

# St. Andrew's Church

CHURCH OF SOUTH INDIA - KARNATAKA CENTRAL DIOCESE

N E W S L E T T E R

OCT 2025

"Equipping and Empowering Congregation in God's Mission"





"we are reminded of three important truths as we give thanks to God"

(Deuteronomy 26:1 - 11)

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# From the Presbyter's Desk



"we are reminded of three important truths as we give thanks to God"
(Deuteronomy 26:1 - 11)

We live in a world where education has become a business and the source of program to train people into money making machines.

Ecumenism is being understood and the Church is losing its uniqueness, and the division between the young and old is growing.

Warm greetings to you all on this season of joyous Thanksgiving Harvest Festival! This is a time to remember God's faithful provision throughout the year spiritually, socially, and economically. His delivering hand has guided our families, blessed us with healing, lifted us in times of need, and surrounded us with His unwavering love.

In *Deuteronomy 26:1 - 11*, we are reminded of three important truths as we give thanks to God:

**Gratitude (**v.1): Bringing the first fruits was an act of thanksgiving, acknowledging God's grace and His blessings.

**Unity** (v.6 - 9): Remembering the Exodus reminds us that God formed a family into a nation, dwelling among them and leading them in unity.

**Submission** (v.10 - 11): Laying the first fruits before the Lord was an act of reverent worship and surrender.

As we celebrate Harvest, let us examine our hearts. Do we come with true gratitude for what God has done? Do we live in love and fellowship with our neighbours? And when we bring our Offering, do we also bring our hearts in full submission to the Lord who longs to dwell within us?

Let us, therefore, bring our Offerings cheerfully into the House of the Lord, our hearts united in gratitude, reverence, and joyful submission.

Rev. Samuel B. Pujari Presbyter-in-charge

# Reports of Activities by the Wings & Ministries

# Sunday School & Young Couples Fellowship

September has been a truly special month for our Sunday School Teachers and YCF Core Team, as we celebrated the privilege of teaching and counselling both children and adults, guiding them on the path of our Teacher and Sovereign Lord, Jesus Christ.

# Sunday School:

We, the teachers, were blessed to come together for *Fellowship*, along with our families, whose unwavering support continues to encourage our ministry.

We also had the honour of spending time with our Presbyter, *Rev. Samuel B. Pujari*, enlightening him about our ministry.





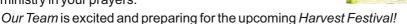


The Sunday School Team had the privilege of participating in INTERSUN 2025, an Interchurch Competition hosted by United Theological College, on the 12th of September. We are grateful to the organizers for bringing together 43 churches for a time of fellowship and learning under the theme, "Let's Go: Journeying with Christ." A total of 17 children from St. Andrew's Church participated and made us proud! We extend our heartfelt thanks to the teachers and parents for their dedication in nurturing these young hearts. Children, you make Andrew's family proud!

On Sunday, the *14th of September*, the Kannada Sunday School children and teachers presented the song "ನನ್ನ ದೇವರು."

## Young Couples Fellowship (YCF):

YCF continues to serve through Couple Counselling. Please feel free to reach out to us and continue to keep our ministry in your prayers.



## Mrs. Rashmi Mohanraj

Sunday School Superintendent & Convener, YCF

# Women's Fellowship





'I will praise You for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Marvellous are Your works, and that my soul knows very well.' Psalm 139:14

Greetings to all of you in the Precious Name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ!

Women's Sunday was celebrated on the 14th of September with the theme, 'Remembering and Celebrating Women's Ministry.'

The Women of St. Andrew's took active part in the entire service both in Kannada and English.

Rev. Ruth Rekha, our Guest Speaker, started her Sermon with a poem: 'Is there anything she can't handle?' She then quoted Ps. 139:14 and said we are made uniquely with a purpose. She named a few women from the Old Testament and the New Testament who were women of ministry. She also quoted from Proverbs Chapter 31 and said we need to remember and celebrate the countless women who embody these qualities, not only in Scriptures but in our churches today.

She then began with our first reading from the Old Testament from the *Book of Judges 4: 4-16* portraying the life of *Deborah*. The passage highlights how God uses women such as Deborah to provide deliverance and promote justice, showing that woman can serve as political leaders, spiritual guides and decisive agents for change for their communities. She added Deborah's leadership was characterized not by dominance but by empowerment and collective action. Deborah's model of leadership was relational fostering collaboration and shared responsibility. As we reflect on Deborah's story, we must celebrate and empower women in all spheres of leadership recognizing their God-given potential to transform society and the Church.

