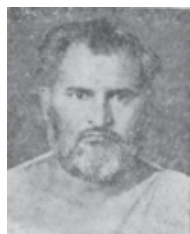


Fancy Sale was conducted with Dr. Sugunan K. Das as convener and Messrs. M. Wills, Winston I. Paul, Miss. Premila Janelet and Mrs. Mitchel as joint conveners as in 1973.

1975

A meeting was held on 26th January 1975 at which the bishop released a book on the late Rev. S. Alfred (*Ottam Thikachu*).



Sadhu Kishan Singh

The Passion Week messages were given by Sadhu Kishan Singh, a well known preacher, and his daughter Kumari Sheela. He again preached in our church from 6th to 8th February 1976.

The inaugural meeting of the Trivandrum Branch of the Bible Society was held on 1st September 1975 in the church under the chairmanship of the bishop.

After a long controversy, it was decided to permit memorial/thanksgiving services within the church by the Bishop or Pastor or some authorized person.



Dr. S. Jones

It was proposed by Rev. J. W. Gladstone and Dr. S. Jones to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the LMS congregation in Trivandrum.



Rev. J. W. Gladstone

Fancy Sale was conducted with Dr. Sugunan K. Das as convener and Messrs. M. Wills, Winston I. Paul, Miss. Premila Janelet and Mrs. Mitchel as joint conveners as in 1974.

1976

Mr. P. Albert, deacon, passed away on 10th February 1976. A memorial service was held on 28th March 1978 jointly with the BCL Union at their request.

Mr. T. Jayakumar Alfred, who was next in the waiting list of deacons was invited to serve in the Church committee in place of Mr. P. Albert on 15th February 1976.

Rev. A. Isaac was transferred and Rev. Varghese T. Lee was posted to the Church from 1st June 1976. A send-off was given to Rev. A. Isaac on Sunday the 30th of May 1976.



Rev. Varghese T. Lee

Based on the decision of the general body, Mrs. Sathyan was permitted to hold a memorial service in the church in 15th June 1976, a request which had been denied in previous years.

The old cemetery chapel was dismantled and the contract for building a new one at an estimated cost of Rs. 28,989 was awarded to Mr. J. Babu, Kesavadasapuram. The new chapel was dedicated on 2nd November 1976 at 8 a.m. The actual cost was Rs. 28,447.49.

There was a proposal that the Sunday school be conducted after the morning service also. (Till then, the Sunday school was conducted only in the afternoons.)

The proposal of the Gospel Band for a chapel at Nemom was accepted. (This was later fulfilled as the Platinum Jubilee Memorial Church).

Mr. S. Moses functioned as accountant during the illness of Mr. A. Ponniah.

Bricks, sand, slabs, etc. would be stocked at the cemetery to be sold for construction of graves on no-profit, no-loss basis.

Fancy Sale was conducted with Dr. Sugunan K. Das as convener and Messrs. M. Wills, Winston I. Paul, Miss. Premila Janelet and Mrs. Mitchel as joint conveners as in 1975.

1977

At the suggestion of the CEYF, Holy Communion was started in the English service every 3rd Sunday in the evening from January 1977.

At the suggestion of Mr. C. Ponnen, it was decided to provide pandals on either side of the church with extra loudspeakers on Good Friday, Easter and Christmas, and to arrange for petromax lights in special days.

It was proposed to get three-phase electric connection for the church.

From the year 1977, the strength of the diaconate of our Church was raised from 7 to 11 excluding nominations.



M. Wills

On 15th May 1977 a new committee was elected with the following members. Messrs. Justin S. Jesudasan, A. Ponniah, G. S. Oliver, S. Moses, M. Wills, T. Jayakumar Alfred, H. Fletcher, A. Johnson, R. J. Chelladurai Raja, N. Yohannan and Dr. (Mrs.) Irene Skinner. On 25th May 1977, Mr. C. Ponnen was nominated by the bishop.



A. Johnson

Messrs. Justin S. Jesudasan and A. Ponniah were elected as Secretary and Accountant respectively in the Church committee held on 25th



R. J. Chelladurai
Rajah

May 1977. On the same day, Messrs. N. Yohannan, R. J. Chelladurai Rajah and Dr. (Mrs.) Irene Skinner were elected to the Diocesan Council.



Dr. Mrs. Irene
Skinner

Mr. J. J. Thomas, former deacon and accountant passed away on 9th August 1977. A memorial service was held on 13th August 1977.

Convention meetings were held from 10th to 14th November 1977, addressed by Dr. Pushparaj of Salem.

Rev. M. J. Wilson held a convention in the church from 30th November to 5th December.

Mr. A. Johnson was nominated as the convener of Fancy Sale for the year 1977.

1978

Dr. J. E. Rasalam, former deacon and Church secretary passed away and a memorial service was held on 9th April 1978.

Regarding additional accommodation, a subcommittee was formed by the general body and it recommended that no structural alterations may be made in the church. Instead – to start one more service in the morning. 7.30 a.m. Tamil service, 9 a.m. Malayalam service. There may be an evening service at 5.30 p.m. For these an assistant ordained pastor familiar with both Tamil & Malayalam may be appointed to assist the pastor. The General Body held on 28th May 1978 decided to implement the suggestions of the subcommittee and those were implemented. A special General Body on 17th September 1978 opposed the suggestions of the subcommittee and approved proposal for one morning service only – Malayalam at 8 a.m. On 15th October 1978, the final decision was made as proposed by Mr. R. J. Chelladurai Raja as follows: 7 a.m., Tamil, 8 a.m., Malayalam and 5 p.m. English (1st Sundays) and Malayalam (on other Sundays).

The bishop was requested to post a Tamil ordained pastor with working knowledge of Malayalam.



V. P. M. Jaipaul

Mr. V. P. M. Jaipaul was appointed on 1st September 1978. He was ordained on 20th May 1979. Mr. Y. Jepamony, Tamil Evangelist left on 31st August 1978.

At the suggestion of the Gospel Band, a hymn book was printed for use at funerals.

Convention meetings were held from 21st to 24th November 1978 by Rev. Richard Little.

The Bible woman, Ms. D. Janet, passed away on 26th August 1978.

Mr. K. John, former sexton and peon passed away.

The fancy sale for the year was conducted on 23rd December 1978. Mr. S. R. K. Rasalam as convener, Dr. Samson Nessiah and Mrs. Cyrus as Joint Conveners were nominated to organize the fancy sale.

1979

It was decided to administer Holy Communion at the 7 a.m. Tamil service on 3rd Sundays.

As suggested by the organist, contributions for the 'Electronic Organ Fund' was raised through birthday cover distribution at the morning services. A subcommittee was formed for this purpose with Mr. T. Jayakumar Alfred as convener, Mr. Albert Joseph (Organist) and Mr. T. Godwin (Secretary).



T. Godwin

Dr. Leelamony Ambrose and Dr. Irene Skinner donated one cluster light each for the centre row of the church.

Messrs. T. Jayakumar Alfred and S. R. K. Rasalam were nominated as joint conveners for this year's fancy sale, and the income was utilized for the purchase

Dr. Leelamony Ambrose

of the electronic organ.

1980

A new electronic organ of the Artronica "Spirit" model was installed in the church on 9th February 1980 and it was dedicated on the 10th February 8 a.m. service by the bishop Rt. Rev. I. Jesudasan. It cost Rs. 22,232.60. On the same day, our bishop, Rt. Rev. I. Jesudasan was felicitated on his election as Deputy Moderator.

Bishop Arnold H. Legg passed away in England on 31st March 1980. A condolence message was conveyed to Mrs. Legg.

An amendment to the constitution was made wherein, two seats of the diaconate were reserved for women members.



Edwin P. Bhanu

A new Church committee consisting of Messrs. Justin S. Jesudasan, A. Ponniah, G. S. Oliver, N. Yohannan, Edwin P. Bhanu, P. G. Edwin, C. Ponnen, T. Jayakumar Alfred, S. Moses, Mrs. Nirmala



P. G. Edwin

Balsalam and Dr. Irene Skinner were elected on 25th May 1980. In the subsequent committee meeting held on 31st May, Mr. Justin S. Jesudasan

was elected as Secretary and Mr. A. Ponniah as Accountant. Mrs. Irene Skinner, Nirmala Balsalam and Mr. J. Wilson were elected as members to the diocesan council.



Nirmala Balsalam

A ladies' cycle was bought by the church for the use of Rev. V. P. M. Jaipaul.

The Church committee contributed Rs. 6,000 to the Ettoornagaram mission project of the diocese.

The CEYF organised a music concert at the T J M Hall by the Christian Arts & Communications Service (Chrisarts), Madras.

Collection of donations was made through distribution of covers for the Peroorkada Church Building Fund.

1981

A grant of Rs. 1,000 was sanctioned to the Wills Hostel for Women towards their building project.

Rev. V. D. Sahayam preached during the Passion Week services.

Dr. Pushparaj preached in special meetings held from November 12th to 15th.

The Church took up the Nemom church project of the Gospel Band as its own Platinum Jubilee project in connection with the celebrations on 13th December 1981. Mr. David Lazarus was the pioneer of evangelistic work at many centres including Nemom.



David Lazarus



Rev. S. Israel

Rev. Varghese T. Lee left our Church following transfer on 31st May 1981. "The committee placed on record the appreciation of the very good work done by the outgoing Pastor, Rev. Varghese T. Lee as the chairman of the Church committee during the last five years in guiding and controlling the discussions". Rev. S. Israel took charge as pastor on the same day in his place.

One month's leave was sanctioned to Mr. K. Dasan, sexton, and Mr. M. Johnson, peon was temporarily posted as acting sexton on 1st July 1981.

Mr. T. Y. Harris, former deacon passed away on 3rd July 1981. Mr. S. I. Sumanam, also a former deacon, passed away on 26th August 1981.



K. Hudson

Mr. K. Hudson was appointed temporarily as peon on probation on 1st September 1981.

CSI – CNI – MTC unity Sunday was observed on 8th November 1981, with communion according to Marthoma Liturgy in the morning and CNI Liturgy in the evening.

Mr. K. Dasan, sexton, passed away on 30th November 1981 a week before the festival week. Mr. M. Johnson who was acting sexton from 1st July 1981, was confirmed as Sexton on 1st December 1981.



The M. M. Church celebrated the 75th year of the dedication of the church, as platinum Jubilee from 6th December to 13th December 1981. The theme of the festival was "Jesus Loves You". The logo was designed by Mr. S. R. K. Rasalam. The week long celebrations were organised by Mr. Edwin P. Bhanu as the General Convener and Mr. T. Jayakumar Alfred as the Joint General Convener. The Platinum Jubilee Memorial Church at Nemom was constructed and dedicated on 13th December 1981 by the Bishop and Deputy Moderator of the CSI, Rt. Rev. I. Jesudason, to commemorate the occasion. A souvenir was brought out with Dr. Samson Nessiah as the convener and Prof. J. M. Stewart as the editor. Each day of the celebrations were marked by different themes: Inauguration day, Children's day, Youth day, Women's day, Men's day, Nation's day, Family day and the Closing day. Rt. Rev. I. Jesudason was the chief guest and graced the occasion by participating in the different functions.



The Platinum Jubilee Memorial Church at Nemom



CSI Church, Choodal

The CEYF took up a church building project at Choodal. The building was completed and an informal dedication was done by Rev. A. Isaac in 1982. The formal dedication was done by the Moderator Most Rev. I. Jesudasan in 1983.

Messrs. C. Ponnen, S. R. K. Rasalam and J. Wilson were nominated as Joint Conveners of the Fancy Sale for the year 1981.

The Tamil service was to be held on Christmas day at 6.00 a.m. instead of 5.00 a.m.

