

Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to  
stand against the wiles of the devil.  
Ephesians 6:11



# **Kirkspire**

The Monthly Magazine of St. Andrew's Church (The Kirk), Chennai  
May & June 2023

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### Editorial Board :

**Usha George**  
**Chitra Bennett**  
**Evered Joseph**



**Word from the Pastor**

## **Stand for Jesus**

*Therefore, take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.  
(Ephesians 6:13)*

King David, of the wonderful men of God, is known for many things but what he says as recorded in Psalm 27:4 is simply phenomenal. The verse reads 'One thing I ask from the Lord, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple.' There are many things that we all wrestle in life with but what is the ONE THING which is worth giving your life for. In other words, who is worth living your life for (even dying for).

Apostle Paul says in Ephesians 6 that the central purpose of wearing the Armor of God is to STAND. If our primary objective is to stand for Jesus, you better understand that right from the Garden of Eden, satan's only objective is for anyone to not stand. How often we hear of those who stand strong in their faith for a little while but are not able to take a stand or stand with the Armor when the battle becomes fierce. Here are 5 lessons to keep in mind when we decide to stand for Jesus

1. Stand by the grace of God fixing your eyes on Jesus. We do not start with a personal resolution but through personal repentance. Repentance means we do not deserve to be called God's children but He has called us from darkness to light
2. Stand by the power of the Holy Spirit. We certainly realize the importance of the various aspects of the Armor of God but do not forget that the power is not in merely memorizing the list

of Armor but to walk in obedience to the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit.

3. Stand having a singular objective. The sharp words of Jesus when He compared the approach of Martha and Mary are so true. Martha was concerned about many things but Mary, on the other hand, was concerned on one thing – which was not to be taken away from her.
4. Stand by sacrificing. This is where temptations and distractions will play a key role. Eve would not have started that particular day wanting to disobey God. All it took for what seemed like a simple distraction. The liar (father of lies) knows how to lie deliciously. Are we willing to give up even the good for the very best – our love for our Master, Jesus Christ.
5. Stand with hope. The Challenges of faith are only for this season in this world. There will be no temptations beyond the grave and there will be no possibility for satan (who will be suffering in the lake of fire) to come against God's church.

A final word of encouragement. Take a stand to stand, whatever it takes to stand, standing on the promises of God for we stand by His power for His glory. God bless everyone of you.

*Rev. Isaac Johnson*

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True theology is the doctrine of living unto God, through Christ, by the Spirit, in the context of the church, and with a view to the glories of heaven.

*Mark Jones*

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## Growing, Glowing, Giving

*"But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ..." 2 Peter 3:18*

It is common for a family to have a scale on a door or a wall to record the growth of their children. The kids are delighted to see the inches gained! Physical growth is essential but far more vital is spiritual growth.

"And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature and in favour with God and men" Luke 2:52.

Happy indeed are the children who from the days of life's sweet morn are able to hear the loving voice of a parent speaking and singing of the love of Jesus.

Sunday Schools are powerful ministries to convey the truths of the Bible. Children participate in vibrant praise and worship, simple prayers and hear dedicated teachers tell them inspiring stories from the Bible. The children repeatedly hear beautiful and sublime truths as, 'God made me', 'God made everything', 'Jesus loves me', 'Jesus helps me', 'Jesus hears me when I pray'.

Sunday Schools and Vacation Bible Study (VBS) help build the foundation for a good, godly life. Instructing and guiding children to grow in the knowledge of Jesus is far more precious than providing them with fine clothes, jewels and elite living.

Many of us have had the privilege of attending Sunday School and VBS in our youth. As we navigate further into life, our minds are jolted and shaken by many challenges and situations. One cannot isolate oneself from the roar and turbulence of life to live on Himalayan heights. Our Lord Jesus Christ wants us to be deeply rooted and drink from the Living Waters. He wants us to grow to be agents of change as we grow in spiritual maturity to straighten and help 'the crooked timber of humanity'.

