

June 2016



NEWSLETTER OF ST. ANDREWS MAR THOMA CHURCH

The Trumpet Volume 1,

Vicar's Message

Dearly beloved in Christ,

Want to see a miracle? Take a small seed; put it under several inches of dirt. Give it light, water, and fertilizer. It doesn't matter that the ground is a zillion times the weight of the seed. The seed will push it back! Never underestimate the power of a seed. Take the example of a watermelon seed. It has the power of drawing from the earth and through itself 200,000 times its own weight! From water and dirt it creates the long creepers, green leaves, beautiful flowers. It then forms a number of juicy fruits with green cover well designed and then forms inside itself a white rind, and within that a red heart thickly inlaid with black seeds, each of which in turn capable of drawing through itself 200,000 times its own weight and producing thousands of such seeds. Yea, This little tiny seed is basically a treasure-chest of DNA, prepared to (in the right circumstances) give birth to variety of beings.



Look around you. The chair you are in, the clothes you are wearing, the walls or paneling of the house you live in, almost all the food you eat, and last but not least—you and another 6 billion people (including all of their brains), all came from a seed.

Jesus talks in [Mark 4: 26 – 34](#) about the mystery of seeds connecting the Kingdom of God. The farmer scatters the seeds. The seed is capable of sprouting and growing. In the second parable he says that the Kingdom of God is like a tiny mustard seed which grows to become the greatest of all shrubs. And we know that the kingdom is not about geography or some static place; it is about the dynamic reality of God's presence & power within the creation and within the lives of God's people.

We have heard the phrase, "The faith of a mustard seed" referring to how small things begin and how amazingly large they can become through faith in God. It starts from the smallest beginnings in the hearts of men and women who are receptive to God's word. And it works unseen and causes a transformation from within. Just as a seed has no power to change itself until it is planted in the ground, so we cannot change our lives to be like God until God gives us the power of his Holy Spirit. The Lord of the Universe is ever ready to transform us by the power of his Spirit. Are you ready to let God change you by his grace and power? The kingdom of God produces a transformation in those who receive the new life which Jesus Christ offers. When we yield to Jesus Christ, our lives are transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit who dwells in us. Paul the Apostle says, *"We have this treasure in earthen vessels, to show that the transcendent power belongs to God and not to us"* (2 Cor. 4:7).

Jesus sowed his seed in our hearts, and then off he went, like the farmer in the story, like all the farmers all over the world. Of course, he knew things would not be ideal. There were birds and the droughts, the weeds and insects. But there was also the power of the seed itself, maturing and growing in humanity, a divine power showing its force all the time.

In [Isaiah 55: 11](#) God says, *"So shall my Word be that goes forth out of my mouth and not return to me void."* That word void means empty or ineffective. Let's use the word empty and unproductive. "And not return to me empty or unproductive, but it will accomplish that which I please and prosper into wherein I send it."

God did not give His Word to us for it to be inactive in our lives. He gave His Word to us so that it could produce in us. What does it produces? It produces the Kingdom of God. Some people say we are just going to leave everything up to God. That's not how God works. God has put it in our hands.

The seed of the kingdom is growing in you and you are becoming a part of the growth of the kingdom. If not you must be asleep. God wants us to be *like a tree that is planted by the water streams, yielding its fruits in season, its leaves never fading* (Ps 1:3) James, the
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epistle writer, wasn't a farmer. But he knew the power of a seed sown in fertile soil. *"Those who are peacemakers,"* he said, *"will plant seeds of peace and reap a harvest of goodness"* (James 3:18).

Let me conclude with a story - Two seeds lay side by side in the fertile soil. The first seed said, "I want to grow! I want to send my roots deep into the soil beneath me, and thrust my sprouts through the earth's crust above me ... I want to unfurl my tender buds like banners to announce the arrival of spring ... I want to feel the warmth of the sun on my face and the blessing of the morning dew on my petals!" and so she grew...

The second seed said, "hmmmm. If I send my roots into the ground below, I don't know what I will encounter in the dark. If I push my way through the hard soil above me I may damage my delicate sprouts ... What if I let my buds open and a snail tries to eat them? And if I were to open my blossoms, a small child may pull me from the ground. No, it is much better for me to wait until it is safe." and so she waited...

A yard hen scratching around in the early spring ground for food found the waiting seed and promptly ate it.

May the Almighty God help and lead us to use His Grace & Power to produce fruits pleasing to God and becoming blessing for others.