1982



Jason E. Raj

The organist Mr. Albert Joseph resigned on 31st January 1982. Mr. Jason E. Raj was appointed in his place on 1st March 1982.

Distribution of black coffee on Good Friday was started by the CEYF in 1982. This is being continued regularly every year.

A reception was given to Bishop Most Rev. I. Jesudasan on 13th June 1982 on his election as Moderator of the CSI.

At the suggestion of Rev. V. P. M. Jaipaul, the members of the congregation were requested not to remain in the vestries during church services. 25 folding steel chairs were also purchased for the church.

Mr. K. Hudson, who was the acting peon, was appointed as peon with effect from 1st September 1982.

Mr. I. Paul Sastri passed away. A memorial service was held on 17th October 1982.



I. Paul Sastri

In October 1982, the Church committee finally approved of a morning session for the Sunday school.

The fancy sale for the year was conducted on 11th December with Mr. L. Somaroy and Mr. Theophilus Joseph as conveners. Distribution of noon lunch through coupons for the sale was started in this year. The proceeds from the sale were used for the Platinum Jubilee Memorial Church construction at Nemom.

In consequence of a request to the Church committee for funds to conduct a Church day by the CEYF, the Church observed 'Church Day' for the first time, on 19th December 1982, with Church members coming in a procession for the evening thanksgiving service to place their offerings on the altar and sit as families. The programme was organised with the active participation of all sub organisations.

1983

On 30th January 1983, following the resignation of Mr. A. Ponniah as accountant, Mr. T. Jayakumar Alfred was appointed in his place.

Rev. Dr. Sam Kamalesan spoke on 12th and 13th March 1983 during the Passion week meetings.

Dr. Bonn and two others from the Netherlands spoke at the morning service on 13th March 1983.

An organisation, 'Men's Fellowship' was formed in the Church.

Men's Fellowship

A sub organisation by the name Men's Fellowship was formed by some members of our Church, Rev A. Kanakaraj, Mr. D. Jagadas, Mr. Revi Kumar Praseedom, Mr. S. Isen, Mr. L Soma Roy, Mr. C. Johnson, Mr. Arthur Roosevelt, Mr. Ivan Dilip Rasalam and Dr. S. G. Churchin Ben, in 1983, to foster fellowship among the male members of the congregation. It undertook various projects and activities in the social and spiritual areas over the next few years. Its members took up the worship and other activities in the neglected CSI Church at Barton Hill, till the SK diocese made proper arrangements. In 1984, it conducted convention services by Bishop Mar Aprem in our church. In 1986 it identified 6 cents of land for the construction of a new church at Barton Hill. Its social activities included medical camps, marriage assistance to poor girls, vocational training in welding and printing technologies, sewing machine repair, embroidery work etc., for the poor. It took up construction of houses to the poor with the help of the loan and grant facilities available through the Kerala State Housing Board. A total of 199 houses were built in this way.

In 1987, with a view to recognising it as a sub-organisation of the Church, the Church committee nominated Mr. M. Wills and Mr. A. Johnson as deacon representatives to the Men's Fellowship. However, as there were difficulties in its working under the rules and bye-laws specified by the Church, the Church committee resolved not to accept it as a sub-organisation and later it ceased to exist.

At the triennial elections held on 8th May 1983, Messrs. Justin S. Jesudasan, T. Jayakumar Alfred, P. G. Edwin, G. S. Oliver, N. Yohannan, S. Moses, A. Johnson, A. Ponniah, C. Ponnen, Dr. Mrs. Irene Skinner & Mrs. Nirmala Balsalam were elected.

Mr. Justin S. Jesudasan was elected as Secretary and Mr. T. Jayakumar Alfred as Accountant at the committee held on 18th May 1983. Dr. Mrs. Irene Skinner, Messrs. N. Yohannan and P. G. Edwin were elected as representatives of the Diocesan Council on the same day.

The Thaliyal Hindu Sunday School project of the CEYF received the involvement and support of the Church towards purchase of 3 ½ cents of land. The work at Thaliyal was initiated by Joyce Rasagnam Sanyasini. Mr. M. Wills and Mrs. Grisilda Wills worked along with her. Later, it was handed over to the CEYF, when Mr. Robert Singh and Mrs. Charlet Bai Robert Singh did devoted service over



Robert Singh

many years. The first land purchase and construction of a shed for the Sunday school and worship was done in their period. It was taken over by the Church around 1985 and developed further.

After the term of Mr. Jason E. Raj ended on 31st May 1983, Mr. Albert Joseph was reinstated as organist from 1st June 1983.

Rev. V. P. M. Jaipaul was transferred on 31st May 1983 and Rev. A. Kanakaraj was appointed on 1st June in his place. A farewell was given to Rev. V. P. M. Jaipaul on Sunday the 29th May after the Malayalam service.

June 26th was observed by the CEYF as Choodal Day. The church at Choodal, a project of the CEYF was dedicated on this day by the moderator of CSI, Most Rev. I. Jesudasan.

Wiring for three phase electric connection to the church was done under the supervision of Mr. J. D. Stanley.



J. D. Stanley

It was decided that the church would be allowed for gospel revival meetings only if it was sponsored by the Gospel Band of the Church.



D. S. Thomas

Mr. D. S. Thomas made arrangements for a new P. A. system for the church.

Meetings in connection with the 500th birth anniversary of Martin Luther

were held in the church from 6th to 10th November 1983.

Mr. Chelladurai Raja, former deacon passed away on 9th September 1983.

The fancy sale for the year was organised by Dr. Churchin Ben and Mr. Revi Kumar Praseedom as conveners.

1984

During the illness of Mr. Justin S. Jesudason from January to October 1984, the deacons Mr. S. Moses, Mr. C. Ponnen and Mr. A. Johnson served as recording secretaries in the Church committee meetings.



Mrs. S. B. Alfred

Mrs. Sara Benedicta Alfred, wife of Rev. S. Alfred, passed away and a memorial service was held on 11th March 1984, presided over by the bishop Most Rev. I. Jesudason. She was a loving mother who gave active leadership in all activities of the Church, especially in the Women's Fellowship, Sunday school and the Church choir. She has composed songs and translated hymns, some of which have been included in the hymn book that we use in worship services. She was the only daughter of Rev. T. W. Rasalam. Mr. T. Jayakumar Alfred, present Church secretary is her son.

The worship and inaugural functions of the Silver Jubilee celebrations of the South Kerala Diocese were held at the church on 12th August 1984. A souvenir with a detailed history of the diocese was published with Prof. J. M. Stewart as the Chief Editor to mark the event.



S. P. Thomas

A Lamby scooter was purchased for the use of the Assistant Pastor.

Mr. S. P. Thomas donated a typewriter to the church.

Mr. Justin S. Jesudason, Church secretary, passed away on 3rd October 1984. A memorial service was held on 21st October. On 28th October, Mr. Albert Joseph was invited to the Church committee in place of Mr. Justin S. Jesudason as he was the next eligible candidate. Mr. A. Johnson was elected as secretary in his place on the same day.



A. Charles

Mr. A. Charles was elected as the Member of the Parliament. He is closely associated with the activities of our Church.

The proceeds of the Fancy Sale for the year were set apart for construction of family vaults in the cemetery. Dr. Samson Nessiah and Mr. Christopher Ross were Joint Conveners of the sale.

The service of the Bible Woman was terminated in December 1984.

1985

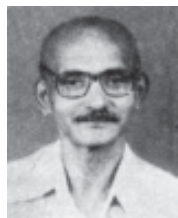
The inaugural meeting of the Unity Octave prayers was held at the church on 18th January 1985.

Miss. Belsy Devadas and Miss. Christina were inducted into the CSI sisterhood at our church on 24th February 1985.

The Church committee decided that weddings in the M. M. Church should be conducted only according to the CSI Liturgy irrespective of the denomination of the parties concerned.

A thanksgiving service was held on 14th February on the 60th birthday of Bishop Jesudason.

An exit gate measuring 12 feet was provided at the north-eastern corner of the church compound.



J. Jepamony

Six cents of land was bought for the Thaliyal Project, in addition to the then existent 3.5 cents. Mr. J. Jepamony, Convener of the



V. Somervel

project along with Mr. and Mrs. V. Somervel did dedicated service to the centre. The Thaliyal Sunday school was renamed as 'S. N. Paul Memorial Sunday School' in memory of Mr. S. Nagamony Paul who initiated the Hindu Sunday school at Thycaud in the early 1900s. 7th July was observed as 'Thaliyal Sunday' and a special cover collection was taken in aid of the project.

It was decided that in future, admission to the M. M. Church on the basis of T. C. should be given only by considering the nearness of the place of residence to the church.

On 13th August, a programme of Christian classical music commemorating the tri-centenary of Bach and Handel was held by the YMCA.

Mrs. Jeevammal White passed away on 31st August 1985. She was the vice president of the Church choir and women's fellowship, and an active member of the YWCA, NMS and HMS.



Jeevammal White

Fancy Sale for the year was organised by Mr. C. Ponnen, convener and Dr. A. N. Thomas, joint convener.

1986



Dr. Samson Nessiah

The 20th Synod of the CSI was held at Trivandrum from 1st to 5th January 1986. The meetings were held in the Polio Home Hall. The food was arranged and served in the TJM Hall for the whole session by the M. M. Church CEYF, under the leadership of Dr. Samson Nessiah.

Pedestal fans were donated to the Church by Mr. A. Jacob Sahayam, Mr. J. D. Stanley, Mrs. Beryl Ebenezer and Dr. Mrs. Padma.



Christenson E. Sarasam

Sarasam, S. R. K. Rasalam, Drs. Samson Nessiah, S. G. Churchin Ben, Mrs. Nirmala Balsalam and Dr. Mrs. Irene Skinner. In the committee meeting held on 27th April 1986, Dr. S. G.

Election of deacons for the triennium from May 1986 was held on 20th April 1986. The deacons elected were, Messrs. M. Wills, G. S. Oliver, N. Yohannan, A. Johnson, T. Jayakumar Alfred, Christenson E.



S. R. K. Rasalam



Dr. S. G. Churchin Ben

Churchin Ben and Mr. M. Wills were elected as Secretary and Accountant respectively. Mrs. Nirmala Balsalam, Mr. Jayakumar Alfred and Mr. N. Yohannan were elected as members to the diocesan council.

Rev. S. Israel was transferred to Quilon CSI Christ Church. Rev. L. John took charge from Rev. S. Israel on 2nd May 1986. A farewell was given to him on 27th April 1986.



Rev. L. John

The public address system of the church was replaced with a new Ahuja sound system consisting of an amplifier, preamplifier and five mikes.

Commissioning service of a missionary to Orissa was conducted by the bishop in our church on 25th May 1986.



C. J. Selvaraj

Missionary activities took a new direction during this year with the powerful messages through missionary stalwarts like Rev. Dr. Theodore Williams and Mr. R. Stanley. Several Church members and associates took

leading role in HMS, NMS, IMS and other missionary movements. The names of Messrs. C. J. Selvaraj, S. Moses, P. Devadas, G. S. Oliver, Edison A.

Edison A.
Sarasam

Sarasam, G..V. Sundaram, S. J. Eliazar and Gnanadas Oliver are worthy of mention.

The ordination service of Mr. D. Jamestone a member of our Church was conducted along with other candidates on 8th June 1986 at 3 p.m.

Dr. Theodore
Williams

In the convention programme conducted by gospel band in our church from 19th to 21st of September 1986, Dr. Theodore Williams was the chief preacher.

As per decision taken on 28th June 1986, Mr. S.P. Christudas was appointed with effect from 1st August 1986 as clerk cum typist.