A word of caution: one can know the Bible backward and forward but if no stream of love and compassion flow from the knowledge of His precious Word, our lives are as dry dust, swirling around itself.

We cannot grow old wearing a child's hat! We may not turn out to be Christians 'who turned the world upside down'. We pray that as Christians, we should not be content to remain 'in the middle of the road' and have a Laodicean faith that won't cause even a fizz. Let us be warned to not merely listen to a passionate appeal for Christ and then say like King Agrippa that we were 'almost persuaded.' May we grow in likeness to our Master with every passing day.

Let us be blessed to grow, glow and give our best to our King of Kings wherever we are placed. We pray that we will not hold back our time, talent, resources, and most of all our compassion and love – all to be used for furthering our Lord's Kingdom. Let us break the alabaster jar and may our lives spread the exquisite aroma and beauty of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The famous and evergreen hymn of Frances Ridley Havergal says it all. "Take my life and let it be"- it does not stop there but goes on to the grand conclusion, "Consecrated, Lord to Thee."

*Usha George*

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If you stand on the Word, you do not stand with the world.

*Vance Havner*

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Nothing is really lost by a life of sacrifices; everything is lost by failure to obey God's call.

*Henry P. Liddon*

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When you have nothing left but God, then for the first time you become aware that God is enough.

*Maude Royden*

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**Bible Quiz No. 137–May - June 2023**

### **A Schoolmaster's Quiz**

Please give one reference.

1. Who said that much study was a weariness of the flesh ?
2. Who taught with authority, and not as the scribes ?
3. There are two teachers named in the New Testament. Who are they?
4. In Jesus' time, where were the primary schools held? Were they co-educational?
5. What race of people is credited with having invented the Alphabet writing?
6. Paul describes 'the law' as '*a schoolmaster to ...*'.
7. The men of what tribe could not pronounce the word 'shibboleth'?
8. Finish this text : '*Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, ....*'.
9. What did Paul say about women teachers?
10. Who said : '*Rabbi, we know Thou art a teacher come from God?*'

Taken from *A Bible Quiz Book by May C. Smith*

Kindly send your answers to the church office or email [admin@thekirk.inby](mailto:admin@thekirk.inby) 18thJune2023.

*Usha George*

## **The Kirk Vacation Bible School (VBS) 2023 – The Armour of God**

Ephesians 6:11-17

Jeremiah 17:7 says, 'Blessed is the one who trusts in the LORD, and whose hope is the LORD.' Here is a small glimpse of how our great God blessed VBS 2023. From the inception of the planning more than a year back, God's hand has been evident every step of the way. This is the first time that a team from our church prepared the entire syllabus and lessons for this year's VBS.

There was a wonderful team comprising of 7 Admin staff, 16 teachers and 25 volunteers. The commitment of all the teachers was commendable, for they prayerfully prepared for the VBS lessons and inspired the children through craftwork and other creative ways of teaching each lesson. Some of the teachers traveled from long distances, yet their commitment to serve God was excellent. Some of them even had health challenges during these days, however they fulfilled their commitment till the end. One cannot forget the great enthusiastic efforts of all the volunteers who were always ready for all tasks without any hesitation. Even on hot sultry days, they never gave any excuse but served joyfully.

Music and singing are important ways in which we all worship God. Children enjoyed learning new songs which were very meaningful and appropriate to the theme.

On all 10 days, teachers began their day with devotion and prayer. Volunteers also had their daily devotion at 11.30 am which was very useful and spiritually uplifting to all.

The topics for the 10 days of VBS were:

- Day 1 - Belt of Truth
- Day 2 - Breastplate of Righteousness
- Day 3 - Shoes of the Gospel of Peace
- Day 4 - Shield of Faith
- Day 5 - Helmet of Salvation



Day 6 - Sword of the Spirit  
Day 7 - Prayer  
Day 8 - Be Alert  
Day 9 - Praise  
Day 10 - Be fearless

In addition to the Bible lessons taught, there were also special activities for the children.

