

# Kirkspire



June 2014

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*Editor : Mrs. R. Chandy*

## Word from the Pastor



One of the prayers that bounce out of the book of Psalms is the prayer recorded in Psalm 85:6, "Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?"

"Why not help us make a fresh start – resurrection life? Then your people will laugh and sing." (The Message Bible)

Revival is something that comes from above. Revival is not mere showers of God's blessing (physically) but more so showers of blessing spiritually. We do not need just showers only, but the Church needs today a flooding, thereby stirring up the complacent and producing a conviction and conversion of many people.

The Church stands in need of great revival. We need for sure as one author said, **"An inrush of divine life into a body threatening to become a corpse."**

An old Welsh preacher said, **"Revival is God bending down to the dying embers of a fire just about to go out and breathing into it until it bursts into flame."**

Edwin Orr in his book states, **"Revival takes place when we experience times of refreshing from the presence of the Lord."**

I am convinced and I believe that you too are convinced that there is a need as G.Campbell Morgan said, **"Revival is the reanimation of the life in the believer."** How true it is that revival can only be where there is life to revive.

What a great need for a heaven-sent revival for our own Church. More of life in all its fullness, life abundant, life overflowing with the Grace and Power of God.

The simple stipulations scripture sets forth for Israel and all of God's people to experience God's blessing of revival are seen in this principle God has spoken to Solomon:

A two-fold condition, with a three-fold result is extended to God's chosen people in 2 Chron.7:14, "If my people, who are called by my

name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land." God effects His sovereign purpose with the prayers of His children.

May God so enable us to pray for a Revival, and may we also experience showers from above. Shalom.

*Peter Francis  
Pastor*



**John's Corner**

## **Achievement**

**(Read Mat. 6:33)**

What does achievement mean to you?  
Is it in reaching the top,  
Or despite sinking to the depths of defeat,  
Have faith that will never stop?

Is it in gaining the whole world  
With nothing more left to do,  
Or having a little, to share what you have  
With those who have less than you?

Is it in humbly thanking God  
For blessings received each day,  
Or feeling elated and praising yourself,  
You did everything your way?

He achieves most who when his life  
Has ended, hears Jesus tell,  
'Well done! faithful child, for you I've been waiting;  
With me you shall ever dwell.'

'Seek first God's kingdom,' said our Lord,  
'And seek ye His righteousness;  
And all these things will be added to you,  
Achievements beyond 'success'.

*John H. Bala Singh*

## **'You Are Special' – VBS 2014 in the Kirk**

'I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills. From whence cometh my help? My help cometh from the Lord Who made the heaven and earth'- Psalm 121.1 Pastor Rev. Peter Francis exhorted the VBS teachers and volunteers to look to the Creator and Redeemer God to lead the VBS programme 2014. On that day we prayed, "God send us 200 children to teach Your word". VBS 2014 was conducted from April 22 to May 3, 2014 and the Final Day celebration was on May 4, 2014. God be praised for the way He brought over 200 children to the church to learn that each one of them is special. The theme -"You are special" was based on Deuteronomy 7.6 and Luke 12.7. That each one is SPECIAL was summed up in the theme song which stated

I'm  
Saved by grace, a  
Prized Possession, am  
Ever loved and  
Chosen by God, I'm  
In His hands the  
Apple of His eye, He  
Lives in me today  
And that's why you are/I am special

The first day witnessed the presence of 215 children in the church. On Day 5 we had 225 children- all eager to learn from God's word. Pastor summed up his joy by saying, "I have never seen so many children in a VBS: I sense the move of God in the church." The children were from our church and neighbouring churches and classes were held in English and Tamil. There were 38 children with special needs from Asha, 48 to 68 children from our Tuition Centre at St Mark's School, Periamet and 22 to 28 from our Day Care Centre. Experience of two teachers who were part of the Asha VBS and Tamil VBS is separately included.

