



Reach Out

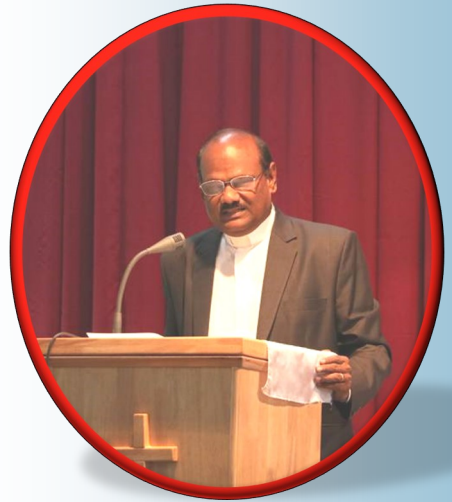
MONTHLY MAGAZINE OF SARJAPUR ROAD METHODIST CHURCH | APRIL 2024



***HOW SHALL
WE LIVE?***

WELCOME BACK, REV. HOSEA MATHEW!

Sarjapur Road Methodist Church, with great joy, welcomes back one of our first Pastors, Rev. Hosea Mathew.



A dedicated God's servant for multiple decades, **Rev. Hosea Mathew** has been appointed to minister and serve the growing congregation at SRMC. Incidentally, Rev. Hosea is also the co-founder of this Church, having started the worship center here during his term as Senior Pastor of KMC, back in 2012.

Rev. Hosea holds Graduation and Post-Graduation degrees from Leonard Theological College (B.D.) and United Theological College (M.Th.) of Serampore University.

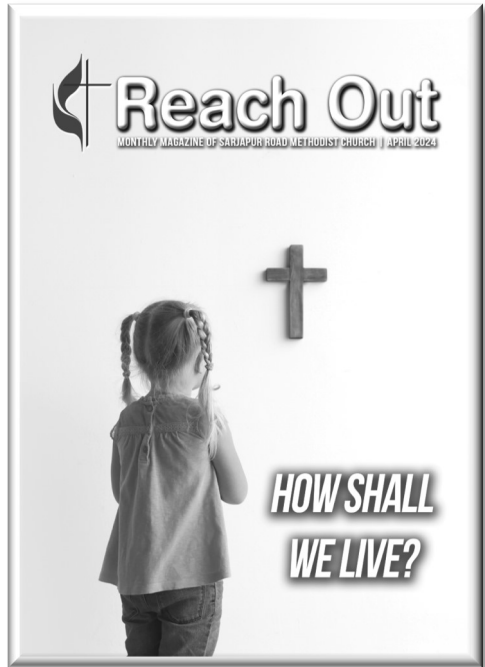
He is married to **Mrs. Asha**, who is a retired Science Teacher by profession. They are blessed with two sons **Nischal** and **Navjacinth**, both engineers, with their elder son happily married.

Rev. Hosea Mathew looks forward to providing Spiritual Leadership and shepherding the congregation at Sarjapur Road, as we look forward to a new chapter in our existence, as an independent Pastorate under Bangalore Regional Conference.

We heartily welcome you, Pastor!

~ INSIDE ~

| | |
|---------------------------|------|
| Pastoral Letter | 04 |
| Praise & Prayer | 07 |
| Announcements | 08 |
| Photo Gallery | 9-12 |
| Guidelines for Christians | 13 |
| Just for fun! | 14 |
| Hymn History | 15 |
| Bible Verses about Life | 17 |
| Bible Puzzle | 18 |



SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE BEGINS AT 9 AM

PASTOR: REV. HOSEA MATHEW

Mobile: +91 94492 92978 | Email: hosea9@gmail.com

MISSION STATEMENT

"To be obedient, cheerful, compassionate, humble stewards of God's Word and resources, in utter dependence upon God through prayer, so that we as a congregation and those we reach out to, will experience transformation through the saving grace of God and grow as Christ-centered people, guided by the Holy Spirit."

SARJAPUR ROAD METHODIST CHURCH

Beside St. Patrick's Academy, Kodathi Gate, Bengaluru - 560 035

Web: www.srmcblr.org | Email: office@srmcblr.org

PASTORAL LETTER



REV. HOSEA MATHEW

Dear fellow worshippers,
Greetings to you in the name of our Resurrected Lord Jesus Christ. Thanks be to God who has uplifted us spiritually through the season of Lent, passion and resurrection. May the Lord bless us with the power of new life and hope where we reflect His love and light and grow as strong witnesses for Him.

With grateful hearts we bid farewell to Rev. Alfred Sudarshan, who faithfully served the Lord as pastor of the SRMC for about five years. Let us pray to God that he will continue to be more fruitful in his future ministry.