- ❖ May 1<sup>st</sup> was Family Day, during which parents had a special session while children had special activities conducted by the youth. Later in the day, the parents joined primary & beginners class children in doing craft work.
- ❖ May 3<sup>rd</sup> was Inspection Day also known as 'Encouragement day'. Children joyfully displayed their craftwork and shared about the lessons that were taught in the VBS. Trophies were given to each class with different titles.
- ❖ May 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> were called Labour Days when children took on the responsibilities of finishing tasks at home for which the parents gave them cash gifts, which the children in turn donated to a needy organization. The children donated a good amount and lovingly gave it to those in need.
- ❖ May 4<sup>th</sup> was Evangelism Day when our Outreach Pastors came and interacted with the children, sharing their ministry experiences.

Apart from this, on all days, children heard real-life testimonies of Christians who honoured God in the marketplace. We heard life stories of those who served as teachers, bankers and businessmen.

Snacks were given to the children, which they thoroughly enjoyed and there was also a special love feast on the penultimate day. Special thanks to those who gave generously toward the VBS ministry which was of immense blessing. We also thank all the church staff for their tireless help and their readiness to assist us if we needed anything.

It is my prayer that God will strengthen not only the children but all of us, to wear the Armour of God and be Champions for Jesus.

*Mrs. Roselin Johnson*  
Director, VBS 2023



## **Riber Memorial Day Care Centre and ASHA–VBS 2023**

By God's grace Vacation Bible School (VBS) was conducted for 25 children of RMDCC and their siblings and 48 children of ASHA at their respective centers from April 24 to April 29, 2023, on the theme 'Champions for Jesus'. A typical day consisted of Teachers Devotion, General Session with songs, Bible stories and classes reiterating the truths learnt. Children were given refreshments and lunch. Special days included the Encouragement Day and Love Feast Day.

Each day children learnt Bible stories and made visual representation of the truths they learnt. Children learnt that they can, like Job, do the right things with God's help and make God happy. Happy faces adorned their classrooms on that day. They realised that, sometimes, wearing the shoes of the Gospel of peace and sharing God's peace with others like Paul and Silas, may land them in jail but God would miraculously rescue them—an activity that involved Kids creating prison doors and the outlines of their feet on paper with the words 'Gospel of peace' helped them remember this truth. To celebrate God's goodness like Miriam, they became little musical bands with tambourines, cymbals and guitars, praising God. Tracing their hands and using their five fingers, they learnt to pray for the weak, the leaders, their teachers, for their family and for themselves, and so they realised the importance of regular prayer time like Daniel had. To walk by faith like Elisha, they asked God to open their spiritual eyes. These lessons and their representative craft work were a blessing to them and a great learning not only for the children but also for the teachers, volunteers and for parents who sat through the sessions.

Teachers' devotion stressed on a closer walk with God focusing on aspects of love, forgiveness, patience, prayer and goodness. Teachers were challenged to live out their faith. Parents' Day was a blessing to families as they were reminded of the love of God and God's choice

of them to be parents. A testimony by an Asha parent was challenging- the father said 'If Asha teachers can be so loving and caring to my child and to me, his parent, then surely, the Jesus whom they serve will be great and good.'

All glory to God for His goodness and grace during this VBS.

*Gladys Vedavimali*

### **John's Corner**

## **STUPIDITY**

Read Gen 1:27-31, 1Pet 4:10  
(18th June is Eco Sunday)

Lord, You created Eve and Adam,  
Gave us the world to tend and care,  
To nurture and uphold its goodness,  
And glorify You everywhere.

But man with foolish, selfish motives,  
Exploits it meanly for his good,  
Regarding not Your pure intentions,  
To provide shelter, water, food.

