



*Kirkspire*

FEBRUARY 2017

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*Editor : Mrs. R. Chandy*

## Word from the Pastor

### BE THANKFUL



Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. (Colossians 3:15)

Colossians 3:15 starts with the phrase "Let the peace of Christ..." and v. 16 starts with "Let the word of Christ...". In between you find the two words BE THANKFUL. Ungrateful are not those who don't have but they are those who are not thankful for all things in life. Throughout the Bible you find many examples of people who were thankful to God and to other people for who they became in life and for the things they had received in their lives. Not being thankful is our own way of building a wall of pride, self-righteousness and ultimately anger, frustration and resentment. For God's peace to rule in our hearts, we need to be thankful to God. For God's word to rule in our hearts, we need to be thankful. Much can be said about this but in this article I want to remind all of us of three fundamental principles in applying this in our practical lives.

1. ...let each esteem other better than themselves. (Philippians 2:3)  
- It would be very easy to say thanks to God everyday when we realize that our very existence is by the grace of God. We can be thankful to others when we realize that we are blessed by the prayers of others, love of others and above all their very presence whether in person or even far away. We seldom say thank you to even our own family members because we either take them and their contribution for granted or there is a sense of entitlement wherewith we do not esteem them as individuals who need to be appreciated.

2. ...build one another in the most holy faith..(Jude 1:20) - We can make this a habit to be thankful to God because He sends people who will build our faith in Jesus Christ. We need to thank God the Father who says that we have a Father in heaven whereby we are citizens of that glorious family. We need to thank God the Son with whom we are co-heirs. We need to thank God the Holy Spirit who is our companion,

counselor, teacher, intercessor and many more. We also need to thank God for those who have spoken life into our lives of faith. Let us not forget those who pray for us.

3. Be Thankful (Colossians 3:15) - It is an act of the will. One can choose to be thankful or can choose to complain. One can choose to cherish what God has given or choose to chase after the wind and in the process, grumble, blame and wonder why they are not given what they desire. I Thessalonians 5:18 says 'giving thanks in all circumstances'.

We are always needful people but in it we can choose to be thankful. Count your blessings, name them one by one.

What is your choice today? What is your habit - grumble and complain or be thankful and peaceful? What are the habits or family culture we teach our children? BE THANKFUL.

God bless you.

*Pastor Isaac Johnson*



### **John's Corner**

## **Covet Not**

(Read Exod 20:17, Luke 12:15, Heb 13:5)

Covet not, the Bible teaches,  
Our Lord covetousness abhors;  
'Ask', said He, 'and you'll be given',  
But covet not what is not yours.

As Jesus taught seek what's above,  
And always you'll be satisfied;  
No good thing lacks a believer,  
God will for all his wants provide.

Ere we call our Saviour answers,  
He knows exactly what we need;  
Look to Him and be delivered,  
From covetousness, lust and greed.

*John H. Bala Singh*



**Bible Quiz No. 75 - February, 2017**

**Based on Proverbs (King James Version)**

**Give only 1 reference.**

1. What is like golden apples in silver settings?
2. What goes before destruction?
3. What is the relation between the Lazy and who destroys things?
4. What is to be kept with all diligence?
5. What kind of a heart is a good medicine?
6. What kind of a hand makes a man poor?
7. Who says that if he goes outside he might meet a lion in the street and be killed?
8. Who believed all the words?
9. Who destroys a friend with the mouth?
10. Who gets trapped in his own iniquity?

Kindly send your answers to the church office by 19th February 2017.

*Usha George*

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Let your smile change the world, but don't let  
the world change your smile.

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## Visit to Ullavoor



A small group of volunteers from our congregation visited a group of families in Ullavoor, a small village in Kancheepuram District near Chengelpet. It was an experience that gave us an opportunity to show God's concern and love for less fortunate people. Twenty one families belonging to the Irullar community rescued from bonded labour from brick kilns live there in a small area between two cemeteries. The people have been brutalised and exploited in every manner conceivable. To this community released from bonded labour through the good work of an NGO, some of us went, to share the joy of Christmas.

'Do you know what is special about December'? 'Have you heard about Christmas'? The answer to these two questions by the residents of Ullavoor was a resounding "No". Eagerness to learn was however evident in the smiles of all around us.