The second reading, from the *Epistle*, was *from Philippians 4:1-7*. It emphasizes unity and harmonious relationship within the Church particularly by focusing on the specific call for *Euodia* and *Syntyche*, to be reconciled. The direct address to Euodia and Syntyche encourages women to resolve their conflicts and work together in love and harmony, reflecting the greater unity for which Christ died. The world needs strong women who will lift and build others, who will love and be loved. The *verse 6* teaches a practical formula for peace by replacing worry with prayer, supplication and thanksgiving, trusting God to guard the heart and mind. Women in ancient Macedonia where Phillipi was located, had a significant degree of freedom and public agency, which likely contributed to their active role in ministry. Hence their ministry is to be remembered and celebrated.

The Gospel reading from St, Luke 8:1-3, speaks about how to celebrate women's vital role in Jesus' ministry, highlighting their healing, support and faithful companionship during His travels, and at the Cross and Resurrection. This passage demonstrates Jesus' radical inclusivity, and the importance of women's contribution to ministry, providing a foundation for contemporary understanding and celebration of women's service in the church. In a Patriarchal Society, Jesus' acceptance and inclusion of these women as His followers and supporters, broke significant social and cultural barriers. The passage serves as a testament to the enduring significance of women in ministry.

The passage reveals Jesus' radical inclusivity, affirming that women are essential partners in God's work and should be valued equally with men. The women's commitment to serve Jesus and His followers encourages modern believers to utilize their sources and opportunities to support the ministry of God. It reminds us that women were the first witnesses to the resurrected Jesus, a significant moment in Christian history, and their faith and courage should be remembered, celebrated and honoured.

Rev. Ruth challenged us as to what our response is after we have meditated on the above. Jesus' inclusivity for women which was radical for His time. While many religious leaders excluded women from theological discourse and leadership, Jesus empowered them, offering them dignity and a place in God's mission. The Church today must take inspiration from this model. As we remember and celebrate women in ministry, may the Almighty God grant us His grace to acknowledge their vital role in shaping the Church and Society. She ended with a call to continue to strive for a Church that embodies justice, love and inclusion for all. Amen!

On the 20th of September, two members of our Women's Fellowship Committee, *Mrs. Shobha Basme* and *Mrs. Anitha Noel* were invited by the Hudson Memorial Church as *Judges* for the *Sunday School Fancy Dress and Singing Competitions*. They were very happy as they were highly appreciated.

 $We \ Praise \ and \ thank \ God \ Almighty \ for \ all \ the \ favours \ and \ blessings \ He \ has \ bestowed \ on \ us.$ 

Mrs. Daisy Richards Secretary, Women's Fellowship

# St. Andrew's School, Siddapura







On *3rd September*, the *Lions Club* in their continued support for our School, had facilitated *Speech & Hearing Screening* for all students. A Team of five Doctors along with Lions Club professionals did the screening, and recommended follow- up for the students with the *ENT* Doctors for further diagnosis and treatment.

Teachers Day (05-Sep) is a unique Day observed to recognise and respect the hard work of educators who shape the minds and futures of students. At our St. Andrew's School, it's a good time to consider the significant influence teachers have on the lives of the students, and to give thanks for their steadfast commitment. From our church, we recognized teachers on Teachers Day, with a Teachers Day Gift, and also had Fellowship Lunch along with our Presbyter, who is the Chairman for our School.

We once again thank all our St. Andrew's School Teachers for shaping the character of all students and teaching lessons beyond textbooks.

### Mr. Wilson Prathap

Convener, St. Andrew's School, Siddapura

# Music Ministry An Evening of Musical Worship at St. Andrews Church







The *Musical Evening* at St. Andrew's Church on *August 31, 2025*, was a true celebration of our church's rich musical heritage. Beginning with *Handel's Prelude* on the piano by *St. Andrew's Chamber Orchestra (SACO)*, the service unfolded in a manner that was prayerful, dignified, and deeply inspiring.

The children of the *Kannada and English Sunday Schools* brought freshness and simplicity through their songs, setting a joyful tone. This was followed by *St. Andrew's School of Music* recital of 'O *What a Wonderful Day*' on the keyboard, reminding the congregation of the importance of nurturing young talent for God's glory.