Calamities are daily mounting,  
Wars, climate change and starvation;  
The world You once with love created,  
Is sadly facing destruction.

Help us, dear Lord, to touch our conscience,  
And more responsible to be,  
Before we ruin self and others,  
And regret our stupidity.

*John H. Bala Singh*

## **RMDCC Night School at St Mark's, Periamet – VBS 2023**

It was a great privilege to be part of Vacation Bible School which was conducted at St Mark's School, Periamet between 27<sup>th</sup> April and 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2023. It was attended by around 60 children and 6 teachers, and 4 volunteers were part of this program. Three teachers were from Swamidasapuram, which was an outreach centre of our church. The theme for the VBS was 'Champions for Jesus' and children learnt Biblical principles on how to put on the different pieces of the armour of God to overcome the enemy- Satan. Many of the children were from families with no exposure to the Bible. Classes were also held in Hindi for those who were more proficient in that language compared to Tamil. The children enthusiastically prepared charts to illustrate the truth they had learned and also memorised portions from the Scripture. At the end of each day, each class shared their learnings- songs, stories, and memory verses. This was an encouragement to all, and our prayer is that the truths that they learnt through songs, skits, choreography and memory verses would bear much fruit in their lives and that they will know Christ as Lord and Saviour. At this centre as in other centres, teacher's devotion prepared teachers for the task for the day and general assembly with singing helped children praise God and this was followed by age-appropriate classes. Special days like Encouragement Day, Love Feast Day and Final Day were celebrated with joy and gratitude to God.

We are grateful for the passionate dedication of the staff of St. Mark's school. We praise God for His faithfulness throughout the VBS which was a blessing to many children.

*Mr. Bryner*



VBS Children's Arts & Crafts

**Kirk VBS 2023**



**Kirk VBS 2023**





VBS Outdoor Activity





## Fellowship of the ring

*'...that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.'*  
*Philippians 3:10-, 11,*

This timeless classic written by Tolkien talks of a band of dissimilar individuals who embark on a dangerous quest. Perilous adventures abound, Loyalties are tested and Upon their journey back home they realize that they are forever changed. Suffering does that. It makes us bitter or better And molds like no other. (Not the self-induced type Proverbs 15:15) It stretches faith and enhances the capacity to endure. (provided we handle it with a godly attitude) Father, my first response has always been the temptation to flee from You. The questions: 'Why? Why me? and finally Why couldn't You have prevented this?' Usually disintegrate any residual faith.

Some people say they are  
Closest to you during suffering.  
Somehow I have always felt you  
To be distant, aloof, uncaring.  
Forgive these callous thoughts...  
For You are not the source of trouble  
But You did promise to be with me  
Through it all.  
Maybe I feel this way because  
My expectation of a trial free life  
Is vastly different from Your  
Realistic teaching.  
You said:  
In this world we will have lots of trials and  
Through many hardships  
We enter Your kingdom.  
Somehow I forget that.  
(Camping on Your promises is good  
But ignoring the difficult parts of Your word is not.)  
So fill me with a spirit of adventure.  
Teach me to be true to myself  
Honest with You;  
To confess my deepest hurts  
And darkest fears,  
To let go of things I can't control  
And experience Your peace  
Through the fellowship of suffering.  
When the deliverance you provide is quite different from  
the picture in my head,  
When plans go awry and  
Everyday seems like an uphill climb,  
When prayers remain unanswered ,  
Help me remember that  
Knowing you  
Not only involves resurrection  
But a cross.  
May I not despise it

But rather let it be a gateway  
To enter into  
a deeper fellowship with You-  
The Lord over all my suffering.  
'From the ashes a fire shall be woken,  
A light from the shadows shall spring;  
Renewed shall be blade that was broken,  
The crownless again shall be king.'  
--J.R.R. Tolkien

*Dr. Susan Rajkumari*

## **GREAT IS HIS FAITHFULNESS**

It is a great joy for me to share God's faithfulness in my life. As I have always liked little children, I started to serve God as a Sunday school teacher (during my college days). I thought that I would become a teacher and help the children with their studies, but God's plan for me was different. He opened His door for me at the RMDCC so I could share His love and serve among children and families of the underprivileged community. I thank God for enabling me to see the fruits of our labour. Many children who learnt about the love of our Lord Jesus Christ through songs, stories and Bible verses taught by us at RMDCC have put their trust in Jesus, studied well despite their tough family situations and have now taken up good jobs in fields of medicine, engineering etc.,.