As we entered their colony, we heard sounds of drums beating and prayers for healing from one of the huts. Soon the prayers stopped and all inhabitants gathered to hear the great story of our Saviour's birth and the plan of redemption of mankind from the slavery of sin. This was narrated in fluent Tamil by Mrs. Diana Paulraj. The children of this colony hear the Gospel every Sunday from the Pastor of a Church who visits them. Some sang songs worshipping our Lord Jesus Christ. This convinced us that if we are open to the Lord's prompting, we can reach the Gospel to them eventually.

We gave them everyday necessities like mats, bed sheets, towels, toiletries, steel plates, plastic containers etc. This is our third visit to this community. On our earlier visits, we got to know the residents, their socio-economic status and their needs. Our church has sanctioned a sum of money towards water connection and laying of water pipe lines. This project is yet to commence. None of this help was asked for, but we assessed the need by interacting with them. Kindly pray that this project should be completed without delay.

One of the changes noticed was, they had planted flowering plants and some trees near their houses and goats were being reared by some families. The children go to nearby schools but some of them discontinue as they are not accepted by other children in their classes. The ladies have formed themselves into self help groups and they have opened bank accounts. The Panchayat Chairman has been very helpful to them, yet they have a long way to go to be self sufficient even in a small measure. They are willing to earn through hard work rather than depend on charity. Vocational guidance and family counselling are the crying need of the hour to uplift them socially.

It is our prayer that one day this community will know the Lord Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour and we can play a small part in their spiritual and economic transformation. May we all pray that the Lord should open more doors for our congregation to serve those in need such as these.

*Sujatha Prasad  
Diana Paulraj  
S. Gabriel*



## **Never Underestimate A Young Woman With Blue Hair**

Maria De La Croix, applied for a job with Starbucks and was rejected because she sported blue hair, a violation of company policy at the time. Anxious to find a way to earn a living, she launched her own coffee shop on a bicycle. She made so much money; she started selling more bicycle-based shops and within two years had sold over 600 cafes in 60 countries. Her shops sell only organic food and coffee and use solar panels to generate electricity.

(How come in India the bicycle bound vegetable vendors or Chaiwalas are not recognised?)

*Courtesy: Forbes  
Contributed by J.C. Thomas*

## **I feel Only, That's Lonely – The Art of Being Alone**

Chronic loneliness (Being & Feeling lonely for a long time) is a modern -day epidemic. More & more people are complaining of chronic loneliness and specially those who have moved to bigger cities from smaller cities. A Clinical Psychologist of Fortis Hiranandani Hospital, Mumbai states that there has been a 3 fold increase in patients experiencing chronic loneliness. Loneliness doesn't necessarily require physical solitude, but rather absence of connection, closeness, kinship; inability to find as much intimacy as desired.

One can feel lonely anywhere, but loneliness that comes from feeling alone in a big city despite living cheek-by-jowl with so many people is a different thing altogether. Loneliness is not about whether we live alone, it's about feeling alone, says psychologist John Cacioppo of the University of Chicago, US.

Nobody knew this phenomenon in India but today people are becoming more isolated- the need for privacy is increasing and tolerance for compromise is reducing. There is an exponential increase in nuclear families and singles and joint families do not exist anymore. Erratic schedules, lack of meaningful relationships, break ups, increasing workloads, long commuting hours and the pressure/need to prove one's worth through materialism, too, have resulted in people distancing themselves from others. Besides lack of empathy and time for each other, experts blame the dual character of the online world for fuelling chronic loneliness." If used as a tool to enrich and increase the frequency of face-to-face interactions, social media tends to be associated with lower levels of loneliness. But if you look at it as a replacement for the face-to-face, it can flood you with loneliness.

A study published in the journal of Developmental Psychology states that the possibility of loneliness increases higher at the age of 30. A sense of lack of purpose and dissatisfaction with life that typically occurs during early adulthood can make loneliness creep in. The world gives remedies to this by having a pet dog, connecting with others, pursuing things which give inner joy, indulging in creative activities,

etc. But the Bible states it in a different manner. Three Learnings of how the Bible teaches us to deal with loneliness in our lives are:

(1) God says I am your Best Friend in Loneliness- Tell yourself "God says you are not alone- I will not leave you nor forsake you. (Heb13:5)" Elijah was lonely as he was running away from Jezebel – God said "What are you doing here?" God fed him and he came out of his loneliness syndrome. Daniel was all alone – all people tried to corner him but finally God saved him from the lions in the den & gave him a high position. When you focus on a problem, you get more problems – when you focus on possibilities, you get more opportunities through God. Even when the WHOLE WORLD IS AGAINST YOU, you feel to be in a minority, GOD SAYS I AM WITH YOU, THAT IS SUFFICIENT FOR A MAJORITY – GOD (Rom 8:31) 'What a Friend we have in Jesus' song sums it up that Jesus is the best friend yesterday, today and forever.

