On the first Sunday of August, excitement filled Short Street interesting and intriguing questions for the teams. Each Tamil Methodist Church (SSTMC) when Rev. James Nagulan announced a church-made Bible Quiz on the book of 1st Samuel. The bible quiz was contested by representatives from men, women and youth, which added more buzz to the excitement. This was probably the first bible quiz within the church in recent years and was slated for 14th August after the regular Sunday services. Over the course of two weeks, the congregation immersed themselves in preparation which involved meaningful study and discussions individually and as a family on the book of 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel.

participants and supporters assembled at the Social Hall of would call out a Bible verse and the first team to read it SSTMC. Rev James Nagulan and Mrs. Mathi Nagulan, the Quiz aloud was declared the winner. This was a test of how Masters were armed with the Questions, Bibles and iPad. familiar the teams were with the locations of different books Proceedings started with a prayer followed by a briefing of the in the Bible. various categories of the events for the day, namely Charades, Q&A, Pyramid, Win, Lose or Draw and Sword Drill.

The first event, Charades opened with the Men's team. It was a great sight to watch the men trying their best to enact and elicit the right answer from their team. Not to be outdone were the women and youth. The sight of Ms Deviki trying to literally pull the words out of her team's mouth was unforgettable.

team was told to pick a question randomly from group of numbers projected on to the screen. The Men's team's outstanding answers clearly proved their interest in learning the word of God.

Win, Lose or Draw challenged the contestant to get the correct answer from their team by drawing the clue on the white board. It was a real test of the contestants drawing and visualization skills. As you might have guess, the youth exhibited great flair and skill in the challenge.

After the service and a sumptuous meal, the Bible Quiz Finally, the Sword Drill unfolded in which the Quiz Masters

Quiz Masters kept the whole event lively and interesting with their wise cracks and funny interludes as did the scorers who kept accurate tabs of the scores.

The champions for the day, the women's team walked away with the winner's trophy in every single event and the winner's trophy. The SSTMC Bible Quiz turned out to be a wonderful time of fellowship, fun and a great opportunity to Next came the Q&A session. The Quiz Masters came up with read in depth the book of 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel. Praise be to God!



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சிங்கையின் 46ம் ஆண்டின் சுதந்திர **தின** கொண்டாட்ட நாளான ஆகஸ்ட் 9 அன்று இந்திய தொழிலாள நண்பர்களின் களைப்பையும்இ கவலைகளைப் போக்கவும்இ அவர்களின் திறமைகளை வெளிக்கொணரவும் "**ஜெயிப்பவர் ஜொலிப்பர்**" என்ற நிகழ்ச்சியை **ஷார்**ட் **ஸ்ட்ரீட் தமிழ் மெதடிஸ்ட் திருச்சபையின்** துணையோடு **இந்திய நண்பர்கள் ஐக்கியம்** "கிரைஸ்ட் சர்ச் வளாகத்தில் " ஏற்பாடு செய்திருந்தது. இந்த நிகழ்ச்சி முக்கியமாக ஆண்டவரைப் அறியாத பற்றி இந்திய தொழிலாள நண்பர்களுக்கு ஆண்டவராகிய இயேசு கிறிஸ்துவின் அன்பைப் பற்றி சொல்லி<sub>இ</sub> இயேசுவின் அன்பில் நிலைத்திருக்க வேண்டிய நோக்கில் ஒழுங்கு செய்யப்பட்டது.

நிகழ்ச்சி சகோதரர் திரு. பால்ராஜ் அவர்கள் தன்முனைப்பு பேச்சோடு தொடங்கியது. அனைவருக்கும் வாழ்வின் இன்றியமையாத அன்பு இயேசுவின் அன்பு என்பதைப் பற்றி விளக்கிப் பேசி அனைவரின் மனதையும் கவர்ந்தார். பின்னர் இந்திய நண்பர்கள் ஐக்கிய நாடக குழுவினர் நகைச்சுவை கலந்த சிந்தனையைத் தூண்டும் நாடகத்தையும் பாடல் நிகழ்ச்சியையும் நடத்தினர். அதனைத் தொடர்ந்து விளையாட்டு போட்டிகளும் நடைபெற்றன.

