Bethel Tidings

A MONTHLY BULLETIN OF THE BETHEL METHODIST CHURCH

Volume 3 - 5 May-June 2010

PASTOR: REV. IMMANUEL THEODORE 9008243206

BETHEL METHODIST CHURCH

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PASTORAL PONDERINGS

Volume 3-5

May 7 2010

Dear friends,

Greetings to you in our Lord's name!

This would hopefully be the last letter I write to you all, and I'd like to say that this term at Bethel Methodist Church has been a roller-coaster ride for us with more downs than ups. We have however tried our best and have been faithful to the very end and have endeavored to do as the Lord has led.

We do hope that you have been benefitted by the Lord's use of us over the last year and a half as we strove to minister to you.

I'm at a loss as to what we should say in this last letter. There are far too many things that we would like to say. I'll try and just quote from the scripture portions that we both feel will be most relevant for BMC in your present state of affairs.

Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God-- this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, **but be transformed** by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is-- his good, pleasing and perfect will. For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather **think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you**. – Romans 12:1-3

As it is, there are many parts, but one body. **The** eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!" On the contrary, **those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor.** And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has combined the members of the body and has given greater honor to the parts that lacked it, so that **there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. If one part suffers, every part suffers with it;** if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it. Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. – 1 Corinthians 12:20-27

From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work. **So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking.** They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts. Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, with a continual lust for more. You, however, did not come to know Christ that way. Surely you heard of him and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus.

You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, **to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in TRUE righteousness and holiness.** Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to his neighbor, for we are all members of one body. – Ephesians 4:16-25

For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. **For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline**. So **do not be ashamed to testify about our Lord,** or ashamed of me his prisoner. But join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God, who has saved us and called us to a holy life-- not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. **This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time**, – 1 Timothy 1:6-9

[All forms of emphasis – in all the passages – mine.]

We do hope that these will benefit BMC in the way ahead.

Thanking you for any co-operation that you have rendered in the course of our ministry here.

Regards and Prayers,
Rev. & Mrs. Immanuel Theodore

BE YE REFRESHED

A lecturer was giving a lecture to his student on stress management.

He raised a glass of water and asked the audience, "How heavy do you think this glass of water is?"

The students' answers ranged from 20g to 500gm.

"It does not matter on the absolute weight. It depends on how long you hold it.

If I hold it for a minute, it is OK.

If I hold it for an hour, I will have an ache in my right arm.

If I hold it for a day, you will have to call an ambulance.

It is the exact same weight, but the longer I hold it, the heavier it becomes."

"If we carry our burdens all the time, sooner or later, we will not be able to carry on, the burden becoming increasingly heavier."

"What you have to do is to put the glass down, rest for a while before holding it up again."

We have to put down the burden periodically, so that we can be refreshed and are able to carry on.

PASTORAL CARE

If you desire a pastoral visit, kindly inform the pastor of the same. We will visit you at the earliest convenient time. And, if anyone of you is sick/hospitalized/in need of home communion/ need any special prayer/counseling, please inform the pastor directly. This will facilitate a speedy pastoral care.

HOSPITAL WINDOW

Two men, both seriously ill, occupied the same hospital room. One man was allowed to sit up in his bed for an hour each afternoon to help drain the fluid from his lungs. His bed was next to the room's only window. The other man had to spend all his time flat on his back. The men talked for hours on end. They spoke of their wives and families, their homes, their jobs, their involvement in the military service, where they had been on vacation. And every afternoon when the man in the bed by the window could sit up, he would pass the time by describing to his roommate all the things he could see outside the window. The man in the other bed began to live for those one-hour periods where his world would be broadened and enlivened by all the activity and color of the world outside. The window overlooked a park with a lovely lake. Ducks and swans played on the water while children sailed their model boats. Young ones walked arm in arm amidst flowers of every color of the rainbow. Grand old trees graced the landscape, and a fine view of the city skyline could be seen in the distance. As the man by the window described all this in exquisite detail, the man on the other side of the room would close his eyes and imagine the picturesque scene. One warm afternoon the man by the window described a parade passing by. Although the other man couldn't hear the band - he could see it in his mind's eye as the gentleman by the window portrayed it with descriptive words. Days and weeks passed. One morning, the day nurse arrived to bring water for their baths only to find the lifeless body of the man by the window, who had died peacefully in his sleep. She was saddened and called the hospital attendants to take the body away. As soon as it seemed appropriate, the other man asked if he could be moved next to the window. The nurse was happy to make the switch, and after making sure he was comfortable, she left him alone. Slowly, painfully, he propped himself up on one elbow to take his first look at world outside Finally, he would have the joy of seeing it for himself. He strained to slowly turn to look out the window beside the bed. It faced a blank wall. The man asked the nurse what could have compelled his deceased roommate who had described such wonderful things outside this window. The nurse responded that the man was blind and could not even see the wall. She said, "Perhaps he just wanted to encourage you."

