

If undeliverable please return to:

Dr. Joemon T Varughese
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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2006

Vicar & President	Rev. Thomas Paul <i>revthomaspaul@yahoo.com</i>	(732) 602-9444
Vice-President	Dr. Samuel Thomas	(973) 538-1192
Secretary	Daniel Varghese <i>dvarghese10@gmail.com</i>	(908) 688-2830
Joint Secretary	Jose Cherian	(908) 851-0603
Treasurer	Varghese Varghese	(732) 577-0728
Accountant	Thomas Oommen	(732) 906-8830
Lay Leaders	John Varughese Sony Cherukara	(973) 808-1799 (908) 347-6650
Prayer Group Representatives:		
Prayer Group # 1	Mathew Cherukara	(908) 686-1061
Prayer Group # 2	Philip Cherukara	(732) 381-3633
Prayer Group # 3	Mathews Philip	(732) 297-8303
Prayer Group # 4	Abraham Varughese	(732) 251-1728
Sunday School Supdt.	Pappen Varghese	(908) 281-2188
Choir Coordinator	Earlin George	(732) 207-1330
Youth Fellowship	Geethu Abraham	(732) 617-2005
Sevika Sanghom	Annamma John	(732) 752-5033
Edavaka Mission	Thomas John	(732) 651-8867
Sabha Mandalam Rep.	Daniel Varghese	(908) 688-2830
Diocesan Assembly Rep.	Thomas Mathew	(973) 285-4373
Building Committee	Andrew Pappachen	(973) 808-2077
Auditors	Anil Mathew Philip Prasad	(732) 258-8997 (732) 967-9272



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2007

Vicar & President	Rev. Thomas Paul 209 Michael Ct., Woodbridge, NJ 07095 <i>revthomaspaul@yahoo.com</i>	(732) 602-9444
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Joint Secretary	Jose Cherian	(908) 851-0603
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Accountant	Thomas Oommen	(732) 906-8830
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Prayer Group Representatives:		
Prayer Group # 1	Mathew Cherukara	(908) 686-1061
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Prayer Group # 3	Anil Mathew	(732) 258-8997
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Choir Coordinator	Earlin George	(732) 207-1330
Youth Fellowship Sec.	Joshua John	(908)-907-7758
Sevika Sanghom Sec.	Annamma John	(732) 752-5033
Edavaka Mission	Sam Jacob	(732) 549-8925
Sabha Mandalam Rep.	Daniel Varghese	(908) 688-2830
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BIBLE QUIZ

Please email your answers to
quiz@ststephensmtc.com
*At the end of the year, your earned points will
be totaled and the top scorers will get prizes!!*

JUDGES

- 1) Who is the first judge mentioned in the book of Judges?
A - Ahab, B - Ehud, C - Othniel, D - Gideon
- 2) Who was instrumental in the downfall of Samson?
A - Tamar, B - Zerubabel, C - Jezebel, D - Delilah
- 3) Who was the fat king that Ehud killed?
A - Ekron, B - Eglon, C - Elah, D - Eker
- 4) Who was Jabin's commander?
A - Sippai, B - Sisamai, C - Sisera, D - Sotai
- 5) Where was the battle fought where Jabin's army was defeated?
A - River Kishon, B - River Jabbor, C - River Jordan, D - River Arnon
- 6) Who sang the song of victory for Israel?
A - Isaac and Rebekah, B - Moses and Aaron, C - Deborah and Barak, D - the angels
- 7) Where was Samson's wife from?
A - Gaza, B - Timnah, C - Shiloh, D - Bethlehem
- 8) Why did the Lord deliver Israel up to persecution?
A - They blasphemed, B - They did evil, C - They wanted their freedom, D - They had no leader
- 9) What was Gideons other name?
A - Ben Manoah, B - Ben Hur, C - Jerubbaal, D - Zerubabel
- 10) In Gideons first test of faith what was the dew on?
A - the grass, B - the ground, C - the clothes, D - the fleece

ST. STEPHEN'S MAR THOMA CHURCH



HOY AVE & HAMILTON STREET
FORDS, NEW JERSEY 08863

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ACHEN'S MESSAGE!



Dearly Beloved in Christ,

"Therefore I tell you do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink. Your heavenly father knows that you need them." (Mathew 6:25)

Feb. 18th is the first day of the Lent. After the festivities it is the time of more contemplation, meditation and the practice of silence, prayer and relaxation to reach profound calmness and serenity. Abraham and Jesus often went in to the desert or mountains to pray alone.