மதிய உணவு இடைவேளைக்கு ப் பின்னர் சிந்தனையைத் தூண்டும் விதத்தில் சிங்கையில் வாழும் இந்திய தொழிலாளர்கள் வீணான வழிகளில் பணத்தைச் செலவு செய்வதைக் கட்டுபடுத்த முடியும்? கட்டுபடுத்த முடியாது? என்ற தலைப்பில் அனல் பறக்கும் பட்டிமன்றம் அரங்கேறியது. பட்டிமன்றத்தின் முடிவில் விளையாட்டு போட்டியில் வெற்றி பெற்ற இந்திய தொழிலாள நண்பர்களுக்குப் பரிசுகள் வழங்கப்பட்டது.

நிகழ்சியின் முடிவில் போதகர் ஞானசேகர் அவர்களின் நற்செய்தியைக் கேட்க ஆர்வமாகக் கூடினர் இந்திய தொழிலாள நண்பர்கள். அவர்களுக்கு ஆண்டவராகிய இயேசு கிறிஸ்துவைப் பற்றிய நற்செய்தி விதைக்கப்பட்டது. வாழ்வில் இ தீய வழிகளில் சுற்றித்திரிந்த சகோதரர்களுக்கு மனந்திருந்த ஒரு நல்ல வாய்ப்பு கிடைத்தது. பல சிந்தனைகளோடும் மன பாரத்தோடும் வந்திருந்தவர்கள்இ இறுதியில் புதிய ஏற்பாடு வேதாகமத்தை கையில் ஏந்தியபடி மன நிம்மதியோடும் ஆண்டவரின் ஆசிர்வாதத்தோடும் புறப்பட்டு சென்றனர்.

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in this issue >>>

Pastor's Message

Bible Oniz

Operation Mobilization

Showers Of Blessings, Pass Them On

Sunday School Picnic 2011

Enhancing Your Golden Years

ஜெயிப்பவர் ஜொலிப்பர்

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### Be Assured....

''Jehovah Jireh, My provider, His grace is sufficient for me, for me; His grace is sufficient for me.''

These words straight out of Scripture, is a favourite chorus sung often at our fellowship gatherings. These words have an experienced meaning for each one and this is the reason that unites us to sing them out in thanksgiving and assurance that He is our God.

Abraham's son Isaac was spared from being sacrificed when God saw Abraham's obedience. In the stead of Isaac, God provided a ram as a sacrifice. Abraham named the place of blessing, "Jehovah Jireh" saying "The -Lord-Will-Provide." [Gen.18:14]

St Paul says he was tormented with a thorn in his flesh. Three times he prayed to the Lord for deliverance from this agony, but the Lord told him, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." The chorus, Jehovah Jireh, reaffirms the messages from both the Old and New Testaments that God is our provider and that His grace is sufficient for those who believe in Him. It is a sung testimony of one who has tasted God's love and who confidently proclaims that he lacks nothing.

Abraham's obedience was total even to the point of sacrificing his one and only son as a burnt offering. Paul endured his sufferings daily; he persevered for the sake of Christ and said "For when I am weak, then I am strong." Each day and in many ways, God's Word challenges us to greater heights of obedience and perseverance.

As God's people we have the privilege of celebrating His provision and grace in the life of the church. We are also exhorted to be obedient and persevere in our walk with Him as we enter into the 124th year of the life of the fails us.

Your Pastors in Christ: Rev James Nagulan, Rev Anil Kumar

### CHURCH CALENDAR

#### October

- Laity Sunday
- Methodist Schools' Sunday
- Bible Society Sunday

- LCEC Installation
- Carol Sunday
- Christmas Programme
- Christmas Service
- Watchnight Service

#### Ongoing Programmes

- Friday Praise & Prayer
- session 7.30 to 9pm
- Parish group meeting every 4th Saturday of the month, 6pm at Tampines, Bukit Batok and

### **TAMIL METHODIST CHURCH**

Editor

Aaron Isaac

Rev James Nagulan

Contributors

Beulah Rebekah

Janet Barathan

Julie Paul

Isaac Abraham Veronica Poore

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On 28<sup>th</sup> May, 2011 the Sunday school had their annual outing at Pasir Ris Park, We had games, worship, food and drinks. Parents got involved with their children in a game of Dog & Bone which many kids enjoyed. Many other games were played including perennial favourites such as bursting balloon and poison ball.