S. P. Christudas

Fancy sale for the year was conducted on 2nd Saturday of December 1986. The proceeds were utilized for sponsoring a missionary. Mr. C. E. Sarasam was elected as the convener. Messrs Stanley Wilson, Victor E. Joseph, Sunder Singh were its joint conveners.

The 80th Church day was celebrated on 14th December 1986.

1987

On Sunday 22nd February 1987, after the morning service, a theft occurred in the church. The public address system, including the Amplifier, pre amplifier and 6 mikes were stolen. A complaint was preferred to the police with the help of Dy. S. P. Mr. Vijayadas. Consequently, to preserve the available clues for police investigations, the evening service was held in the TJM Hall. Later, an iron safe was purchased and kept in the vestry for keeping the PA system. A new system was purchased to replace the stolen one. Subsequently, the stolen articles were recovered

by the police and they were returned from the court on 18th February 1988.

Mr. M. Wills resigned as accountant on 22nd March 1987 and Mr. S.R.K. Rasalam was elected as new accountant with effect from 1st April 1987.

A special service was conducted in the morning on Independence Day in our church.

Mr. Sunder Jacob was commissioned as IEM missionary on 1st November along with the morning Malayalam service.

The assistant pastors were not members of the Church committee during this period.

In November 1987, a 2KVA generator was purchased for the use of the church.

Mr. R. Stanley of Vellore conducted devotional meetings from 13th to 15th November under the auspices of the Gospel Band.

The 81st Church day was celebrated on 13th December with a special thanksgiving service in the evening.

Messrs. A. Ponniah and Albert Joseph passed away on 28th October 1987. Memorial service was conducted together on 6th December 1987 after the morning service.

Following the demise of the organist Mr. Albert Joseph, the Church committee appointed Mr. S. P. Thomas as organist, under the guidance of Mr. T. Jayakumar Alfred, who was appointed as the choirmaster on 22nd November 1987.

The fancy sale for the year 1987 was conducted on 12th December 1987. Mr. Jayakumar Thomas, Mrs. Sulochana Jesudasan & Mr. G. Larson were the conveners. The fancy sale committee had organized lucky dip officially for the first time.

1988

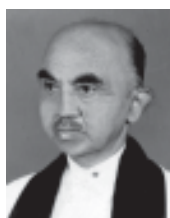
Announcements were made in the church services for getting donations for the reconstruction of Mylaudy church. The church at Mylaudy, Puliyaarakkonam

(Not to be confused with Mylaudi in Tamilnadu, where Rev. W. T. Ringeltaube worked.) was burned down during this period by RSS activists.

Rev. J. Samuel Christudas of the Kanyakumari diocese was appointed for the month of February to conduct Tamil services, as the Tamil pastor Rev. A. Kanakaraj was out of station.

Mr. J. Samuel was appointed as lay city missionary for a period of 3 months from 1st March 1988.

The Church started supporting two missionaries of Ettoornagaram, Mr. Mosa Reddy and Mr. Kripadanam working at Mangapet and Chinaboinaapally respectively from 1st April 1988.



Rev. Ezra
Harris

Rev. Ezra Harris a member of our Church passed away in 1988. He hailed from Paraniyam and served as pastor for a long period in various Churches in our diocese.

On 23rd April 1988, M. Wills, following placement at a distant station resigned and Mr. Revi Kumar Praseedom who was on top of the waiting list was invited to be the deacon.



Revi Kumar
Praseedom



Rev. Sathyaraj

On 25th April 1988, Rev. A. Kanaka Raj, Assistant Pastor was transferred. A send-off meeting was conducted on 24th April 1988. In his place, Rev. Sathyaraj was posted on 25th April 1988.

On June 1988, the Committee granted Rs. 2500 for completing the Housing for the Blind project which was being pursued by the CEYF.

Sunday morning service was started on 2nd October 1988 at Thaliyal project. Mr. E. Balasundara Raj of CSI Irumbil was authorized to conduct the service regularly.

The Church donated funds to Mr. K. Hudson, Sexton for the construction of a house in a plot of land owned by him at Poojappura. The house was completed by him and the house warming was done on 26th October 1988.

The fancy sale of the year was conducted on the 2nd Saturday of December 1988. Messrs. Solomon Jacob, A. Joshua and Mrs. Bell Gnanadas were nominated as conveners. The entire proceeds of the sale was marked for the construction of the proposed Parsonage Complex.

Carol rounds were conducted from 1988 onwards by the Church with the participation of all sub organizations, with the intention of singing in the residences of all members of M. M. Church. Till 1988, the carol rounds were conducted by the members of the CEYF. It was a season of much joy when the youth went for singing carols with one person dressed as Santa Claus and carrying many gifts.

1989

A Hindu Sunday school was started at Lenin Nagar as a subsidiary of the M. M. Church Sunday school.

Election of deacons was conducted on 30th April 1989. The following members were elected as deacons of the Church. Dr. S. G. Churchin Ben, Dr. Samson Nessiah, Messrs. A. Johnson, C.E. Sarasam, G. S. Oliver, N. Yohannan, S.R.K. Rasalam, T. Jayakumar Alfred, Revi Kumar Praseedom, Mrs. Nirmala Balsalam and Dr. Mrs. Irene Skinner. During the committee meeting of 6th May 1989, Dr. S. G. Churchin Ben and Mr. A. Johnson were elected secretary and accountant respectively. Messrs. N. Yohannan, C. E. Sarasam and Mrs. Nirmala Balsalam were elected as Diocesan Council representatives.

Send-off was given to Rev. L. John on 28th May 1989 who was retiring on 31st May 1989.

Rev. J. D. Solomon took charge as pastor on 1st June 1989.

A third worship service was started on all Sundays at 10 a.m. in Malayalam from 6th August 1989 onwards to tide over the accommodation problem experienced in the 8 a.m. service. A communion service was also started along with the regular English service being held on the first Sunday evenings of the month.



Bimal Roy
Ponnen

Mr. Bimal Roy Ponnen was nominated as deacon by the bishop to represent the minorities on 16th July 1989. He joined the diaconate on 20th August 1989.

Following the suggestion of the general body of 16th July 1989, the third service (in Malayalam) on Sundays, held after the 8 a.m. Malayalam service was converted to English service.

Mr. J. T. Sam was appointed as city missionary and Mrs. Vilasini was appointed as Bible woman of the M. M. Church from 1st September 1989.



Mrs. Vilasini



Rev. John
Jayaraj

As per decision taken on 16th July 1989, Rev. John Jayaraj was posted as second assistant pastor. He joined duty on 1st September 1989.

Mr. G. Sivanandan from Manchadi HMS Church, Malayinkeezhu was appointed as church attendant on 17th September 1989.



G. Sivanandan

On 31st October 1989, the Church committee decided that the Church accountant be the ex-officio convener along with other convener(s) of the fancy sale, to be in charge of accounts and for follow-up collections after the sale.

The two assistant pastors were invited to attend the Church committee from November 1989 onwards after a lapse of a few months.

Regular Sunday evening Malayalam service on all Sundays at 5 p.m. was started on 3rd December 1989. Communion service also started, on the fourth Sunday of the month, in the evening from December 1989.

The CEYF started a Sunday school at Chengalchoola from 26th November 1989 at the residence of Mr. Krishnan Kutty.

A send-off was given to the Bishop Most Rev. Dr. I Jesudasan (who was retiring) on 10th December 1989, Sunday after the morning Malayalam service.



1990

Foundation stone was laid for M. M. Church parsonage complex on 14th February 1990 at 8.30 a.m. by our Bishop Most. Rev. Dr. I. Jesudasan.

Renowned evangelist Richard Wurmbrand visited our church and special meetings were held.



Richard Wurmbrand



Rt. Rev. Samuel
Amirtham

Bishop Rt. Rev. Samuel Amirtham was consecrated and installed as Bishop of the SKD on 20th May 1990 at a function held in the Wills Hostel compound. Bishop Rt. Rev. Sam Amirtham was invited to our church and given a reception on 27th May

1990 at the Sunday morning combined service at 8.30 a.m. A tea party was arranged immediately after the service to felicitate him.

Mrs. Nirmala Balsalam donated a cyclostyling machine in memory of her mother late Mrs. Elizabeth Devasikhamoni, former deaconess.

Dr. Mrs. Irene Skinner passed away on 13th May 1990. Mr. Edwin Percy Bhanu former deacon passed away in June 1990. A memorial service was held to remember their services on 10th June after the Malayalam Service. Mrs. Sulochana Jesudasan who stood first in the waiting list was invited to join the diaconate on 27th May 1990 in place of Dr. Mrs. Irene Skinner.



Jose Sundaram

A Malayalam service was started at 6 a.m. in the morning from 1st August 1990. Rev. J. Jayaraj was entrusted with the responsibility of conducting the new service. Mr. Jose Sundaram was the organist in charge of the new service.

The Church committee decided on 22nd July 1990 to convene a co-ordination committee of the secretaries of various sub organizations of the Church along with Church office bearers once in 3 months.

The Church hosted lunch for the members of the September 1990 Diocesan Council meeting of South Kerala Diocese costing Rs. 5000 based on the request of the bishop.

It was decided on 21st October 1990 to have prayer meeting of all pastors, staff, bible woman and city missionary on every Monday at 9.30 a.m. in the church office.

A memorial service was conducted immediately after the morning 8 a.m. Malayalam service in our church on 18th November 1990 in honour of late Rev. A. Isaac who expired on 12th October 1990.

Fancy sale was organized on 8th December Saturday 1990. Income was earmarked to parsonage complex. The following persons were the conveners Mr. A. Johnson (Accountant) Mrs. Nirmala Balsalam, Dr. V. S. Sugunan and Messrs. Winston I. Paul and Prasanth.

The Church day 1990 was celebrated on Sunday the 9th December by having a combined service in the morning at 8.30 a.m. Bishop Samuel Amirtham was the principal celebrant. A missionary was commissioned by the bishop.

1991

Rev. M. Rossbury, retired pastor who worked in our Church as evangelist from 1949 to 1953 and as pastor in 1970-'71, was appointed as worker at Thaliyal with effect from 17th March 1991.

Rev. J. D. Solomon was transferred on 1st June 1991 and Rev. G. Robinson was posted as honorary, senior presbyter-in-charge on the same day. A send-off meeting was organized to honour Rev. J. D. Solomon on 26th May 1991 soon after the Malayalam service.



G. Wilson

Mr. G. Wilson of Malamukal CSI was appointed as night watchman with effect from 1st August 1991 on daily wages.

Worship commenced at the John Dharmatheerthar Memorial Church, CSI, Karakulam on 8th December 1991 in commemoration of 85th Church Day of



Dharmatheerthar Memorial Church, Karakulam

M. M. Church. The land and building were donated to the M. M. Church by Mr. N. Samuel.

Fancy sale was conducted on the 2nd Saturday of December. Messrs. Austin Thomas, Robinson & A. Johnson (Accountant) were the conveners.



N. Samuel

1992



E. Jairus

Mr. E. Jairus, Nanthencode Bains Compound was appointed as our City Voluntary Missionary for the Karakulam Project with effect from 1st June 1992. Mr. J. T. Sam took up the full time assignment at Plamoodu.



Rev. D. Jesudas

As Rev. G. Robinson was transferred, a send-off was given to him on 31st May 1992 immediately after the 8 a.m. service. Rev. D. Jesudas became presbyter-in-charge on 1st June 1992.



