



The Triune - Volume 23, Issue 07

July 1, 2016

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Editors' Note

The Triune is a monthly newsletter that serves as a means of expression for the members and friends of AICC. It also serves to report on the activities and events of AICC.

The Editors encourage all members to contribute articles, ideas, viewpoints, etc., for Triune. Kindly submit your articles by 20th of July for inclusion in our next issue.

We sincerely hope and pray that this Newsletter would glorify GOD and edify its readers.

Please direct your questions/comments to Pastor or Editors.

In Him,

Triune Editors

Poorna Jeeva, Freeda R George, Selina Moses, Cynthia Kumar

Mailing and Distribution

Kirubakaran Rajamoni



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Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Kamalesh Stephen

Ph: 610-389-3863

Worship Services

Every Sunday at 10:00AM

Holy Communion

First Sunday of every month

Email: triune@aiccnj.org



*Giving thanks always
and for everything to
God the Father in the
name of our Lord Jesus
Christ.*
Ephesians 5:20, ESV

OUR VISION

To establish a worshipping and witnessing church to cater to the spiritual needs of the Asian Indian Christian Community in the USA, enabling them to come together for worship, fellowship and service to the community at large through activities such as

- Regular Sunday Worship
- Sunday School
- Teen Ministry
- Music Ministry
- Evangelism
- Mission
- Social Activities

**Come and worship with
us
every Sunday at 10:00AM**

ASIAN INDIAN CHRISTIAN CHURCH

172, Springfield Avenue
Berkeley Heights, New Jersey 07922

Visit us at
www.aiccnj.org



Rev. Dr. Kamalesh Stephen

THE LESSONS I LEARNT.....

It was such a joy to see the young people come together to do the musical at the church as part of their fundraising effort to pay for their mission trip. I never thought that they would take the suggestion seriously about staging a play as part of their fundraising instead of bake sale or car wash. "We are short of time; a play of this magnitude cannot be done in such a short time" were the comments but that did not stop them. They wrote the play, chose the songs and music that fitted the different scenes in the play, designed the brochure for promotion, invited friends and families and most importantly, they wanted this to be their very own. They consulted with the members of the stage ministries at AICC but kept their involvement in the play to a minimum.

Their practice session was not without challenges; they had to find time in the midst of their commitments to schoolwork; some made it regularly and others couldn't. They didn't expect this to happen but they took it along the stride. There were few unpleasant situations but they overcome it because of the goal that they set before them. It is not that they did not disagree on how to do the play, but they quickly had to learn how to work with different opinions and voices within the group.

They took the time to setup every time they met and they worked together to clean up after every practice. The sanctuary was put to order before Sunday morning service. Time and again they met with resistance but nothing deterred them. They had a common purpose and one goal to achieve and that was to raise funds to pay for their mission trip. They invited me to come and pray with them especially asking God to take care of all the small details of the play – fair weather, good turn out, no technical difficulties, and to reach the target that they had set for themselves. When they met with resistance, I reminded them of challenges outside their student life. All they needed was a nudge from behind and a word of encouragement that everything was going to be fine. Simple motivational talk from many folks in the congregation kept their spirits alive.

I believe I learnt a lot from their experience. First and foremost, there was a common goal that they wanted to achieve. Often times the common goal is not our focus, we wanted our own pet projects to be the main focus. If our voices are not heard we decide to abandon half way thru the project. Jesus had one significant goal and that was to set his face as a flint toward Jerusalem knowing fully well that he will be rejected, mocked, and put to death on a cross but that did not stop him. His goal was to reconcile us to God. The writer of Hebrews says it eloquently, "for the joy that was set before him, he endured the cross."

Secondly, they learnt very quickly to set aside their differences. It wasn't easy for them. They were forced in some way to honor the differences that existed in the group. We reminded them that having a good conversation with someone who disagrees with you could actually be a good starting place. I am not sure if they did but they learnt to iron out their differences. May be, it is a lesson that we as adults need to learn. There is richness in diversity of views but certainly not easy to accept the differences.

Thirdly, the old adage, "practice makes perfect," became their watchword. They practiced the scenes over and over again. Many a times, adults who were present in practice got tired of their rigorous routine to repeat the scenes several times over. We wanted them to get it over and move on but they never budged. They were focused on getting it right or at least to reach some sort of perfection.

Finally, they had loads of fun. The bloopers that were played at the end of the play showed the goofy things that happened while practice. Sometimes we are caught with the end result or the final product that we do not know how to enjoy the process. We just don't know how to live in the now and thereby lose the "joie de vivre," (the joy of living or the enjoyment of life).