We interviewed some children and the following are what they had to say of the event:

- " I had so much fun playing Dog & Bone and I even made a new friend, Rachel", Hannah.
- "I want to have this outing every year, forever", Nimrod 14.
- "I learnt teamwork and to be open to making new friends", Darshana, 15.
- "I learnt to have fun even though we lost in some games", Christine, 16.
- "I learnt to bond closer with my friends and about sportsmanship", Ponseeta, 16.

We also thank and praise God for such a sunny weather which allowed us to have more fun!

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### --- George & Janet Barathan serving with Operation Mobilization ---

It has been our privilege to work with OM India for the past 2 She came to the pipe village as a new bride 11 years ago, years and it has been amazing to see what is happening in this great land of India with many tribal and backward caste people turning to Christ. We will continue our work with OM India through our offices in Vancouver and Port Colborne (Ontario) Canada. At the same time we plan to visit Singapore once or twice a year to maintain relationships with the 8 churches who have been involved in India. They have partnered to source different projects such as the construction of fresh water wells, building of schools for the Dalit children, empowering and equipping pastors of emerging churches among the tribal people so that churches will grow strong and become effective. We are simply 'conduits' to encourage churches to bless the work in India so that the poor will find dignity and know the love of God.



We have also enjoyed being part of Short Street TMC. It is a church with a rich history that have impacted many lives some of whom are with the Lord now. It is like a spiritual 'lighthouse' helping people find God and leading people to have a stronger relationship with Him. We thank God for each of you and for the support and encouragement the church has been to us.

(Below, I have extracted an article by Tim Stafford, a senior writer for Christianity Today based in northern California. John Stott Ministries has provided a grant to Christianity Today for reporting on international issues. The article below is a glimpse of the kind of work OM is doing in India.)

Shivamma stands in front of her house, braiding her little girl's hair. She is the face of the new Christianity in India. Her home is nestled inside a concrete storm sewer discarded by the factory where she and her husband work. Her family of four lives within 84 square feet. For a Dalit and a woman, Shivamma is doing well because to be Dalit is much worse than being poor, for no matter how much education or wealth a Dalit accumulates, he or she remains polluted, a shame on the face of the earth. Dalits are like biblical lepers, except that in mainstream Indian culture, they cannot be healed.



seeking to escape the jobless poverty of her home village. She and her husband together make \$5 a day, more than most Dalits. For three years she was barren. Then, a young Dalit Christian named Bangarraju (most Dalits are known by a single name) came to Shivamma's home to pray for her. "I didn't know why he came or to whom he prayed. I thought Jesus was one of the gods." She conceived and gave birth to a son, and later had a second child, a girl. When her daughter was three months old, the girl became severely jaundiced, passing blood. Bangarraju came to them and prayed again, and the daughter was healed. "I realized that Jesus is the living God. We used to drink and every day we would fight, fight, fight. Jesus Christ brought peace to our family. I have no fear, because I have come to know the living God. I trust him."

As an evangelist and church planter, Bangarraju began outreach in the pipe village in 1996. He taught illiterate children in an informal school that met under a tree. He arranged for weekly medical visits through his organization, Operation Mobilization. For his first year visiting the village, Bangarraju said nothing about Jesus. It took three years before he baptized a convert. Now a large proportion of the pipe village follows Christ.

India's church has grown and is getting larger. It now comprises over 70 million members, according to Operation World. That makes it the eighth largest Christian population in the world. Across the vast nation, a visitor hears of unprecedented numbers of people turning to Christ. Operation Mobilization, one of India's largest missionary groups, has grown to include 3,000 congregations in India, up from 300 in less than a decade. Many Indian Christians say that doors that were closed for centuries are swinging open. Such transformations contribute to the breakdown of religious traditions, especially India's caste system. "Hinduism is a tool to keep us oppressed," says T.V. Joy, a church planter in north India. "The gospel is a message of deliverance, not just for heaven. It is a message of freedom.





