

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

EBENEZER MAR THOMA CHURCH

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From Vicar's Desk

September 2022

Deuteronomy 32:7

“Remember the days of old; Consider the Generations long past. Ask your Father and He will tell you, your Elders, and they will explain to you.”

In prayer we are profoundly connected to God and one another in deep and meaningful ways that passes all understanding. In prayer we are never alone. In prayer, we connect to one another and to God as people of hope in this challenging time. God will move mountains and God will transform us into people of love, joy, and peace through prayer. Let's become people of prayer and a church of prayer together.

Our students are returning to Schools this month. The word of God pointing children in the right direction. **“Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.” Proverbs 22:6.**

September 11th Sunday has been set apart by our church as **Harvest festival Sunday**. The Harvest festival is a time to celebrate all the good things God has given us. Since we are thankful to God for all the blessings He's given, let's make it a point to share our blessings. This is always a great fellowship and a time of Thanksgiving. May I invite your wholehearted participation.

September 11th we are also observing as **Senior Citizen Sunday**. One of the most precious gifts we have is the maturity and wisdom of the elderly. They are the guardians of our traditions and memories. It is a special gift to have the opportunity to spend time with our elders and learn from them. 'Even to your old age I am he, and to gray hairs I will carry you. I have made, and I will bear; I will carry and will save.' (Isaiah 46:4) So let us offer up prayers to a God who promises to carry and save us, even to our old age.

September 18th Sunday has been set apart by our church as **Suvisesha Sevika Sanghom Sunday** to meditate up on the theme, '*Women, defenders of faith*'. Every woman of the Mar Thoma Church above the age of 18 years is a member of the Sevika Sanghom. The Sevika Sanghom has branches in all parishes of the Mar Thoma Church both in USA and abroad. The women's wing of the Mar Thoma church is well organized body with a team of dedicated and hardworking members. May the Lord be glorified through the activities of our Sevika Sanghom.

I encourage you to be faithful to our Lord and his Bride, the church. Let us be committed and serve Him in the beauty of His Holiness.

May God continue to Bless you All. Prayers for you All.

Yours in Christ's ministry,

Rev. George Abraham
Vicar
Ebenezer Mar Thoma Church,
New York.

Message from Youth Chaplain

September 2022 MESSAGE

Dearly beloved in Christ,

As we approach the ninth month of the year, let us be grateful to God for guiding us throughout the summertime. September 4th is Education Sunday. Nelson Mandela once said that “education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world”. As we together pray for our youths and adults who are starting their journey to the new academic year, let us also pray for humility in equipping ourselves through the field of academia. As many of us are going through our studying phase or have already gone through it, we should remember that education is to be seen as a vessel for us to equip ourselves to be agents of God to change the world around us. It is significant to understand that we are God’s agents or ambassadors, and we are to live our lives to serve Him and not ourselves. Let the wisdom that is from above guide us to move this world to look unto God.

This month we are also commemorating Labor Day. It is the day we use to commemorate and recognize the American Labor Movement and the dedication of unity of all those who labor to build this country up as a blessing which we see today. It is also a day that we as Christian laborers should realize that we are the hands and feet of God. In all that we do work, we should do it joyfully and dedicate our lives to building God’s kingdom values to the world around us. It calls for us to not see ourselves as superior or inferior, but rather to respect one another as we would like to be treated and work together in unity. 1 Corinthians 15:58 says “Therefore, my beloved brothers and sisters, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord because you know that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.”. Let us praise God that we exist, and in all that we can do, our lives are dedicated to God.

Our Men’s Bible study is now in person on Tuesdays and the Women’s Bible Study is on Saturdays. I am also excited about this new academic year and looking forward to seeing our youths through the campus visits. Let us keep our youths in our prayers and especially pray for both High School and College freshmen classes as they embark on a new chapter in their academic journey.