Every day the children recognised who they were and what they can become through the 'theme for the day.' The themes included I am God's Handiwork, I am unworthy, God makes me worthy, I am a child of God, I am God's friend, I have a guide, I am God's steward, I am God's servant, I am God's spokesperson and I am to wait as His witness. Many students in their teens accepted the Lord as their Saviour and we praise God for this.

During the ten days of VBS, children were encouraged to earn money by doing errands at home and the money collected, which amounted

to Rs 7210/-, was given to the church for conducting VBS in our village outreach centres. Evangelists from these areas shared with the children their work in their respective areas and children prayed for the needs of these outreach areas. Children were taught that not only they were special -their bodies, minds and emotions but others' lives were special as well and taught to respect others. The session on girl child protection and respect the girls was led by Mr.Jimmy Joseph. Parents were invited to be VBS students for a day. We prayed that God would send at least 40 parents for their class. 42 parents attended VBS on that day and their sessions on parenting led by Mr and Mrs Moses from the SU Family Centre was well received. Children were taught the art of salad making by Mrs.Anita Durai and Pastor Isaac Johnson and Mr. Dulip Singh were the judges. The creative instincts of the children were kindled during the craft time by Dr.Shakila and Dr.Sheeba. The aero-modelling activity organised by Mr.Prabhakar Durai was a great experience for the children. Children enjoyed the Sports day which was conducted by the Christian Sports Ministry Team led by Mr.Gideon and his team. Pastor Francis and Mrs.Jennifer Francis were the judges on the Inspection day.

Mr.Narendranath and Dr. (Mrs.) Rajini Kantha, Rev. Jeyakodi, Mrs. Jayabarathy and Mrs.Chitra Bennett and Mrs.Meera Ninan led the devotions every day. Mrs.Geetha Zachariah, Mrs.Susan Cherian and Mrs.Anita Durai were present on a daily basis helping serve the juice and eats during the recess time. Mr. and Mrs.Paulraj, Mrs.Suguna Joseph, Dr.Vimala Samuel and Mr.Gideon helped in the registration process. We thank God for their faithfulness. The team of 24 teachers and 12 volunteers helped to make this VBS a great blessing. We praise God for each of them and their families for their sacrificial giving of their time and energy.

We praise God for the donors who gave in cash and kind to meet the expenses of this great work for God. We praise God for the Church staff who were a great help in making the church ready for classes, buying the materials, and doing all the odd jobs along with their regular work.

We thank God for Dr.Shajeev who photographed the important events and made copies for all participants.

Mrs.Rani Williams summed up our gratitude in the words of the Psalmist in Psalm 107.8 'Oh that men would praise the Lord for His goodness and for His wonderful works to the children of men.'

*Rani Williams & Sujatha Prasad*

## **ASHA VBS, 2014**

"If we are all unique creatures of God, as Christians affirm, normality becomes a meaningless concept." — Ted Harrison 1948 — : "Disability: Rights and Wrongs" (1995)

We at St Andrews (Kirk) were blessed to be a part of Asha's summer through the VBS 2014-the first of its kind at the Kirk. It was a lovely, entertaining and blessed time for all. Over the six days of VBS we – 38 students, 6 teachers and 3 Asha helpers- learnt three Bible stories showing that Jesus is our friend, that God provides for us and God cares for us.

It was interesting to learn so much from the children and people at Asha – looking at the bright side of things, persistence, trust and how to have a real good time.

Apart from my new ability to rewrite the Bible story as told by my class, I have learnt the value of relationship and love just as Jesus wanted for us.

After teaching the story of Zacchaeus, I taught the memory verse from John 15.14 that Jesus said "You will be my friends". When I asked "Who is your friend?", the response was, "Xyna Akka"- I am happy to be their friend and part of their group and family.

That day we cut some fern leaves to make a sycamore tree on a chart paper. One student was very unhappy and worried – his repeated question – "Will the leaves dry?- If "Yes" why pluck them?" The next day to his dismay the leaves had dried and he blamed me for taking them off the plant and using glue to stick them on to the chart. We sure need classes on protecting the environment!