Gnanadas Oliver

Election of deacons was held on 3rd May 1992. The following persons were elected as deacons. Dr. Samson Nessiah, Dr. S. G. Churchin Ben, Messrs. A. Johnson, Christenson E. Sarasam, S.R.K. Rasalam, Revi Kumar Praseedom, Gnanadas Oliver, T. Jayakumar Alfred, N. Yohannan, Mrs. Nirmala Balsalam and Mrs. Sulochana Jesudasan. Dr. Churchin Ben and A. Johnson were elected as secretary and accountant respectively on the 6th of May 1992. Dr. Churchin Ben, Messrs. N. Yohannan and Christenson E. Sarasam were elected to the Diocesan council on the same day.



Rev. V. E. Russel

Mr. L. Jayan, member, CSI Aruvikkara was appointed as clerk-cum-accountant with effect from 1st October 1992.

Rev. V. E. Russel, a retired pastor was appointed as a fulltime church

worker for the city mission, based at the John Dharmatheerthar Memorial Church at Karakulam.

Fancy sale was conducted on the 2nd Saturday of December 1992. Mr. Sam Nathaniel was the convener and Mr. Robert Singh and Mr. Sam Moses were joint conveners.

Church Day of the year 1992 was conducted on Sunday, 6th December 1992.

1993

On 21st February 1993, the Church committee decided not to permit the conduct of any meetings except the Church committee in the church office. It was also decided to strictly restrict the opening and usage of the office with the control of the pastor, clerk, secretary or the accountant only.

A farewell meeting was organised immediately after the 8 a.m. service to give send-



Dr. Sajith Edwin

off to Rev. J. Jayaraj and Rev. Sathyaraj who were transferred from our church. Rev. Sam G. Joseph and Rev. V. P. M. Jaipaul were posted in their place in May 1993.



Mrs. Elizabeth George

The bishop nominated Dr. John Sajith Edwin and Mrs. Elizabeth George as deacons into the diaconate on 20th June 1993.



J.T. Sam

Mr. J. T. Sam resigned as city missionary since he was selected to be ordained as pastor. Mr. Mohan Raj, Sunday school teacher at the Plamoodu mission centre was authorised to conduct the worship and Sunday school there. Mr. Jayakumar Jacob was appointed as the new city missionary with effect from 1st November 1993.



Jayakumar Jacob

TJM Hall

On 1st January 1986, the Church committee had authorised to revise the records pertaining to the TJM Hall to stake our claim for the same.

In December 1993, the diocesan authorities laid the foundation stone for the 'Vedamanickom Ringeltaube Dalit Resource Centre' adjacent to the foundation stone of the TJM Hall laid by Rt. Rev. A. H. Legg, without the concurrence or knowledge of the Church committee. It was the action of some of our youth, on the morning of the fancy sale, that alerted the Church to the seriousness of the situation.

As this was a violation of the ownership rights of the Church, and as the proposed building, was meant among other things for providing lodging for individuals, and will affect adversely the functioning of the Church, the Church marked their protest to the diocesan authorities.

The Triple Jubilee Memorial Hall Perpetuation Committee, with Prof. Ross Chandran as convenor and 14 members, was formed in 9th January 1994 to regain exclusive and direct control of the TJM Hall and consultations were made with the bishop and the diocese.

In amendment to the resolution of the M. M. Church committee dated 18th July 1945, the Church meeting of 14th August 1994 decided "...that the M. M. Church Hall till now known as TJM Hall shall forthwith be called the Triple Jubilee Memorial M. M. Church Hall." Following the resignation of Prof. Ross Chandran, Mr. Sam Moses was appointed as convener of the Perpetuation Committee on 18th June 1995 and the committee functioned effectively to regain the hall.

Due to the continued apathy of the diocese and lack of progress in finding a solution, the Church decided to stage a demonstration before the diocesan council scheduled on 2nd and 3rd of October 1995. This was later cancelled following the assurance given by the bishop during the emergency discussions that ensued with the then Church secretary.

Following negotiations, draft proposals regarding the management of the TJM Hall, was prepared after discussions by the TJM Hall perpetuation committee and the diocesan solution finding committee. This was placed in the general body on 10th March 1995 and was approved.

The day-to-day management was left to M. M. Church, with administration shared by the diocese and the M. M. Church by a management committee comprising of 5 members of the diocese and 6 members from the Church. The collections from the hall belong to M. M. Church, subject to 40% of the net income as levy to the diocese.

The Church is indebted to the then bishop for his role in the amicable settlement of the issue and for the restoration of the church hall under the full control of the M. M. Church.

1994

Our diocese celebrated 60th birth day of our Bishop, Rt. Rev. Dr. Samuel Amirtham. A souvenir was released on the occasion.

Mrs. Nirmala Balsalam, was given charge as accountant in the absence of Mr. A. Johnson due to illness.

Fancy sale was conducted on the Saturday, 11th of December 1993. Dr. Sajith Edwin and Mr. Solomon Jacob were nominated as conveners of the 1993 fancy sale.

Following a unilateral attempt by the diocese to take over and alter the T.J.M Hall, the Church started efforts to retain its ownership of the hall and to regain full control over it.

The Church committee decided on 16th January 1994 to have the English Service at 11 a.m. on the day of General Body and at 9.45 a.m. on other Sundays.

It was decided to follow the new *pro forma* for Sanghom collection as suggested by Mr. Christopher Ross in which the record of payment of sangam for the three years in a triennium is written side by side on the same page, thereby making the preparation of voter's list easier.

Mr. A. Johnson, deacon, former secretary and accountant passed away on 29th July 1994. A memorial service was organized in his honour on Sunday 18th September 1994 after the morning

service at 8 a.m. Prof. J. M. Stewart spoke on the occasion, apart from the representatives of various Church organisations. Mr. C. Ponnen was invited as deacon in his place as he stood on top of the waiting list on 29th August 1994.

Mr. E. Jairus was permitted to work as a volunteer at the Plamoodu city mission area and it was decided to have one of the pastors conduct the services on Sundays.

It was resolved to appoint a paid organist for Thursday service, convention, marriage etc. when the service of the voluntary organists is not available.



Most Rev.
Dr. Benedict Mar
Gregorios

In amendment to the resolution of the M. M. Church committee dated 18th July 1945, the Church committee of 29th August 1994 decided "...that the M. M. Church Hall till now known as TJM Hall shall forthwith be called the Triple Jubilee Memorial M. M. Church Hall."

The United Christian Movement of Trivandrum conducted a memorial service in our church for Archbishop Benedict Mar Gregorios of the Malankara Syrian Catholic Church who passed away on 10th October 1994.

The income from Fancy Sale 1994 was earmarked for the family vault construction. Messrs. V. Justin and Noble Albin were nominated as conveners of this year's fancy sale.

Church Day was observed on 11th December 1994 as a combined worship service.

1995

Mr. G. S. Oliver, former deacon for the past 30 years passed away on 28th December 1994. A memorial service was conducted on 29th January 1995. The secretary Dr. S. G. Churchin Ben, Mr.

N. Yohanan and Rev. D. Jesudas spoke on the occasion.

Based on the report of the pastor that election could not be conducted for the CEYF till then, the Church committee dissolved the 1994 committee and formed an adhoc committee for CEYF on 5th March 1995 after the 8 a.m. service. The ad hoc committee was formed with following senior members in the committee.

Convener: Stanley Wilson, Accountant: Jossy Ray,
Members : Shiji Stanly, J. Premchand



Charlet Bai
Robert Singh

Pastor-in-charge: Rev. V. P. M. Jaipaul, Deacon Representative: Dr. Sajith Edwin.

Rev. Fr. Joseph Samuel Karukayil was the main speaker for 1995 Church convention.

The election of deacons for the triennium starting from May 1995 was held in the general body meeting of 30th April 1995. The elected deacons were Drs. Samson Nessiah, S. G. Churchin Ben, Messrs. Christenson E. Sarasam, Solomon Jacob, Jayakumar Alfred, N. Yohannan, Noble Albin, Gnanadas Oliver, Mrs. Nirmala Balsalam, Mrs. Charlet Bai Robert Singh and Mrs. Sulochana Jesudhasan. Dr. Samson Nessiah and Mr. Noble Albin were elected as the secretary and accountant respectively on 6th May 1995. The diocesan council members elected were Dr. S. G. Churchin Ben, Mr. Christenson E. Sarasam and Mr. T. Jayakumar Alfred.



Solomon Jacob

The announcement of names and offering special prayers in the Sunday service, for members who were celebrating their birthdays during the week was started. Birthday house-visits and prayers were also resumed by the pastors.



D. Wilson

It was proposed to buy land at the Plamoodu Mission centre for the construction of the church and three groups were formed under the leadership of the three pastors for raising funds. An advance of Rs. 20,000 was given to the owner of the land to be purchased for the Plamoodu Mission Project. The area of the land was 2 cents and 400 sq links and was purchased at Rs. 1.5 lakhs per cent. The development of the project was mainly by the efforts of Mr. D. Wilson as convenor. From its initiation he built up the centre by his constant presence and encouragement in the mission area.

Standing committees were constituted, each consisting of two deacons, for the oversight of finance, cemetery development, building repairs, gardening, statistics, electrical and public address systems, register maintenance and educational aid with powers to co-opt additional members as and when necessary.

Following the proposal by a member that the general body minutes be written in Malayalam, the general body resolved that the minutes should be recorded in English only.

Mr. N. Yohanan completed thirty years as deacon in 1995 thereby earning the title, 'lifelong deacon.'

The six circles of the Church namely Nanthencode, Kawdiar, Palayam, Thycaud, Pattom and Kesavadasapuram were allotted two each to the pastors to cater to spiritual and pastoral needs and to make regular house visits. The administrative responsibility of all the circles was with the main pastor.

The former deacon Mr. Revi Kumar Praseedom passed away on 23rd June 1995. A memorial service was held on 13th August after the morning Malayalam service. Rev. D. Jesudas, Mr. Solomon Jacob, Dr. Samson Nessim spoke on the occasion.

The extension of the cemetery vault (originally constructed in 1983) was done at an estimated cost Rs. 95,000.

The CSI Church at Myladumpara was named as N. Samuel Memorial Church. The church at Karakulam, John Dharmatheerthar Memorial Church, handed over to us by Mr. N. Samuel, was formally transferred to the diocese on 22nd October 1995.



Dr. N. Balsalam

Dr. N. Balsalam donated Rs. 10,000 towards the purchase of public address system for the cemetery chapel in memory of Mr. Samuel Devasikhamony and Mrs. Elizabeth Devasikhamony, parents of Mrs. Nirmala Balsalam.

Rev. J. T. Sam, former city missionary of our Church was ordained on 27th August 1995. The Church felicitated him during the Sunday 8 a.m. service, on 15th October in this regard.

The Chenkalchoola Sunday school was conducted at "Auburn", the house at Meads Lane donated by the family of Lt. Col. William Samuel Rasalam.

Mr. Winfer E. Jose and family instituted an endowment fund "Medical Aid for the poor" for a sum of Rs. 50,000.

The Church committee put on record their appreciation of the CEYF for collecting Rs. 20,000 for the Velloorkonam Church Building fund.

The fancy sale for the year was held on second Saturday the 9th December. Messrs. Noble Albin and David Sugunakumar were the conveners and Mr C. Vijayakumar the joint convener. The proceeds of the sale were set apart for the Plamoodu Mission Project.

A combined thanksgiving service was held on Sunday, 10th December 1995 at 8.30am for celebrating the Church day.

1996



D. Devakumar

Two more tiers of vaults were constructed over the newly extended vaults.

Mr. D. Devakumar was appointed as paid organist to play the organ during Thursday services, evening services and on occasions when the other organists are not available.

Based on the direction from CSI Council for Mission and Evangelism, a door collection was taken on 5th January 1996 for the people of Jaffna diocese suffering under the long civil war.