Promise for the Day: Delight yourself also in the LORD, And He shall give you the desires of your heart. Psalm 37:4. (NKJV)

Church Schedule for May 2010

Activity	Time & Venue	Contact
English Service	:30 am EVERY Sunday at BMC	Rev. Immanuel Theodore 9008243206
Choir practice	11.30 am EVERY Sunday at BMC	Mr. Isaac Peterson 9845232807
Prayer Fellowship	6:30 pm EVERY Friday at BMC	Rev. Immanuel Theodore 9008243206
Bethel Shaale	4 pm EVERY Friday and Saturday at BMC	Mrs. Jessica Paul 9980212965
Hoodi Sunday School (Kannada)	2.00 pm EVERY Sunday at Mr. Arul's house	Mr. Arul Dass 9731293243
Methodist Youth Fellowship (MYF)	12:00 noon 9th and 23rd May Sunday at BMC	Mr. Frank Jayakar 080-41693701
Pastorate Committee	7:30 pm 28th May Friday at BMC	Rev. Immanuel Theodore 9008243206
Women's Society for Christian Service (WSCS)	11:30 am 9th May Sunday at BMC	Mrs. Angeline Isaac 9886426287

Note : Sunday school remains closed for summer holidays and will reopen in the first week of June.

REGULAR PROGRAMS

I will sing of steadfast love and justice; to you, O LORD, I will make music.

Psalm 101:1

Praise God ..

Week 1: General & Personal Items

- For the gift of a new Month (May 2010) and life to experience it.
- For the mission Sunday that happened
- For VBS prayer that had happened.

Week 2: Church — VBS

- For all the 110 children who attended the VBS
- For all the non Christian children who heard the gospel for the fist time.
- For all the active participation of the church members in the VBS activities.

Week 3: Church — Specific

- Missionary Sunday: Praise God that the Missionary Sunday that went
- Property and Building: For the amount that has been raised toward Project Build Bethel.

Week 4: Church — Specific

- Pastorate Committee: For all the new Pastorate Committee members.
- For the one year and the three year goals that are being set for the church.

PRAISE CALENDAR

Area Fellowship

Area Fellowship stands cancelled for the month of May due to Vacation.

Prayer Request..

PRAYER REQUESTS

Week 1: General & Personal Items

- For the month of May 2010, that it would be Christ-Centered.
- For the Regional Conference and it would be God centered one.
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Week 2: Church — Church

- Various wings of the church , and all the leaders of various committees.
- For God's presence to rule ALL the activities of the church.
- For ALL decision-making of the BMC Pastorate Comm. & Pastorate Conf.
- For ALL the organization of the church—that they would be a channel of His Kingdom's Growth.

Week 3: Church — Specific

- Build Bethel Project: Fund Mobilization, Identifying the Contractor / Engineer, Legal Procedures and Plan Approval.
- For more people will join the worship team
- For zeal and commitment for worship within the team

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Week 4: Church — Specific

- Pray that the frequency of Bethel Shaale be increased and for more volunteers
- Pray for the kids and their future
- For the prayer ministry of the church: The second Friday prayer fellowship, that members of BMC would actively participate in it and in the Prayer time in Area prayer fellowships.