I can't thank God enough for giving me the opportunity to learn from the children at Asha. I am hoping that children from Asha will continue be part of VBS in future and will be more integrated into the mainstream VBS.

*Xyna Elizabeth Prasad*

## **Tamil VBS 2014**

I thank and praise God for choosing me to be part of the Tamil VBS 2014.

All Glory to God for the children who attended the Tamil VBS; they were Hindus, Muslims and a few Christian converts.

Personally, to me, the most amazing part of this VBS is the transformation in the behaviour of three boys who were unruly during

the first few days. They became very obedient and loving, and began to say "eenimae naan eppadi seiyamattain Miss" (hereafter I will not do this Miss) whenever they did something wrong. All Praise and Glory to Jesus Christ alone!

For the children to be rooted in the Word of God and to grow in His wisdom and knowledge, Bibles were given to some of the children. In order to give them proper spiritual guidance on a regular basis and make them fruitful in their lives, our church has planned to conduct Tamil Sunday classes for them, God willing, from June 2014. Mrs.Arul Samraj, Correspondent of St.Mark's School was very happy about this and has agreed to send around fifty children for the same.

Our appreciation and admiration to St.Mark's School children who were actually writing their annual examination till April 30, 2014 and yet were part of our VBS. This clearly shows how much they loved to be here. The children would write their exams at jet speed and report here by 10 AM to be part of the class. Aren't these children really special to God?

*Precilla Rajan*



## **'You are Special' VBS 2014 at Project Areas**

Our God is a prayer answering God.

Fasting prayers on Thursdays at SACCE, constant prayers by our Congregation members and Evangelists for a successful VBS have been answered by our Almighty God. Our eyes look to God for His mercy. God's protection and care were intensified by the cloudy weather during the first week of May.

Everyday, morning devotion started with learning new action songs. It was the most eagerly awaited time when the children sang with exhilaration. We want to thank God for bringing in 100 more children this year. We believe God's spirit is acting vibrantly as He has promised especially among children belonging to other faiths. This year, few differently - abled children had the privilege of being one with our VBS children. Their performance brought blessing and joy to all of us.

VBS at outreach areas was quite challenging with mediocre facilities.



**Psalm 138 : 6**

“Though the Lord is on high, he looks upon the lowly”

It was amazing to see the commitment, enthusiasm and zeal of children, teachers and volunteers.

Teachers took great effort in teaching the Bible lessons, helping the children finish the exercises in their workbooks and preparing colourful charts etc. Both teachers and volunteers served with joy and humility. Snacks and juice were served everyday to refresh the children. Every afternoon lunch packets were provided at Thirupalaivanam, Avarivakkam, Kilkuppam and Kosapur.

**Matthew 10 : 32**

“Whoever acknowledges me before men, I will also acknowledge him before my Father in heaven.”

When children from Level 1 to seniors were able to quote from memory all the verses taught on all the 6 days boldly and clearly, we felt that the above verse would be fulfilled in their lives.

On the day of inspection, all the levels were visited and children eagerly volunteered to answer questions asked from their lesson book. Some even narrated the story they learnt. Points were given based on the performance: discipline, cleanliness, memory verse, action songs, workbook, charts and Q & A.

The Final Day was indeed a day of celebration for the kids, teachers, volunteers and especially parents. Children's performance was stupendous. Inters and seniors enacted simple and small but meaningful skits.

**Psalm 138 : 2b**

“For you have exalted above all things your name and your word.”

God has revealed Himself to all these children that He is special to them and they are special to Him from all the Biblical truths taught at this year's VBS. All glory and honour be to God for supplying all that we needed to conduct VBS effectively.