My sincere prayer is that they will continue this spirit even as they grow into adulthood. It may happen or may not but I hope that the lessons learnt will help them in their future endeavors. And for us, the lessons learnt from their experience might it be instructive in the way we do church – keeping our focus on the things of God and His kingdom. May the Lord who started the good work in us bring it completion until the day of Jesus Christ.

Let grace abound,

Pastor Kamalesh



AICC WOMEN'S OUTREACH IN HOMEFRONT

MISSIONS

The women of AICC served on two different occasions at HomeFront, a shelter for the less privileged in Trenton. The facility houses 30 families mostly single mothers and children and a few older men. Most of the single mothers work during the day while child care facility is provided. During weekdays, dinner is served to the residents but during the weekends, they do not serve hot meals but bagged lunches that are left behind or bread, etc that is available at the facility.

It was a warm Saturday morning on April 30th, when we first went to HomeFront as a team to prepare and serve a hot breakfast. Gates to the facility were closed and guests allowed only when identified. Once we entered, it was a mad rush; unloading the groceries and donated items and running up to the kitchen. The kitchen and dining rooms were both spacious and welcoming. The kitchen had 4 cooking stations each with its own cooking range, sink and set of dishes all color coded for ease of organizing.

We went on a mad hunt finding the right utensils to prepare breakfast, which was from 9 to 11 am. We started preparing the pancakes and waffles while meats were cooked in another section and fruits cut in yet another station in the kitchen. It was a chaotic but a beautiful sight; all of us in action and trying to ensure we had the breakfast ready on time. It is said that 2 women can never share a kitchen without an argument. But there were 14 of us working in perfect harmony as sisters. You could hear us yell out, "Need someone to serve", "Need someone at pancake station", "Meat needs to be served".....oh what a blessed time.

We managed to get the coffee brewing and breakfast served a little after 9 AM and people were already seated in the dining area. Residents helped themselves to the breakfast and enjoyed the food. They asked for refills and walked around both satisfied and happy. Mothers with little ones took their time to let the kids play around as they fed the little ones and themselves. Some of the pregnant women asked for

second helping of their cravings and we were happy to see them forthcoming. We mingled and spoke with the residents and the staff there. We met a girl who grew up in HomeFront and could now afford a home outside. She volunteers her time at the facility now. It was a blessing to have met her; and to know we were helping someone achieve their own independence and well-being.

We also gave away little gifts to the children. We then started with phase two of our project; making fresh sandwiches. While a group of us started making the sandwiches, the rest of us started cleaning up the place. We made around 35 bagged lunches and left for the residents in the dining area.

The second time around we served at the same facility on June 11th, 2016. This time around we were better prepared and avoided making the mistakes from the first time. We started preparing breakfast the moment we landed there; the good thing was that we knew where everything was. We were able to lay out the breakfast at 8:50 AM and opened with a word of prayer and Thanksgiving. Ah! We served ON TIME!! The residents enjoyed the breakfast and we were able to serve what they preferred based on our first time experience. We made some sandwiches for lunch and left them in the dining area. On both occasions, there was never a dull moment and I hope we were able to share some encouragement to the residents. We felt blessed having been able to do something as little as serving a hot meal for the less privileged.

Many times we take life for granted as we all have the basic things covered but when we see people struggle to make ends meet, we need to take a step back and reconsider. Count your blessings; name them one by one and it will surprise you what the Lord has done. God bless each of my sisters who visited the facility and all those who donated in cash and in kind. The AICC women are on a rampage to serve God's people in any way we can! So excited that God provided us with these opportunities to serve!!



Volunteers from AICC : Mrs. Florence David , Mrs. Gita Kirubakaran, Joy Victor , Violet Arul, Rachel Jacob, Akansha Immanuel, Subiksha Immanuel, Caitlyn Samuel, Sunitha Immanuel , Sheeba Sha, Buelah Samson, Cecelia Stanley, Sheela Stephen, Freeda Roseline, Sophia Samuel, Selina Moses, Sumitra Stephen, Kaitlyn Victor, Stephanie Zhou (Caitlyn's friend) Keyla Parades (Kaitlyn's friend)



Sunday School Sunday

KIDZ KORNER

“If we don’t teach our children to follow Christ, the world will teach them not to” . And when we start training them in God’s way when they are little they will not depart from it when they are old says Proverbs 22:6. We thank all our teachers, coordinators and volunteers for teaching, correcting, training and praying for our Sunday School children.