Lent is the preparation for Easter. Lent is springtime in the Churches, a time of rebirth and renewal. The word is derived from an old Anglo-Saxon expression, lencten, which means 'spring'. In the book of Joel we read, "Come back to me with all your heart, fasting, weeping and mourning" (Joel 2). It is a cry from God's own heart, inviting us to turn around, get back on the track. It is a cry from the heart of God to our own hearts.

In Isaiah we read about fasting for others in their needs.
*"Is this not the fast that I choose...
to share your bread with the hungry
and bring the homeless poor into your house?"(Is.58)*

And there is prayer in Lent. It is at the heart of renewal and rebirth. Reading and meditating on the Bible, especially, the Gospels will help us to get a feel of what Jesus was on about. Then we will be in touch with the real Jesus, the flesh-and-blood Jesus of the Gospels.

Jesus is really concerned about our worrying nature. So our Master's advice to us is stop worrying as God is taking care of us. So to conquer stress that ruin us we should learn to obey our Master. May the Lent observation heal us and give us more life and peace.

The world famous Maramon Convention of the Mar Thoma Church begins on Feb. 11th. Let's pray for it's blessing.

May God bless you,

Thomas Paulachen.

Wedding Anniversaries in February!!

2nd	John Thomas & Rachel Thomas	(908) 470-1343
7th	Mammen T. Thomas & Mariamma Thomas	(732) 422-0701
11th	Santhosh George & Judith C Joy	(732) 297-8412
14th	Sajan Chacko Poovakunnel & Molly Mariam Sajan	(908) 964-0735
26th	Pappen Varghese & Rina Varghese	(908) 281-2188



If you are not receiving regular emails regarding the activities of the church, join our email list.

Just send an email to addme@ststephensmtc.com

Also, if you are a youth member and not receiving regular email updates, join the youth email list.

Just send an email to addmeyouth@ststephensmtc.com

Birthdays in February!!

1st	Susan Thomas	w/o Regi K.Thomas	(732) 568-1754
3rd	Lisa Kurien	w/o Sony M. Cherukara	(908) 347-6650
3rd	Eric George	s/o Santhosh George	(732) 297-8412
4th	Merlyn Oommen	d/o Thomas Oommen	(732) 906-8830
4th	Sam Jacob		(732) 549-8925
7th	Aleyamma Mathew	w/o K.G Mathewkutty	(732) 855-1719
8th	Sheeba Johnson	w/o Mathew Johnson	(732) 432-6444
8th	Varghese Varghese		(732) 577-0728
8th	Thomas Varkey		(908) 301-0084
11th	Lisa Mathews	d/o Philip Mathews	(732) 297-8303
12th	John Thomas		(908) 470-1343
13th	Saju Thomas		(609) 466-1474
13th	Nikhil Thomas	s/o George Thomas	(908) 668-9676
15th	Philip M Thomas Jr.	s/o Philip M Thomas	(732) 382-0033
17th	Susan Mathews	w/o Philip Mathews	(732) 297-8303
17th	Smitha Rajeev John	w/o Rajeev John	(732) 752-5033
17th	Sophy M. Cherukara	d/o Philip Cherukara	(732) 381-3633
17th	Joshua Varughese	s/o Geogie Varughese	(732) 355-0830
18th	Thomas Oommen		(732) 906-8830
20th	Jerrin Philip Koshy	s/o Koshy Philip	(732) 286-0924
21st	Abraham Varghese		(732) 251-1728
23rd	Manju Susan	w/o Ani George Alexander	(484) 887-1490
24th	Rachel Skariah	w/o K.K. Skariah	(908) 822-2737
24th	Sunil Kurien	s/o Abraham Kurien	(732) 677-2507
24th	Clarris Ann Jacob	d/o Shaji Jacob Koshy	(732) 203-0503
25th	Terry J. Thomas	s/o John Thomas	(908) 470-1343
26th	Philip Mathews		(732) 297-8303
26th	Alexander Jacob	s/o Santhosh C Varghese	(732) 873-0811
29th*	K C Abraham	F/o Saju Cherian Abraham	(732) 605-9888

ANNOUNCEMENTS!



PRAYER MEETING:

There will be a prayer meeting on Saturday, Feb 3rd at 6:00 p.m at the residence of Mr. & Mrs. Varghese Varghese, 211 Schanck Rd., Freehold, NJ 07728. Tel 732-577-0728

Maramon Convention 2007

112th Maramon Convention will commence on Sunday, February 11th and will conclude on February 18th. Please remember Maramon Convention in your prayers.