## /\V/\V --- Showers Of Blessings, Pass Them On --- /\V/\V

A visitor to the Heritage Exhibition held at Tamil Methodist on the history and heritage of TMC, we cannot but praise God for close of each corporate worship

fellow believer of another church! She must have seen the wonders that God has done these 123 years, through that we His people are valuable to Him and that He will always be with us.

this fact: that God has been and is with us in whatever we further blessings in individual lives and that as a community.

As we sincerely meditate on these said verses and reflect. Thanks be to God.

Church (TMC) in October 2010, after learning of our history His favour and protection from all forms of danger; we cannot and heritage left us with the prayer-blessing as found in forget His hand of mercy and compassion when we sinned; we Numbers 6:24-26. This priestly blessing as given by God to cannot but remember the numerous times He gave **His approval** Moses and Aaron, is the Benediction that we receive at the when we pleased Him; and we just have to acknowledge that He gives us peace when we ask His love and peace on others.

What a wonderful blessing for the church to receive from a God's blessings have been on this community of believers in the past and it is still ours today. Each time that we receive this benediction, the pastor is obeying God who told Moses that with clergy and laity of Tamil Methodist Church. She believed these words, "you shall bless the children..." [Num. 6:23]. When that TMC had found favour with God. Moved by this we recite this blessing, [MYFers of my time always closed their thought, she believed that it was appropriate to encourage meetings with these words.] we are asking for God's divine favour us to continue the ministry of God's church by remembering to rest upon others. This blessing is not ours to keep but for us to pass it on.

These blessings after Sunday corporate worship gives us the We will be celebrating 124 years of this five-fold blessing in opportunity to learn of how we can demonstrate love, encourage the life of TMC. Our history and heritage bear witness to others and provide a model for caring for others. The next time when the Benediction is to be pronounced, look full at the cross in have done in obedience to His will; there has been fruit and our sanctuary and be reminded of what Jesus Christ has done for you and for all who worship Him.

## /\\/\\/\\/<del>--- Enhancing Your Golden Years ---</del> /\\/\\/\\

The Young@Heart had their evening fellowship in church on the 13<sup>th</sup> August 2011. This session was keenly attended by members who wanted to learn more about the theme for the evening: "Enhancing your golden years", a message given by Rev. Gnanasekhar.

As most people advance in age, they tend to develop the "grasshopper mentality". They look to their slowly diminishing strength and physical conditions and develop the "cannot do" attitude. However, this is not so with the Young@Heart of TMC who have learnt that they can still achieve great things and contribute to the church not by their natural strength but through Christ who strengthens them. Just as Caleb in the book of Joshua 14:6-13, the Young @ Heart believe that they are "just as vigorous to go out to battle now" as they were then!

After the message, Mr Ashley Jayapaul, an occupational therapist shared on how the Young@Heart could look after themselves through proper diet and exercise. It was lindeed a rather fulfilling session as members asked questions and received tips on how to improve ailments that have been troubling them.

As shared by Rev. Gnanasekhar the following are quotes that are beneficial to all. Read on, enjoy and remember to

"Throw out all non-essential numbers. This includes age, weight and height. Let your doctor worry about them. That's why you pay him the big bucks."

'Keep cheerful friends. The grouches suck you into their spiral of misery."

'Keep learning - computer, languages, skills, crafts. Keep the brain active. An idle mind is is a major cause of Alzheimer's.



"Laugh often, laugh long and laugh loud. Laugh until you gasp for breath."

"Surround yourself with what you love, whether it's family, pets, keepsakes, music, books, and hobbies, whatever. Your home is your refuge."

"Cherish your health. If it's good - preserve it! If it's unstable improve it! If it is beyond what you can improve - get medical

"Don't take guilt trips! Take a trip to the mall - to another part of the country, to a foreign country, but not where the guilt is.

"And keep smiling - everyone will wonder what you are up to."

Extract from: http://www.humor-laughter.com/baby-boomers-humor.html.

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