On June 29th the children led the worship service and praised God with their singing, acting, reading and reciting of scriptures. Mrs. Shyamala shared God’s word and spoke about being a friend of God.



We thank each of you for your support and encouragement in the Sunday School Ministry!!

Patience

Patience is a virtue. Patience is the key to relationships. Patience helps build healthy, thriving relationships. In the Bible, we read that Job was a man of great patience. Amidst all of great his struggles, loss and discouragement he remained patient. Many a wonderful thing happen to people who are steadfast in their patience. Job for example, he was blessed twice fold.

Throughout middle-school all I wanted was a phone. Come every birthday and every special occasion - all I would ask for, is a phone. I would have been satisfied if I had been provided with even a simple slide-phone. Good things are worth the wait. At the end of my eight grade graduation ceremony my parents surprised me with a phone. The phone exceeded my expectations! Instead of a flip-phone I got a smart phone. Like Job the phone was my reward for waiting.

Patience can be demonstrated anywhere, from sports to family gatherings. During Golf, making contact with the ball was a struggle initially. It was frustrating but patience helped me get through. Swing after swing, blister after blister, nothing else. My patience disappeared at sometimes but at the end it came back. After all the frustrating sessions of practice my patience paid off. I am now able to drive and put decently.

Patience should be demonstrated everywhere. The next time someone cuts you off while driving, or a peer isn’t being friendly, patience is the key.

by Jeisun P



Who is God to you ?

A group of blind men were taken to “see” an elephant as they had never done so in their lives before. Each stood before the huge animal and touched it, felt it & smelt it. Getting back together again, they compared notes – to one (who had touched its big flapping ears) it resembled a mat, to another (who had touched the tusk) a spear, to yet another (who had touched its leg) a tree etc., etc. They were not all right or wrong, each had experienced just one part of the elephant, but not in its entirety. Even so is it, with many people today, and their experience of/with God. God is too complex for our human brains to comprehend, and many times we have our own experiences or understanding of Him and tend to limit Him.

Life is full of choices, we are the ones to make the choice, that's how the Creator intended it to be! Some of them are major ones like which course of study to pursue, whom to marry, while still others are minor ones like what do I wear today or what do I eat? The choices include choosing our friends and that is something which will influence our lives and also impact us in many ways for eternity which cannot be taken lightly. The best guidance we can ever receive to make the right and the best choice is the Bible. Isn't it the Basic Instruction Before Leaving Earth?!! It is the Word of God, the written Word 'Logos', the Spirit inspired Word 'Rhema' for a particular situation we may be facing, it can be a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces, a fire that devours our enemies, a double-edged sword, ultimately God Himself, Jn 1:1 - '...and the Word was God'. People are different, but as the saying goes, 'Birds of a feather, flock together.' The reason that we flock together or become friends can be different; based on moral values, interests, social standing etc. But the Bible says in Prov. 18:24, 'There is a friend who sticks closer than a brother'.

In Exod. 3:14, the Lord introduced Himself to Moses as the great “I AM.” All through scripture He reveals his multidimensional facet to us: as the omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent God, Creator, Provider, Teacher, Physician, Counselor, Father, Savior, Redeemer...the list is endless. He desires to be our Friend too!

The primary intent of God for creating humankind was fellowship. He desired to commune with not just Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden, but continued to do so after the fall with Enoch, Abraham, Noah, Moses, David, Lazarus & family and many others who made that choice of having a relationship with God.

In John 15:14 he said, 'I have called you friends...' We might wonder if we can really be a 'friend' of God. He is after all 'a consuming fire'. The only prerequisite to approach him can be holiness. Holiness is His nature and in our unholy state, it is impossible to approach Him. He commands us to be holy, Lev. 11:44. But Rom. 3:23 says that all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. What do we do? Jesus Himself, being the Way, has solved this for us. When He took all judgment upon Himself and our place on the cross, the veil of the temple was rent in two. Gone were the strict protocols of the outer court, inner court, most holy place. By paying the price for our sins, He redeemed us with His precious Blood, He was willing to live in us! We are His temple! Greater is He that is in us, than He that is in the world!!! His grace has made all these things possible for us. We have been clothed with the garments of salvation and covered with His robe of righteousness. But there is one thing that we can do and that is to offer the members of our body as sacrifices to the Lord everyday, and to be transformed by the renewing of our minds, Rom. 12: 1, 2.