I praise God for bringing me once again as pastor to SRMC. I seek to serve the Lord in all humbleness under His gracious guidance. Also, I seek your support and prayers. As a church we observed the Lenten days and celebrated Easter. God by His grace has enabled us as Church to hold the Vacation Bible School, an important ministry towards our children. Many of us took this opportunity to serve as teachers and volunteers. Thanks to the Director, teachers and volunteers and others for making VBS a successful blessing to all the children.

We observed the suffering and crucifixion of Jesus Christ, celebrated His coming back to life. Jesus has fulfilled the purpose for which He was sent into the world and lives forevermore. What does it all mean to us and to the world? It only means that we are to live the life modelled after Jesus and be His witnesses drawing others to

Jesus. Our meditation this month will focus on **HOW SHALL WE LIVE?**

1. We Walk in the Light

The author of 1 John uses a metaphor about light and dark to illustrate God's action in our lives, revealing how we should live. "God is light and in God there is no darkness at all" (1 John 1:5b). "Live as children of the light—for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true" (Ephesians 5:8b-9). Matthew 5:16.... let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. Jesus is calling us to be the light of the world through our very own life that reflects Jesus Christ. By doing good to others they come to light and glorify God.

2. We Purify in Hope

"All who have this hope in God purify themselves, just as God is pure" (1 John 3:3). God is Holy, pure, therefore He calls us also to be pure. God imparts His goodness to the entire world. When we look at the world we see the unmatched beauty of Creator God. In creation, God has given everything that man requires for his life and is established forever. Because of this we can have the hope.

At times we misuse God's good gifts but we are called to keep it pure because by using them our life is sustained. We can hope in God's good gifts, including enchanting nature. We purify ourselves by changing characters and behaviour that we do no harm but rather do all the good we can to preserve and protect these good gifts of God.

3. We Abide in Christ

How Shall We Live? It's to remain in Him, a complete part of Jesus that we receive His life. We become complete in Him. The Scripture tells when Jesus was crucified, we were also crucified with Him; we no longer live but it is Christ in us (Galatians 2:20). We joined with Him in His death as He took our sin upon Himself. Now we are risen with Him, and seated with Him in the heavenly places (Ephesians 2:6).

Being in Christ means we have a communion with Him that is rooted in His death and resurrection, and Jesus calls us to remain or "abide" in His love (John 15:9). How abiding in Christ look like in the Christian life? It's to live out the love and life we have found in Christ. Our actions should convey love to others. Christians are to remain in Jesus like the

branches remain attached to the vine. He gives us all that we need to sustain us in this life and for all eternity.

4. We Bear fruits

Bearing fruit is Something that encompasses our relationship with God? John 15:5 "I am the vine, you are the branches". Fruit bearing branches connect deeply to vine which is Jesus Christ, come to maturity especially when pruned. Vine holds branches falling to ground produce delicious and nutritious fruit. Perhaps our financial gifts, vocations, careers, skills, and talents is an offering to God. Take time to lift up and bless the work we do with our hands—whether paid or volunteer, skilled or unskilled—as expressions of love, as fruit we bear, as branches connected to the Vine.

Jesus reminds us that He prunes every branch so that it may bear more fruit. Creating space for confession and pardon certainly helps us uncover the ways that God is pointing us away from sin and toward all that is life-giving. By remaining or abiding in Jesus we will produce fruit. Galatians 5:22-23 lists the fruit of the Spirit as *"love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control."*

May the Lord empower us as we seek to live and grow in Him as His witnesses.

Blessings and prayers,
Rev. Hosea Mathew
(Pastor, SRMC)

"All who have this hope in God purify themselves, just as God is pure"
1 John 3:3

Please continue to support SRMC's vision of a wholesome and God-loving Faith Community in this part of the city. You can send in your tithes/offerings to the Church by scanning this QR code.
May God bless you abundantly!



PRAISE AND PRAYER

PRAISE GOD

- ◆ Praise God for His grace, as we meditated on the theme **CROSS: SYMBOL OF HOPE** during the month of March.
- ◆ Praise God for the life and ministry of **Rev. Alfred Sudarshan**, as he ends his tenure with SRMC after 5 wonderful years.
- ◆ Praise God that He graciously enabled us to observe the season of Lent as a Church. Praise God for the lives of all the special speakers who brought us the word of God.