On a side note, I want to remind our parishioners that many people are struggling in their personal lives. Please treat everyone with respect and kindness. Everyone may be smiling in front of us, but many are smiling only to hide their pain. We as a church need to work together to be the agents of love that God shares with us. We should be listening ears that listen to help and not judge. Appreciate the time and the opportunity we have with one another and being there for each other. I encourage all those who are struggling to never think you are alone, come and speak, God has great plans for all of His children, even if it is not seen in the season of pain, God reminds us that we can overcome it. Look unto Him and seek help.

May our Lord bless all of us. Wishing everyone a blessed September!

Much love,

Jess M. George Achen

Rev. Jess M. George

Youth Chaplain North-East Region

Diocese of North America and Europe of the Mar Thoma Church

(516)532-6115 (Cell)

Sunday Worship Schedule

Date	Time	Service
September 4 th - Sunday	10:00 AM	Divine Service (Malayalam)
September 11 th – Sunday Student/teachers’ dedication Senior Citizen Day Celebration Harvest Festival Kick off	10.00 AM	HQ Service (English)
September 18 th – Sunday Sevika Sanghom Day Celebration	10.00 AM	HQ Service (Malayalam)
September 25 th - Sunday	10.00 AM	Divine Service (Malayalam)

Lectionary

**Please make a note that 09/11 & 09/18 Theme and Lectionary are switched based on our day of celebration

September 4 th – Education that based on Divine Grace – Education Sunday		
	1 st Lesson	Prov. 2:1-15
	2 nd Lesson	James 3:13-18
	Epistle	Col. 1:24-29
	Gospel	Matt. 7:24-29
September 11 th – Senior Citizen Day – “Care to the Elders”		
	1 st Lesson	Gen 47: 1-12
	2 nd Lesson	2 Tim. 4: 9-18
	Epistle	Eph. 6:1-7
	Gospel	Mark 7:6-13
September 18 th – Sevika Sanghom Day “Women: Defenders of Faith.		
	1 st Lesson	1 Sam. 1:20-28
	2 nd Lesson	2 Tim. 1:1-8
	Epistle	Acts 16:11-15
	Gospel	Mark 16:1-7
September 25 th – We believe in the Christ who will come again		
	1 st Lesson	Exod. 3:1-15
	2 nd Lesson	Acts 1:1-11
	Epistle	1 Thess. 4:13-18
	Gospel	Matt. 25:31-40



Wedding Anniversary

Jacob Mathew	Reena Mathew	5-Sep
Titus Samuel	Soji Samuel	12-Sep
Ryan Varughese	Aisley Varughese	14-Sep
Saju Mathews	Mariamamma Mathews	18-Sep



Birthday Wishes

Vipin T Kovoor	4-Sep
Ezekiel Abraham Varghese	7-Sep
Rebekah Elizabeth Jacob	7-Sep
Reena Mathew (Kochamma)	10-Sep
Tisha Tharakan	10-Sep
Feby Varghese	11-Sep
Jose Cherian	15-Sep
Robin T Samuel	21-Sep

Bible Reading



The family of....	Date
George Thomas	09/04/2022
Jacob Mathew	09/11/2022
Sevika Sanghom Members	09/18/2022
Jacob Varughese	09/25/2022
John C Mathai (Raju)	10/02/2022
John Samuel (Kochumon)	10/09/2022
Rev. Johnson Mathew	10/16/2022
Jose Cherian	10/23/2022
Kurian A Mathew	10/30/2022

Upcoming Events

1. September 11th, 2022, Sunday – Education Sunday
 - a. Dedication for School and College Students
 - b. Dedication for Sunday School Students/ Teachers
 - c. Senior Citizen Day
 - d. Harvest Festival Kick-off
2. September 17th, 2022, Saturday – Apple/Strawberry Picking, CT (Youth to organize)
3. September 18th, 2022 –
 - a. Sevika Sanghom Day
 - b. One day Income Offertory
4. September 30th (Fri), October 1st (Sat), & October 2nd, 2022 (Sun) - Parish Convention

Wednesday Bible Study and Saturday Prayer Meeting at 7:00pm via ZOOM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81243928868?pwd=TjdUODZQSndiQkl2amlRaEdSNEo5dz09>

Dial 1 646-876-9923; Meeting ID: 812 4392 8868; Passcode:406406