*Joshua Paulraj*

## Morning Has Broken

“My voice shalt thou hear in the morning. O Lord; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee and will look up” (Psalm 5:3)

The bell rang loudly and insistently early in the morning calling the students to prayer in the boarding school I was admitted into at the age of 12. I woke up thinking, ‘Oh! What a chore!’ but I got up and marched to the chapel where the august Director, a missionary from the UK, was waiting to propound to us the message of St. Paul to the Corinthians. I had no idea who the Corinthians were, as I came from a Jacobite Orthodox church, where the priest recited prayers in Syriac. Neither did I understand the language, as I was not familiar with spoken English. My other exposure to morning prayers was when, as a teenager, I visited my sister. My brother-in-law, a devout man used to call the family to prayers very early in the mornings. We youngsters pretended to participate in the prayers in various poses, some standing, some kneeling and some in a semi-standing position. The minute the prayers were over, all of us went back to sleep happily. It is only now I understand the value of starting the day with Jesus. Recently I read in the papers that a certain lady would get up at 4 am and pray for her husband’s victory in the General Elections, till 11 am. I thought to myself that if a person could do that to achieve an earthly goal, why cannot we Christians pray as earnestly for spiritual gifts?

We read in the Bible that Jesus got up early in the morning and went up to mountaintops to pray. Before the major decisions of His life, like the means to achieve His mission, the choice of His disciples, the submission to God’s will in Gethsemane, He prayed. He lived out the prayer in Psalm 5, verse 3. “My voice shalt thou hear in the morning. O Lord; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee and will look up”.

When we open our eyes in the morning, the first thought is usually about the work we have to do, the different people we have to meet, the progress reports of our children, etc. After you get up, the obligations and compulsions to do the pressing duties of the day take over, and one duty accomplished leads on to another till you suddenly realize that half the day is over and you haven’t sat at the Master’s feet to receive His guidance. You feel cross with yourself, the freshness of the morning is missing. Voices from the work-a-day world interfere with your communication with God. But if you had met with God, first,

the peace of God would ensure a smooth passage through the schedules of the day. I have found it so.

The incident of Mary sitting at the Master's feet and listening to Him while her elder sister Martha toiled in the kitchen comes to mind. Martha complained to Jesus, "Do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Bid her therefore that she help me". Jesus answered her, "Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things. But one thing is needful; and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her". By so saying Jesus Himself has indicated what should be the priority in our lives. "Be still and know that I am God".

Martin Luther, the founder of the Protestant movement was once asked how he was planning to spend the next day. He answered, "work, work, and work and because the work is heavy I will have to spend more time in prayer, at the start of my day".

Those who seek the Lord first in every emergency, will see "new mercies" and great deliverances. King Hezekiah, the King of Jerusalem was threatened by the Assyrian army under Sennacherib to surrender or be annihilated. He spread the warning letter before the Lord in the Holy Temple of the Lord, crying that he had no means to meet this army. The Lord told him that he did not have to lift a finger, but He Himself would defend it. Now listen to what happened.

"The Assyrian came down like the wolf on the fold,  
And his cohorts were gleaming in purple and gold;  
And the sheen of their spears was like stars on the sea,  
When the blue wave rolls nightly on deep Galilee.

Like the leaves of the forest when Summer is green,  
That host with their banners at sunset were seen:  
Like the leaves of the forest when Autumn hath blown,  
That host on the morrow lay withered and strown.

For the Angel of Death spread his wings on the blast,  
And breathed in the face of the foe as he passed;  
And the eyes of the sleepers waxed deadly and chill,  
And their hearts but once heaved, and forever grew still!"  
(Byron)

"If you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, you shall say to this mountain, "Move," and it will move".

**G.S. Rajasekaran, Secretary, Village Project, reports on the Good Friday service at Thirupalaivanam on 18.04.2014**

The Good Friday service at our church at Thirupalaivanam was held on 18.04.2014 from 11:30 am to 2:00 pm

Members from the main church St. Andrew's Kirk participated in the service. Mr. Vijay and Mr. Danny lead the singing with Keyboard.

The service started with prayer by Mr. Joshua Paulraj, after the hymn and bible reading (Isaiah 53: 1-12) read by Dr. (Mrs.) Percy Sumithran.