A human takes on different roles in life, e.g., son, father, husband, boss, worker, friend, etc., etc. The love that he expresses in each role is different. As a father he displays agape love, as a husband eros, as a son storge and so on. As a friend the love expressed would be reia (Hebrew), or philos (Greek). This love is experiential, a personal affection. So this friendship is something that can grow. From being just a casual acquaintance, we can become friends, grow into good friends, and even become best friends. With our best friend, we are just ourselves. There is no pretense, we aren't afraid of being judged or criticized, we are comfortable with our best friends. 3 simple keys in achieving this would be good communication, spending time together and listening. The same is true if we are to have Jesus as our Friend. He can speak to us in many ways: through His Word, sermons, songs, audibly, in visions, dreams, our devotion time, through people etc., etc. There aren't any limitations as to how God can speak to us. He will never fail to surprise us.

Going back to the few examples from the Bible of people who befriended God, we find that Enoch walked with God, Abraham was the friend of God, even on one occasion bargaining with Him, Noah walked with God, Moses spoke to God as a man speaks with his friend, David was a man after God's heart, Lazarus and his sisters, and ultimately down the centuries and ages, the option is still open, to ... us! What a privilege! The choice is ours. Jn 15:14 Jesus said, you are My friends if you do what I command you. The people listed above were asked to do certain things by God. Noah was asked to build an ark. Moses was asked to meet Pharaoh and deliver the Israelites with just a rod. They had this unique privileged relationship of walking with the Lord, and it will be the same for us. God will ask us to do certain things; things difficult for others around us to understand, but it will turn out to be a blessing in the end.

We can be friends of God, hallelujah!

By Shyamala Magdalene



FIX MY EYES—A MUSICAL



Continue to pray for the teens missions trip coming up in August.





Fathers Day 2016





SPACE SHIPS (.....continued from Issue 06)

The most unforgettable records of God's presence are the encounters between Moses and the Creator, on Mount Horeb. We note again that attempts to describe the power of God, was not within the reach of any human civilization, its imagination, knowledge or vocabulary. The description is not mythology and it is not fiction. Millions of eyewitnesses experienced terror and numbing awe at the thunderous and fiery spaceship landings on top of mount Horeb.

They had already witnessed the deadly plagues God had imposed on Pharaoh, the stubborn ruler of Egypt. Their very freedom depended on the outcome of God's wrath. But this time around, the Israelites faced a very different situation. They were in a desert, demoralized, missing their former slave-owners, the simple comforts of spices, cooking oils and garlic! Manna, the bread from heaven was sweet but they missed the variety of foods prepared in their slave owner's homes.

The former slaves had forgotten the cruel flogging they had to suffer on empty stomachs, under an unrelenting hot sun. They were too sick, hungry and thirsty to even plead for mercy. As could be expected, they cried out to Jehovah, the Fairest of Ten Thousand, to end the curse.

God relented after hundreds of years to forgive His people and called Moses to the top of Mount Horeb (which is also believed to be the same as Mount Sinai). The Israelites, pleaded with Moses, to intercede on their behalf with the greatly feared Jehovah Jireh, the Almighty Provider. The thunderous roar of a spacecraft descending on the plateau top of the mountain Horeb, was the last straw. They could hardly contain their adrenaline spikes – every instinct told them to turn and break into an awkward, involuntary race for their dear lives.

Just one cautionary suggestion here – the Bible should not be interpreted as a library of space travel. It is rather, an accurate account of God's faithfulness. A reminder of patient promises, Love and Mercy. As long as His rules are observed, we are blessed. Warnings are quite clear and can be applied to our daily life. Man cannot edit the rules. Forgiveness does not authorize Man to change or edit the rules. And there is no escape hatch. The only way out is through the Savior – who has appeared to many non-believers and believers all over the world. No concrete, steel or iron walls can prevent His brilliant light from shining more intensely than any man made spaceship beacons.

By Reggie Rao

GRAVITATIONAL WAVES

Newton explained the reason for the apple to fall down from the tree towards ground is because of gravity. This is an attraction between masses. In this case an apple and earth, The strength of gravity is proportional to the mass of objects and inversely to the square of the distance between the objects. Matter will be at standstill if there is no force exerted on it and a moving object will continue to move in a straight line if no other force exerts on it.

Einstein later gave a different explanation. Any object having mass warps space around it. Matter moving will continue to move in a straight line in the warped space. This, to an observer looks like, the object is moving in a curved line since the space is warped. An example of this is the earth moving around the sun. The manifestation of gravity is; even though an object moves apparently in a curved line, in reality the object is moving in a straight line in the warped space.