With prayerful regards,

John Oommen Achen



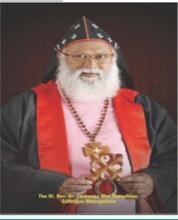
Happy Birthday

- 1-Jun Praveen Abraham
- 4-Jun Ashish Mathew Johnson
- 10-Jun Rachel Ann Mathew
- 28-Jun Arun Kaimoottil Biju
- 28-Jun Vinitha G. Malayil
- 29-Jun Jasmine Ranjan Samuel

2016 June Lectionary

WORSHIP SCHEDULE & LECTIONARY					
June	Time	Service	Lessons	Epistle/ Gospel	Theme
5	6:00 pm	Holy Qurbana Malayalam	1 King. 3:3-14 1 Cor. 1:18-25	1 John 5:18-21 St. Luke. 2:41-52	Fear of the Lord - Beginning of Wisdom
12	6:00 pm	Divine Service English	Gen 2:1-17 Rev. 22:1-7	Col. 1:15-20 St. Mat 6:25-34	Nurturing God's creation
19	6:00 pm	Holy Qurbana English	1 King 19:15-21 Rom. 15:22-29	Rom. 12:3-8 St. Luke 5:1-11	Called to be Sent Father's Day
26	5:00 pm	Holy Qurbana Malayalam	Gen. 35:1-7 1 Pet. 5:1-11	1 John 4:1-6 St. John 10:1-6	People of God- Flock of Christ CONVENTION FINAL DAY

Event Calendar

Friday 6/3 @ 7.00 pm	Edavaka Mission Bible Study - Mrs. Mariamma & Mr. Thomas M. Eapen 20230 Keswick St. #15, Winnetka CA 91306
Sunday 6/5	 <p style="text-align: center;">BAKE SALE 4 Youth Fellowship Conference</p>
Sunday 6/19 SPECIAL OFFERTORY	<p>Rt. Rev. Dr. Zacharias Mar Theophilus Higher Studies Scholarship for US Clergy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For US citizen Clergy to pursue Higher studies Support Prayerfully & Give Generously Minimum \$10/- per family 
Sunday 6/19 @ 4.30 pm	Sevika Sangham Meeting At Church

2016 Annual Convention

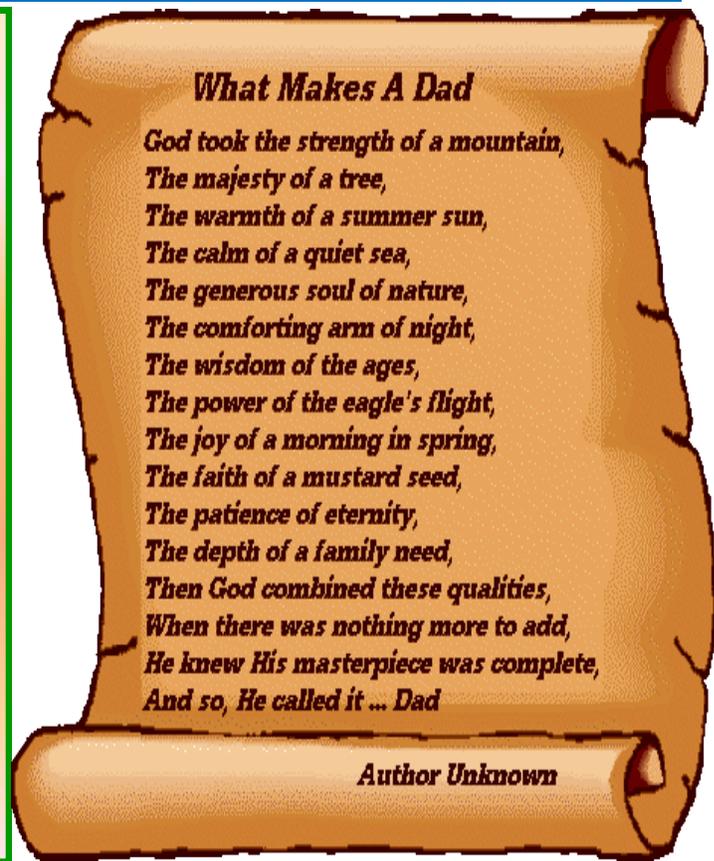
Chief Speaker **Very Rev. George Zachariah P.**

Schedule:

Friday, June 24th, 2016 - 7.00 pm
Saturday, June 25th, 2016 - 6.00 pm
Sunday, June 26th, 2016 - 5.00 pm
(Holy Qurbana & Convention)

Venue:

Chatsworth West United Methodist Church
10824 Topanga Cyn Blvd. Chatsworth CA 91311