General

- For the pastors of our church and their family.
- For all the people who travel around during this vacation time to have a safe journey

I desire then that in every place the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling;

I Timothy 2: 8

PASTORATE COMMITTEE, CONFERENCE & OTHER POSTS

OFFICERS

Mr. Selvin Doraipandi	Secretary
Mr. Ashok Anand	Treasurer

CHAIRPERSONS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Mrs. Anina David	Education & Christian Nurture
Mr. Arul Dass	Lay Activities
Mr. Anandraj	Membership & Records
Mr. Atheejoe N	Missions & Evangelism
Mr. Franklin D.C.	Peace & Discipline
Mr. Isaac Peterson	Property & Pastoral Charge
Mrs. Asha Rajpaul	Social Concerns
Mr. Clement Selvaraj	Stewardship & Finance

ADDITIONAL SUB COMMITTEES

Mr. Wilfred A A W	Information Technology
Mr. Franklin D.C.	Music
Mr. Arun Amirtharaj	Publications
Ms. Priya George	Ushers

REPRESENTATIVES OF ORGANIZATIONS

Mrs. Giftlin Clement	Sunday School
Mr. Koilraj P.	MYF
Mrs. Angelin Isaac	WSCS

ADDITIONAL MEMBERS TO PASTORATE COMMITTEE

Mr. R Raja Paul
Mr. Paul Durai
Mrs. Mary Rita J.
Mrs. Thilagavathi C
Mrs. Juliet Joseph

ADDITIONAL MEMBERS TO PASTORATE CONFERENCE

Mr. Sanjay Joel
Mr. Peter Jayakumar
Mrs. Sharon Whittaker
Mrs. Nitya Ashok
Mr. S. Prabhu
Mrs. Joyce Arun
Ms. Jancy J.
Mrs. Shyamala
Mrs. Sasikala
Mrs. Jayalakshmi
Mr. Ravi Kumar
Mrs. Kamila Prabhu
Mr. Philip
Mr. Jesuraj
Mr. Dorai

INTERNAL AUDITORS

Mr. Irwin Christudoss	Internal Auditor
Mr. Frank Santhosh	Internal Auditor

REPRESENTATIVES TO THE DISTRICT CONFERENCE

Mr. Irwin Christudoss	Lay Delagate to the District Conference
Mr. Anban Sunderson	Alternate Lay Delagate to the District Conference

REPRESENTATIVES TO THE REGIONAL CONFERENCE

Mr. Selvin Doraipandi	Lay Delegate to the South India Regional Conference
Mr. Isaac Peterson	Alternate Lay Delegate to the South India Regional Conference

MYF ADVISORS

Mr. Atheejoe Nargunam
Mrs. Jennita Nargunam

STANDING COMMITTEES

NOMINATIONS

Rev. Pastor
Mr. Selvin Doraipandi
Mr. Sanjay Joel
Mrs. Jennita Nargunam
Mr. Christopher Vasa
Mr. Franklin D.C.
Mr. Isaac Peterson
Mr. Clement Selvaraj
Mr. Raj Paul
Mr. Philip

LAY ACTIVITIES

Mr. Arul Dass
Mr. Koilraj Philip
Mrs. Angeline Anban
Mrs. Asha Rajpaul
Mr. Peter Jayakumar
Mr. Jesuraj
Mr. Sanjay Joel
Mr. Durai

PROPERTY & BUILDING

Mr. Isaac Peterson
Mr. Anban Sunderson
Mr. Ashok Anand
Mr. Clement Selvaraj
Mr. Irwin Christudoss
Mr. Paul Durai
Mr. Publius
Mr. Selvin Doraipandi
Mr. Prabhu

PEACE & DISCIPLINE

Mr. Franklin D.C.
Mr. Joseph Mohanraj
Mr. Atheejoe Nargunam
Mr. Philip
Mrs. Mary Kalyan
Mrs. Mary Rita
Mrs. Hannah Selvin
Ms. Priya George
Mr. Arul Das

MEMBERSHIP & RECORDS

Mr. Anandraj Philip
Mr. Arun Amirtharaj
Mr. Anand M. K.
Mrs. Angelin Isaac
Mrs. Wilfred A A W
Mr. Reuben Gandhi
Mr. Jabez Yesudas
Mr. Jayanth Mohanty

EDUCATION & CHRISTIAN NURTURE

Mrs. Anina David
Mrs. Iris Irwin
Mrs. Sweetlin Frank
Mrs. Joyce Arun
Mr. Wilfred A A W
Mr. Clement Selvaraj
Mrs. Giftlyn Clement
Mrs. Angelin Isaac
Mr. Koilraj

SOCIAL CONCERNS

Mrs. Asha Rajpaul
Mr. Christopher Vasa
Mrs. Jessica Paul
Mrs. Pastor
Mrs. Sudha Peter
Mr. Anandraj Philip
Mrs. Rita Publius