(2) God says – Have Fellowship with Fellow Believers- In today's world because of the electronic gadget/virtual way of communication through email / what's up & sms-people have forgotten the face to face way of communication. The Bible clearly states that we should not give up the habit of fellowship with fellow Christians (Hebrew 10:19-25) & have a one on one communication. Simeon of Jerusalem longed to see baby Jesus's face before his death- the idea is to have a direct communication with the Lord. The Bible talks about OUR PRIVILEGE OF seeing our Lord face to face IN HEAVEN- WHAT a PROMISE – SO WONDERFUL!!(I Cor. 13:12)

(3) God calls us for a time of solitude with Him- God calls us to have a time of communion with the Lord every day in solitude. Solitude makes you available to the Lord for Bible study and prayer – a Quiet Time of meditation. There is a difference between solitude and loneliness because – loneliness is when you feel alone and neglected/unwanted in the fast world or in a party get together but solitude is making yourself alone to have time with the Lord. Daniel closed the doors to pray to Almighty 3 times a day. God calls us to lead a Purpose Driven Life by having time with Him every day. That is why we sing "TAKE TIME TO BE HOLY- SPEAK OFT WITH THY LORD" – it is for our benefit for God's grace & mercy to be upon us every day.

If we continuously are aware that we need the counsel of the Holy Spirit and are in the presence of God & seek His knowledge – we will always never be alone- but walk with God as Enoch did. We need to remember as God says- we are here to glorify the creator and sustainer

of Life and to lead a life of living sacrifice for the Lord then we will never feel lonely – because we are in the right environment, with the right people & right circumstances. Because we are leaning on His everlasting arms, let us approach 2017 by “Trusting Him as there is no other way but to Trust & Obey, to be happy in Jesus.

*Dr Samip Baruah*

**Answers to Bible Quiz No. 74**

**(January 2017)**

**Based on Proverbs**

The answers are :

1. The upright -- Prov. 11:11
2. God -- Prov. 25:2
3. The Wise -- Prov. 21:20
4. Tongue -- Prov. 18:21
5. Locusts -- Prov. 30:27
6. Mercy and Truth -- Prov. 16:6
7. Poverty & disgrace -- Prov. 13:18
8. Purity of heart -- Prov. 22:11
9. Kind words -- Prov. 16:24
10. When the righteous prosper -- Prov. 11:10

**The winners are:**

1. **Dr. Rachel Chacko**
2. **Minnie Devadoss**
3. **Joseph M. Manoharan**
4. **Dr. Mrs. Sujatha Prasad**
5. **Mrs. I. Phebe Tryphena**
6. **Mrs. Gladys Wilson**
7. **Mrs. Leela Koilpillai**
8. **Mrs. Indira Rajanayakam**
9. **John Ravindar Rathnasamy**
10. **Peace Rani Sudhakar**

***Hearty congratulations!***

*Usha George*

## Passion Flower



In 1608, Spanish Jesuits formally presented Pope Paul V with a drawing and dried specimens of the passion flower discovered in Peru - the flower with the five wounds. The Spaniards who had first discovered the passion flower in South America called it 'Christ's thorns'.

The Anglicized name, "passion" flower refers to the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ. The name and the flower itself are filled with symbolism. The five petals and the five sepals are said to represent the 10 faithful apostles (omitting Peter and Judas). The tips of the leaves suggest the point of the centurion's spear. The central flower column denotes the pillar of the scourging. The flower's tendrils resemble the whips used in the flagellation. The corona filaments are compared to Christ's crown of thorns. The three stigmas are called the nails, and the five anthers reflect the five sacred wounds, while the red stains recall the blood of Christ.

Passion flower is the national flower of Paraguay. Bolivia has two national flowers –Flower of Paradise and Passion Flower. The flower comes in different colours- the one that was presented to the Pope was the blue variety.

The passion flower remains a recognized symbol of Christ's passion. The Victorian stained glass window theme features the passion flower, as do church ritual instruments including the altar frontal and the lectern fall.

