

## Mar Thoma Church of San Francisco Bay Area

# MTCSF Newsletter

June 2022

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### From the Vicar's Desk

Dearly beloved in Christ,

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,



*“There was once a small city with only a few people in it. And a powerful king came against it, surrounded it and built huge siege works against it. <sup>15</sup> Now there lived in that city a man poor but wise, and he saved the city by his wisdom. But nobody remembered that poor man.” (Ecclesiastes 9:14-15)*

This incident is not noted anywhere else in the Bible. Nevertheless, Solomon imparts to us an important message here. Though God's wisdom may be rejected and even forgotten, it is God's wisdom alone which can turn what appears as defeat into triumph.

What is wisdom? Wisdom is to act upon the truth contained in God's word. Romans 12:2 says *“Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.”* i.e. we are not to live by the values of this world which are constantly bombarded upon us or pursue all the attractive and deceptive dreams shown to us constantly by the world but be transformed by the renewing of our mind each day by the wisdom found in God's word. True wisdom refers to actions which are controlled by the word of God.

Moreover, God's wisdom is available to any that will ask for it. James 1:5 says, *“If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.”* So when we ask for wisdom, God doesn't just provide us with minimal requirements but bestows us with His wisdom which benefits not only us but all those around us. We can also receive wisdom by choosing to revere God. Proverbs 9:10 says *“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom”* To fear the Lord is to regard God & His word more highly than ourselves and our view of truth.

May we renew our mind each day by the wisdom found in God's word.

We will be having our VBS from June 16-19 –in person at church. Let us uphold VBS in our prayers. May God begin to work in the hearts of our children, softening their hearts to receive His word. Let us pray for the leaders, all the teachers and volunteers. May our VBS enable our children to draw closer to God. I encourage you all to join our worship services and regular activities of the parish. Let us worship and celebrate our life together in the Lord for His glory.

Yours in His service,

**Sajiachen**

## Secretary's Note



Dearly Beloved in Christ,

“Welcome Saji Achen and Family”

I am very thankful to God for sending Saji Achen to our midst as Vicar of Marthoma Church of San Francisco Bay Area. We look forward to you being an integral part of our Parish as a faithful community. Your leadership and experience will lead our congregation by opening God's word and lift us up in prayer. Susan Kochamma's presence in our midst will be an added blessing to our Parish. Susan Kochamma is a qualified counselor in Family and Marital affairs and spiritual guidance.

It's the month of June, the beginning of summer, hot weather and time of extensive travel. Let us pray to God almighty to guard us from all dangers and harm. Lord, I ask that you protect all who travel, drive, outdoors and enjoy your creations, keep them free from all troubles and harms.

Believe it or not, VBS 2022 is on the horizon, and we're ready to dive into another exciting theme. “Make Waves” lets them learn that what you do today can change the world around you. Please join our Sunday School teachers and volunteers, give them a helping hand.

As we all know, due to some unavoidable circumstances we missed honoring our mothers as a parish on Mothers day, so we are observing Fathers day as Parents' Day on June 19, 2022. Our youth will be taking initiative in honoring Mothers and Fathers on that day.

We are slowly moving into more in person prayer meetings and Organization meetings, our Sunday worship services are back to normal with Choir physically present and ASR, still zoom is available. Your continued physical presence is greatly appreciated and requested

“Wish you all a blessed and enjoyable Summer”

Prayerful Regards,  
Philip Roy

## Worship Schedule

Date	Time	Service	Celebrant(s)
5-Jun	10:00 AM	Divine Service (Malayalam) In Person & via Zoom	Rev. Saji Thomas
12-Jun	10:00 AM	Holy Qurbana (Malayalam) In Person & via Zoom	Rev. Saji Thomas
19-Jun	10:00AM	Holy Qurbana (English) In Person & via Zoom	Rev. Saji Thomas
26-Jun	10:00AM	Holy Qurbana (English) In Person & via Zoom	Rev. Saji Thomas