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE

Mr. Clement Selvaraj
Mr. Ashok Anand
Mr. Frank Santhosh
Mr. Irwin Christudoss
Mr. Isaac Peterson
Mr. Koilraj Philip

MISSIONS & EVANGELISM

Mr. Atheejoe Nargunam
Mr. Anban Sunderson
Mrs. Sasikala
Mr. Wilfred A A W
Mr. Franklin D.C.
Mr. Selvin Doraipandi
Mr. Jabez Yesudas
Mr. David Surendran

LIST CONTINUED ON PG. 11…

STANDING COMMITTEES

Ur CORNER - GREAT GARDENER

Great Gardener

A little girl was enjoying the beauty of the garden in her home. Her father had a good collection of rare and exotic plants. He grew them with tender care. The girl was fascinated by a plant full of fine and fragrant flowers. She went near the plant and enjoyed its beauty and the fragrance of its fine flowers. Suddenly she noted that the plant was growing in a heap of filth. She could not tolerate the presence of dirt at the bottom of the plant with such fantastic flowers. She conceived a plan to clean the plant. She pulled the plant with all her might and uprooted it. She then carried it to the tap and washed the shoot and roots in running tap-water till all traces of dirt were washed away. She then placed the plant on a clean stone and went away, thinking that she had done a great deed indeed. Later her father came to the garden and saw the uprooted plant. Its flowers and leaves had wilted and the plant had almost died in the scorching sun. His little daughter ran to him to exhibit her achievement. "I have cleaned it, Daddy", she reported innocently. "It was placed in dirty soil. Now it is clean." The father showed her how her treatment had almost killed the plant. He told her that he had collected the filthy soil and placed it to cover the plant's roots as it was the best medium to grow that plant. It could grow up healthily and produce fine flowers only if grown in filthy soil. She was sad that the plant had suffered and withered by her cleaning.

Pain, poverty and illness may cause agony in our life. Sight of successful persons may make us depressed and envious. A great gardener mixes the right soil for each plant. In the same way God provides each of us with the best environment required for optimum spiritual growth. But it may appear to be unpleasant to us and we may even complain to God about our plight.

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Please Note: There will be no Bethel Tidings Issue dated June 2010 as most members of BMC will be out on vacation through out the month and also because this will facilitate a smother change-over of pastors—giving freedom for your new pastor to make his decisions about the ministry of BMC in June 2010

Month's Theme: **[This month's theme is open to the Holy**

Date	*Preacher*
May 2, 2010	**Rev. James V. Kumar**
May 9, 2010	**Mr. Malcolm Athistam**
May 16, 2010	**Mr. Cyril Kunder**
May 23, 2010	**Rev. Immanuel A. Theodore**
May 30, 2010	**Mr. J. S. A. Julius**

...LIST CONTINUED FROM PG 9

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Literature & Publications

Mr. Arun Amirtharaj
Mrs. Jessica Paul
Mrs. Hannah Selvin
Mrs. Iris Irwin
Mr. Dilip Thomas
Mrs. Sharon Whitaker
Mrs. Merjula Jabez
Mrs. Cilla Sony

Ushers

Ms. Priya George
Mr. Ashok Anand
Mr. Ebenezer Peter
Mr. Frank Santosh
Mr. Isaac Peterson
Mr. Jesuraj
Mr. Dorai
Mr. Sahadevan

Information Technology

Mr. A A W Wilfred
Mr. Nirmalanand J
Mr. Jayanth Mohanty
Mr. Arun Amirtharaj
Mr. Arul Doss
Mr. Jabez Yesudas
Mr. Anand M.K

Music

Mr. Franklin D.C
Mr. Sony Daniel
Mr. Isaac Peterson
Mr. Dilip Thomas
Mrs Sweetlin Frank
Mr. Clement Selvaraj
Mr. Franklin Jayakar
Mr. Atheejoe Nargunam
Mr. Arul Doss

...MY WORD THAT GOES OUT FROM MY MOUTH: **IT WILL NOT RETURN TO ME EMPTY, BUT WILL ACCOMPLISH** WHAT I DESIRE AND ACHIEVE THE PURPOSE FOR WHICH I SENT IT. — **ISAIAH 55:11**

PULPIT CALENDAR & SPECIAL COMMITTEES

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