



St. Andrew's Church

CHURCH OF SOUTH INDIA - KARNATAKA CENTRAL DIOCESE

N E W S L E T T E R

NOV 2024

"EQUIPPING CONGREGATION IN GOD'S MISSION"



160 years of St. Andrew's Church
Sunday, 24th November 2024



Towards Empowering in God's Mission

Presbyter-in-charge: Rev. Dr. Dexter S. Maben

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From the Presbyterian's Desk

160 years of St. Andrew's Church Towards Empowering in God's Mission

"And immediately they left their nets and followed him." (Mark 1:18)

History is a story of the constant engagement between character and power, thought and deed, idea and action and more importantly, of persons and communities. History is important and meaningful, because of the experiences of the past and the visions for the future, with courage to live in the present. *We are preparing to celebrate the Feast Day of our Patron Saint, Andrew, the first Apostle called by our Lord.* On the Calendar of Saints of the Roman and Greek Churches, Andrew's date is set as *November 30*, which is *Andrew's Feast Day*.

It is a matter of immense joy that we share this history in terms of forms of *Worship, Architecture, and Governance Patterns* with churches all over the world, sharing the *Presbyterian* legacy from Scotland.

Going down memory lane, the foundation stone for this magnificent structure was laid on *November 22, 1864* and the building was completed and opened for divine worship on *November 18, 1866*. St. Andrew's Church joined the *Church of South India* in *September 1959* and is governed by the *Karnataka Central Diocese*. *Worship Services in Kannada* was started in *1965* and ever since, Kannada has found a place along with English in regular *Worship and Ministry* engagement. We celebrated *150 years in 2014*, and the Souvenir, our Official Website and the Visitor's Brochure help us to turn the pages of history.

Christian Discipleship is one of the greatest stories told and retold, because *Discipleship* in itself is an act of empowerment. *Empowerment* is an act of faith, courage and hope; it is an act of dependence and obedience to God's will. *Andrew* was the first person called to be an *Apostle* by Jesus as he began his public ministry (*John 1:40-42*). Historically, it is Peter who has received a preeminent place, although it was Andrew who first met Jesus and took Peter to meet him. In *Mark 1:16-20*, Jesus calls the first disciples who were fishermen, and one of the most powerful words of Jesus, "*Follow me,*" is followed by an act by Andrew and Peter - they leave behind everything and follow him.

The story of discipleship is not about the strong becoming stronger or the rich becoming richer, it is a story of *empowerment* of the poor, the weak, and the vulnerable. It is the story of many, of the multitude and everyone who can participate in God's Mission, as the Apostle Paul would continue to share this message with the Community at Corinth, by saying, "*My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness*" (*2 Cor 12:9*). Empowerment is the celebration of *Grace* as God's agency, to receive and to act independently, an ability of each person in the everyday social life of the individual and the community. The members of the *Pastorate Committee for the Triennium 2024-27*, at the *One-day Retreat*, deliberated on our *Vision Statement*, and arrived at a consensus that as we value the idea of equipping, we need to add the word *empowering*, and thus our *Vision Statement* will read: "***Equipping and Empowering Congregation in God's Mission.***"

We are deeply grateful for each person, family and communities who have contributed to the spiritual nurture and growth of our church over the years, with special mention of the *Clergy* and the *Laity* who have provided valuable spiritual leadership. We are thankful for the partnership of the *Clergy* and the *Laity* that continues to define the spiritual ethos and growing diversity of the congregation.

The current leadership in the Pastorate Committee along with several inputs from many of you in the congregation, has arrived at initiating *Four Visions* for the future in our key areas that are considered foundational for the *Unity and Mission of the Church* as we commemorate the *160 years of God's faithfulness and grace*:

1. Worship

Our *Worship Services* during the month of November and towards Andrew's Day will revolve around different themes around the life of the *Apostle Andrew*, an opportunity to rediscover the *Apostle* and his ministry.

2. Fellowship

Our vision to extend the fellowship to those who need care and love during the growing years, and therefore a vision of "*St Andrew's Home for the Elderly*," an opportunity for care on church campus.

