

**If undeliverable please return to:**  
P.O. Box 6635  
East Brunswick NJ 08816



Church Retreat  
May 28-30<sup>th</sup>

## 2009 OFFICE BEARERS

<b>Vicar &amp; President</b>	Rev. Abraham Cherian	(732) 602-9444 <i>tojiachen@gmail.com</i>
<b>Vice-President</b>	Mathew Thomas	(732) 549-1437
<b>Secretary</b>	Joemon Varughese	(732) 422-7128 <i>jobi95@hotmail.com</i>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Jomon Thomas	(732) 543-0683
<b>Accountant</b>	Sabu Cherian	(908) 927-9940
<b>Lay Leaders</b>	Koshy Philip	(732) 286-0924
	Sunil Thomas	(732) 636-2838
<u>Prayer Group Representatives</u>		
Group # 1	John Thomas	(908) 470-1343
Group # 2	George Thomas	(732) 321-4171
Group # 3	Sunil Jacob	(609) 936-9364
Group # 4	Reji Mathew	(732) 727-3872
<u>Organization's Representatives</u>		
Sunday School	Jacob Chacko	(732) 249-7318
Choir	Earlin George	(732) 207-1330
Youth Fellowship	Anup Cherian	(732) 318-6925
Sevika Sanghom (Sec)	Suja Abraham	(732) 418-8840
Edavaka Mission (Sec)	Shibu Varghese	(973) 743-3374
<u>Sabha Mandalam &amp; Diocesan Assembly Members</u>		
Sabha Mandalam	Andrew Pappachen	(973) 227-4129
Diocesan Assembly	Dr. Samuel Thomas	(973) 722-0154
<u>Other Contacts</u>		
Sunday School Supdt.	Saju Thomas	(609) 466-1474
Choir Secretary	Sunita Varkey	(908) 301-0084
Auditors	John Mathews	
	Shibu Varughese (Edison)	

## 2010 OFFICE BEARERS

<b>Vicar &amp; President</b>	Rev. Abraham Cherian	(732) 602-9444 <i>tojiachen@gmail.com</i>
<b>Vice-President</b>	Varghese Varghese	(732) 577-0728
<b>Secretary</b>	Shibu Varghese	(732) 348-8165 <i>gracyshibu@hotmail.com</i>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Anil Mathew	(732) 552-8053
<b>Accountant</b>	Jomon Thomas	(908) 812--6550
<b>Lay Leaders</b>	Dr. Joemon Varughese	(732) 422-7128
	Vinoj Mathew	(732) 910-5689
<u>Prayer Group Representatives</u>		
Group # 1	Byju Abraham	(908) 647-5362
Group # 2	Mathew Cherukara	(908) 686-1061
Group # 3	Philip Mathews	(908) 625-7500
Group # 4	Sunil Varughese	(609) 275-9334
Group # 5	Varghese Abraham	(732) 251-1728
<u>Organization's Representatives</u>		
Sunday School	Saju Thomas	(732) 9915619
Choir	Earlin George	(732) 207-1330
Youth Fellowship	Becky Joseph	(610) 438-1688
Sevika Sanghom (Sec)	Lizy Mathews	(732) 549-1437
Edavaka Mission (Sec)	Joseph Abraham	(732) 418-8840
<u>Sabha Mandalam &amp; Diocesan Assembly Members</u>		
Sabha Mandalam	Andrew Pappachen	(973) 227-4129
Diocesan Assembly	Dr. Samuel Thomas	(973) 722-0154



## QUIZ - NOAH'S ARK

- 11) David's wife Abigail was at one point married to:  
 A - Jonathan  
 B - Nabal  
 C - Phalti  
 D - Belial
- 12) David's wife Michal was at one point married to:  
 A - Jonathan  
 B - Nabal  
 C - Phalti  
 D - Belial
- 13) While Saul was pursuing David, David managed to steal Saul's spear and water bottle. What was Saul doing at the time?  
 A - Sleeping  
 B - Getting drunk  
 C - Going to the bathroom  
 D - In a trance
- 14) Who was with David at the time?  
 A - Abishai  
 B - Azahel  
 C - Joab  
 D - Benaiah
- 15) What was this man's recommendation?  
 A - Flee  
 B - Hide  
 C - Run him through with a spear  
 D - Pray
- 16) David fled to the king of Achish, who gave him a city to dwell in. Which city was it?  
 A - Bethlehem  
 B - Ziklag  
 C - Gath  
 D - Hebron
- 17) The kings of the Philistines did not allow David to join the battle with them. David then returned to his city and found it in what state?  
 A - Abandoned  
 B - Celebrating  
 C - Mourning  
 D - Completely destroyed
- 18) Saul and his sons died at which place?  
 A - Mount Gilboa  
 B - The plain of Aphek  
 C - Valley of Jezreel  
 D - Jerusalem
- 19) What did the Philistines do with Saul's body?  
 A - Buried it  
 B - Burnt it  
 C - Threw it in the river  
 D - Hung it from the wall of the city
- 20) What did David do to the man who 'confessed' to killing Saul?  
 A - Rewarded him  
 B - Killed him  
 C - Promoted him  
 D - Hired him