The Great Lent

Beginning of The Great Lent (*Valliyanooyambu Aarambum*) is on 18th February.

BEREAVEMENT

Beloved mother of Mr. ABRAHAM PULIMOOTTIL was called to eternity on Monday January 1st, 2007. She was 93 years old.

Beloved Sister-in-law of MR C. THOMAS was called to eternity on 31st December 2006.

We, the St. Stephen's family express our deepest condolence to the bereaved families.

New Born

Shibu Varghese and Rani Shibu are blessed with a baby boy, Alvin Mathew Varghese on 21st January 2007. Congratulations to the proud parents.

Youth League Meetings

Feb. 2, 2007: at church, bring \$4 for food (Discussing themes and ideas for Spring Conference; please attend) -

Feb. 16, 2007: at Sophy Cherukara' home (Ephsians 3)

*Youth League Meetings will start at 7pm every other Friday at church unless noted otherwise.

Following Families have taken membership with our church:

1) Dr. M C Mathai & Mrs. Valsamma Mathai, their children Anish P Mathew (s), Ashish P Mathew (s) Shruthi Elsa Mathew (d) and Smrithi Ann Mathew. They are from Staten Island MTC.

Residence: 525 Spotswood-Gravelhill Road, Monroe Township, NJ 08831

Phone: 732-561-2181

Announcements Contd...

2) Mr. & Mrs. George and Remy Thomas, their children Nikhil Thomas (s) and Neha Thomas (d) Mother Parish: Chengannur Valiyapally
Residence: 412 West Gate Dr., Edison, NJ 08820
Phone: 908-668-9676

3) Dr. Joseph Philip & Dr. Nancy Joseph, their son Benjamin Philip Joseph, Father Mr. K.S Philipose and Mother Mrs. Leelamma Philipose. Mother Parish: Ranny Christhose
Residence: 2706 Forest Haven Blvd., Edison, NJ 08817
Phone: 732-662-5813

We, the members of St. Stephen's family welcome you all to our church.

NO GREATER LOVE

In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. 1 John 4:10

On our family-room wall, in a small shadowbox, hangs a "treasure" that belongs to my wife Carolyn. Oh, we have things more intrinsically valuable on the walls of our home—a handmade quilt from the Blue Ridge Mountains of Kentucky, antique mirrors, oil paintings, and a magnificent dulcimer from an artisan in the back-country of Idaho.

Carolyn's treasure, though, is far more valuable to her than any other possession, for it contains a gift from our granddaughter Julia. It was a present to her "Nana" on Valentine's Day several years ago when Julia was only 6 years old—a small, red, clay heart. Inscribed on it in childish scrawl are the words "I Luv U."

The little heart is crudely made, ragged on the edges, and bears a number of thumbprints and smudges, but Carolyn has enshrined it in a frame made especially for that heart. Each day it reminds her of Julia's love.

Is God's love more valuable to you than silver or gold or any other possession? He sent His only begotten Son into the world, that [you] might live through Him (1 John 4:9). He did that because He loves you, not because you loved Him. And because of His love, one day you will be with Him in heaven. There is no greater love!

—David H. Roper



Date	Time	Celebrant	1st Lesson	2nd Lesson	Epistle	Gospel	Sunday School
Medical Mission Sunday							
4 Feb	10:45 AM	Rev. Mathew Skariah (English)	2 Kings 5:1-14	Acts 3:1-10	Jacob 5:13-19	Mark 7:31-37	No Sunday School
Sin and Fall: Deviation from Divine purpose (112th Maramon Convention begins)							
11 Feb	10:45 AM	Rev. Thomas Paul (Malayalam)	Genesis 3:1-15	Jacob 3:1-12	Romans 5:12-19	John 3:1-16	After Offertory
Beginning of Great Lent – Redemption and transformation through Christ							
18 Feb	10:45 AM	Rev. Thomas Paul (English)	Exodus 15:22-27	Romans 12:1-8	Ephesians 4:17-24	John 2:1-11	After Communion
Lord Jesus who cleans us (2nd Sunday in Lent)							
25 Feb	10:45 AM	Rev. Thomas Paul (Malayalam)	2 Kings 20:1-11	Acts 5:12-16	Colossians 3:1-11	Mark 1:40-45	After Offertory