SACO's renditions - including Goodness of God, Kistyesu Ninna Maanakaagi with variations, and the timeless Londonderry Air - beautifully blended classical discipline with heartfelt expression. The piano-violin Offertory Duet (Ave Maria - Bach/Gounod) was a moving highlight, lifting hearts in worship.

The Second half featured the *Choirs Stuthi@StAndrews*, offered a stirring Kannada song of thanksgiving, while the *Church Choir's* repertoire ranged from a 16th century *German Chorale to Natalie Sleeth's Hymn of Promise*, demonstrating both historical depth and contemporary relevance. Each selection was rendered with reverence, precision, and devotion.

The Service was led by our Presbyter, *Rev. Samuel Pujari*. Woven into the tapestry of music were informative talks on the church's musical heritage, Sunday School history, and the various musical Wings, presented by leadership members. The contributions of the late *Mr. Godfrey Ayyadurai* who pioneered the *St. Andrew's Voice Training School* and *St. Andrew's Men's Ensemble (SAME)*, were also remembered with gratitude. The *Congregational Hymns*, accompanied on the *Pipe Organ* by *Mr. Andrew Bhagyanathan*, added depth and solemnity.

The evening concluded with a stirring rendition of the *National Anthem* by the Choir with SACO, sealing the event in unity and gratitude. In the end, this was not merely a concert but a worship experience, where children, youth, and adults together offered one harmonious sacrifice of praise.

## Wg Cdr I D Soans

Director, St. Andrew's School of Music

# Youth Fellowship







Warm greetings to you all in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

The month of September has been a joyful one for the Youth Fellowship. On 6th September, we visited two of our elderly members Dr. R.M.O. Gemson, who is currently at a care centre, and Mrs. Pramuda Knight at her home. These visits brought joy to both the youth and the elders through meaningful conversations and singing praises together.

We were also blessed with fellowship time with the youth of The Mar Thoma Syrian Church on two consecutive Sundays. On 7th September, we were invited to their church to partake in their evening service, and on the following Sunday, 14th September, we welcomed them to our church for an evening service conducted by our youth. We are grateful for the bond and fellowship shared between us.

For the Care for the Elderly Sunday, the youth supported the elders in leading praise and worship, and we continue to actively serve in the various ministries of the church.

The youth also meet online every Saturday at 8:30 a.m. for a time of prayer.

We are delighted to announce that our intra-church competition, ATHRYLITH commenced on 27th September. We warmly invite and encourage all members of our congregation, across every age group, to participate in the various events and celebrate our God-given talents. We look forward to a time of excitement, joy, and fellowship together through Athrylith.

Wishing you all a blessed month ahead!

Miss Vivian E. Shiri & Mr. Prajwal Jacob Conveners, Youth Fellowship

# Care for the Elderly







We thank our Lord Jesus Christ for showering us with His grace and mercy, and giving us a new day in our lives. Our Lord has been faithful and will continue to be faithful to us.

We observed *Elderly Sunday* in our church where the Elders of our church participated during both English and in Kannada Services. The *Kannada Service* started at 8:15 am with *Rev. Jessie Ranjan* giving us the message on *'loving our elders and taking care of them.'* Homes for the Elderly were initially started by Christians and now has become very prominent and started by many others too. She spoke about Joseph meeting Jacob after years, and how the reunion brought their families together.

We had Stuthi@StAndrews sing a special number for us in Kannada.

The English Service started with the *Elders and the Youth leading in Praise and Worship with 3 beautiful Songs*. Rev. Jessie Ranjan gave a similar message in English, stressing on the reunion of Jacob and Joseph and his brothers, and thus resulting in God's fulfilment of God's promise given to Abraham. Love, the greatest message to be preached and practiced. We had our Elders singing a Special Number; 'We have a great big wonderful God', during the Service.

We thank God Almighty for showering His blessing upon us and helping us have a successful Service. Thanks to our Youth Fellowship members and Stuthi@StAndrews for participating during both the Services. We thank Rev. Jessie Ranjan for giving us the message.

With best regards

Mr. Praveen Oscar Shiri Convener, Care for the Elderly



Welcome friends. Come October, and we eagerly await the Harvest Thanksgiving Festival with gratitude for God's bountiful provisions. Indeed, there's so much to be grateful for! The Bible is a precious gift too. Can you locate 26 Books of the Bible hidden in the passage below? Grab a pen/highlighter, get set, go!

#### HIDDEN WORDS PASSAGE

Dear Sir/Madam.