They also use their talents for God's glory at their churches and in other ministries. Great is His faithfulness! I am grateful to my heavenly Father for His grace, guidance and immeasurable love. By His grace alone, I overcame many challenges in my life. I have tasted His love, often through many loving and caring people at St. Andrew's Church. He carried me while I crossed the dark valley of the shadow of death in 2021. I have faith that His grace, that has led me this far, will lead me on. Great is Thy Faithfulness!

*Gladys Vedavimali*

## **Answers to Bible Quiz No. 136 – April 2023**

### **A Grocer's Quiz**

1. Salt. Matthew 5:13
2. Honey : Honeycomb. Psalm 19:10
3. Figs. Matthew 7:16
4. Candle / Lamp. Matthew 5:15
5. Cucumbers and melons. Numbers 11:5
6. Leeks : onions : garlic. Numbers 11:5
7. Oil. Matthew 25:3
8. Pulse vetches, lentils, etc. / Vegetables. Daniel 1:12
9. Mustard : herbs. Matthew 13:31, 32
10. Dates

### **The winners are:**

- 1. Mrs. Sabrina Siga**
- 2. Mrs. Indra Rajanayakam**
- 3. Er. Joseph M Manohar**
- 4. Mrs. P. Patricia**
- 5. Mrs. Victoria Basker**
- 6. Mrs. Suguna Joseph**
- 7. Mrs. Aruna Asir**
- 8. Mrs. Leela Coilpillai**
- 9. Mrs. Peace Rani Sudhakar**
- 10. Mrs. Gladys Vedavimali**
- 11. Dr. Sujata Elizabeth Prasad**

***Hearty Congratulations!***

Children's Corner

**PENTECOST WORD SEARCH**



BiblePuzzles.org.uk

- |                  |                     |
|------------------|---------------------|
| AMAZED           | LANGUAGES           |
| APOSTLES         | MULTITUDE           |
| DAY OF PENTECOST | SITTING             |
| HEAVEN           | SPEAKING IN TONGUES |
| HOLY SPIRIT      | TONGUES OF FIRE     |
| HOUSE            | WIND                |

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# BIBLE EASTER WORD SEARCH



K	C	T	E	K	A	M	S	R	H	T	O	A	Q	T	L	T	J	T	S	H	P
L	G	D	A	B	H	C	I	A	A	O	Z	F	S	S	P	C	X	E	U	Z	I
M	A	G	P	K	K	R	M	E	P	A	W	E	S	A	A	B	Z	N	M	L	
Q	R	M	C	M	R	U	O	S	O	B	U	E	Q	I	C	V	A	T	D	P	A
Q	O	U	B	Q	M	C	N	C	S	L	N	C	H	U	Y	R	I	R	A	E	T
F	P	F	G	F	A	I	O	R	T	O	G	N	W	F	A	J	I	O	Y	K	E
P	P	W	Q	A	R	F	F	I	L	O	O	V	R	Q	W	T	S	F	R	G	D
C	A	Z	X	H	Y	I	C	S	E	D	L	X	E	S	S	T	T	R	I	Y	Y
R	A	S	Y	J	F	X	Y	E	S	N	M	S	T	N	R	B	J	E	H	C	U
L	L	L	S	D	Z	I	R	N	G	O	L	G	O	T	H	A	E	W	I	L	E
N	R	I	V	O	R	O	E	G	O	T	D	U	M	C	R	O	S	S	G	L	Y
I	G	G	C	A	V	N	N	L	P	N	Q	X	B	Z	A	J	U	H	H	O	Q
S	Z	K	M	J	R	E	E	V	R	I	B	L	E	F	Q	Z	S	V	P	L	M
G	Z	N	Z	W	G	Y	R	S	J	T	G	R	Y	E	D	F	D	H	R	O	O
R	O	B	E	R	O	M	A	N	S	K	S	O	N	O	F	G	O	D	I	X	Z
T	S	Q	B	E	N	A	I	L	S	Y	U	H	N	Z	M	B	A	L	E	S	V
P	J	B	T	H	R	E	E	D	A	Y	S	N	S	N	G	H	G	K	S	L	N
N	C	F	A	N	G	E	L	S	W	S	Z	G	W	Q	V	C	N	M	T	D	B