REMEMBER AND PRAY

- ◆ Continue to pray for our Bishop N. L. Karkare, Madam Kamal Karkare, Executive Secretary Rev. David Nathaniel, Conference Treasurer, Rev. Mathew George M., District Superintendent Rev. Sebastian Ravikumar. Pray continuously for the Bangalore Regional Conference and that God's will be accomplished through the conference.
- ◆ Pray for our dear Pastor, **Rev. Hosea Mathew** and his family. Also, kindly keep our extended **Pastoral team** at **KMC** and their families in prayers.
- ◆ Pray for the ongoing **SRMC Vacation Bible School**, the **SRMC Sunday School**, children & teens ministry. Pray for wisdom and health for all teachers and volunteers, for the media team and for the challenges that are involved.
- ◆ Pray for the future of our church, we are in the process of becoming a **separate Pastorate under the Bangalore Regional Conference of MCI**. Pray that the process is smooth, and due committees are formed to take the functioning of SRMC forward.
- ◆ Pray for the Bible Study group, Worship team, Men's and Women's fellowships, Sunday School, Choir and all the volunteers who are striving hard to serve and raise resources for our Church.
- ◆ Pray for the sick, elders, widows and the poor, who need help in our church. Pray also for all the families that you remember at our Church.

- ◆ Pray for all the families who are still suffering due to the effects of illnesses, economic difficulties, familial tensions, etc, that God may give them strength to cope and move ahead.
- ◆ Pray that God may reveal His Plan for us in this locality and that the SRMC family may become a channel of blessing in this vicinity.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Sunday Worship Service** begins at **9 am** every Sunday, with services being live-streamed on our website **srmcblr.org**.
- **PASTORAL CARE** is available through the Church, you can avail the services by speaking to the Pastor personally.
- **REACH OUT** is the in-house magazine of SRMC and you are welcome to contribute your stories, missionary stories, testimonies, activity pages for children and other articles. You also have the opportunity to suggest the theme for the next Month and related resources.
- **WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP** meetings are held every last Sunday of the month. **Women's Bible Study** is scheduled for **Wednesdays at 7 pm**. Currently on Summer break, will resume in **June 2024**.
- **Church Weekly Bible Study** is scheduled for every **Thursday, at 7 pm**, via Zoom. **Rev. Daniel Ezra Naveen** is leading us on the topic of **"Discipleship"**.
- **Humble request:** Please be consistent in your attendance to the Church—either for the **live service in Church**, or via the **Live Stream** of the service on our website, every Sunday. This will help you to grow spiritually and it will also help the Church to grow both Spiritually and Missionally.



WWW.SRMCBLR.ORG

FAREWELL, REV. ALFRED SUDARSHAN

31 MARCH, 2024



Sarjapur Road Methodist Church bid an emotional farewell to our pastor of the last 5 years, Rev. Alfred Sudarshan, as he has been transferred to his next assignment within the BRC.

Pastor Alfred joined us in 2019 and shepherded us wonderfully, through some difficult times during the Covid years.

May God bless Pastor with grace and strength to continue the good work that he began at SRMC as a servant of God. We pray & wish him all the very best for all his future endeavours.

SRMC WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY

10th March, 2024



Best Photo:
Mrs. Sharon



Best Painting:
Mrs. Apoorva

QUIZ COMPETITION



First - Mrs. Manjari



Second - Mrs. Sharon



Third - Mrs. Hannah

SINGING COMPETITION



First - Mrs. Gracia



Second - Mrs. Hannah



Third - Mrs. Anisha



SRMC WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP - 2024

PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION

24th March, 2024



10 GUIDELINES FOR CHRISTIAN LIVING

Whether we are playing a game, driving a car, or baking a cake, there are certain rules that must be followed for our safety as well as our success.

The Bible teaches that the Christian life is one of constant growth. When you were born again, you were born into God's family. It is God's purpose that you will grow into full stature and become mature in Christ. It would be against the law of God and nature if you were to remain a baby and thus become a spiritual dwarf. In 2 Peter 3:18, the Bible says that we are to grow. It implies steady development, constant enlargement, increasing wisdom.

For one to grow properly certain rules must be observed for good spiritual health.

1. ***Read your Bible daily.*** Do not be content to skim through a chapter merely to satisfy your conscience. Hide the Word of God in your heart. It comforts, guides, corrects, encourages – all we need is there.
2. ***Learn the secret of prayer.*** Prayer is communicating. Every prayer that you pray will be answered. Sometimes that answer may be “Yes” and sometimes “No,” and sometimes it is “Wait,” but nevertheless it will be answered.
3. ***Rely constantly on the Holy Spirit.*** We know that the Holy Spirit prays for us (Romans 8), and what a comfort that should be to the weakest of us. Stand aside and let Him take over all the choices and decisions of your life.
4. ***Attend church regularly.*** The visible church is Christ's organization upon earth. Christians need one another, we need to gather together to worship God and nothing can take the place of church attendance.
5. ***Be a witnessing Christian.*** We witness in two ways: by life and by word – and the two, where possible, should go hand in hand.
6. ***Let love be the ruling principle of your life.*** Jesus said to those who followed Him, “By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another” (John 13:35). The greatest demonstration of the fact that we are Christians is that we love one another.