Recently got the bill for the Passion fruit from a shop in Chennai mentioning it as Fashion fruit.

*J.C. Thomas*

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Courage is not the absence of fear, but rather the judgement that something else is more important than fear.

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## The Journey of the Kirk

History is always interesting with its facts and figures, but what's more interesting is to be part of it and to see it with our very own eyes!

A rewind to 196 years of this beautiful Church we belong to could speak volumes of its rich heritage and architecture, and the seeds of love & deeds sown by the devoted congregations gone by!

St. Andrew's Kirk (St. Andrew's Church) is one of the many fascinating monuments that adorn the streets of Chennai. Its architecturally majestic design ranges from a towering spire to majestic columns and a magnificent dome.

Rev. Dr. John Alan, the first Minister of Kirk, established the Church of Scotland Congregation to serve the Scottish community in Madras (Chennai).

Kirk in Scottish means the Church. Construction of this magnificent Church started on 6 April 1818, and the church was consecrated on 25 February 1821. Its design was inspired by St. Martin-in-the-Fields Church, London. The arduous work of building the Kirk, was executed by Major Thomas Fort de Havilland and Col. James Caldwell and tirelessly supervised by the first Minister, Rev. Dr. John Allen. This church is often referred to as 'the Queen of Scottish Churches in the East'

Imagine Rev. Dr. John Allen standing and supervising this vast area of marshy low-land that was subject to sinking and flooding! His countless prayers and day and night watch over this magnificent construction for nearly 3 years, resulted in the raising of this work of art!

The 14 ft foundation of the Kirk sits on a bed of pottery and brick wells 9 ft deep. The total of 150 wells were set close to each other- 150 wells with no modern day machinery. The well diggers had to labour hard and digging under water is no joke!

The steeple rises 166 ft above the floor of the Kirk. History records, on 8th May 1820 the steeple was completed and on the eleventh, only three days after, the steeple was hit by a most violent storm! The wind blew with great violence for thirty hours during which period sixteen inches of rain fell in Madras. Rev. Dr. John Allen who then resided at the Manse and the workers would have had a really long night! The steeple resisted the whole storm unhurt!

The marvel that catches one's eye as one enters the Kirk is the huge dome that stands tall at 51.5 ft in diameter from the inside. To add to the architectural marvel, the dome has a framework of only bricks filled in with masonry. The blue interior formed by crushed sea shells mixed with lapis lazuli (semi-precious stone) gives the impression of an azure sky (that is) the canopy of heaven. The dome rests on sixteen fluted Corinthian columns.

The Kirk's uniqueness is heightened by its pipe organ and the rendering of anthems by its choir. The enormous pipe organ in olive green and intricate woodwork in burnished gold was built in New Yorkshire, England. It was installed in 1883.

The Kirk is characterised by its black and white checkered marble floor, and beautiful mahogany wood work. Its interior is circular with teak and rattan pews arranged in a semi circular pattern facing the altar.

The stone pulpit was a gift from Mr. & Mrs. James Short used for the first time in October 1909.

Facts about this beautiful astounding master piece can be researched and written in volumes. The fact remains that history has gifted us and the ones gone by with a beautiful haven to worship our Lord almighty.

196 years forward, we have found our Lord's grace and mercy in reaching out to our outreach projects and various ministries through this Church touching lives, raising missionaries, spreading countless smiles. Yes, the hard labour, the sacrifices, the dedication, the seeds sown have seen wonderful harvest in Christ Jesus through the years. They continue to be sown for generations to come. Yes, we are moving on as a congregation with a vision of obedient disciples of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Source:

- St. Andrew's Church (The Kirk). (1997, November 30). A Commemoration.
- Muthiah, S. (2003, April 16). A firm foundation. The Hindu [Chennai].
- St Andrew's Church, Chennai - Wikipedia. (n.d.). Retrieved January 9, 2017

*Grace Devadoss*



**Medical Corner**

## **This amazing world In colour**

Doctor treats but Jesus heals

Do you know that colour vision is a God given gift only to human beings, apes, monkeys, some birds, certain species of fish and insects? Most of the other animals see colours differently from the way we do. Crocodiles see colours, in varying shades of grey and bees can see ultra violet rays which are invisible to the human eye!

However we need sunlight or artificial light to see colour! Have you gone out for a walk in moon light? everything will appear in various shades of grey. In total darkness, we cannot see anything. On the other hand owls and some animals that hunt at night have extremely large eyes and pupils, which provide excellent vision in dim light. Cats also have good night vision.