<u>Recurring Meetings Every....</u>		<u>Liturgical/Church Calender</u>	
Sunday 9:15AM	Edavaka Mission Bible Study (ON HOLD)	5-Jun	The feast of Pentacost
1st Monday 5:30 PM	Diocesan Edavaka Mission prayer meeting Via Zoom	12-Jun	Trinity Sunday
Tuesday 9PM	Youth Fellowship Prayer call	19-Jun	Discipleship: Calling for Christ Experience
Wednesday 8.00 PM	Westem Regional Edavaka Mission meeting Via Zoom	26-Jun	People Of God : Ministry and Model
1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday 8PM	Westem Regional Sevika Sanghom meeting Via Zoom		
4th Sunday 4:00 PM	Senior Fellowship Via Zoom		

## Area Prayer Groups / Organizations Meetings Events

( In person or via Zoom)

Friday June 3 8PM	Tri Valley Area Prayer Group Meeting via Zoom
Saturday June 4 10 AM	Edavaka Mission Fasting Prayer meeting in person
Sunday June 5	Choir Sunday
Saturday June 11 9 AM	Central Valley Area picnic & Fellowship
Saturday June 11 6:30 PM	Fremont Area prayer meeting via Zoom
Sunday June 12 2 PM	Sunday School Prize Distribution after Service
Thursday June 16 - 19	VBS at Church
Saturday June 18 6:30 PM	San Francisco Area prayer group meeting via Zoom
Sunday June 19	Parents Day
Saturday June 25 11 AM	Choir Fellowship via Zoom
Saturday June 25 2 PM	Sevika Sangham Cottage Prayer via Zoom
Saturday June 25 6:30PM	South Bay Area prayer meeting via Zoom
Sunday June 26 1:30 PM	Yuvajana Sakhyam prayer fellowship at Church

H A P P Y  
*Birthday*

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Titus George (1)	Sajan Jacob (4)	Sarah Johnson (13)	Jinto Varughese (21)
Jacob Kuruvilla (1)	John Abraham(5) Mariamma Abraham	Jaxon Philipose(14)	Aby Samuel (22)
Swapna Mathew (1)	(5)	Thankam Roy (14)	Michael Mathew (23)
Sidhima Seth (1)	George Issac (5)	Leigh Perryman (15)	Caleb Austin (24)
John Mathew (2)	Daniel George (8)	Noah Kuriakose (16)	Emmanuel Oommen (25)
John Samuel (2)	Juno Jacob (9)	Priya Mathew (17)	Jeffrey Philip (25)
Joseph Tharakan (2)	Reena Ninan (9)	Johann Thomas (17)	Joshua Varghese (26)
Manoj Varughese (2)	Tanishq Abraham (10)	Kiran Abraham (18)	Rohith George (28)
Susan John (3)	Darlana David (10)	Mariamma Babu (20)	Rachel Isaac (28)
Ruth Alex (4)	Sancia Saji (10)	Jeffry Mammen (20)	Sharon John (28)
Philip Alexander (4)	Bobin Thomas (10)	Rachel Abraham (21)	Naveen Therathanath (28)
Thomas Geevarghese (4)	Divya Thomas (11)	Ryan Skaria (21)	Jiju Jacob (30)

# Happy Anniversary

Mose & Aniamma Cherian Thomas (1)

Jiju & Meera Jacob (2)

Sunil & Reenu Cherian (21)

Renu & Cherian Mathews (5)

Sushama & Johnson Abraham Johnson (22)

Mangala & Toji George (5)

Jacob & Ivy Kuruvilla (23)

Joanna & Shawn Mathew Varghese (9)

Anish & Juno Jacob Thomas (25)

Johnson & Shija Johnson Mathews (10)

Leelamma & Varghese Thomas Varghese (26)

Pushpa & Deepak Cherian John (11)