Mr. PCR Suresh spoke on the first word from the Cross. He emphasized God's will, Prayer, Kingdom and God's Grace.

The second word on 'Paradise' was spoken by Mrs. Sophia Dulipsingh. She spoke about repentance and eternal life, which we received from the cross.

Mrs. Annal Sasi spoke on the third word. "She emphasized the new relationship between God and Man which came from the Cross".

Mr. Harris explained the fourth word. He emphasised the two divisions of the Cross as Divine and Human nature, that is, because of our sin, God died on the cross.

The fifth word 'I thirst' was explained by Evang. Santhosh. He spoke about the Samaritan Woman, to whom Jesus Christ revealed the spiritual aspect of thirst, following which the Samaritan woman came to know the truth and found the Messiah.

Evang. Sorna Paul spoke on the sixth word, 'It is finished'. He said we are saved through the cross, and got the victory in our lives by the cross.

Rev. Isac Soundara Raja spoke on the seventh word, 'Father, into your hands I commit my Spirit'. He spoke about three groups of people found in Gethsemane. He also explained about the people who were with Jesus, who cried with Jesus and the people who watched from far away during the crucifixion.

There was Bible reading and two hymn stanzas were sung after each word. In closing, there was intercessory prayer, and congregational hymn.

A special song was sung by Mrs. Carol Harris during the offertory. The service ended with benediction by Rev. Isac Soundara Raja. It was a rich spiritual experience for all those who participated. May God bless all.

**Joshua Paulraj, Secretary, Evangelism Project, reports on the Easter Holy Communion Service at Karanodai:**

An Easter Holy Communion service was held at Karanodai on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2014 at 5 pm.

The service began with prayer by Mr. Kanaga Roy. Rev. Isaac Johnson lead the congregation with singing.

Mr. Joshua Paulraj read the Bible followed by message by Rev. Isaac Johnson.

After a special prayer by Mr. Abraham Mani for the Tailoring students who completed the course, certificates were issued to them.

The Communion vessels were dedicated to the Glory of God by Rev. Isaac Johnson. This was followed by Communion Service.

The service came to a close with prayer by Evang. Sorna Paul, and benediction was given by the Pastor Rev. Isaac Johnson.

**Answers to Bible Quiz No. 44**

***Hearty Congratulations !***

**Right Answers given by :**

**Dr. Rachel Chacko**

**Mrs. Suguna Joseph**

The answers are :

1. The Second Coming of the Lord - Matthew 24 : 3 or 39
2. The Mountains of Lebanon - Psalm 92 : 12, Ezra 3 : 7, Psalm 29 : 5
3. Collar of my coat - Job. 30 : 18
4. John the Baptist - Matthew 3 : 11
5. Reuban - Genesis 30 : 14
6. 'went forth to sow' - Matthew 13 : 3
7. No
8. Isaiah ordered a poultice of figs - 2 Kings 20 : 7
9. Peter - 1 Peter 2 : 2
10. Job - 9 : 31

**Trivia !**

Answer - Joshua, the son of Nun.

*Usha George*



**Medical Corner**

## **ALLERGIES IN THE BODY - III**

### **ALLERGIC LUNG DISEASE**

**Doctors treat, but Jesus heals.**

A wide range of organic agents may cause allergic lung disease (Allergic Alveolitis). Farmers develop it because they inhale mouldy hay, straw, grain, compost or mulch (Farmer's lung). Those who have birds as pets, pigeon breeders and those working in an aviary develop allergy to bird droppings, proteins and feathers (Bird fancier's lung). Those in a "malt factory" develop allergy to mouldy maltings. Those working in textile industries develop allergy to cotton, flax and hemp dust and people in cheese factories develop allergy to mouldy cheese (Cheese worker's lung).

