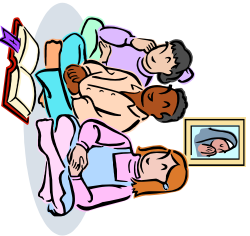


**If undeliverable please return to:**  
Anil Mathew  
1235 Huron Rd.  
North Brunswick, NJ 08902



**SUNDAY SCHOOL  
STARTS  
SEPT 14TH**

# 2008 OFFICE BEARERS

<b>Vicar &amp; President</b>	Rev. Abraham Cherian	(732) 602-9444 <i>revacherian@hotmail.com</i>
<b>Vice-President</b>	John Mathews	(732) 356-6192
<b>Secretary</b>	Anil Mathew	(732) 552-8053 <i>anilmathew74@yahoo.com</i>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Joseph Abraham	(732) 331-4076
<b>Accountant</b>	Reji K. Thomas	(732) 568-1754
<b>Lay Leaders</b>	John Varughese	(973) 808-1799
	Blessen Joseph	(732) 841-0814
<u>Prayer Group Representatives to Executive Committee</u>		
Group # 1	Mathew Cherukara	(908) 686-1061
Group # 2	Mathew M. Thomas	(908) 247-2960
Group # 3	Philip Mathews	(908) 625-7500
Group # 4	Koshy Philip	(732) 604-5200
<u>Organization's Representatives to Executive Committee</u>		
Sunday School	Jacob Chacko	(732) 249-7318
Choir	Earlin George	(732) 207-1330
Youth Fellowship (Sec)	Becky Joseph	(732) 672-6747
Sevika Sanghom (Sec)	Suja Abraham	(732) 418-8840
Edavaka Mission (Sec)	Dr. Joemon Varghese	(848) 248-5862
<u>Sabha Mandalam &amp; Diocesan Assembly Members</u>		
Sabha Mandalam	Andrew Pappachen	(973) 808-2077
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	Byju Abraham	
	Mathew Keecheril	



## PLANTS OF THE BIBLE

Please email your answers to  
quiz@ststephensmtc.com

1) A burning bush caught this man's attention:

- A - Jethro
- B - Joab
- C - Moses
- D - Jacob

2) Adam and Eve made aprons using this plants' leaves:

- A - Fig
- B - Palm
- C - Fir
- D - Oak

3) Cedars are renown in the Bible as coming from this place:

- A - Jerusalem
- B - Jericho
- C - Tyre
- D - Lebanon

4) Noah's ark was made out of this type of wood:

- A - Gopher
- B - Cedar
- C - Oak
- D - Pine

5) This plant provided Jonah with shade (for a while):

- A - A water lily
- B - A fern
- C - A palm
- D - A gourd

6) Jesus condemned this plant because it had no fruit:

- A - Fig
- B - Apple
- C - Olive
- D - Vine

7) This man climbed a tree in order to see Jesus:

- A - John
- B - Zacchaeus
- C - Peter
- D - Agabus

8) The Israelites sent spies into the land of Canaan, which brought back samples of this fruit, so heavy that two men had to carry it.

- A - Grapes
- B - Watermelons
- C - Coconuts
- D - Figs

9) This judge of Israel is said to have dwelt under a palm tree between Ramah and Bethel:

- A - Jephtha
- B - Gideon
- C - Samson
- D - Deborah

10) Aaron's rod that budded brought forth this type of fruit:

- A - Fig
- B - Almonds
- C - Olive
- D - Apple

11) Eve ate of this fruit in the garden of Eden:

- A - Pomegranate
- B - Apple
- C - Strawberry
- D - It is not known

12) Noah sent out a dove from the ark which brought back a leaf plucked from this plant:

- A - Juniper
- B - Kelp
- C - Olive
- D - Fig

13) Absalom was fleeing battle when he got his head caught in this type of plant:

- A - Oak
- B - Cedar
- C - Mangrove
- D - Bramble

14) When Solomon reigned, it is said that every man dwelt in safety, under a vine and this tree:

- A - Olive
- B - Fig
- C - Palm
- D - Juniper

15) Jotham uttered a parable concerning the trees. In the parable, which tree agrees to be king?

