

PARISH NEWS

VOL. XXXIX No. 1 JANUARY 2021

CHURCH OF SOUTH INDIA

MALAYALAM CONGREGATION OF GREATER NEW YORK



Motto: Year of Healing

Sunday School: 9:30 AM

Sunday Worship Service: 10:45 AM



3833 Jerusalem Ave., Seaford, NY 11783
csiseafordchurch.org

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President: **The Rev. Shalu T. Mathew**
(516) 342-9879 (Parsonage)
(516) 399-3534 (Cell)

Vice-President: **Mr. Alexander Chandy**
(917) 533-8452

Secretary: **Mr. Thomas J. Paickattu**
(347) 683-7970

Jt. Secretary: **Mr. Shabu J. Itty**
(516) 807-8474

Treasurer: **Mr. George David**
(516) 437-0451

Members:

Mr. John M. David	(516) 474-2326
Mrs. Rosie Thomas	(718) 982-1572
Mrs. Susan Ninan	(917) 538-5219
Mr. Thomas M. Kunjummen	(516) 385-1831
Mr. Gikku W. Jacob	(516) 728-3521
Mr. Thomas Daniel	(631) 332-2504
Mrs. Lincy Philip	(516) 319-5068
Mr. Chris Oommen	(516) 765-0652

Auditors:

Mr. Jayan Kurien
Mr. Tim Kinatukara

Choir Master:

Mr. Jacob John

Organist:

Mr. Varghese Paul

Sunday School Superintendent:

Mrs. Anila Shalu

CSI Council of North America Representatives:

Mr. John M. David
Mr. Jeswin Samuel
Mr. Mathew Joshua
Mrs. Saramma T. Oommen
Mr. Thomas M. Kunjummen



Dearly beloved in Christ,

New Year fills everyone with new hope and excitement of entering and exploring the new year. The year 2020, year of crisis, that most of us want to leave behind. Sickness, anxiety, loneliness, depression and loss filled the past year which is hard to forget. Leaving the past behind us and moving forward to what lies ahead can be hard to do, especially if we had a difficult year and are struggling to feel positive about what lies ahead. Every New Year is charged with the anticipation of breaking the tedium of life and bringing newness! Though we really do not know what the new year holds for us, in utter faith on the One who holds the key for the future, we put ourselves in God's hand and wait patiently for God's direction and leading.

This year's theme is, **“YEAR OF HEALING”** (*“Nevertheless, I will bring health and healing to it; I will heal my people and will let them enjoy abundant peace and security.”* Jeremiah 33:6). Here the promises are given, not to do away, but to quicken and encourage prayer. These promises lead us to the gospel of Christ; truth to direct us, and peace to make us easy. All who by sanctifying grace are cleansed from the filth of sin, by pardoning mercy are freed from the guilt. Thus, the sinners are justified, washed, and sanctified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Holy Spirit, they are enabled to walk before God in peace and purity. Many are led to perceive the real difference between the people of God and the world around them, and to fear the Divine wrath. It is promised that the people, who were long in sorrow, shall again be filled with joy. Where the Lord gives righteousness and peace, he will give all needful supplies for temporal wants; and all we have will be comforts, as sanctified by the word and by prayer. Be humble ourselves, confess our wrongs, seek God, and He will bring us back

to health and healing as before. He promises: HEALING, PEACE and TRUTH.

I would like to congratulate the BOT members, auxiliary fellowship leaders, auditors and convenors as God has given them one more year to serve God. All these opportunities are not only a possession but also it is a God's gift and mission to serve Him. I wish and pray that may the good Lord gives you all a heavenly wisdom to serve the Lord as well as the community. I wish and pray that, the CSI Malayalam Congregation of Greater New York, Seaford be a blessing and witnesses God's healing.

In His Service Yours

Shalu Achen



NEWS & EVENTS

LEGISLATIVE GENERAL BODY MEETING

The Legislative General Body Meeting of our Congregation was held on Sunday, December 20, 2020 immediately after the worship service. The general consensus in the meeting was that, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, no major activities did take place in the church since March 2020 and all the committees were virtually inactive in the past year. Hence the Legislative General Body decided that all the Elected Officials in the Board of Trustees, Auditors, St. Thomas Ecumenical Representatives, Joint Convenors and Auxiliary Fellowship Committees from the year 2020, should continue in 2021. The General Body also decided that all the twelve members in the Board of Trustees will have one additional year to their original three-year term.