Permission for decorating the church for marriage services was granted on condition that there will be no tampering with the wall or furniture.

A common file for announcements was introduced for use in all services, and the pastors were encouraged to meet on Saturday evening to discuss the next day's announcements.



Dr. L. A. Rasalam

Dr. Livingstone Ajit Rasalam donated Rs. 35,000 for improving the public address system of the church.

It was proposed to build a two storied building for the Plamoodu project. Mr. Gnanadas Oliver was appointed as the convener for preparing the plan and estimate.

Mr. E. J. Benedict was temporarily appointed as paid organist, as Mr. Devakumar, the paid organist was on leave following an accident.

Mr. Jayakumar Jacob was appointed temporarily as city missionary on contract basis.



E.J. Benedict



Luke Vinod Titus

The commissioning service of Mr. Luke Vinod Titus of the Indian Evangelical Mission was held on Easter day, the 7th April 1996 along with the 8 a.m. Malayalam service. He is serving the IEM as missionary in Kulu, Himachal Pradesh.

It was decided to hold the committee meetings regularly at 11a.m. on all 3rd Sundays of the month.

As the term of Rev. D. Jesudasan was getting over, it was decided to give him a send-off on Sunday the 28th April at 9 a.m. after the Malayalam service. He was transferred and on 3rd May 1996, Rev. K. G. Varghese took charge as Pastor of M. M. Church.



Rev. K. G. Varghese



S. Moksakhan

Mr. Mokshakkan sponsored a cross and platform in the name of his daughter Miss. Dayarani on the south western corner of the church compound. The cross and platform was opened by the bishop Most Rev. I. Jesudason on 6th October 1996.

In October 1996, Mr. P. James a new FMPB missionary was sponsored by our Church.



Cross Platform Dedication

The construction work of the first phase of the parsonage complex, including the entire foundation and four parsonages, was started.



Sajeev L. R

Mr. L. R. Sajeev was appointed as honorary accounts clerk in place of Mr. Jayan who resigned on 19th May 1996. In September, Mr. C. T. John was appointed on daily wages and later confirmed as the accounts clerk of the church office.



C. T. John

Mr. S. Moses, former deacon and Church secretary, passed away on 20th October 1996. A memorial service was held on 1st December after the 8 a.m. service.

Mr. S. P. Thomas donated 15 Malayalam Hymnals with Tonic-sol-fa notation to the church choir.

The income from the Fancy Sale of the year was earmarked for the development of the TJM Hall. Mr. Robert Singh was the convener and Mr. Immanuel Henry the joint convener.

On 15th December, a love-feast was held for the first time on our Church Day after the combined morning thanksgiving service. Rev. V. P. M. Jaipaul, Dr. Samson Nessiah and Dr. Churchin Ben were the conveners.

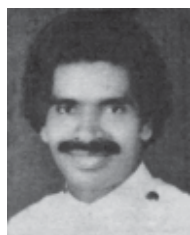
1997

At the request of Dr. Sugunan K. Das, the KJM Hall was given on week days for dawn prayer (6 a.m.).

Rev. V. P. M. Jaipaul was transferred to CSI Venganoor and Rev. P. Mathias was appointed as Assistant pastor from 1st June 1997.



Dr. Sugunan
K. Das



Rev. P. Mathias

A send-off was given to Rev. V.P.M. Jaipaul on Sunday 1st June after the 8 a.m. service.

Prof. P. G. Edwin, former deacon passed away on 8th July 1997. A memorial service was held on 17th August after the 8 a.m. service.

Following the retirement of Bishop Samuel Amirtham, Rt. Rev. J. W. Gladstone was consecrated and installed as bishop of the diocese on 16th September 1997 in our church.

A cassette titled "I know He is mine" produced by Mr. E. J. Benedict was released in the 8 a.m. service on 28th September 1997.

For the first time, "Year End Prayer" was started at the houses of elderly and chronically ill persons.

Dr. S. Jones, a well known scientist, our member and hon. director of the Polio Home died on 9th June 1997. He was a man of vision. In spite of his Polio induced disabilities, he built a "sanctuary" for the handicapped children and was a father-figure and role model for them.



Stanley Wilson

The general body accepted the proposal put forward by Mr. Stanley Wilson and decided to hold the Church Days thenceforth on the first Sunday in December.

It was resolved to utilise the services of all three pastors for all the worship services in rotation.

Our church choir won the Bishop Seth Memorial Trophy at the Bishop Seth Memorial Choir Festival at Kozhikode.



Mr. S. P. Thomas receiving the trophy from Bishop Seth Amma and the choir with Rev. K. G. Varghese



Martin Daniel

The fancy sale for the year was held on 13th December, Messrs. Sen Edwin and Noble Albin were the conveners and Mr. Premchand Johnson and Mr. Martin Daniel were joint conveners.

The Christmas Eve service was made more attractive by including family singing. Singing of carols was arranged in the platform in front of the church from 5 p.m.

Mr. Jayakumar Alfred resigned as choirmaster on 28th December 1997.

1998

Mr. S. P. Thomas was appointed as Choir Co-ordinator on 18th January 1998, in place of Mr. T. Jayakumar Alfred who had resigned.

Mr. Solomon Jacob resigned as deacon on 15th March 1998 as he was going abroad.

The Church stopped its missionary support to the NMS from June 1998 due to certain undesirable developments in the NMS headquarters.

Rev. Sam G. Joseph was transferred on 30th April 1998. Rev. J. Lawrence took charge as Assistant Pastor on 1st May 1998. Rev. Sam G. Joseph was given a send-off on 26th April after the 8 a.m. service.



Rev. J. Lawrence

Following the constitutional amendment to include reservation of 2 seats for youth representatives, from this year onwards, 2 youths (age between 21 years and 35 years) were included in the diaconate.



M. Sam Moses

During the triennial elections, held on 3rd May 1998, Drs. Samson Nessiah, Churchin Ben, Messrs. Noble Albin, Christenson E. Sarasam, T. Jayakumar Alfred, M. Sam Moses, C. Ponnen, Premchand Johnson, Sen Edwin, Mrs. Charlet Bai and Mrs. Nirmala Balsalam were elected as deacons. In the subsequent Church committee meeting on 10th May 1998, Dr. Samson Nessiah and Mr. Noble Albin were



Premchand Johnson



Sen Edwin

elected as Secretary and Accountant respectively. Messrs. C. E. Sarasam, M. Sam Moses and Mrs. Charlet Bai were elected as Diocesan Council representatives. Mr. N. Yohannan was the permanent invitee in the diaconate following his designation as lifelong deacon.

As the need for proper regulations defining the duties and responsibilities of the Choir Co-ordinator and Choir Secretary arose, on 19th June 1998 the Church secretary and the choir secretary were authorised to draft the required regulations by the Church committee. Later, on 19th March 2000 the

Church committee constituted a subcommittee consisting of deacon representatives of the choir and Mr. T. Jayakumar Alfred, with Mr. Sam Moses as convenor to prepare draft bye-laws for the church choir. Later Mrs. Charlet Bai Robert Singh, Messrs. A. Livingstone and S.P. Thomas also served in the committee. (Even though separate office bearers were elected for the smooth functioning of the large choir, as the choir was not a sub-organisation, and is a part of the Church which is directly under the Church committee, no bye-laws or constitution existed). The draft bye-laws were discussed and edited by the choir general body, following which the Church general body held on 8th July 2001 approved the bye-laws.

For the first time, a Remembrance Day was observed on 1st November 1998, with a prayer meeting in the cemetery chapel. The Remembrance Day was proposed to be conducted every year to encourage the members of the congregation to come together at the cemetery to remember and to give thanks for the lives of their departed loved ones. It also provided an occasion for the maintenance and cleaning of the tombs. The date of the Remembrance Day was set as the 1st Sunday in November. To avoid the identification of the Remembrance Day with the All Soul's Day celebrated on 2nd November by the Roman Catholic Church, it was proposed that if in a year the All Soul's Day happens to be on the 1st Sunday, on that year, the Remembrance Day shall be on the 2nd Sunday of November.

Mr. C. T. John was appointed as clerk in the M. M. Church office, on 1st April 1998.

Three lecterns were made, one each for the KJM Hall, TJM Hall and the cemetery chapel.

The annual fancy sale was conducted on 14th November 1998, contrary to the norm of holding it in December. Mr Gnanadas Oliver was the general convener and Messrs. A. Joshua, Noble Albin and

Sajan Samson, were the conveners. The income from the sale was earmarked for the completion of the parsonage complex.

1999

Rev. J. D. Solomon started a “holistic healing ministry” with the active participation of our Church members and financial support from the church. The first meeting was in the form of a consultation meeting with 35 interested members of the Church, held on Sunday 17th January 1999, after the morning services.

Dr. Livingstone Ajit Rasalam donated a sum of Rs. 50,000 for the construction of a kitchen for the TJM Hall, in memory of Rev. T. W. Rasalam.



Auburn

‘Auburn’, a building in Meads Lane was donated to our Church by the family of Lt. Col. Sam W. Rasalam. It was used for meetings of the city mission centres.

Two parsonages, the construction of which had been completed in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Devasikhamony and Mr. and Mrs. G. S. Oliver, were



dedicated by Bishop Gladstone on 14th February 1999 after the morning service and occupied by Rev. K. G. Varghese and

**S. Devasikhamani and
Elizabeth Devasikhamani
Memorial Parsonage**

**G. S. Oliver and Daisy Oliver
Memorial Parsonage**

Rev. P. Mathias. In the interim, Mrs. & Mr. Benjamin spared their house at Plamoodu for use as a parsonage.



Parsonage Complex

On 1st May 1999, Rev. Ben Gladstone took charge as pastor of the Church following the transfer of Rev. K. G. Varghese.



Rev. Ben Gladstone



Rev. Vinod Victor

Two Church members, Messrs. Bimal Roy Ponnen and Vinod Victor, were ordained on 30th May 1999. They were felicitated on 27th June 1999.

Mr. A. Livingstone was appointed as honorary Church librarian for the reorganisation of the parish library.



A. Livingstone

Duplex EPABX system was installed in the parsonages. This was withdrawn in 2000.



D. Stanley

A hymn book and order of service in English was prepared at the initiative of Rev. J. Lawrence, Mr. A. Livingstone and Mr. S. P. Thomas. Dr. D. Stanley



Joyce Dharma Roy

sponsored the printing of the first edition in memory of his mother Mrs. Joyce Dharma Roy.

Mr. C. Ponnen, deacon passed away on 31st October 1999. A memorial service was held in his honour on Sunday, 14th November 1999 after the service. Other notable persons who passed away include Mrs. Kamala Gainneos, a leading member of the women's fellowship and a contributor of articles to the Christavadeepika, and Mr. G. V. Sundaram, who was active in the YMCA, Toc-H and Indian Christian Association. He was the class teacher of the senior classes in Sunday school for a long time and also a leader in the VBS.



G. V. Sundaram



Kamala Gainneos

A twin toilet, generator room and store room for the TJM Hall were constructed in the TJM Hall compound.

Dr. Ebenezer Jaganath Dev donated an electronic organ (portable) for use in the church, in memory of his father Mr. S. J. Eliazer.



S. J. Eliazer

Fancy sale for the year was conducted on 13th November. Messrs. A. Livingstone, Sam D. Alex, S. Isen and Noble Albin were the conveners.

2000

Initial steps were taken towards preparation of a new family register as revised on 1st January 2000, even while safely maintaining the earlier registers. Work for a Church directory was also started.

Rev. J. Lawrence proceeded to the USA on an assignment after serving till 30th January. Rev. N. B. Gladstone Robert was posted on 1st

April 2000 in place of Rev. J. Lawrence. In the interim, Rev. J. D. Solomon helped in the conduct of the English service.