The Bible is a remarkable book. Within this letter 26 books of the Bible are hidden. Can you find them all? Have a go at it using a pen or pencil, highlight the ones you find. The Bible was written by God, using many authors from all sorts of backgrounds, having many different jobs. God tells us the story of His nation Israel and His son, Jesus Christ, making sure it has been preserved for us through the ages for us to read today.

The Bible outlines the right way to lead our lives, as well as containing many historical accounts. Moses led Israel through the Red Sea, at the battle of Jericho trumpeters marched round the walls for seven days, Judea saw great wars and captivity, Abishag gained David as a husband, the Pharisees would act superior to everyone else, perhaps almsgiving for example, but Jesus kept giving them a most stern rebuke. Jesus also performed many miracles, after receiving the Holy Spirit upon his baptismal achievement, with his first miracle being turning the water into wine for the groom at the wedding, maybe it was a nice Spanish Rioja? Mesopotamia was an important region in Biblical history, with Ur and Babylon in that area, as was Sudan I elsewhere read.

When studying the Bible it is helpful to look out for any Bible echo. Search for them whenever you read as you will see some fascinating things, particularly when reading the letters to the various churches, or ecclesias. Testing what you hear against the Bible is also very important to show if it is true, for example if someone suggests Jesus was born in Suez rather than Bethlehem, you would use the Bible to check its accuracy. The same applies if you think Paul ate locusts, David played a banjo eloquently for Saul, Barnabas went on missionary work to Dijon, a horse carried Jesus into Jerusalem or Lazarus died of swine flu, keep going back to the Bible as you can learn a lot from answers to your questions. There is no need to put being academic ahead of everything else though as Jesus said it is most important to love one another, in a humble spirit. Jesus gave His life for us and when we are in a spiritual rut, His love will give us the comfort we need.

Sincerely, the Rev. E. Lation

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 **20th October 2025** in the following format:

Name Serial number – Answer

#### REFLECTION

#### **PSALMS: The Heartbeat of the BIBLE**

At the centre of the Bible is the Book of Psalms. This great collection of songs and prayers expresses the heart and soul of humanity. In them we find an expression of the whole range of human experiences. In this Book, David and the other writers honestly poured out their true feelings, reflecting a dynamic, powerful and life changing friendship with God. The Psalmists confess their sins, express doubts and fears, ask God for help in times of trouble, and praise and worship Him.

Psalms, a collection of 150 lyrical poems, is one of only two Old Testament books to identify itself as a composite work containing multiple authors (Proverbs is the other). Some Psalms name their author in the first line or title. For example, Moses wrote Psalm 90. David was responsible for many of them, composing seventy-three Psalms. Asaph wrote twelve; the descendants of Korah penned eleven. Solomon wrote two, and Ethan and Heman, the Ezrahites, were responsible for two others. The remainder of the Psalms do not contain information about their authors.

As you read the Book of Psalms, you will hear cries from the depth of despair, and you will hear singing in the heights of celebration, a sharing of honest feelings with God. Because of this, people throughout history have come, again and again, to the Book of Psalms for comfort during times of struggle and distress. And through the Psalms, they have risen from the depths of despair to new heights of joy and praise as they also discovered the power of God's everlasting love and forgiveness. Let the honesty of the Psalms guide you into a deep and genuine relationship with God.

"Hallelujah", (The word hallel (הַלֵּלי) in Hebrew means a joyous praise in song) appears 24 times in the Psalms.

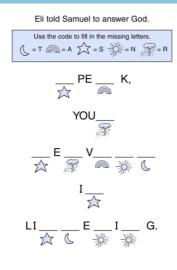
The word "Selah" appears 71 times throughout the Psalms. The most recognised meaning of the Hebrew word Selah is "forever". It is often interpreted as an instruction calling for a break in the singing of the Psalms, or to pause and calmly think about what you have read.

Here is a detailed, animated overview of the Book of Psalms by BibleProject, which breaks down the literary design of the Book and its flow of thought. You don't want to miss this. Scan QR code or visit https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j9phNEaPrv8



## Children's Nook

God is happy when we listen to Him. The story of young Samuel listening to God is found in 1 Samuel, chapter 3. While you complete the activities below, think of ways you can serve God too.