When mass moves in space, the warp in space created by the moving mass also moves. According to Einstein just like light moves at a fixed speed of approximately 186,000 miles per second, the warp wave in space also moves and expands as a wave at the same speed as light. This prediction of Einstein which he made about a hundred years ago in 1906 was never physically measured till Sept 14, 2015. The reason being, we never had an instrument capable and sensitive enough to measure a gravity wave. The strength of the wave diminishes as it spreads.

Many efforts were made to measure gravity waves. When two objects are attracted to each other and orbits around each other, they generate a gravity wave. This spreads in space as a gravity wave. The strength of the waves will be strong enough to be detected if created by pairs of neutron stars, or pairs of black-holes crashing into each other, because of their heavy mass. Black holes are not visible objects. They are detected by observing their effect on surrounding stars. Till now we never noticed crashing of black holes.

In 1959 one Joseph Weber in Pennsylvania tried to measure gravity using an aluminum bar. He was observing for a decade to see any change in size of the bar. There was no positive result. (..... to be continued in the next issue).

By Jayaraj Thomas
(Adapted from an Astronomy Magazine)



Special Days – July 2016

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

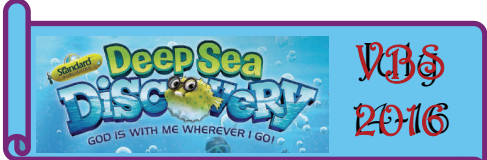
July 2	Major Joseph Victor
July 7	Kishore Thomas
July 7	Silvia Mal Praveen
July 9	Kenneth Victor
July 12	Amirtha Ethiraj
July 18	Priya Mamidi
July 23	Benita Michael
July 27	Jeisun Poornaselvan
July 28	Rev. Ashok Suryawanshi
July 28	Dinesh Suryawanshi
July 29	Sheela Thompson
July 29	Rachael Sithersingh
July 30	Preethi Solomon
July 31	Augustine Johnson

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

July 2	Pravin and Anju Wilfred
July 19	Mr. & Mrs. Rohit Chatterjee

Kids Activities for Summer

- Jericho Bible Club
- JBQ Preparation for 2016—2017
- VBS AICC—July 14th –16th, 10 am to 5 pm



**Omissions / Corrections?
Kindly bring them to the Editors' notice**

Month at a glance - July 2016

Friday, July 1	6AM Online Worship
Sunday, July 3	10AM Holy Communion
Friday, July 8	8 pm , Fasting Prayer
Sunday, July 10	10AM Worship Service
(Thursday- Saturday, July 14-16)	11.30AM General Body Meeting (10 am –5 pm Vacation Bible School)
Sunday, July 17	10AM Worship Service
Sunday, July 24	10AM Worship Service
Sunday, July 31	10AM Worship Service

PRAY AND PARTICIPATE

- Intercessory Prayer:** Every Wednesday online at 9 pm
- Online Worship:** 1st day of every month at 6 am.

Retreat 2016

There are many ways to get involved in the church activities - Come and talk to the Pastor and see how God can use you.



Coffee Hour

Interested in hosting coffee after service hour?
Please contact Sumitra Stephen or
e-mail fellowshiphouraiccnj.org

THE TRIUNE - ASIAN INDIAN CHRISTIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Asian Indian Christian Church (AICC) was born out of a vision to bring together people of Indian origin for Christian worship, fellowship, service and mission.

AICC was established in July 1989 with a commitment to fulfill the spiritual, social, and cultural needs of the Asian Indian community. Its congregation of 25 families, met every Sunday at Old Bergen Church, Jersey City, New Jersey at 5pm. AICC moved to Maplewood, NJ in 1991 to Calvary Reformed Church. From 2002 to March 2014, it worshipped at the Community United Methodist Church, Roselle Park, New Jersey. On April 6th 2014, AICC moved to its own church building at 172 Springfield Ave, Berkeley Heights, New Jersey 07922.

The congregation meets **every Sunday at 10 am.**

Over the years, AICC witnessed tremendous growth in membership and expansion in its ministry and is now a vibrant church with several ministries, programs and activities that are designed to spread the Good News of the Gift of Salvation to all people.

The worship service is conducted in English. You are welcome to worship with us to glorify our Lord Jesus Christ.



“That they all may be one”
- John 17:21

Visit us at
www.aiccnj.org



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To,