Rev. N. B. Gladstone Robert

Mr. Peter Jacob John was nominated to the Church committee on 23rd January 2000, in place of late Mr. C. Ponnen.



N. P. Morris over as manager from 20th February 2000.

Mr. N. P. Morris, resigned from the post of TJM Hall Manager on 23rd January. He had been working as manager ever since the M. M. Church was given full control of the TJM Hall. Mr. Noble Albin took



Jagadas Memorial CSI Church

Kavadithalakkal Church was accepted as a project of M. M. Church in 2000. Later, the new church named Jagadas Memorial CSI Church, was dedicated on 26th October 2003 by the bishop. It was built mainly by the donations of Mrs. Santhakumari Jagadas and children. Mr. D. Jagadas was a member of our Church and was sincerely involved in evangelistic works during his free time. He passed away in his early fifties in October 1998. The Project was initiated and was taken up by the convenor Mr. Robert Singh and Mrs. Charlet Bai Robert Singh.



D. Jagadas



A. Gunamony Memorial Church



A. Gunamony

The Balavan Nagar, Manacaud project of the city mission was developed as the “A. Gunamony Memorial Church Project”. The fellowship that started in the house of Mr. Devarajan gradually grew to the formation of the Church.

The members of the family of the late Mr. A. Gunamony, particularly, Mr. and Mrs. Etty Darwin took the lead and bought 14 cents of land for the project. Rev. P. Mathias laid the foundation stone for the Church on 28th November 2000. Dr. Samson Nessiah was the secretary and Mr. Robert Singh was the convenor of the project. The church was dedicated on 23rd September 2001 by Bishop Rt. Rev. Dr. J. W. Gladstone. The bell and tower was donated by Mr. Mokshakan. Other needs like lights etc., were donated by Mr. J. D. Stanley and Mr. Selvaraj among others. The church was handed over to the diocese and Rev. P. Mathias was appointed as its first pastor. Mr. A. Gunamony in whose name the church was built, was one of the leaders and the treasurer of the former South Travancore Diocese. He was an Income Tax Commissioner in the former Travancore State.



Mr. Etty Darwin and Mrs. Sereny Darwin

The Lenin Nagar Church was also dedicated on 5th of March.

Mr. M. Johnson, sexton, who attained superannuation on 8th September 1999 had his services extended till 31st March 2000. Mr. K. Hudson was selected as sexton to replace Mr. M. Johnson.

The third parsonage, Dr. J. E. Rasalam Memorial parsonage, was dedicated by our bishop on 14th July.

**Dr. John Edward Rasalam
Memorial Parsonage**

Rev. Dr. Russell Chandran, one of our members, an international authority in Theology and the former Dean and Principal of the United Theological College, Bangalore passed away on 27th September 2000. He is the son of Mr. D. Joshua & Mrs. Muthammal Joshua of Muttada who were the back bone of our Sunday school for a long period in the 1950s and



Rev. Dr. Russell Chandran

1960s. They led the Tamil section of the Sunday school which had more than 200 children on the rolls. Rev. Dr. Russell Chandran was the eldest brother of Prof. Ross Chandran, Retd.



Mr. D. Joshua & Mrs. Muthammal Joshua



Prof. Ross Chandran

Principal, Christian College Kattakkada and Mr. Bose Chandran who had served as organist for a short period in our Church.

The Lenin Nagar Church building was expanded and named ‘City Mission CSI Church, Lenin Nagar’.

The Church committee decided that their members nominated to various sub-organisations (deacon

representatives) will be eligible to participate in the respective general body meetings, without voting rights.



P. Devadas

Mr. P. Devadas, former Treasurer of the Diocese and Convenor of Monitoring Committee of the construction of the parsonage complex passed away in 2001. He had served the Kerala Government as Deputy Director, National Employment Service

and was much praised for his sincerity and integrity. As the Treasurer of the Diocese he was able to bring about considerable financial progress to the diocese. He was always pleasant, calm and quite unassuming.

Separate telephone connections were provided to the parsonages withdrawing the EPABX facility.

A proposal was made for marble flooring of the church and was rejected by the general body.

Railings were fixed on one entrance each on the east and west of the church for the use of the elderly.

Fancy sale for the year was conducted on the second Saturday of November. The general body also decided to hold the fancy sale in November during every year in future. The general convener was Dr. S. G. Churchin Ben, conveners were Mr. Noble Albin and Mr. Sam Moses, and Joint Conveners Messrs. Praveen Clement, Jothi Sathianess Jaichand Johnson and D. Suresh.

A chapel was constructed in the parsonage complex sponsored by Mr. Neil Jones and named "Jones and Marina Jones Hall." It was dedicated on 24th December 2000 by Rev. Ben Gladstone. The Church is grateful to Mr. Neil Jones and family who donated Rs. 5 Lakhs



Mr. & Mrs. Joshua Jones



for the construction and to all those who paid for the memorial tablets installed inside the hall. Mr. Joshua Jones and Marina Jones are the parents of Mr. Neil Jones, Paruthipara.

2001

Morning worship was started on Sundays at 9.30 a.m. from 11th February 2001 at the Auburn, for the Chengalchoola mission field.

The building for the Plamood City mission was completed on 13th February 2001 under the guidance of Mr. M. Sam Moses and Mr. L. Nesayyan. The building was dedicated on 22nd April 2001 by Rt. Rev. Dr. J. W. Gladstone.



L. Nesayyan



City Mission Church, Plamoodu



Stanley Sathyanesan

Mr. Stanley Sathyanesan, former Mayor of Trivandrum and an eminent member of our Church passed away. He was the younger son of Mr. A. N. Sathyanesan, a former deacon and renowned journalist who owned the daily newspaper 'Bharathi'. Mr. Stanley was highly respected in social and political fields. His wife Mrs. Molly Stanley is very much involved in all Church activities.

The maintenance, upgradation and operation of the public address system of the church was entrusted with Mr. Bennet Thompson. He does his job voluntarily and has won the appreciation of all. The hanging system of mike holders which can hold a few microphones together was donated by Mr. J. D. Stanley and render greater effect to the singing of the choir.



Bennet Thompson

The centenary celebration of the HMS was conducted on 22nd March 2001 at the M. M. Church.

The building for our Parish Library, "S. Moses Memorial Parish Library and Reading Room" was donated in memory of Mr. S. Moses, former deacon and secretary by his children. It was dedicated by Bishop Rt. Rev. Dr. J. W. Gladstone on 22nd April 2001. The library building was designed and built by engineer Mr. Jaju Jacobs. On this

occasion we remember one of the donors, the late Mr. Sam Justin Moses, son of Mr. S. Moses. Mr.

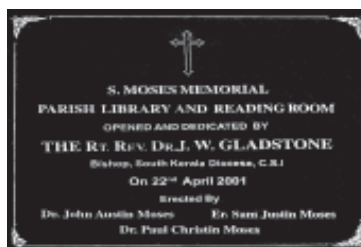


Jaju Jacobs

Sam Justin Moses was in the forefront of Church activities while he was in Trivandrum. He served the Church as Secretary of the Christian Endeavour Society, teacher in Sunday school, committee member of the Church Choir, convener of Fancy Sale, etc. He was a pioneer member of the Trivandrum Male Voices also. He had donated two book shelves and some books to the library. Dr. Paul Christian



Sam Justin Moses



Moses (England) another son of the late Mr. S. Moses is always in touch with the activities of the library and supports it. A computer was also donated by them.

As per an amendment of the constitution, one seat in the diaconate was reserved for members from the unrepresented class(es).



Rajesh Kumar Praseedom

The election of deacons for the ensuing triennium was held on 6th May 2001. The members of the diaconate elected were, Dr. S. G. Churchin Ben, Messrs. C. E. Sarasam, Gnanadas Oliver, T. Jayakumar Alfred, Sam

Moses, Noble Albin, Victor E. Joseph (unrepresented class representative), Rajesh Kumar Praseedom and Sen Edwin (youth representatives), Mrs. Charlet Bai and Mrs. Saleena Bai Johnson



Saleena Bai Johnson



Victor E. Joseph

(women representatives). N. Yohanam, invitee. In the committee meeting of the new diaconate held on 13th May 2001, Mr. T. Jayakumar Alfred and Mr. Noble Albin were elected as Secretary and Accountant

respectively. In the same committee, Mr. C. E. Sarasam, Mr. Sam Moses and Mrs. Saleena Bai were elected as diocesan council members.

A tree which stood on the western border of the cemetery fell on 8th May 2001 causing much damage to some of the tombs. Mr. M. Vijayakumar, MLA and PWD/Tourism officials visited the cemetery on 1st June 2001. Realizing the deplorable condition of the cemetery compound and the damaged tombs, PWD/Tourism officials ordered to cut and remove the fallen tree and also the other living trees in the Cemetery border that were dangerously overhanging the chapel, to avoid further damage to the chapel and tombs. The Cemetery Improvement Subcommittee submitted a detailed proposal to improve the cemetery, for tarring the approach road, providing space for car parking, conduct a survey of the present tombs allotting stone numbers, maintain a register of tombs etc.

Deacons were requested to identify the houses of old and sick people in their areas and also other families facing critical problems, and start visiting these houses along with Pastors.

The prayer house 'AUBURN' was fully utilized by conducting regular prayer meetings and social activities on week days.

The church office was modified providing separate seats for the Church office-bearers.

A proposal was submitted by Mr. A. Joshua and Mr. Jaju Jacobs, endorsed by Mr. Etty Darwin regarding extension and renovation of the church on 8th July 2001. As per the engineer's report, the belfry of the church was in a very dangerous condition as there are cracks in the walls of the tower, the main trusses of the roof are in a bad state which warrants immediate reconstruction and further, if the church is extended, an additional 300 – 350 persons could be seated inside. However, following severe

opposition from few members of the congregation including stay orders through the Archaeological Department, the proposal was dropped. Filling of the cracks and general pointing of the plastering was done as a substitute solution. Extensive repairs were made to the roof to rectify the defects in 2002. However the state of the tower and soaking of the entire inside of the facade during rains, remains as a matter of concern.

Mr. T. Jayakumar Alfred was appointed as choirmaster in place of Mr. S. P. Thomas, choir co-ordinator from 1st August 2001.



Dr. Mathew Sam

A new mission field at Kothalam (West fort) was started at the house of Dr. Mathew Sam with Mr. Sen Edwin as convener. Sunday School was started in Kothalam on 5th August 2001.

Mr. A. Gunamony Memorial Church at Manacaud was dedicated on 23rd September 2001 by Bishop Rt. Rev. Dr. J. W. Gladstone.

Rev. Ben Gladstone went on 8 months leave for higher studies in USA on 31st August 2001. Rev. J. S. Wilfred took charge as full time Pastor for 8 months from 1st September 2001 as a temporary arrangement.



Rev. J. S. Wilfred

The Church committee marked their condolences on the tragic death of the deacon Mr. Gnanadas Oliver on 9th October 2001. A memorial service for Mr. Gnanadas Oliver was conducted on 11th November 2001. Mr. Immanuel Henry was inducted as deacon from 18th November 2001 in the place of Mr. Gnanadas Oliver.

M. M. Church committee condoled the deaths caused by the terrorist attack of 9th September 2001 on the twin towers of New York during the committee meeting of 16th September.

The M. M. Church City Missions Church, Lenin Nagar was dedicated on 23rd of 2001 at 3 p.m. by the bishop.

The fancy sale for the year 2001 was held on 8th December. Mr. Jyothi Sathyaness was the general convener and Mr. Immanuel Henry and Suresh Devarajan joint conveners.