Board of Trustees

(Term ending December 2021)

Mr. George David
Mr. Thomas J. Paickattu
Mr. John M. David
Mrs. Rosie Thomas

(Term ending December 2022)

Mr. Thomas M. Kunjummen
Mr. Gikku W. Jacob
Mr. Shabu Jacob Itty
Mrs. Susan Ninan

(Term ending December 2023)

Mr. Alexander Chandy
Mr. Thomas Daniel
Mr. Chris Oommen
Mrs. Lincy Philip

Auditors (2021)

Mr. Jayan P. Kurian Mr. Tim Kinatukara

Joint Conveners (2021)

Family Retreat	: Mr. Mathew Joshua
Volleyball Tournament	: Mrs. Moni Kurian
Church Picnic	: Mr. Roby Kinatukara
Convention	: Mr. Oommen Kuruvilla
Family Night	: Mr. Don Thomas
Carol Rounds	: Mr. Varghese Kurian

St. Thomas Ecumenical Representatives (2021)

Mr. Varghese Kurian Mr. Libin John

OFFICE BEARERS (2021)

The Board of Trustees had a meeting on December 20, 2020 immediately after the Legislative General Body meeting to elect the office bearers for the year 2021.

As the Legislative General Body decided that the Board of Trustees of 2020 should continue in 2021, the Board of Trustees followed the suit in the election of Office Bearers. They also made the decision that the Office Bearers of 2020 should continue as the Office Bearers of 2021:

Vice- President:	Mr. Alexander Chandy
Secretary:	Mr. Thomas J. Paickattu
Jt. Secretary:	Mr. Shabu J. Itty
Treasurer:	Mr. George David

COUNCIL SUNDAY

We celebrated Sunday, December 6th as Council Sunday. Our Council Representatives took active part in the worship service on that day. Thanks to the Council Secretary, Mr. Mathew Joshua for doing the sermon on that day.

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

Our Christmas Carol service was held at the Church on Saturday, December 19th. The Rev. Mathew Varghese (Vicar, St. John's Marthoma Church) delivered the Christmas message.

Special thanks to the limited number of dedicated choir members who took the pain to attend the limited practice sessions regularly and for presenting beautiful carols amid all the issues we had with Covid-19 pandemic. Also, thanks to the Choir Master, Mr. Jacob John and Organist, Mr. Varghese Paul for their co-operation and leadership in this special event.

The Board of Trustees showed their appreciation to the Choir members who performed in the Carol service by presenting special Christmas gift cards.

CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP SERVICE

We arranged two Christmas worship services at the Church to accommodate the maximum number of people, the first one on Friday, December 25th and the second one on Saturday, December 26th at 10 a.m. The offertory collected on those days totaled \$2,300 was given to our Achen as Christmas gift.

WATCH - NIGHT SERVICE & NEW YEAR SERVICE

We had the *Virtual* Watch-Night service and the New Year Covenant worship service through Zoom and YouTube, which started on Thursday, December 31st at 10:00 p.m. with a prayer and testimony session followed by the Covenant Service at 11:30 p.m.

SPONSORING MISSION VILLAGES IN INDIA

The Board of Trustees decided that from now on we should sponsor some Mission Villages in India and help them financially on a yearly basis using our Mission Sunday collection. Our Achen contacted MKD Mission Board Director, the Rev. Mathews P. Oommen and collected information in this regard. Based on the information, we have selected the following seven villages and sent \$1,400 each which is equivalent to about Rs. 100,000.

1. Panwadi (Village) - Charkari Mission (Uttar Pradesh)
Missionary – Mr. Bijumon P.K.
2. H.D. Kotte (Village) – Mysore Mission (Karnataka)
Missionary – Mr. Joshy Joseph
3. Titlgarh (Village) – Odisha Mission (Odisha)
Missionary - Mr. Dileep John
4. Shyamnagar (Village) – Parkal Mission – (Telangana)
Missionary - Mr. H. Kumarswami
5. Challagariga (Village) - Telengana (Mougalppally) Mission - (Telangana)
Missionary - Mr. Swarnakar
6. Paloor kavu (Village) - Thottapradesha Mission – (Kerala)
Missionary - Rev. Shibu Selvaraj
7. Premnagar (Village) – Uttaranjal Mission – (Uttarkhand)
Missionary - Mr. Soby George

Achen will detail the work at each mission field in the upcoming Newsletters so that we will have a clear picture about this project. Please pray for these mission works in India as there are lot of struggles and persecutions happening for the missionary workers and their families now a days.



UPCOMING EVENTS

YOUTH WINTER RETREAT

The Youth Fellowship will have their Winter Retreat through Zoom on January 15 and 16. Dr. Karen (CSI Church Tampa) will lead the sessions. Contact Achen or Youth Fellowship Committee for more details.

CSI COUNCIL – SUNDAY SCHOOL RETREAT

CSI Council is arranging a *Virtual* Sunday School Retreat for students of age group 13-18, on Saturday, February 13th from 9:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.

TELE PRAYER MEETINGS

Tuesdays at 9:00 p.m. – January 5, 12, 19, 26.