3. Discipleship

While we continue to be committed to build a church for the worshipping community at Tubagere, we commit ourselves to a new Mission Field in an unreached area, ensuring that the '*Project Andrew*,' will be a continuing project of discipleship.

4. Service

Empowering children and youth in education is a way of empowerment. The vision is to initiate *endowments* to support General Scholarships disbursed annually to the children in our church.

Some more thoughts on the Apostle Andrew:

Andrew also became popular in the West. In the year 1204, Crusaders stole Andrew's relics from Constantinople and took them to Amalfi, Italy. According to ancient Celtic tradition, St. Regulus (4th century) took the apostle's arm to St. Andrews, Scotland, and thus Andrew became known as the Patron Saint of Scotland. There is a scholarly consensus about the tradition that Andrew died at Patrae in Achaia. A story developed that he was martyred on an X-shaped cross (a "decussate" or "saltire" cross), which has become known as St. Andrew's cross. St. Andrew's cross has been and is an iconic representation of our church.

We will be celebrating *St. Andrew's Day* on *Sunday the 24th* of this month at a *Combined Communion Worship Service* beginning at 9 am.

May God bless you

Your Presbyter

Rev. Dr. Dexter S. Maben

Reports of Activities by the Wings & Ministries of the Church

Sunday School



*"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever".
1 Chronicles 16:34*

The *Harvest Festival* saw little happy helpers, teachers and parents helping the *Sunday School and Young Couples Fellowship Stalls* in various forms. Children artistically creating different artwork, teachers and parents getting cooked yummy food, live cooking in the Stalls, teachers and children coming up with their own games like *Spin n Win, Drop the Ball, Perfect Square, Go Golf, Fishing for Fun, Photo Session with the polaroid Camera, Pottery, Balloon Art, Caricature, Face Painting, Bangle Making, Balloon Shooting, Ice Gola, Popcorn and Cotton Candy* - it was a *Harvest Carnival!* Thankful to all the Sponsors' for giving unconditionally.

World Sunday School Day:

Grateful to our *Presbyter Rev. Dr. Dexter S. Maben* for his guidance, support and encouragement in leading the Sunday School and sharing God's Word during the *Kannada Worship Service*. Thanking the previous Sunday School Superintendent *Mrs. Sujatha Kishore* for her dedication towards this ministry. We thank our own *Dr. Mrs. Joann Pauline George Flemingson* for graciously accepting the invitation to bring God's Word during the *English Service*.

The Bible Union India conducted *State Level Bible Examination* where our own *Aaradh Samuel Karkada* won the 3rd rank for *Karnataka*. *Certificates and Medals* were distributed during the *English Service* to children of our church who won the 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes in respective categories based on age.

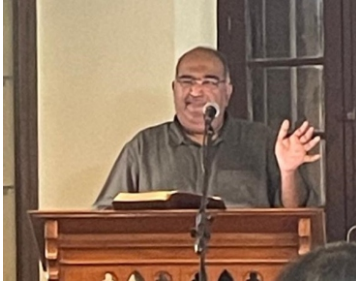
Thanking all the *teachers and volunteers* who patiently mould each child's life, for working hand in hand in planning and executing different programmes during both the *Kannada and English Services*, thus making *World Sunday School Day* memorable. Kudos to the children who put up a fantastic and meaningful show!

Thanking our *PC members* for their constant support, grateful to the *teachers, parents and grandparents* for their dedication be it in sickness/ work challenge/bad weather/ traffic woes - they are always there to support our Sunday School Ministry. Thanking all our *Sponsors* who are the cheerful givers, making logistics easy for our Team.

Thanking the *Office Staff, Support Staff, the Editorial Team, Technical Team, Choir, the Choir Director* for patiently training and encouraging our children play the Offertoire, *Stuthi Team* and *Directors* for training children with Worship Songs, and *Volunteers* who help in the smooth functioning of the church, the entire *Andrew's Family* for their constant prayer and encouragement. Kindly remember the Team as we prepare for the Christmas celebrations and various activities.