The retina, which is the inner most photosensitive layer of the eye is comparable to the film roll inside a camera. The retina has two kinds of cells "rods" and "cones." The rods play a role in night vision and the cones are responsible for colour vision. Defects in the cones lead to different kinds of colour blindness, whereas Vitamin A deficiency can lead to night blindness!

Carrots, papaya, drumsticks, green leafy vegetables, drumstick leaves, fish, fish liver oils, liver, milk, cheese, butter and eggs are good sources of Vitamin A and regular intake of these will prevent night blindness.

*Dr. Rajinikantha*

## Blowing in the Wind?

'The year Thou gavest Lord, has ended". It is a reminder that seasons and years don't last forever. As a venerable member of our Women's Fellowship once said "we too were young once". Nothing stays the same: babies are born, grow into young people, and fly the nest to find fresh pastures; our once supple bodies creak and groan. And yet, we are not dying out. As our Lord has said in Revelation 21:5 "Behold, I make all things new".

In our fast paced world, do we have time to befriend a next door neighbour?

As our pastor Isaac Johnson in his Sunday morning message said, God has a purpose for keeping us here.

In the Parable of Talents (Matthew 25:14-30), Jesus commends the two men who invest wisely and thus gain more for their master, but the last man who fails to do so stands condemned. When Jesus turned a boy's lunch into a feast for five thousand, the disciples were told to gather the leftover. We serve a Creator who is both extravagant and thrifty. Let nothing be wasted, says Jesus.

God had given wealth, position and knowledge of the scriptures to the Pharisees and doctors of the law in Jesus' time. Yet they were blind and could not see the hand of God in the act of mercy Jesus showed in giving sight to the man born blind. They were religious, but did not love God or man.

God has given us time, talents, material wealth and most importantly, the Word of God; we cannot bury or hoard what we have received. Let us not just stand there or pass by without involvement as did the priest and the Levite (Luke 10: 25-37). This is not a choice but a sublime command given to us - to feed others with the Bread of Life.

The world is filled with people who are angry, hurting and broken with the uncertainty of life. God can use us to bring hope and healing to people He places in our way. Opportunities to serve are fleeting "Tomorrow may be a day too late". We are charged to see, hear and love our neighbour as we ourselves are seen, heard and loved by God. In choosing a safe and uninvolved way, we are no better than the rustle of dried, lifeless leaves blowing in the wind.

*Usha George*

For the Youth

## Is it God's Will?



**What College should I attend? What subject should I study?  
Whom should I marry? What job should  
I seek? What should I do with my life?**

### **1. What does Scripture say?**

This is the most important question. Too often Christians look for a supernatural revelation on a specific choice they are facing instead of searching the Scriptures to see what God has already revealed. You must begin scripture because it is God's revelation.

"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness" (2 Timothy 3:16).

### **2. Are you becoming the person God wants you to be?**

As you search the Scriptures, you will see that God is far more interested in the kind of person you are than in what you do or where you go. In Luke 6:45, Jesus pointed out that character determines action: "A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart." So, when faced with any choice, you must ask both whether your motivation is Christlike and whether a decision will help or hinder the development of Christlikeness within you.

### **5. What are your gifts and talents?**

Scripture says that God gives all Christians spiritual gifts: "Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good" (1 Corinthians 12:7). When you make decisions, you should take both your spiritual gifts and your natural talents into consideration, for these may indicate what God wants you to do.

### **4. What do your Christian parents, mentors and friends encourage you to consider?**

The Lord has placed people in your life for a purpose. They know you and understand your character, gifts and talents. Part of discerning the will of God is listening to them.

**5. What circumstances are you going through that may provide direction?**

Circumstances can prepare you for what God wants to do in your life. Yes, God is working through the circumstances of your life! They are more than coincidences, they are God incidences!

**6. Have you received supernatural revelation?**

How wonderful it would be if God would speak audibly to us every time and tell us what to do! Scripture tells us that He does that on occasion. Look at Moses (Exodus 3) or Isaiah (Isaiah 6), or the apostle Paul (Acts 9). Such supernatural revelation is not the general rule, however, and none of the persons mentioned above were looking for a supernatural revelation. Be open to however God wishes to manifest Himself to you.