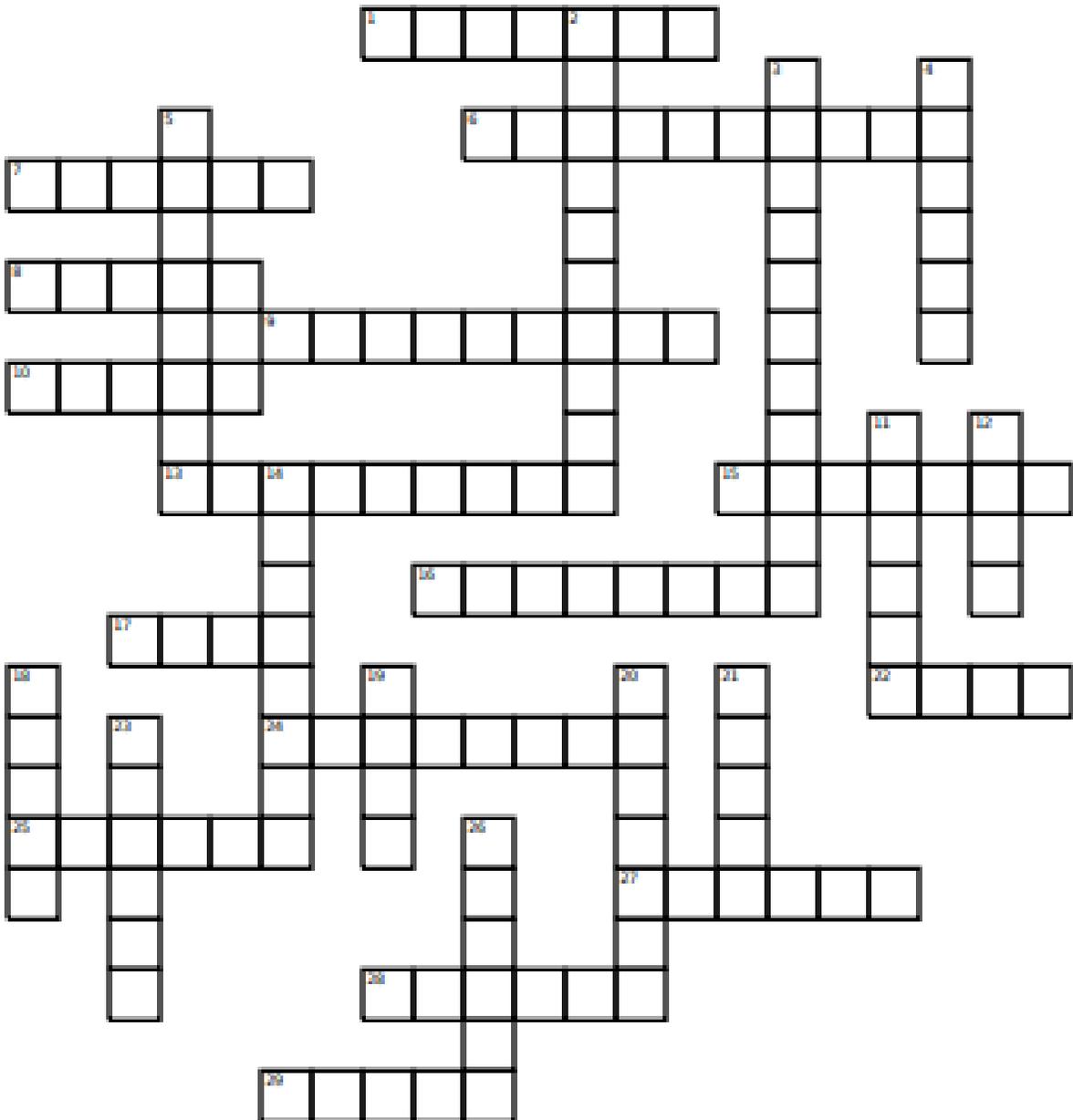
Shante & James Thomas (26)

Ammal & Bertie Jackson (17)

Blessy & Roy Chacko Roy (30)

# Crossword

## Hosea 10-14 NIV



## Across

1 The people of Samaria and the idolatrous priests mourned over the idols because it was taken from them into \_\_\_.

6 Feast of \_\_\_ reminded the Israelites that they had lived in tents (a humble wilderness lifestyle) when the Lord brought them out of Egypt. Lev.23:33. They became boastful about their wealth and they needed humbling.