Mrs. Rashmi S. Mohan Raj
Sunday School Superintendent

Care for the Elderly



We thank our *Lord Jesus Christ* for showering us with many blessings throughout our lives and giving us a beautiful day of Fellowship, and a time for studying *God's Word* more deeply. We thank *Him* for sending us a very ardent, grounded speaker, *Dr. Jerry George Mathews*, former Principal of Clarence High School, Bangalore. The topic for this month's meeting was '*Investing in God's Kingdom.*'

Dr. Jerry George Mathews' message was based on *Genesis Chapter 48* - Jacob blessing Joseph and his two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh. As an example, Elders were exhorted to bless their children and grandchildren, teach them *God's Word*, spend time with them, and share their experiences of faith, so that they would be brought up in the way of the Lord. When we invest time with our children and grandchildren, we are investing far more than what this material world can provide. The Elders have this responsibility towards their children and grandchildren, and towards the younger generation.

Our God is an amazing God, full of compassion and mercy, with never-ending love towards those who love Him. A very good example of *God's* amazing grace to all even to the smallest and the least. Let us be committed to our Lord and submit to His will.

We thank *Dr. Jerry George Mathew* for accepting our invitation, and for his inspiring message. May God bless his ministry.

Thank you *Elders* for being part of this month's *Fellowship*.

We thank the *Youth* for leading us in *Praise and Worship* and helping us.

Mr. Praveen Oscar Shiri
Convener, CEF

Harvest Festival at Tubagere Mission Field



Harvest Festival was celebrated at Tubagere Mission Field on Sunday, the 20th of October, 2024. Thirty members from St. Andrew's Church Bangalore, joined the celebrations. Praise and Worship was led by our Evangelist, Mr. Praveen Kumar. Rev. Jeffery Kotian preached on the occasion about the importance and attitude of giving to God and the role of youth. The congregation members brought their agricultural produce mostly vegetables as offering to God. The celebrations ended with the Fellowship Lunch.

Mission & Evangelism Team

Youth Fellowship

"Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit"
John 3:6 - 8

During the month of October, the Youth Fellowship was involved in the following events:

Harvest, 2024 - The Youth put up Food Stalls serving a variety of food and Game Stalls that fed and entertained many.

They had the opportunity to support the Care For the Elderly during their recent Retreat as well.

The Youth took part in an Inter-church Fest, "Strum" hosted by the Wesley Tamil Church in the month of October and were placed second in the 'Faith Strokes' (Art) and 'Charade Theatre' (Dumb Charades) events.

Arpith - 'An offering of Talents' is an Inter-church Youth Festival that has been organised by the Youth Fellowship of St. Andrews. This event has been conducted once every two years for the past two decades. This year our theme is - 'Ruach' which is the Hebrew word for Wind, and we have prayerfully decided to conduct Arpith 2024 around 'Wind'.

As Arpith approaches - 2nd, 9th and 10th of November 2024, we request you to keep our Youth Fellowship Members, Volunteers and Support Staff, the Festival, Participants, Vendors and the Weather in your prayers as we host this meaningful event.

Mr. Nirag Darren Soans & Miss Vivian Evangeline Shiri
Conveners

Women's Fellowship



*The righteous will flourish like a palm tree,
they will grow like a cedar of Lebanon; planted in the house of the Lord,
they will flourish in the courts of our God.
They will still bear fruit in old age, they will stay fresh and green, proclaiming,
"The Lord is upright; he is my Rock, and there is no wickedness in him."
Psalm 92: 12 - 15*

Greetings to all in the Mighty Name of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Sunday, 6th of October 2024, was celebrated as Annual Harvest Thanksgiving Festival by the members of St. Andrew's Church. Our Women's Fellowship enthusiastically took part and decorated the church the previous day, which was so beautiful and spectacular that everyone appreciated and were delighted too.

The Women's Fellowship members also organized *The Food Stall* with a huge variety of food items which was relished by all those who purchased the delicious food items. The *Fish Fry Counter* was a great hit as many enjoyed the tasty the freshly fried fish. Our members also donated amounts towards purchasing *two gold pendants*, which were auctioned and the amount was given to the church.