**7. What impressions come to your heart as you worship?**

The first Christians experienced the leading of the Holy Spirit through prayer (Acts 10:9), reading God's Word (Acts 1:20), community sessions of worship (Acts 13:1-3), and visions (Acts 10:3-10).

**8. What do you want to do?**

"Take delight in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart" (Psalm 37:4) Ask yourself, "What do I want to do with my life? What do I really get excited about?" If the Lord gives you the desires of your heart, then you must have some desires to begin with. In other words, your own choices may be God's way of guiding you.

*From 'New Life Bulletin' 7-8-2016*

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Good things come to those who believe. Better things come to those who are patient, and the best things come to those who never give up.

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## Kirk News



Apostle John writes in Revelation 5:13 "Blessing, & Honor, & Glory, & Power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever" (KJV). Yes we owe our worship to Lord Jesus who sits on the throne as we enter 2017. As we go into the new month of Feb 2017, we need to focus on worshipping our Saviour every day and every moment.

### Guest Speakers

- 8th January 6 p.m. Mr. Antony Basil, spoke on the topic "Is He still a Baby?" from Galatians 4:19, Romans 8:29 in the healing service.
- 15th January 7 a.m. Mrs. Sujatha Elizabeth Prasad our member spoke on the topic "Manifestation of God" from Genesis 28:10-22
- 9 a.m. Mr. C. Paul Anbarasu spoke on the topic "Understanding God's heart for Justice" from Isa1:1-17.
- 22nd January 6 p.m. Mr. Moses Daniel, spoke on the topic "Overcoming Temptation" from Matthew 4:1-11 in the evening service.

### Friday House Church Meetings

During the month, the meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> January was held at the residence of Rev. & Mrs. Isaac Johnson and that on 27<sup>th</sup> January held in the home of Mr. & Mrs. Manoj Mathew. We thank the members for opening their homes in Christian love and fellowship.

### Out Reach Programs

Kirk Sunday School Children of Classes 6 to 12 went for an outreach program to Kosapur Church and presented songs & mimes as a part of their presentation. The Kirk Youth Fellowship conducted the service at Thirupalaivanam.

Kirk Youth Fellowship met on 9th January for a time of worship and prayer and on 15<sup>th</sup> January for a study of the book of Job. CATALYST Youth Worship Service was held on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2017.

Evangelism & Missions Movement's Fasting & Prayer took place on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> of January 2017 & Monday Bible Study resumed on the study of Luke's Gospel on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

The Men's Fellowship & Women's Fellowship met simultaneously on 15<sup>th</sup> Jan 2017 for their fellowship meetings after church.

All Night Prayer was held on 27<sup>th</sup> January from 7 to 10:30pm. Mr. M.M. Narendranath, our elder spoke on the topic "Power of Fasting and Praying" & Praise & Worship was led by Mr. Joshua Chelliah & Dr. (Mrs.) Anita Chelliah.

The Annual General Assembly – 2017 was held on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2016 where a 'Report' about the life of our Church during the year 2016 and the Audited Statement of Accounts for the Year 2015 – 2016 were presented & discussed with the communicant members.

St Andrew's Church Hindi Fellowship & FMPB organized a Hindi Christmas Program on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2017. Nearly 200 people comprising workers and their families from Karanodai, Madhavaram, Ambattur and Maraimalai Nagar attended. They presented skits, dance and choreography which were very much appreciated by everyone. We praise God for His grace and mercy and thank the Church members for upholding this ministry through prayer and encouragement.

**ANNUAL CHURCH CAMP – 2017** was held on 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> January 2017 on the theme of "FOUNDATIONS" which included various interesting topics of discussion like "The Nature of God", "Salvation", "Assurance of Salvation and Forgiveness", "Overcoming Temptation", "The Work and Ministry of the Holy Spirit", "Prayer and God's Word" and "God's Purpose for Your Life", each being a foundation stone in the building up of our life of faith and witness. It was a blessing as the Rev. Ashish Raichur, & Rev. Paul Asveen ministered to the participants. We thank each one of you for your prayers.

#### **OBITUARY**

Mrs. Usha Ranjini Daniel, D/o Mrs. S. Shantha Daniel, our member, passed away on 25<sup>th</sup> January, aged 67 years. We convey our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family.

#### **CONGRATULATIONS!**

Mr. Stanly Jebakumar Chandrasekar & Mrs. Sudha Markeesan, our members, were blessed with a baby boy on Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> January.

Ullavoor Visit