- |            |                 |            |             |
|------------|-----------------|------------|-------------|
| ROMANS     | GOLGOTHA        | SON OF GOD | MARY        |
| RISEN      | BLOOD           | TOMB       | CRUCIFIXION |
| SACRIFICE  | SIMON OF CYRENE | APOSTLES   | PILATE      |
| THREE DAYS | JESUS           | CALVARY    | HIGH PRIEST |
| ANGELS     | ROBE            | CROSS      | PASSOVER    |
| SAVIOR     | LAMB            | NAILS      | SUNDAY      |



## ULCERS IN THE BODY – II

### PEPTIC ULCER

**“Doctors treat, but Jesus heals”**

Ulcers in the lower part of the food pipe (oesophagus), in the stomach, and in the upper part of the small intestine (duodenum) are referred to as peptic ulcers. It affects approximately 10% of all adults at sometime in their lives. The cause of peptic ulcer is infection with a germ known as H.Pylori which occurs in 70-90% of cases.

30% cases of stomach ulcers are due to non steroidal anti inflammatory agents (NSAIDS) like aspirin, ibuprofen, diclofenac etc. which are taken as pain killers for arthritis, chronic headache or any other painful condition in the body. Pain killers should always be taken after a meal to prevent peptic ulcer.

Smoking increases the risk of stomach ulcers. Once the ulcer has formed, it is more likely to cause complications and less likely to heal on standard treatment regimens if the patient continues to smoke. Chronic stomach ulcers are usually single.

Patients with peptic ulcer have pain in the abdomen (stomach region), especially after taking food. Some people may have vomiting, but some experience only mild unease and nausea. Some have no symptoms at all, but have anaemia from chronic blood loss from the ulcer, since ulcers can bleed.

Diagnosis can be made by endoscopy, and a biopsy of the ulcer can also be taken at the same time. Double contrast “barium meal” can give added information.

H.Pylori germ is eradicated with suitable antibiotics. Some symptoms get relieved by taking antacids. Surgery is indicated, when the ulcer perforates or there is severe bleeding due to the ulcer or when the ulcer becomes a cancer.

*Dr. (Mrs). Rajinikantha Narendranath*

## Kirk News



*Bright eyes gladden the heart;  
Good news puts fat on the bones.  
Proverbs 15:30*

### **The Work and Rest Cycle**

Work is to use the raw materials that God has put in place and make something out of it through the creativity God has invested in us, to His glory. God put man in the garden of Eden to cultivate it and keep it. After the Fall, however, the ground was cursed bringing out thorns and thistles and man would eat its produce by the sweat of the brow. This is why God Himself sweat blood in another Garden to bear this curse away. Let our work glorify God as we rest in His work. Also, let us use the rest that God gives to praise His goodness.

The Kirk News too, comes back after a break last month!

02.04.2023

The Palm Sunday Service began with the Sunday School children leading the way to the altar waving palm leaves.

05.04.2023

The last Lenten Service for this year was on Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

06.04.2023

A Communion Service was held on Maundy Thursday.