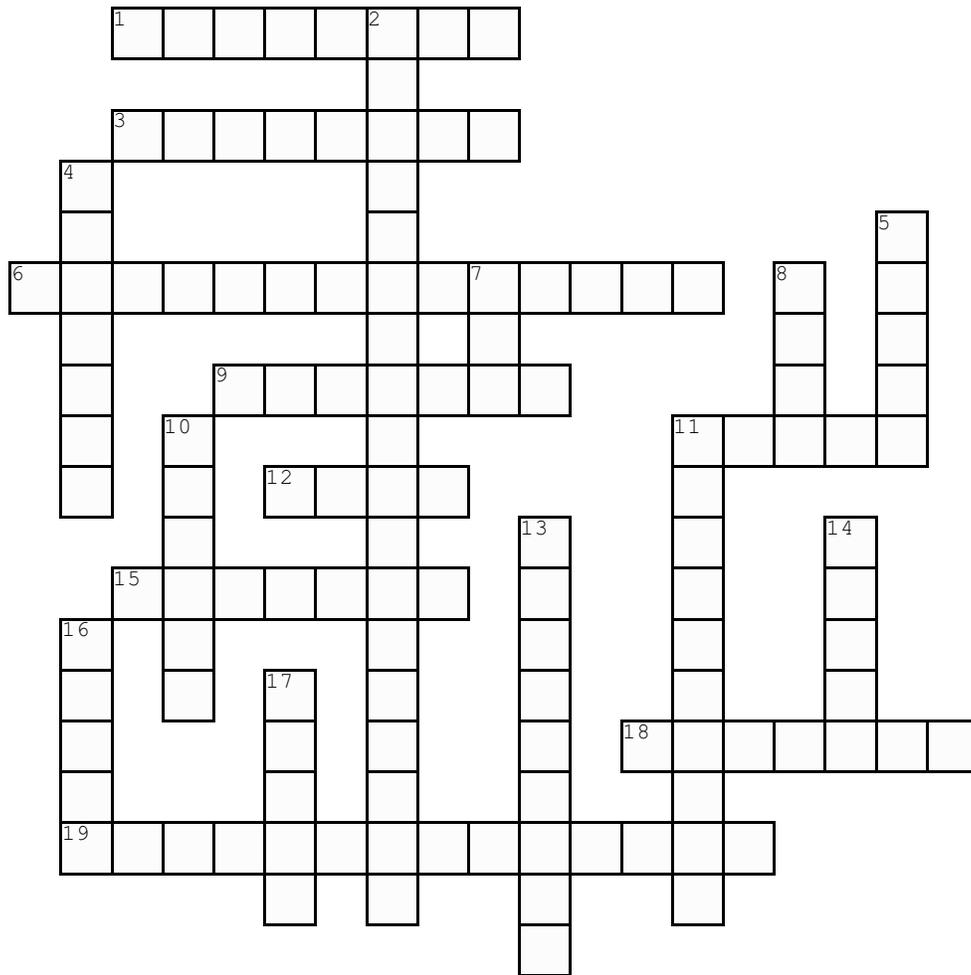


REGIONAL PROGRAM	2016 OFFICE BEARERS		
Wednesday 6/8 @ 8:30 pm	Vicar	Rev. John Oommen	626-963-0432
Western Regional -MTVEA Tele Prayer Conference Conference No: (712) - 432 - 1500 Access Code No: 638599#	Vice President	Mr. Biju K. Varghese	818-701-6404
	Secretary	Mr. Edwin Rajan	818-345-9986
	Treasurer	Mr. Rajan Mathai	818-439-6197
	Accountant	Mr. Abraham P. Mathew	818-222-6489

Name: _____

Biblical Father's & Sons

Complete the crossword below



Created with TheTeachersCorner.net [Crossword Puzzle Generator](http://TheTeachersCorner.net)

Across

1. Name my son, who became my son while I was in chains.
3. I tried to kill my son's best friend because he was my worst enemy. Name my son.
6. I am the father of betrayer of Jesus
9. He named the place 'Jehovah Jireh'
11. God spoke to my father as he speaks to a friend. One of my brother is Gershom. Name my father.
12. After I was 500 years old, I became father of Shem and his brothers
15. I considered him as 'my son in the Lord' and he use to help me in my work. but he is not my actual son. Name him.
18. My sons were nicknamed as 'The Sons of Thunder'. Name me.
19. I boasted and God humbled me into becoming an animal

Down

2. Can you name my son's name, his is the longest name in the Bible.
4. My son was called to go to Nineveh but went to Tarshish. Who am I?
5. I carried the Cross to the Golgotha. And one of my son is Alexander. Name my other son.
7. Judah's first righteous king was son of Abijam
8. I was neither a prophet nor a prophet's son but I was a shepherd, taking care of sycamore - fig tree.
10. I am a prophet whose son's name means 'quick to plunder, swift to spoil'. Who am I?
11. I am Lamech's father and died at the age of 969 years
13. My sons were Mahlon & Kilion
14. A man after god's own heart
16. Father-in-law of Jacob
17. I walked with God and my son is Methuselah