7. ***Be an obedient Christian.*** Let Christ have first place in all the choices of your life.
8. ***Learn how to meet temptation.*** Temptation is not sin. It is yielding that is sin. Let Christ through the Holy Spirit do the fighting for you.
9. ***Be a wholesome Christian.*** Our lives and appearance should commend the Gospel and make it attractive to others.
10. ***Live above your circumstances.*** Don't let your circumstances get you down. Learn to live graciously within them, realizing the Lord Himself is with you.

Guidelines for Christian Living is excerpted from "Peace with God" by **Billy Graham**, published in 1953, revised and expanded in 1984.

Just for fun!



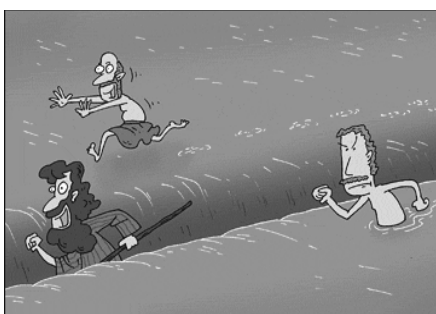
(See 1 Kings 11:1-9)
YOU HAVE LIKE A THOUSAND WIVES AND CONCUBINES ... PERHAPS IT'S TIME TO SLOW DOWN WITH THOSE ROMANTIC SONGS OF YOURS



Thanks to Shirley Osterander
HOW COME THE WAITRESS GETS 15% AND GOD ONLY GETS 10%?



(See Acts 9:1-19)
GO AHEAD AND CHANGE "SAUL" TO "PAUL" ON EVERYTHING AND THE TITLE FROM "MASTER PERSECUTOR" TO "YOUR NEW BEST FRIEND" ON THE LETTERHEAD

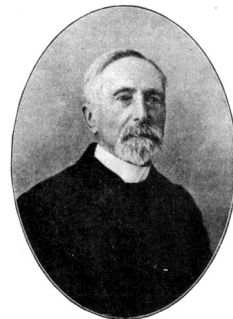


Thanks to Colin Nelson
HOZEKIAH FOUND THIS RACE WITH MOSES AND PETER TO BE GROSSLY UNFAIR

HYMN HISTORY

O THE DEEP, DEEP LOVE OF JESUS

O the Deep Deep, Love of Jesus is a well-known Christian hymn, written by the London merchant **Samuel Trevor Francis**. Francis (1834–1925) had a spiritual turning point as a teenager, contemplating suicide one night on a bridge over the River Thames. Experiencing a renewal of faith, he went on to author many poems and hymns and was a preacher in addition to his merchant career.



S. TREVOR FRANCIS

The song compares Jesus' love to the ocean in scope, emphasizing the limitless, unchanging, and sacrificial nature of God's affections for the singer and all of humanity. It consists of three stanzas each utilizing an A, A, B, B rhyming structure. Various melodic and harmonic arrangements of the song have been published, the most common being a minor melody in 4/4 time.

Initially, this song had four verses, though since its appearance in the 1911 *The Song Companion to the Scriptures*, it is usually shortened to three. The text echoes the Apostle Paul's description of the strength required to "comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth" of the love of Christ (Eph. 3:18). The picture is of a limitless ocean.

Herman Bavinck spoke of God as, "an immeasurable and unbounded ocean of being." The Puritan John Flavel (1627-1691), who ministered in the seaport of Dartmouth, often contextualized his ministry to the many seafaring men in the city. He wrote, "Another resemblance you have from the sea, the great abyss, that vast congregation of waters, whose depth no line can fathom: Veer out as much line as you will, you cannot touch the bottom. To this unfathomable ocean the pardoning grace of God is also resembled."

The depths of the ocean are a frequent metaphor for the immensity of God. It makes perfect sense when we realize how big the ocean is and how little of it we actually know. Samuel Francis utilized this imagery in picturing the love of Jesus. It was only the greater depths of Jesus's love that were able to overwhelm the rivers of depression experienced by the teenaged Francis.

The hymn was originally set to the tune EVENING BLESSING, but it is most commonly set to the Welsh tune EBENEZER composed by Thomas John Williams in 1890. The celebrated English composer Ralph Vaughn Williams called this tune one of the greatest in the repertoire.