7 Ephraim was a trained heifer that loved to thresh (as it was unmuzzled and free to eat), but since the days of \_\_\_\_\_ (Jud. 19-20) they remained in their sins, so the Lord would put a yoke (attacking nation) on their neck and He would discipline them for their double sin. Double sin may refer to the incident at Gibeah and the calf-idol of Beth Aven.

8 Israel was compared to a child, out of Egypt the Lord called His son, and so was the child Jesus called from Egypt from the hostility of \_\_\_.

9 Righteousness reaps the fruit of \_\_\_ love.

10 In the womb he grasped his brother's heel, as a man he struggled with God and overcame, he wept and begged for His favor.

13 The Israelites will express their terror of judgment by saying to the \_\_\_ "cover us and fall on us" Rev.1:6. Preferred death than return to the Lord!

15 Admah and \_\_\_ were cities that God annihilated along with Sodom and Gomorrah. Deut. 23:33-43

16 The Lord led Israelites with cords of human \_\_\_ and love, taught them to walk, and lifted the yoke from their neck. But the more He loved them the further they went away from Him.

17 "Where, O death are your plagues? Where, O grave, is your destruction?" Apostle \_\_\_ quoted this famous couplet.

22 The king of Israel would float away like a \_\_\_ on the surface of the waters portraying their helpless state in the hands of the Assyrians.

24 Because Israel had depended on their own strength and many \_\_\_ the roar of battle would rise against them and their fortresses would be devastated.

25 In Gilgal, Israelites sacrificed bulls on pagan altars, which would become piles of stones on a \_\_\_ field.

27 "I will \_\_\_ them from the power of the grave and redeem them from death". Later in

history, God provided a \_\_\_ for His people to save them from death through Jesus so death won't be the end for them even though disciplining them is inevitable.

28 When that day dawns, the very beginning of the day of battle, Israel's last king \_\_ was taken by the Assyrian conqueror Shalmaneser V even before they laid siege to Samaria for three years. 2Ki.17:3-6

29 The Lord used a prophet to bring Israel out from Egypt.

## Down

2 Who is wise? He will realize: the ways of the Lord are right; the righteous walk in them; but the \_\_ stumble in them.

3 When Israel returns to the Lord, He will heal their \_\_ and love them freely and they will blossom like a vine and their fragrance like a cedar of Lebanon.

4 As Jacob returned to God at \_\_, Israelites were supposed to return to their covenant God and maintain love and justice

5 Israelites asked for a king like the nations around them thinking that he can save them. Instead of that, the king led them to sin, like \_\_ who made two golden calves in Bethel and Dan so that they would not go to Jerusalem to worship God. 1Ki.12: 28-30

11 "When I fed them, they were satisfied; when they were satisfied, they became proud; then they \_\_ me."

12 Ephraim feeds on the \_\_, which pictures the nation pursuing the vain efforts that do not satisfy them.

14 The Lord would drive Ephraim, Judah must plow and Jacob must break up the \_\_ ground (confessing sins) for it was time to seek the Lord. 2Cor. 6:2

18 Rather than trusting in God, Israel made a treaty with Assyria and sent olive oil to \_\_ as an obligation to their treaty partner.

19 Jacob fled to the country of \_\_ and to pay for his wife he tended sheep, a very humble occupation. Lord reminded Israelites of their humble origin.<sup>20</sup> A series of judgment messages end with messages of restoration. "They will come trembling like birds from Egypt, like doves from \_\_. I will settle them in their homes." Deut.4:25-31

21 It was said of Israelites that they offer \_\_ sacrifice.

23 Hosea compared Israel to a fruitful vine. As the land prospered, they built more altars to honor idols and set up sacred \_\_ and Asherah poles, so the Lord would destroy Israel's cultic symbols.

26 Hosea counseled Israelites to return to the Lord and ask forgiveness for all their sins and receive them graciously that they may offer the fruit of their lips, not depend on Assyria for military strength, not mount war \_\_, and not say 'our gods' to what their own hands have made.

## Welcoming SajiAchen at the SF Airport



## First Service and introduction with SajiAchen at Church







