Teacher: How old is ur father.

Sunny: As old as I am.

Teacher: How is it possible?

Sunny: He became father only after I was born.



"Pastor, about this new idea to reach teens..."