On Sunday, the 20th of October, we had the Harvest Festival at our Mission Field, Tubagere. The Lunch for the believers was sponsored by St. Andrew's Women's Fellowship.

We praise and thank our Lord Almighty for His guidance, presence and tender mercies towards us as everything went off so well and there was a joyful ending to our Harvest Thanksgiving Festival this year.

Thank you, one and all and may God Bless you all.

Mrs. Daisy Richards
Secretary, SAWF

NEW MEMBERS

Mr. Kishan Vasudevan & Miss Keneisha Kishan (daughter)

Ms. Kriti Barla



SEEKER'S NOOK



November 2024

Apostle Andrew was the first disciple to be called by Jesus. He was a 'networker' – a fisherman who also became a 'fisher of men' bringing Gentiles to Jesus, and proclaiming the risen Lord till his last breath. Presenting a Quiz on a few **Firsts of the Old Testament**, get ready to test yourself on these Biblical beginnings.

Quiz

1. Who was the first priest mentioned in the bible?
2. Which was the first city to be destroyed when Israel entered Canaan?
3. "Blessed is the man who walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly" is the first line of which book in the bible?
4. What was the first colour mentioned?
5. Who built the first city?
6. Who was the first judge of Israel?
7. Who baked the first cake?
8. What was the first miracle performed by Elisha?
9. Who was the first person to be tied up?
10. What was the first stone/jewel mentioned for setting on the high priest's breastplate? (KJV)

Correct entries will be published in next month's newsletter along with answer keys. Send your **printed** answers to **the Church WhatsApp number 9741401874** by **25th November 2024**, in the following format:

Name

Serial number – Answer

THINK BOX



“Whatsoever He saith unto you, do it.” (John 2:5.)

Leave the Miracle to Him by T. J. Allan

Whatso'er He bids you, do it
Though you may not understand:
Yield to Him complete obedience,
Then you'll see His mighty hand;
“Fill the water pots with water,”
Fill them to the very brim;
He will honor all your trusting—
Leave the miracle to Him!

Face to face with hosts of Midian,
Gideon's men are sifted out;
Forth they go, these chosen heroes,
With no sword the foe to rout;
Do you wonder if the vict'ry
Can be gained by band so slim?
See! Jehovah's sword is gleaming,
Leave the miracle to Him!

Bring to Christ your loaves and fishes
Though they be both few and small,
He will use the weakest vessels,
Give to Him your little all.
Do you ask how many thousands
Can be fed with food so slim?
Listen to the Master's blessing—
Leave the miracle to Him!

Christian worker, looking forward
To the ripened harvest field,
Does the task seem great before you?
Think how rich will be the yield?
Bravely enter with your Master,
Though the prospect may seem dim
Preach the Word with holy fervor—
Leave the miracle to Him!

Visit <https://bibletruthpublishers.com/leave-the-miracle-to-him/t-h-allan/t-h-allan/la94829> or scan here to read the entire poem.



Quiz Answers for the Month of October

Obey
Jesus
Baptizing
Nations
Disciples
Mountain
Heaven
Make

Earth
Always
Commanded
Worshiped
Authority
Teaching
Eleven
Given

Congratulations Quiz Stars for the month of October 2024

Reuben Kalirajan
Esther Suguna Simeon
Annie Felix
Daisy Mark Prabhu
Gitanjali Lazarus
Rosabelle Prabhakar



Runners up
Felicia Manoraj
Akanksha Patil
Lynette Natasha Karkada

ST ANDREW'S SCHOOL ONLINE PAYMENT DETAILS



St. Andrew's Church

Account:

ST. ANDREW'S SCHOOL

Siddapura

SCAN TO PAY

With BHIM UPI APP

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH



216999549030023@cnrb

Merchant Name:

ST ANDREWS CHURCH

Kindly note you can also post a cheque in favour of “**St. Andrews Church**” at any Canara Bank Branch with the account number and church of ce number (9741401874) written behind it.