- A - Olive
- B - Fig
- C - Thornbush
- D - Vine



## *Birthdays in September!!*

23	Naveen Johnson	s/o Mathew Johnson	732-432-6444
23	Manoj Mathew	s/o K. G. Mathewkutty	732-855-1719
24	Philip C. Varghese		732-873-0811
24	Reji John		732-613-0623
27	Bina T. Steaphen	w/o Dilip Steaphen	973-324-2205
27	Shaji J. Koshy		732-203-0503
28	Susan Jacob	w/o Karimpil Jacob	908-289-1789
28	Sheeba Abraham	w/o Rev. Shibi Abraham	732-252-6226
29	Sara Mathews	w/o Dr. Cecil Mathews	732-548-2248
29	Rene Thomas	w/o George Thomas	732-321-4171
29	Joseph N. John		732-752-5033

## *Wedding Anniversaries in September!!*

1	Mr. & Dr. Santhosh C. & Sini Varghese	732-873-0811
10	Mr. & Mrs. Byju & Bindu Abraham	908-647-5362
12	Dr. & Mrs. Davis C. & Sulu Thomas	732-918-1171
13	Mr. & Mrs. Thomas and Rachel Oommen	732-906-8830
15	Mr. & Mrs. Benjamin & Sani Abraham	732-617-2005
15	Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Mathen & Bobby Mathew	616-604-6563
23	Mr. & Mrs. Ravi and Sosamma Alexander	732-738-0721
25	Rev. & Mrs. Shibi & Sheeba Abraham	732-252-6226



# ST. STEPHEN'S MAR THOMA CHURCH



HOY AVE & HAMILTON STREET  
FORDS, NEW JERSEY 08863

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

# September

2008  
Volume IX  
No. 9

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A copy of this bulletin is available online

# ACHEN'S MESSAGE!



Dearly Beloved in Christ,

The month of September starts with the "Labor Day" reminds us the importance of hard work and toil of the citizens for the country. 7th Sunday we are dedicating our children for the new academic year. The mission of the church through education has of great importance to develop a community of God's own will. On September 14th, the Sevika Sangham day, our women forum celebrates its 90th birthday with new projects for the upliftment of women and children in and around the community. On 21st we do concentrate on Peace & Reconciliation. 28th Sunday we will have special thoughts of our Senior Citizens of the church. Let us uphold our elders and provide them the caring they need. You don't want to be imprisoned by your circumstances or chained to your limitations. You want to live an extraordinary life, a life of peace, joy fulfillment, hope, and purpose.

The kind of life I just described can only happen when we enter into a close relationship with God. How can it be possible? Close enough to be able to direct your attention away from yourself completely and place it on Him entirely to understand who He really is and then allow that knowledge of Him to define who you really are. Its loving Him with all your heart and soul. "Discover intimacy with a God that loves us as we are. And since he loves us as we are, we can talk to Him as we are" {Sheila Walsh}

"Proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light" [1 Pet:2.9]

May God bless you all

With love & prayers  
Toji Achen



## Birthdays in September!!

1	Jonathan Kurien	s/o Kurien Thomas	732-845-0031
1	Jasmine Thomas	d/o Dr. Samuel Thomas	973-538-1192
2	Sajan B. Thomas	s/o Bobby Thomas	732-873-7580
3	C. Thomas		908-925-9476
3	Karimpil J. Jacob		908-289-1789
3	Jeremy Prasad	s/o Philip Prasad	732-967-9272
3	Sulu Thomas	w/o Dr. Davis C. Thomas	732-918-1171
4	Roshan K. Varghese	s/o Varghese Varghese	732-577-0728
5	Jonah T Varughese		732-422-7128
7	George E. Chacko	s/o Jacob Chacko	732-249-7318
7	Vinay I Thomas	s/o Bobby Thomas	732-873-7580
7	Joyce James	d/o James Varghese	732-568-1695
7	Sarah Ann John	d/o Reji John	732-613-0623
11	Liji Elizabeth Cherian	w/o Giji George	908-829-0286
12	Kevin Abraham	s/o Joseph V. Abraham	732-418-8840
12	Sony M. Cherukara		908-347-6650
13	Mattappathil A. Thomas		908-241-0638
14	Samma Abraham	w/o Abraham Kurien	732-677-2507
17	Annie Skariah	d/o K. K. Skariah	908-822-2737
17	Renjith P. Abraham		908-241-0638
19	Jacob Varghese		732-257-0094
20	Dr. Sunitha S. John	w/o Dr. Nebu T. Alexander	973-736-0604
21	Rajamma Mathew	w/o Mathew P. Keecheril	732-418-1548
22	Michael Oommen	s/o Thomas Oommen	732-906-8830
22	Rachel M. George	d/o Shaju George	908-668-4949
22	Bobby Mathew	w/o Thomas Mathen	616-604-6563
23	K. K. Skariah		908-822-2737
23	Rachel L. John	w/o Benoy Thomas	732-993-1120