2002

Mr. J. Robinson was appointed as full time honorary Manager from 1st February 2002 in the place of Mr. S. R. K. Rasalam.



J. Robinson

Worship Service on Sundays was started at the residence of Dr. Mathew Sam, Kothalam Mission field from 3rd February 2002 at 4 p.m. after the Sunday school.

The deacons went on a time out, for fellowship and retreat at Muttom on 9th March 2002.

Mr. D. Livingstone Nesaraj took charge of the junior choir of the church. He developed the choir to high standards which captivate the audience.

The roof renovation work of the church was started on 11th March 2002. The work was entrusted with an experienced and reputed contractor, Mr. T. Raveendran of Karakulam for an estimated expense of approximately Rs. 2,00,000. The roof work was started with a short prayer, conducted outside on the western side of the church by the



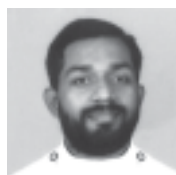
D. Livingstone

pastor Rev. J. S. Wilfred and attended by the members of the congregation. The services during the following few weeks were held in the TJM Hall as the work was progressing in the church except on the days from Maundy Thursday to Easter. After the completion of the roof work, polishing work

of the benches was done with Polyurethane coat. The renovation work was completed and a thanksgiving service was conducted in which Bishop Rt. Rev. Dr. J. W. Gladstone was the chief guest, on 8th September 2002.

Mr. D. Devakumar, the paid organist was appointed as the choirmaster with effect from 1st April.

A send-off meeting for Rev. P. Mathias and Rev. N.B. Gladstone Robert was conducted on Sunday 28th April 2002 at 9.30 a.m. presided by Rev. J.S. Wilfred. Mr. Victor E. Joseph and Mr. T. Jayakumar Alfred, Church Secretary spoke on the occasion. A get-together was arranged with the families of the deacons and the office staff, in the evening to have a fellowship meal with the outgoing pastors.



Rev. G. Santhosh George

Rev. G. Santhosh George and Rev. L. Mohanadas joined duty on 1st May 2002.

A farewell meeting in honour of Rev. J. S. Wilfred was conducted on Sunday 26th May 2002 at 9.30 a.m. Mr. Christenson E. Sarasam and Mr. T. Jayakumar Alfred, Church Secretary delivered farewell speeches. A get-together was held in his honour on Thursday 30th May 2002 in the evening.



Rev. L. Mohanadas

Rev. Ben Gladstone became presbyter-in-charge on 1st June 2002 after 8 months following his return from higher studies in USA. He was given a warm welcome.

Collection of Sangham offerings in covers as Table Offering was started on a trial basis from 1st September 2002. Later, as the new system proved successful, the existent system of house to house monthly collection was stopped.

A Memorial Service of late Mr. Iype Joseph, former deacon was conducted on Sunday 30th June 2002 at 9.30 a.m.

Mr. T. Jayakumar Alfred was posted as choirmaster in the place of Mr. D. Devakumar, from 1st July 2002.

The service of the Bible Woman, Mrs. Vilasini was terminated from 1st July 2002. Simultaneously, the post of Bible Woman was also abolished.

A semi-permanent car shed was constructed in front of the church parsonage to provide Car Parking facilities to the pastors.

The long cherished dream of printing and publishing a Church directory was fulfilled with the hard work and initiative taken by the Church Secretary, Mr. T. Jayakumar Alfred, Dr. Samson Nessiah, Mr. Premchand Johnson and Rev. Santhosh George, with the support of other Pastors and Church committee Members. The directory was printed and released on 22nd September 2002.

A big name board was installed in front of the TJMHall inscribing – “Triple Jubilee Memorial M. M. Church Hall.”

The fancy sale for the year was held on 14th December. Mr. Jothi Sathianess was the general convener and Messrs. Sam Manohar, Raja Jothish Kumar, joint conveners and Noble Albin, convener. The proceeds from the sale was earmarked for the TJM hall expansion project and church campus beautification.

2003

The Christian Endeavour that functioned among the children, Boy's Christian Endeavour Society (BCES) and Girl's Christian Endeavour Society (GCES) had

ceased to function around 1987. This caused a vacuum in the involvement of children in the Church activities. This was revived by Rev. Santhosh George in January 2003 under the name Junior Christian Endeavour Fellowship (JCEF) combining both the boys and girls.

A memorial service of Mr. Paul Sudhakar, renowned voluntary evangelist was held in the TJM Hall. He was a member of our Church and later translocated to Nagercoil.

Mr. Suju Sathyanathan was the organist from 2003 for the morning Malayalam service at 6 a.m. He organised the few Church choir members that attend



Suju Sathyanathan

this service along with children from the Extended Home in the LMS Compound into a choir to lead the worship service.

A new sub organisation by the name Senior Citizen's Fellowship was formed in the Church to improve the interaction and fellowship among Church members who are above 55 years of age. Its first meeting was convened on 25th January 2003. It was formally inaugurated at a function held on 1st March 2003.

A temporary shed was constructed on the terrace portion of the house of Mr. S. Jesudas, Kavuvila for Sunday Worship and conducting Sunday school classes for the believers in this area.

A worship service was started on all days from 7 a.m. to 7.30 a.m. for a short devotion for the Church members from 2nd June 2003.

Free lunch was supplied on all Fridays, to the patients admitted in the 9th ward of the General Hospital, Trivandrum, taking up this project as one of the social service activities of M. M. Church.

A monthly news letter was started from July 2003. Consequently, the existent system of quarterly publication of News Bulletin was stopped. The monthly news letter was named as 'Church Voice', as suggested by Mrs. Atula Jamir Santhosh, wife of Re. Santhosh George. An emblem was selected for the Church Voice Magazine designed by Mr. Anand Victor.



Athula Jamir Santhosh



A song book called 'Prethyasha geethangal' - 'Songs of Hope' was printed and published exclusively for the use in bereaved houses and cemetery chapel for funeral services.



Anand Victor

Sunday worship service and Sunday school was started in Kavuvila Mission field from 12th October 2003 evening at 5.30 p.m.

As a part of extending the Church Mission activities, Ulloor – Neerazhi Prasanth Nagar area was included as a new Mission field of M. M. Church. Sunday worship service was started at the residence of Mr. Jacob Gnanadas. This new mission project 'Ulloor – Neerazhi Mission Project' was dedicated on 7th December 2003 during the Church Day Function.

The name of the Kavuvila Mission field was changed and the project renewed, giving it a new name – 'Kuravankonam Mission field'.

A website www.mmchurch.org for the Church was designed and launched under the guidance of Dr. Churchin Ben and it was inaugurated on the Church Day along with the morning combined service. However, the website became inactive as it was not renewed and we lost the address to another organisation. Later, in 2005, another website was launched by a committee with Mr. Suresh Devarajan as convener under a new address,

www.mateermemorialchurch.com which is currently in use. Along with this, e- mail facility was also made available for the Church, in the office computer.

The annual fancy sale and harvest was held on 13th December 2003. The proceeds from the sale was used for the Parsonage and Missionary Complex. Mr. Sajan Samson was the general convener and Messrs. Y. Christudas, Stanley Wilson, Noble Albin and Mrs. Grisilda Wills were the conveners.

In view of the resignation from the choir master's post by Mr. T. Jayakumar Alfred, Mr. A. Joshua was appointed as choir master with effect from 1st January 2004 for a period of 1 year.



A. Joshua

2004

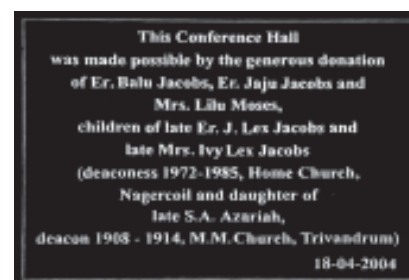
New detailed norms for membership in the Church were formulated by the Church committee on 18th January 2004.

The cycle stand below the Kingsley Justus Memorial building was converted into a Mini Executive Conference Hall for holding committee meetings, conferences etc. The modification and furnishing of the conference hall was sponsored by the children of Mr. J. Lex Jacobs and Mrs. Ivy Lex Jacobs. Mr. Jaju Jacobs supervised the construction work and it was opened on 18th April 2004.



Ivy Lex Jacobs

The Church choir of the CSI Christ Church Kollam, visited M. M. Church to have fellowship with the M. M. Church choir on 25th January and conducted a song service at our



church. The M. M. Church choir had visited them previously and had extended an invitation.

A monthly worship service was started in Puthukkotta Mission field from 07th April 2004.



Rev. C. Robinson

On 1st May 2004, Rev. C. Robinson became Presbyterian-in-charge of the M. M. Church in place of Rev. Ben Gladstone. He was given a warm welcome.

Election of deacons for the triennium starting from 2004 was held on 2nd May 2004 after the 8 a.m. Malayalam service. The persons elected were, Messrs. C. E. Sarasam, T. Jayakumar Alfred, S. R. K. Rasalam, Sam Moses, Drs, S. G. Churchin Ben, Samson Nessiah. The following persons were elected without contest, Mrs. Charlet Bai and Mrs. Saleena Bai Johnson as women representatives, Messrs. Sajan Samson and Rajesh Kumar Praseedom as youth representatives and Mr. Victor E. Joseph from the unrepresented classes. Mr. N. Yohan, invitee. In the subsequent Church committee on 6th May 2004, Mr. T. Jayakumar Alfred was elected as the Church secretary and Mr. S. R. K. Rasalam as accountant. On 16th May, Mr. Sam Moses, Mr. C. E. Sarasam and Mrs. Saleena Bai Johnson were elected as the diocesan council members.



Sajan Samson. R

A major renovation of the cemetery was done in 2004 by a subcommittee consisting of Rev. G. Santhosh George as convener and Messrs. Sam Moses, Noble Albin, A. Joshua, D. J. Alexander and L. Nessayan as members. The work done include, concreting between the tombs, construction of compound wall, metalling of roadway, paving of

courtyard in front of the chapel with interlocking cobbles for parking facilities, re-laying the chapel floor, handrails for the path to the vaults, enclosure for the hearse and more seats for the chapel. A cast iron gate was installed with the sum of Rs.50,000 donated by Mrs. Bella Rolands, for the purpose, in memory of her husband late Mr. Rolands Nayagom and children late Mr. Gunasudhan Rolands and Mr. Pradeepan Rolands.



D. J. Alexander

A poor fund was formed in the Plamoodu Mission field with an amount collected from the Sunday school teachers of the field.

Based on a letter from Mr. Zaem Enoch secretary of the HMS regarding the developmental work among the backward people in Kuppana, near Kundara, it was taken up as one of the projects of the Church and decided to support it financially.

On a special committee meeting held on 10th October 2004 planning for the Centenary Celebrations during the year 2006 was initiated. The committee formulated the draft proposal of the celebrations and presented it at the Church meeting held on 24th October 2004. The following decisions were taken (1) To hold the celebrations for one month from 1st December to 31st December. (Later changed to 1st Sunday of November to 1st Sunday of December) (2) Each week to have a title and to have programmes related to the title viz., 1st week - Thanksgiving week, 2nd week - Missionary week, 3rd week - Family week, 4th week - Witnessing week. (3) Take up projects for the celebrations - Centenary memorial church, Houses for 40 poor people, sponsor 10 community marriages, dedicate 10 new missionaries and sponsor them in different parts of India, build a centenary complex, develop a Church history

museum and modification of TJM Hall. (Implementation of the last three as part of the celebrations where later cancelled) Later, in 2005, it was decided to include Kuravankonam Mission field also in the Centenary Celebration Church Project.