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH ONLINE PAYMENT DETAILS



Please Note

After transaction, please send a message on WhatsApp - 919741401874 Or send an email to andrewschurchblore@gmail.com the breakup of which ministries you are contributing to, along with your Full Name.

Example:

Name: Full Name

Transferred amount: Rs. 1100

Rs. 450 for Youth Fellowship,

Rs. 650 for M&E

Calendar for the First Week of December 2024			
	Advent Season		
	1st Sunday in Advent		
	Theme: Celebrating the Good News		
*1st December 1st Sunday	Celebrant & Preacher: Rev. Dr. Dexter S. Maben	*Combined Holy Communion Worship Service	9:00 a.m
Old Testament	Exodus 2: 1 - 10	Mrs. Asha Franklyn	
Epistle	Acts 9: 10 - 18	Mr. Praveen Oscar Shiri	
Gospel	St. Luke 1: 46 - 56	Mr. J. A. Prakash (K)	
Evening Service	Preacher: Dr. John Vasumithra		6.15 p.m

Calendar for the Month of November 2024

24th Sunday after Pentecost			
Theme: Remembering Years and Remembering Moments			
*3rd November 1st Sunday	Celebrant & Preacher Rev. Dr. Dexter S. Maben	*Combined Holy Communion Worship Service	9:00 a.m
Old Testament	Jeremiah 26:1-9	Mr. Joshi Mark Premnath	
Epistle	Romans 8:12-17	Mr. Nirag Darren Soans	
Gospel	Mark 13:1-8	Wg Cdr I D Soans (K)	
Evening Service	Preacher: Dr. John Vasumithra		6.15 p.m
25th Sunday after Pentecost			
Theme: Living in the Present, Hoping in the Future			
10th November 2nd Sunday	Preacher: Rev. Dr. Rohan Gideon	Kannada	8.15 a.m
	Preacher: Rev. Dr. Rohan Gideon	English	9.30 a.m
Old Testament	2 Samuel 7:8-17	Mrs. Mirium L. S. Sadhu (K)	
		Mr. Immanuel Daniel	
Epistle	Acts 1:6-14	Miss Janita Sarah Sumitra (K)	
		Miss Rachel S. Nelson	
Gospel	St. John 1:35-42	Mrs. Anitha Noel (K)	
		Mr. Aidan Philip Roji	
Evening: Arpith 2024			
26th Sunday after Pentecost			
Theme: Changing Experiences and Seeing Things Differently			
*17th November 3rd Sunday	Celebrant: Rev. Dr. Dexter S. Maben Preacher: Rev. Dr. Allan Palanna	*Kannada Holy Communion	8.15 a.m.
	Preacher: Rev. Dr. Allan Palanna	English	9.30 a.m
Old Testament	Zephaniah 3:14-20	Mrs. Chitra Herbert (K)	
		Mrs. Diadema Joseph	
Epistle	Revelation 21:9-14	Miss Magdalena Preetha S (K)	
		Mrs. Lynette Natasha Karkada	
Gospel	St. John 12:20-26	Mrs. Jyotsna Prasheeth (K)	
		Mrs. Annie Deepika Anchan	
*Evening Service	Holy Communion Service - Celebrant & Preacher: Rev. Dr. Dexter S. Maben		6.15 p.m
St. Andrew's Day			
27th Sunday after Pentecost			
Theme: Immeasurable Joy in Small Things Andrew the Apostle of Empowerment			
*24th November 4th Sunday	Celebrant & Preacher Rev. Dr. Dexter S. Maben	*Combined Holy Communion Worship Service	9:00 a.m
Old Testament	Amos 7:10-15	Mr. Wilson Prathap	
Epistle	Philippians 1:3-11	Miss Vivian Evangeline Shiri	
Gospel	St. John 6:1-14	Mrs. Rashmi S. Mohanraj (K)	
No Evening Service			

Note: Kindly keep the Church Office informed in advance about your inability to be present for the Scripture reading as scheduled.