Within few hours of exposure to the organic dust (allergen), people develop flu-like symptoms. These include headache, muscular pain, malaise, fever, dry cough and breathlessness without wheeze. Constant exposure to the organic agent (allergen) can cause permanent damage to the lung tissue. Chest x-rays and high resolution CT Scans can help in the diagnosis. Clinical findings, radiological (x-ray) features, and identification of the organic dusts at home/ work place can clinch the diagnosis. Exposure to the organic dust must be prevented by change of occupation / environment if possible. In acute cases, oral steroids and high concentration of oxygen are also given.

*Dr. (Mrs) Rajini Kantha*



**Quiz No. 45 - June, 2014**  
**(The questions are set on the Book of Isaiah -**  
**based on King James Version)**

(Note : Give only 1 ref. which best answers the question.  
Each Ref. carries 1/2 mark.)

1. The longest name in the Bible?
2. Concerning whom did Isaiah prophecy?
3. During the year of whose death did the prophet see the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up?
4. How does the Lord blot out the transgressions?
5. In what name will the city of Zion be known?
6. Name the place where the wild beasts will lie?
7. Name the city that had drunk the cup of fury at the hand of the Lord.
8. The Covenant that will never be removed?
9. The head is the ancient and honourable. What is the tail?
10. Name the Kings of Judah during whose time Isaiah prophesied.

**Trivia**

What man in the Bible spoke when he was a very small baby?

*Send the answers with Bible references to the Church office before 25th June 2014.*

*Names of the members who answer correctly will be published in the next issue of Kirkspire.*

*Usha George*

## Kirk News



April in the Kirk is generally VBS season and this year the attendance and enthusiasm of the children both in the Kirk and in the outreach areas were cause for thanksgiving to our Lord. The reports in this issue will give you the full picture of the activities during those days which were truly fun-filled for the kids and the organisers.

Summer, which usually peaks in May in Chennai, is especially hot and sultry this year (due to the *El Nino* effect, according to reports). We in Chennai continue to pray in June for the Lord to provide good rains, both to replenish the water table and for cooler weather. Our Lord is faithful and ever protective. June starts off a new year of activities in the Kirk. RMDCC, Asha and AKCDC have reopened with a new school year. We wish them the Lord's blessings and protection.

May the Lord guide us in the Kirk, along with Christians around the world, to draw closer to Him in the time He gives us ahead. Blessed be His Holy Name!

### Guest Speakers

- |                        |     |   |
|------------------------|-----|---|
| 13 <sup>th</sup> April | 6pm | Mr. M.M. Narendranath, Elder, shared on "Application of Palm Sunday to life" (John 12: 12-25). The Kirk Choir presented Special Music for Holy Week on the theme "Lamb of God". |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> April | 9am | On Good Friday, Rev. Dr. Samuel Kamaleson focussed on the topic " 'Lest I forget' " from 2 Corinthians 5:9-21.  |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> April | 6pm | Mrs.Meera Ninan, our member, spoke on the "Supremacy of Christ" from Col.1:15-23.   |



27 <sup>th</sup> April	6pm	Mr. P.C.R.Suresh spoke at Youth & Koinonia service on "Exercising Victory" (Eph.2:1-18, Rom.8:9-10)
11 <sup>th</sup> May	9am	Mr.Valentine Davidar of World Vision India spoke on the topic "No longer I but Christ" (2 Cor. 5:14-17).
Destiny...of	6pm	Mr. Ravi K. Martin of The Way Ministries covered the topic "Beginning,Purpose,Living & a Christian" (John 1:1-14)
	18 <sup>th</sup> May	7am
	9am	Our Elder, Mr.S.Gabriel's topic was "Of temples and towers" (1 Cor. 3:16 & 17, Prov. 18:10).
	9am	Mr. D. Shanthakumar (Elder) spoke on the topic "In dire straits...." (Exodus 14:5-18).
25 <sup>th</sup> May	6pm	Mr.Joshua Madan, member, spoke at the Youth & Koinonia service on the topic "First and Best to God" (Exodus 13:11-16).

The mid-week Lenten services continued into Holy Week. Palm Sunday and the entire Holy Week was a blessed time when Kirk members and visitors spent time with the Lord remembering His eternal sacrifice and thanking Him for His grace and power. The Good Friday fasting prayer was attended by more than 150 people, followed by the joyous Easter Eve and Easter services.