# Events Calendar 2008

## ANNOUNCEMENTS!



Date	Events	Time	AM/ PM	Day
<b>September</b>				
9/7/2008	New School Year (Children's) Dedication	11:00	AM	Sunday
9/13/2008	Volleyball Tournament - Duke Island Park.	9:00	AM	Saturday
9/20/2008	Sunday School Competition	10:00	AM	Saturday
9/26/2008	Convention day 1	7:30	PM	Friday
9/27/2008	Apple Picking	10:00	AM	Friday
	Convention day 2	7:30	PM	Saturday
9/28/2008	Convention day 3	11:00	AM	Sunday
<b>October</b>				
10/18/2008	Youth Shine Night	6:00	PM	Saturday
	Sunday School Regional Competition?			
	Sunday School Anniversary?			
<b>November</b>				
11/23/2008	Thanksgiving Service & Auction	11:00	AM	Sunday
11/29/2008	X'Mas House to House Carol	10:00	AM	Saturday
11/30/2008	X'Mas House to House Carol	3:00	PM	Sunday
<b>December</b>				
12/6/2008	X'Mas House to House Carol	10:00	AM	Saturday
12/7/2008	X'Mas House to House Carol	3:00	PM	Sunday
12/13/2008	X'Mas House to House Carol	10:00	AM	Saturday
12/14/2008	X'Mas House to House Carol	3:00	PM	Sunday
12/20/2008	Christmas Carol	6:30	PM	Saturday
12/25/2008	Christmas Service	7:00	AM	Thursday
12/31/2008	New Year's/Watch Night Service	10:00	PM	Wednesday

### East Brunswick Church for Sale:

Our General Body held Aug 17<sup>th</sup> unanimously decided to buy the church for sale at 423 Dunhams Corner RD, East Brunswick, NJ. We are negotiating the final terms and conditions of the contract. Please keep this in your daily prayers, so we can have a place of worship of our own.

### Sunday School:

Our Sunday school classes for the year 2008/09 will begin on Sep 14<sup>th</sup>. Please bring your children(s) to Sunday school for their religious nourishment.

### Edavaka Mission:

We will have our Edavaka Mission meetings (Praise & worship, Bible Study) every Wednesday at 7:30pm in our church. All families should try to attend this meeting for your spiritual growth.

### Church Prayer Meeting:

All Prayer groups are encouraged to hold the area prayer meetings every Saturday at 7:00pm. Interested families please contact your Area Representatives.

### Youth League Meeting:

There will be youth league meetings on 2nd and 4th Fridays at 7:00pm.

Volleyball Tournament:

We will be hosting our 4th Annual Volleyball Tournament on Sept 13th Saturday at Duke Island Park, Old York Road, Bridgewater, NJ 908 722-7779. Please come with your family and friends to support this event.

Condolences:

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

The Beloved father (aged 77) of our members Mr. Shibu Varghese (Bloomfield), Shaffi Varghese & Shaji Varghese passed last month in Punalur, Kerala due to heart failure.

The beloved father of our former Vicar Rev. Dr. M. C. Thomas passed away last month in Malabar, Kerala at the age of 72.

Refreshments:

Families are encouraged to sponsor/provide refreshments on Sundays. If you are interested, please contact the Secretary.

Church Premise Cleaning:

Prayer group 1 members will be responsible for cleaning the Church premise after Sunday's church service for this month. Members please volunteer.

Date	Time	Celebrant	1st Lesson	2nd Lesson	Epistle	Gospel	Sunday School	Refreshment
<b>Education Sunday - Church's mission through education</b>								
7 Sep	11 AM	Rev. Abraham Cherian (English)	Prov 8:1-12	Tit 2:1-8	Col 1:24-29	St. Mark 1:21-28	No Sunday School	Mrs. & Mr. Samuel Thomas
<b>Sevika Sangham Day - Jesus empowers women for the ministry</b>								
14 Sep	11 AM	Rev. Abraham Cherian (Malayalam)	Esth 7:1-10	Acts 6:11-15	2 Tim 1:1-5	St. Luke 13:10-17	After Offertory	Sevika Sangham
<b>Peace and Reconciliation (19th Sunday after Pentecost)</b>								
21 Sep	11 AM	Rev. Abraham Cherian (English)	Micah 4:1-7	2 Cor 5:11-21	Rom 12:9-21	St. Mat 5:1-12	After Communion	Mrs. & Mr. Benjamin Abraham
<b>Senior Citizens Day - Care for the Aged</b>								
28 Sep	11 AM	Rev. Abraham Cherian (Malayalam)	Isa 40:21-31	1 Tim 5:1-10	1 John 3:1-10	St. Luke 2:25-38	After Offertory	