Born in Cheshunt, Herts, in 1834, taken while a babe to Hull, stayed when five or six with relatives at Cheshunt, who taught him Bible truths. When nine his father, brother, and himself joined the choir of Hull Parish Church. He soon began to produce poetry, and in a few years he had a volume of poems compiled in his own handwriting.

The family having moved to London, he spent twelve months with a doctor in Camberwell. His health failing, he returned to Hull, where a Mr. Akester asked him “if he would like to see a man buried alive,” afterwards explaining that it was a baptismal service, conducted by Andrew Jukes, author of “The Law of the Offerings,” etc. Thus he was introduced to a company meeting on Scriptural lines, and heard the Gospel of Man’s Ruin and God’s Remedy.

On returning to London, one day, as he was crossing Hungerford Bridge, he halted, and a message was borne into his soul, “You do believe on the Lord Jesus Christ?” At once he exclaimed, “I do believe,” and that moment took place the change called “New Birth” (John 3:3), which revolutionized all his after life. Soon after he assembled with a company in Kennington, commenced open-air preaching, which he kept up for seventy-three years in Britain and all other lands he visited.

Through his preaching during the Revival of 1859–1860 many were led to the Lord. Later he was one of the most willing helpers of Moody and Sankey in their great London campaign in 1873–1874. At times he did deputy for Mr. Sankey in leading the praise. He also helped Canon Hay Aitken in several of his missions, when many churchmen and others were converted.

Impaired eyesight led to his making a tour of the world, so that in his many journeys he was ever cheered by hearing one and another of the words he had penned poured forth in song, in English or other tongues. Later in life he paid visits to Canada, Australia, Palestine, Egypt, and to parts of North Africa. He quietly entered into Rest, from a nursing home, on 28th December 1925, in his 92nd year of age.

Compiled by Joel Dubba

gospelreformation.net / hymnologyarchive.com

TOP BIBLE VERSES ABOUT LIFE

John 14:6 - Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

John 3:16 - "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

John 6:35 - Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.

Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

John 10:10 - The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

Romans 12:2 - Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

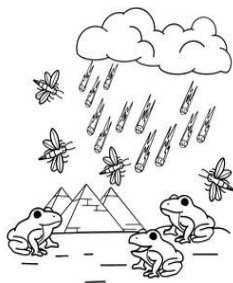
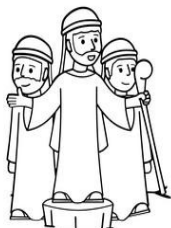
John 8:12 - Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

Galatians 2:20 - I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Genesis 2:7 - Then the Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.



Bible Puzzles



BIBLE WORD FINDER

FIND THE HIDDEN WORDS IN THE GRID

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| Z | Y | E | P | < | U | D | A | D | A | M | T |
| Y | R | E | B | E | < | < | A | R | U | T | H |
| O | V | K | D | W | R | A | H | A | B | T | J |
| H | J | E | N | M | H | D | T | B | X | I | X |
| L | O | G | S | O | D | O | M | E | O | F | H |
| V | S | V | B | A | B | E | L | X | Z | W | Z |
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JOSHUA

AARON

SODOM

ADAM

ABEL

ISAAC

RUTH

MICAH

REBECCA

RAHAB

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

at

SRMC

Dates:

April 8th to 14th, 2024

THE TRAIL OF
FAITH

Real People.
Real Lives.
Real Choices.
Real Consequences.
Real God.
Hebrews 11:6



Timing: 9 am to 11:30 am

Venue: Sarjapur Road Methodist Church, Besides St. Patrick's Academy, Kodathi Gate



SARJAPUR ROAD METHODIST CHURCH

Pulpit Calendar

“Live as children of the light—for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true” 1 Cor. 1:18

APRIL 2024

1st Sunday | 07/04/2024 | 9 AM

COMMUNION | WE WALK IN THE LIGHT

1 JOHN 1:1 - 2:2 | REV. HOSEA MATHEW

2nd Sunday | 14/04/2024 | 9 AM

VBS SUNDAY | MRS. GRACE JOHNSON

3rd Sunday | 21/04/2024 | 9 AM

WE ABIDE IN CHRIST | REV. HOSEA MATHEW

1 JOHN 3:16-24

4th Sunday | 28/04/2024 | 9 AM

WE BEAR FRUIT | REV DANIEL EZRA NAVEEN

JOHN 15:1-8

HOW SHALL WE LIVE?

Reach Out

All worship services are LIVE on www.srmcblr.org

SARJAPUR ROAD METHODIST CHURCH

Besides St. Patrick's Academy, Sarjapur Road, Bengaluru