**District Meetings** were held in April as follows:

District 3 met on the 6<sup>th</sup> of April in the SACCE building.

District 5 met on 27<sup>th</sup> April in the home of Drs. Praise & Christina Ambrose.

**House Church** was hosted on Fridays in April as follows:

4<sup>th</sup> April - Dr.V.Prasanna Rao & Mrs.Premanjali Rao.

11<sup>th</sup> April – Mr. & Mrs. David Pacheco.

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

**Monday Bible Study** completed the study of the Book of Galatians on 7<sup>th</sup> April.

**The Prayer Cell** prayed for various concerns on Fridays (4<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> April) in the Manse.

**Evangelism and Missions Movement's Fasting and Prayer** on 3<sup>rd</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> April (Thursdays) prayed to uphold our evangelical and missionary in the outreach and project areas of the church. Other prayer points included Lenten meetings in outreach reaches, VBS in the Kirk and in the outreach areas, Hindi Fellowship, our Church, and critical issues concerning our Nation.

Monday Bible Study, Friday Manse Prayer & House Church and Evangelism & Missions Movement Fasting and Prayer were suspended for the summer break. They will resume in June and the dates will be announced later.

**Sunday school** met for Palm Sunday practice on 6<sup>th</sup> April. Open Day was held on 13<sup>th</sup> April, followed by summer break.

#### **Kirk Youth Fellowship**

13<sup>th</sup> April – The Youth participated in an outreach programme at Poovami Village and also in the Palm Sunday procession there.

CATALYST youth worship service was held on 27<sup>th</sup> April. Pastor Isaac Johnson spoke on 'My Safe Place' from Psalm 91:1-10.

The Youth attended the service at Tirupalaivanam Church on 18<sup>th</sup> May and also spent time in prayer and fellowship with the youth there.

CATALYST in May happened on the 25<sup>th</sup> where the topic of discussion was "CHOICE".

On other Sundays, the Youth met for prayer and fellowship.

#### **PRAYER REQUEST**

Rev. Murdoch MacKenzie, who ministered in our Church in the seventies and laid the foundation of the various ministries of our Church, has undergone a surgery for cancer and is recovering well. He will be undergoing a six week course of radiation therapy starting end of June and we request you to pray for his health, strength and speedy recovery .

#### **CONGRATULATIONS!**

Niranjan Paul and Jyotsna were blessed with a baby girl on Wednesday, 2nd April. Granddaughter to Mr.Jebasingh Jothi (Elder & Hon. Treasurer) and Mrs.Jayanthi Jothi.

### **Upcoming Event**

We look forward to the Kirk Project Carnival which will be held on July 6<sup>th</sup>. The proceeds will help to fund the various projects of the Church. Please pray for the Lord's leading and blessing on this annual event.

### **OBITUARIES**

Mrs. Isabel Betsy Drawyam, aged 39 years, w/o P.Y. Isaac and younger daughter of Rev. R.M. Dravyam, went to be with the Lord on 14/05/2014. Kindly remember her sons Jeremiah (11 yrs) & Joshua (4 yrs) in your prayers.

Mrs. Susheela Williams, aged 82 years, mother-in-law of Er.S.B. Benjamin, passed away on 14th May 2014. We convey our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family.

Mrs. Noreen Manson, wife of our former pastor Late Rev. Roy Manson, who for the last few years had undertaken the task of distributing monthly copies of the Kirkspire to members and well wishers of St. Andrew's in the United Kingdom, passed away recently in Scotland. We recognise her yeoman service in undertaking this responsibility on our behalf, and offer our heartfelt sympathies to her family.

Please send your articles, poems, art work, feedback etc., to the Editor or to the Church office. The youth and children are invited to contribute.

*Mahendra Kumar*



Engrossed Kids - VBS at Awrivakkam / Kilkuppam



Precious children of Karanodai - VBS 2014