07.04.2023

The Good Friday Service led to a time of fasting and prayer till 6 p.m.

08. 04. 2023

The Easter Vigil Service at 11 p.m. was followed by the Easter Festive Service the following day at 9 a.m.



### **Special Service**

On the 16th of April, at the 6:00 p.m. service, a play written and directed by Shekinah Jacob was performed by Samantha Ellwood, Clara Fox - Champkins, Prashanth and Nikhil.

In the short play by the Open House Productions in partnership with St. Andrew's Church, we got a sneak peek at some of the drama and wonder of that first Resurrection Day from the point of view of an Eyewitness.

### **Guest Speaker**

Rev. Christian Benjamin spoke on "The Blessing of Disappointment" on 21.05.2023.

### **Monday Bible Study**

Pastor Isaac Johnson expounded on Galatians till April 24th on Zoom.

### **SALT Prayer**

The SALT Prayer takes place on Zoom every Wednesday at 9:30 p.m.

### **Women's Fasting Prayer**

The Women's Fasting Prayer takes place on Zoom every Friday at 4:30 p.m.

### **Revival Prayer**

The Revival Prayer is held every Saturday at 10 a.m. on Zoom.

### **Kirk Men's Fellowship**

The Men's Fellowship met in person on April 16th, after the service, at the DCC. Pastor Isaac Johnson facilitated the discussion on the topic - Roles and Responsibilities of Men.

### **Kirk Women's Fellowship**

The Women's Fellowship Monthly Meet took place on April 16th after the 9 a.m. service at the SACCE Hall. It was a time of testimonies, discussion and prayer.

### **The Kirk - Vacation Bible School (VBS) 2023**

The Kirk VBS was conducted from April 26 to May 7 and centered round the theme 'Champions for Jesus' based on Ephesians 6:11 – "Put on the whole armour of God." The admin staff, teachers,

volunteers, and children braved the heat and gave their best with enthusiasm. A glimpse of what the children had learnt through the 10 days was showcased during the VBS Valedictory Service on May 7<sup>th</sup> during the evening service. Some of the handiwork created by the children was on display around the church for the congregation to see.

The VBS was well directed and co-ordinated by Mrs. Roselin Johnson, Director – Kirk VBS and Mrs. Sujatha Prasad with the excellent support of the teachers, admin staff and volunteers. The lessons, syllabus and the theme song for this year were prepared by a team from the church. Let us pray that the Lord will help each child grow in grace and knowledge of Him, to become a shining witness in their families and among neighbours. We thank the Lord for His wisdom, grace, and protection over all the participants.

VBS was also held in all the outreach areas of the church.

### **Christian Counseling Ministry**

The Christian Counseling Ministry organised a zoom webinar on Caregiving and Care-Givers. It was facilitated by Dr. Mrs. Philomena Kanagaraj, D.Min, on the 2nd of May from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

### **Obituary**

We convey our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families of:

Mrs. Nalini Dravyam (80), w/o Rev. Dravyam who passed away on 23.03.2023. The funeral was held on 24.03.2023 at 4.00 p.m. at Kirk, followed by burial at Kilpauk cemetery.

Dr. Ian Sundararaj (89) who passed away on 21.04.2023. The funeral was held on 22.04.2023 at 2.30 p.m. at Kirk, followed by burial at Kasimedu cemetery.

Mrs. Accamma Kuruvilla (95) who passed away on 01.05.2023. Funeral service was held on 02.05.2023 at 3.00 p.m. at Kirk, followed by burial at Kilpauk cemetery.

Mr. Samuel Laxman Lawrence (57) who passed away on 10.05.2023. The funeral was on 14.05.2023 after the morning church service at Kirk.

“Forever with the Lord!”

*Angela Susan Bryner*



**VBS Inspection Day**



**VBS Teachers Devotion**



VBS Teachers and Volunteers

52 : 05 & 06

May & June 2023