# ST. STEPHEN'S MAR THOMA CHURCH



**423 DUNHAMS CORNER ROAD**  
**EAST BRUNSWICK, NJ 08816**

**Vicar's Address**  
**Rev. Abraham Cherian**  
 209 Michael Ct.,  
 Woodbridge, NJ 07095

# February

## 2010

### Volume XI

### No. 2

[www.ststephensmtc.com](http://www.ststephensmtc.com)

A copy of this bulletin is available online

# ACHEN'S MESSAGE!



Dear Beloved in Christ,

The first month of the year went through different fearful situations around the world. The catastrophic earthquake in Haiti is one of them. Thousands of people lost their lives and many of the survivors lost their loved ones & other belongings. The voluntary organizations and churches from different parts of the world are still working hard to uplift the people in Haiti. Let us also join the millions to pray for them and stretch forth our hands for their upliftment.

In February, we are entering into the Great Lent which starts on the 2nd Sunday. The 115th Maramon convention is also beginning on the same day.

Let's uphold the convention & its arrangements in our prayers. The Church is celebrating the Great Lent by meditating the passion of the Lord, his death on the cross and the resurrection. Fifty days of Fast & Lent do observe by denying the things we like most in our lives. It is a time of repentance, renewal and reconciliation. The service of reconciliation has an integral part in Lent where the Priest and the members of the parish forgiving each other before God and experience the love of God for the whole creation. This is the redemptive work & transformation of creation revealed through Jesus Christ. After 50 days of Lent we will be experiencing the fellowship and liberation through Jesus Christ. Only when faith replaces doubt in the life of a believer can the joy of knowing God become a reality.

" Faith is not a part of the Christian life; its the whole thing." Genuine believers trust God and exercise active confidence in God. Cultivate your faith, confess your faith and corner your faith--to look for opportunities to trust God. Make decisions that will cultivate and build your faith during tough times.

The readings of February can help us to understand the holistic healing of Jesus who recognizes the untouchables. May the Lord help us all to participate in the Lent services as a time of identification with Christ's death & resurrection.

with love & prayers  
Toji Achen



## QUIZ - NOAH'S ARK

Please email your answers to  
[quiz@ststephensmtc.com](mailto:quiz@ststephensmtc.com)

- 1) When David arrived at Nob, what did he claim to be doing?  
A - Fleeing from Saul  
B - On a secret mission from Saul  
C - Fulfilling a vow  
D - Scouting for Philistines
- 2) A certain man saw David at Nob, who was he?  
A - Doeg the Edomite  
B - Goliath of Gath  
C - Mesha the Moabite  
D - Eglon the Gergashite
- 3) David obtained a weapon while at Nob, which consisted of?  
A - Jonathan's sword  
B - His old sling  
C - His brother's bow  
D - Goliath's sword
- 4) After leaving Nob, David fled to which king?  
A - Agag king of the Amelekites  
B - Achish king of Gath  
C - Gilgamesh king of Ekron  
D - Mesha king of Moab
- 5) In order to escape from this king, David pretended to be:  
A - A hero  
B - Saul  
C - Insane  
D - A Philistine
- 6) David placed his family in the care of:  
A - The king of Moab  
B - Jonathan  
C - Samuel  
D - Achish
- 7) While Saul was pursuing David, David managed to cut off a portion of Saul's robe without him knowing. What was Saul doing at the time?  
A - Sleeping  
B - Getting drunk  
C - Going to the bathroom  
D - In a trance
- 8) When subsequently addressing Saul, what does David compare himself with?  
A - A hero  
B - A dead dog  
C - A hunted gazelle  
D - A prodigal son
- 9) What was Saul's reaction to David's speech?  
A - He was angry  
B - He was scared  
C - He laughed  
D - He wept
- 10) Where did Samuel live?  
A - Ramah  
B - Bethel  
C - Shiloh  
D - Nob