The fancy sale for the year was conducted on 11th December 2004. The proceeds were earmarked for the various projects of the centenary celebrations. Mr. Jaichand Johnson was the general convener, Mr. S. R. K. Rasalam the convener and Mr. Praveen Clement and Mrs. Helen Samson joint conveners.

A real time computerised accounting system was introduced for the fancy sale by the efforts of Mr. Stanley Wilson and Mr. Jaichand Johnson. The system was used successfully in 2004 and for the subsequent sales and has the ability to track the auctions, donors, bidders and accounts on a real time basis.



Jaichand Johnson

Following the devastating tsunami that struck on 26th December 2004, a separate fund called – ‘M. M. Church Tsunami Relief Fund’ was opened for extending aid to the survivors of the tsunami. The amount of Rs.60,000 collected by the Church was transferred to the Diocese for the relief work at Pozhiyoor, identifying a Special Project.

2005

Dr. I Azariah, Honorary Director, Home for the handicapped children (Polio Home) passed away on 27th January 2005. He was a person of high academic calibre, integrity and excellence. He raised the institution to further heights. His wife Helen Azariah is daughter



Dr. I Azariah

of late Rev. J. A. Jacob. He is brother of Bishop Dr. I. Jesudasan.

As Rev. G. Santhosh George was leaving our Church to take up the position of Chaplain in th CMAI,

Delhi, a send-off meeting was conducted in his honour on Sunday 20th February 2005 at 9.30 a.m. Mr. Jayakumar Alfred, Church Secretary spoke on the occasion and thanked him for his dynamic leadership and the selfless services done for the Church during the span of about three years. A ‘Get together’ in honour of Rev. G. Santhosh George and family was arranged at the TJMHall on 20th February 2005 at 7.30 p.m. in the TJMHall. All the Pastors and their families, deacons and families, parish assistants and church office staff participated in the fellowship meeting. Following his departure on 28th February, Rev. L. J. Samjis joined as pastor on 1st March 2005.



Rev. L. J. Samjis

It was resolved to start Sangham collection in the Mission fields from the month of April 2005.

Dr. Oliver Robertson was appointed the Director of the United Vacation Bible School for the year 2005, by the Church committee. Till 2004 the United VBS, the first one in Trivandrum, was conducted by an ecumenical committee. The Mar Thoma Church withdrew in 1990 and the Christ Church withdrew in 2004 from the united initiative.

Mr. K. Hudson, Sexton was relieved from his duties on 30th April, following his retirement. A send-off meeting for honouring him was conducted on Sunday, 1st May 2005. He was presented with a gift of one Sovereign (gold ring) on the occasion. Mr. G. Sivanandan senior-most parish assistant was appointed as Sexton from 1st May 2005.

Several elderly women leaders have contributed to our spiritual growth through their sacrificial services

among children and women namely Mrs. Paul Sudhakar, Mrs. Beryl Ebenezer, Mrs. Basanth Kumari Fenn,



Mrs. Paul Sudhakar



Mrs. Beryl Ebenezer



Mrs. Sarojini Sarasam

Mrs. Jasmine Manickam, Mrs. Sarojini Sarasam and Mrs. Salomi Thomas.

Mr. Martin Daniel who served as Sunday School Secretary and VBS accountant for a long term is active in all Church activities especially combined Christmas celebrations.

Following the damage to tombs in 2001 by the uprooted trees from the government property west of the cemetery, the Church was constantly negotiating with the officials to remove the trees leaning dangerously over the cemetery chapel and also to build a compound wall at the western boundary which was in dispute. After prolonged negotiations, the issue was settled and a boundary wall was built without encroaching on to the tombs under the leadership of Mr. Noble Albin. The Church committee expressed their thanks and appreciation to Mr. N. Sakthan, Minister of Transport for the sincere efforts and initiative taken for amicably settling the cemetery compound boundary dispute.



N. Sakthan

The bye-laws of Senior Citizens' Fellowship was approved by the Church committee.

Mr. Suresh Devarajan was nominated as convener for maintaining the Website of the Church. The current website, www.mateermemorialchurch.com was started in this period.



Suresh Devarajan

The old electronic church organ 'ARTRONICA' was donated to the Venniyoor CSI Church free of cost.

The Tamil order of service was reprinted, sponsored by Mr. Sam Moses in memory of his father late Mr. Mokshakkan.



The fourth parsonage in the Parsonage Complex, 'A. Johnson memorial parsonage' and Justin S. Jesudasan Memorial Guest Suite were dedicated on Sunday 7th August 2005 at 9.45 a.m. by the pastor, Rev. C. Robinson.

It was decided to purchase 14 cents of land identified in Kuravankonam Mission field for constructing Centenary Memorial Church.

Bishop Rt. Rev. Dr. J.W. Gladstone was felicitated on his 60th Birthday at the Christmas Day service at 8 a.m. on 25th December 2005.

Mr. D. J. Alexander was requested to give a detailed report of work of surface drainage and rain harvesting done in the Church Compound.

The annual Fancy Sale and Harvest Festival of the year was conducted on 10th December 2005. The proceeds from the sale was utilised for the

centenary projects. Mr. Jaichand Johnson was the general convener and Messrs. Noble Albin, Sargine Thomas and Mrs. Prabha Joshua the joint conveners.

2006

On Sunday 1st January 2006, the morning 8 a.m. Malayalam service was conducted as a special service, to mark the inauguration of the centenary year of the church. Mr. N. Sakthan, Hon'ble minister for Transport was the guest of honour.

Mr. T. Jayakumar Alfred, Church Secretary was felicitated on 26th February 2006 on his completion of 30 years of continuous service as deacon of M. M. Church, Bishop Rt. Rev. Dr. J. W. Gladstone



T. Jayakumar Alfred

presided, and Prof. J. M. Stewart rendered the felicitation speech. Dr. Samson Nessim proposed vote of thanks. Mr. N. Yohannan, lifelong deacon who completed 41 years as deacon also was felicitated on the occasion.

Mr. Amarnath I. Paul has been in charge of the



Amarnath I.
Paul

teaching of Malayalam songs for various performances and especially for the convention choirs of the church. Prof. Poovi Thankakumari

helps the choir by playing the organ for classical music performances during special occasions.



Prof. Poovi
Thankakumari

A fancy sale by the name "Centenary Fancy Sale" was held on 10th June 2006 organised by the Church choir under the leadership of Mr. Stanley Wilson, choir secretary, Mr. Robert Singh, the general convener, Mr. Jothi Sathianess (choir accountant) ex-officio

convener, Mr. Jaichand Johnson and Mrs. Prabha Joshua, joint conveners. Mr. Chandrakumar Oliver inaugurated the sale with an opening bid of Rs. 2,00,000. The income from the sale was used for the centenary projects. The sale could generate a record collection of Rs. 3.66 lakhs.

A memorial service of the late Mr. S. P. Christudas, former manager of M. M. Church office who passed away in the USA, was conducted on 5th March 2006 at 5.30 p.m. in the church.

Rev. Clifford Sasi was appointed to serve in the Chenkalchoola Mission field (AUBURN) in order to raise the congregation to an independent one.

Thirteen and a half cents of land at Kuravankonam Mission field was purchased at a cost of Rs. 22,32,500 including registration charges for constructing Centenary Memorial Church.

The theme for the centenary was "Freely received, Freely give", proposed by Dr. Samson Nessim who also wrote the centenary theme song. The centenary logo was designed by Mrs. Rita Victor.



Rita Victor

A send-off meeting in honour of Rev. L. J. Samjis was conducted on Sunday 25th June 2006 at 9.30 a.m. as he was transferred to take up an appointment in Srilanka. A get-together was held on the same day at 6.30 p.m. Rev. J. Walsalam took change as pastor in his place on 1st July 2006.



Rev. J. Walsalam

A memorial service of late Mr. N. Yohannan who served the Church as deacon for more than 40 years and died on 5th August 2006

was conducted on Sunday, 17th September 2006. Bishop Most Rev. Dr. I. Jesudasan presided. Church Secretary, Mr. T. Jayakumar Alfred read a brief biography of Mr. Yohannan, Mr. Christenson E. Sarasam also spoke on the occasion praising and thanking God for the meritorious services and the sacrificial work done by Mr. N. Yohannan for the Church for more than four decades.

Mr. Winfer E. Jose and family (USA) donated Rs. 5 lakhs towards purchase of land to build a church for the Kothalam Church Project. The committee recorded their thanks for the generous contribution. His family also donated a church organ 'Yamaha Electone FX-20' for our Church, which was installed and dedicated in February 2007.

Considering the achievement made by Mr. Jacob Sahayam, member of our Church in getting his name in the Limca Book of Records, he was felicitated



Jacob Sahayam

on Sunday 3rd December 2006 during the 100th Church Day function.

The church vestry was furnished with the sponsorship of Mr. A. Jaju Jacobs. Ten office chairs and one head chair was donated by him.

The 100th Church Day function was conducted in the Church on 3rd December 2006 at 8.30 a.m. as a combined worship in a colourful manner. The Most Rev. Dr. B. P. Sugandhar, Moderator of the CSI was the Chief Guest. Bishop, Dr. M. I. Kesari also attended the meeting and gave the message. The Rev. Dr. G. Sobhanam, Vice Chairman, Diocesan Secretary, D. Lawrence, Prof. Dr. S. Devanesan, Former Secretary of SKD, Rev. S. Israel and Rev. Vinod Victor rendered felicitation speeches.

Our pilgrimage continues in faith and hope...

Vedanayagam Sastriar



VENERABLE VEDANAYAGAM SASTRIAR was born on the 7th of September 1774, the first son of Mr. Devasahayam, a native of Tirunelveli. At the age of ten, he had a clear vision of the Cross, an event which was to influence his entire life. In 1785, the German missionary, Rev. Schwartz visited Tirunelveli and took Vedanayagam with him to Tanjore. At that time, Prince Serfoji was also studying under Rev. Schwartz. Vedanayagam went on to study Theology at the Lutheran Seminary in Tharangambadi (Tranquebar).

After completing his studies, Vedanayagam worked in the villages around Tanjore. He began to write Christian lyrics and literature. He wrote 133 books and his most famous work is 'Bethlehem Kuravanji'.

A turning point in his life came when his former classmate, Prince Serfoji became king of Tanjore and appointed Vedanayagam as the official court poet. Vedanayagam was conferred various titles such as 'Gnanadeepa Kavirayar', Veda Sastriar and 'Suvishesha Kavirayar' which established him the King of Evangelical Poets. He died in 1864.

His songs are still being sung in Tamil churches and are peerless in their richness and melody. His well known songs include 'Thandanai Thudhipome', 'Amen Alleluyah, Mahathuva Thambarabara' and 'Esvaiye Thudhi sei nee Maname.'

The tradition of *kadhakalakshepams* and the position of Sasthriar was carried forward by each succeeding generation in the family.



M. BAGAVATHAR VEDANAYAGAM SASTHRIAR

(1885-1936) of Tanjore, the fourth generation Sasthriar, conducted *kadhakalakshepams* at our church in 1933.



JEYASEELAN BAGAVATHAR VEDANAYAGAM SASTHRIAR

(1914-1968) the fifth generation Sasthriar, performed at the TJM Hall in 1958, 1964 and again in 1967, one year before his death.



DURAIRAJ BAGAVATHAR VEDANAYAGAM SASTRIAR was born on October 12th 1936 to Sangai Jeyaseelan Bagavathar Vedanayagam Sastriar and Mrs. Sundari Ammal. He is the ninth Sastriar in the sixth generation. The Sastriar title was conferred on Durairaj at the CSI Missionary Chapel, Vepery, on 15th December 1956. On the 15th of December 2006 he finished his 50 years in ministerial life. He performed here in 1974.