Tele-Conference Number: 605-468-8025 Access Code: 918802#

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

The Wednesday Women's Fellowship Bible Study will be held as Tele-prayer meetings on January 6, 13, 20, 27 at 10:00 a.m. (Use above telephone #).

OTHER NEWS

SPECIAL THANKS

Thanks to the following members from the Board of Trustees for sponsoring Christmas Gift Cards for the Choir members who performed in the Carol Service.

Mr. Alexander Chandy

Mr. Thomas J. Paickattu

Mr. George David

Mr. Gikku W. Jacob

Mr. Thomas Daniel

Mr. John David

Mr. Chris Oommen

Mrs. Susan Ninan

Mrs. Lincy Philip

VISITOR

The Rev. Mathew Varghese (Vicar, St. John's Marthoma Church) visited our congregation on Saturday, December 19th and delivered the Christmas message during our Carol Service.

BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday!

January

05 Vinod Varghese

06 Shaly Samuel

Wantagh

Garden City



07	Kris M. Philip	Williston Park
10	Moni Kurien	Floral Park
10	Tom N. Mathew	Floral Park
12	Benny V. Mangalath	Northport
15	Sareena Elizabeth Jacob	New Hyde Park
16	Alice Oommen	New Hyde Park
17	Anna Thomas	New Hyde Park
18	Jerry M. Thomas	Williston Park
18	Caroline Jacob	Plainview
19	Dr. Aleyamma Eapen	Brooklyn
21	Oommen Kuruvilla	Dix Hills
23	Jiju Kuruvilla	East Meadow
23	Jimmy Varghese George	New Hyde Park
24	Shawn Paul	Deer Park
26	Abraham Daniel	Elmont
26	Roselin Philip	New Hyde Park
27	Mariann David	Manhasset Hills
27	Mariamamma Mathew	New Hyde Park
29	Thomas Varughese	Staten Island
30	Susan Mathew	New Hyde Park

February

01	Mini Philip	New Hyde Park
05	Ajay Saju Mathew	Manhattan
06	Rachelamma Abraham	New Hyde Park

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Happy Anniversary!

January

08	Mr. & Mrs. Mathew P. Thomas	Syosset
09	Mr. & Mrs. Benny Itticheria	Douglaston
09	Mr. & Mrs. Paul Mesiyas	New Hyde Park
10	Mr. & Mrs. Mathew Joshua	Manhasset Hills
12	Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Varughese	Staten Island
15	Mr. & Mrs. Koshy N. Varughese	Glen Oaks
18	Mr. & Mrs. Jiju Kuruvilla	East Meadow
19	Mr. & Mrs. Don Thomas	New Hyde Park
23	Mr. & Mrs. Oommen Kuruvilla	Dix Hills
28	Mr. & Mrs. Johney Oommen	Bellerose
28	Rev. & Mrs. Shalu T. Mathew	Seaford
30	Mr. & Mrs. Jacob John	Hicksville



February

06

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas T. Oommen

Glen Oaks

ALMANAC

January 10 **(English)**

First Sunday after Epiphany **Live Worthy of Your Calling**

Proverbs 20: 1-11
Psalm 14
Romans 6: 12-21
Matthew 7: 16-23

Mr. Mathew P. Thomas
Mr. Kris M. Philip
Mr. Vinod Varghese

January 17 **(Malayalam)**

Second Sunday after Epiphany **One Lord, One Baptism**

Numbers 11: 23-30
Psalm 23
1Corinthians 10: 1-4
John 10: 7-18

Mr. Benny V. Mangalath
Ms. Sareena Elizabeth Jacob
Mrs. Shaly Samuel

January 24 **(English)**

Third Sunday after Epiphany **Unity for Justice and Peace**

Ezekiel 37: 15-28
Psalm 4
Philippians 4: 8-20
Matthew 5: 21-26

Mr. Jerry M. Thomas
Mr. Jimmy George
Mr. Shawn Paul

January 31 **(Malayalam)**

Ninth Sunday before Easter **The Goodness of Creation**

Genesis 1: 24-31
Psalm 104: 1-13
Ephesians 1: 3-14
Matthew 6: 9-13

Mr. Jacob John
Mr. Nipun Koshy
Ms. Mariann David

February 7
(Malayalam)

Eighth Sunday before Easter
The Fallenness of Creation

Genesis 3: 1-10
Psalm 53
Romans 3: 21-26
Matthew 18: 23-35

Mr. Thomas Varughese
Mr. Chris Oommen
Mr. Don Thomas



2020 Calendar

January 01
January 15,16

New Year Covenant Service
Youth Winter Retreat (*Virtual*)

FIRST CLASS MAIL

IF UNDELIVERED PLEASE RETURN TO:

Secretary

C. S. I. Malayalam Congregation

3833 Jerusalem Avenue

Seaford, NY 11783

DATED MATERIAL