# 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
4th Saro Ann Thomas	w/o Jomon K. Thomas	(617) 959-5312
7th Aleyamma Mathew		(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
12th Isabelle Mary Varughese	d/o Santhosh C Varghese	(732) 873-0811
13th Saju Thomas		(609) 466-1474
13th Nikhil Thomas	s/o George Thomas	(908) 668-9676
14th Thomas Philip Abraham	s/o Shiju Abraham	(775) 473-0609
14th Grace Elizabeth Abraham	s/o Shiju Abraham	(775) 473-0609
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) 283-2777
24th Rachel Skariah	w/o K.K. Skariah	(908) 822-2737
24th Sunil Kurien	s/o Abraham Kurien	(732) 677-0277
24th Clarris Ann Jacob	d/o Shaji Jacob Koshy	(732) 203-0503
25th Terry J. Thomas	s/o John Thomas	(908) 470-1343
26th Esther Vinoj Mathew	d/o Vinoj Mathew	(732) 726-1714
26th Philip Mathews		(732) 297-8303
26th Alexander Jacob Varghese	s/o Santhosh C Varghese	(732) 873-0811
29th* K C Abraham	F/o Saju Cherian Abraham	(732) 605-9888

# ANNOUNCEMENTS!



## Church Retreat

This year's Church Retreat will be conducted during the Memorial Day Weekend, May 28-30<sup>th</sup> at Camp-of-the-Woods, Christian Retreat Center, Speculator, NY. All those interested in attending, please contact Mr. Regi K. Thomas, Mr. Shibu Varghese, or Mr. Anil Mathew by February 8<sup>th</sup>.

Proposed Rate for the Retreat per person:

- Adults (15 & above) \$160.00,
- Children 12-15yrs \$95.00,
- Children 8-11yrs \$70.00,
- Children 5-7yrs \$50.00,
- Under 4yrs are free.

## Prayer Meetings

Please contact Achen, Church Secretary or your Prayer Group Representative, if you would like to conduct Prayer Meeting at your home.

## World Day of Prayer:

Sevika Sangham and the New Jersey Ecumenical Fellowship is conducting this year's World Day of Prayer on March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010 from 1:00-5:00 pm at our church. All members are encouraged to attend.

## Sunday School

The Diocesan Exam will be held on May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

## BEREAVEMENT

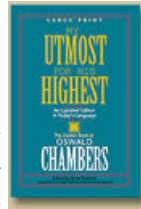
Beloved father of Saramma Abraham (Molly Aunty) w/o of Abraham Kurien (Thampichayan) was called to eternity in India. Funeral was held in Pullad.

Please uphold the bereaving family in your prayers.

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

# The Divine Commandment of Life

From MY UTMOST FOR HIS HIGHEST on September 20, 2008



Our Lord's exhortation to us in Matthew 5:38-48 is to be generous in our behavior toward everyone. Beware of living according to your natural affections in your spiritual life. Everyone has natural affections— some people we like and others we don't like. Yet we must never let those likes and dislikes rule our Christian life. "If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another" ( 1 John 1:7 ), even those toward whom we have no affection.

The example our Lord gave us here is not that of a good person, or even of a good Christian, but of God Himself. ". . . be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect." In other words, simply show to the other person what God has shown to you. And God will give you plenty of real life opportunities to prove whether or not you are "perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect." Being a disciple means deliberately identifying yourself with God's interests in other people. Jesus says, "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another" ( John 13:34-35 ).

The true expression of Christian character is not in good-doing, but in God-likeness. If the Spirit of God has transformed you within, you will exhibit divine characteristics in your life, not just good human characteristics. God's life in us expresses itself as *God's* life, not as human life trying to be godly. The secret of a Christian's life is that the supernatural becomes natural in him as a result of the grace of God, and the experience of this becomes evident in the practical, everyday details of life, not in times of intimate fellowship with God. And when we come in contact with things that create confusion and a flurry of activity, we find to our own amazement that we have the power to stay wonderfully poised even in the center of it all.

## 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

Date	Time	Celebrant	1st Lesson	2nd Lesson	Epistle	Gospel	Sunday School	
<b>7-Feb</b>	<b>9:30 AM</b>	Rev. Dr. Philip Varghese English	Holistic Healing that Jesus gives (Healing Ministry Sunday)					After Qurbana
			2 Kings 5:1-14	Acts 3: 1-10	James 5:13-19	St. Mark 7:31-37		
<b>14-Feb</b>	<b>9:30 AM</b>	Rev. Abraham Cherian Malayalam	Redemption and Transformation of Creation - Beginning of Great Lent (15th Maramon Convention Begins)					After Qurbana
			Exodus 15: 22-27	Romans 12:1-8	Eph 4:17-24	St. John 2:1-11		
<b>21-Feb</b>	<b>9:30 AM</b>	Rev. Abraham Cherian English	Jesus Christ who recognizes the Untouchables (2nd Sunday in Lent) (15th Maramon Convention Ends)					After Qurbana
			2 Kings 20:1-11	1 John 2:1-17	Acts 5: 12-16	St. Mark 8:1-13		
<b>28-Feb</b>	<b>9:30 AM</b>	Rev. Abraham Cherian Malayalam	Fellowship and Liberation Through Christ (3rd Sunday in Lent)					After Qurbana
			1 Samuel 18:1-20	Acts 8:14-22	St. Mark 2:1-12	Acts 12:11-23		