### Cook's Nook

#### JACOB'S LENTIL STEW

Jacob's stew reminds us that food often plays a role in both the big and small moments of the Bible. Lentils, among the oldest cultivated crops in the world, are mentioned in several passages, including the story of Jacob and Esau, where Esau sells his birthright for a bowl of lentil stew. Here's a simple recipe you can prepare and enjoy around your own table of fellowship. Gather the ingredients, follow the steps, and before long you will have a bowl of lentil stew ready to share



#### Ingredients

- 1 cup red lentils
- 1 cup cooked kidney
  - 1 large onion, chopped
- 2 tbsp. tomato paste
- 5 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 tsp. chilli powder
- 1/2 tsp. whole cumin seeds
- 1/2 tsp. whole peppercorns
- 1 cup chicken stock / veggie stock
- 1 tsp green pepper 1 cup coriander,
- chopped 2 tbsp. ghee
- Salt as desired
- Sour cream, for garnish

#### Method

- 1. Wash and soak the lentils for at least 1 hour. 2. In a pressure cooker, take soaked lentils, salt, cumin,
- pepper, 1/2 quantity each, of chopped onions, garlic and coriander with 3 cups of water and pressure cook for 3
- whistles. If using a pot, let it simmer with the lid closed until the lentils are sof t and mushy.
- 3. In a pan, add the ghee, when hot, add a pinch of whole cumin seeds, green peppers, the remaining chopped onions, garlic and let it cook till the onions are transparent.
- 4. Add the tomato paste with a couple of teaspoons of water and once it's heated through, add the chicken stock and kidney beans. Let this come to a boil and then add chilli powder and salt to taste.
- 5. At this stage, add the cooked mashed lentils and let the soup simmer on low for 20 minutes.
- 6. Sprinkle the remaining coriander, a dollop of sour cream and serve it hot on rice or a side of pita bread. It's not just delicious, but also simple and hearty.

## **Quiz Answers for the Month of September 2025**

- 1. Job 12:12
- 2. Proverbs 16:31
- 3. Joshua 14:10b-11
- 4. Psalm 73:26
- 5. Psalm 90:12

- 6. 2 Corinthians 4:16
- 7. Proverbs 31:30
- 8. Isaiah 46:4
- 9. Psalm 23:6
- 10. Leviticus 19:32

# Marvellous Winners for the Month of September 2025

Deepan Elbert Pramodan Esther Suguna Simeon Felicia Manoraj Annie Felix



Daisy Mark Prabhu Gitanali Lazarus Rosabelle Prabhakar Lynette Natasha Karkada

# HAPPENINGS DURING THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2025

#### **INFANT BAPTISM**



#### **Sean Grace Solomon**

son of Mr. Arthur Mark Solomon and Mrs. Mitali Senapati on 28th September 2025

## **OBITUARY**



## Mr. John Manoranjan

aged 45 years, son of late Mr. M.Jayaraju and the late Mrs. Dorathy Jayaraju, husband of Mrs. Jyothi K.M, father of Master Nischal Joy J, Younger brother of Ms. Jennfyer Elmeena, slept in the Lord on Sunday, 28th September 2025.

# **Annual Thanksgiving Harvest Festival - 2025**

Parking: After the Church Parking area is full, kindly park your vehicles on Infantry Road and Tunbridge High School Grounds.

Biriyani Packets (Rs.250/-) will be available for Sale near the Coffee Counter after the worship service and from the Church Office, till the 11th of October 2025.

Offering in kind will be received in Church on Saturday, 11th October 2025 - 10.00am Onwords.

Calendar for the First Week of November 2025				
	21st Sunday after Pentecost			
*2nd November	All Souls Day			
1st Sunday	Celebrant & Preacher	*Combined Holy Communion		
	Rev. Samuel B. Pujari	Worship Service		
Old Testament	Isaiah 25: 6 - 9	Mr. Wilson Prathap	9:00 a.m	
Epistle	2 Corinthians 5: 1 - 10	Mrs. Rashmi S. Mohanraj		
Gospel	St. John 11: 21 - 27	Mr. J. A. Prakash (K)		
Evening Service	Preacher: Rev. Dr. Samuel Sunith R		6.15 p.m	

Calendar for the Month of October 2025				
	17th Sur	nday after Pentecost		
*5th October 1st Sunday	Laity Sunday			
	Theme: Priesthood of All Believers			
	Celebrant: Rev. Samuel B. Pujari Preacher: Rev. Sanjay Samuel Ayer	*Combined Holy Communion Worship Service		
Old Testament	Isaiah 61: 1 - 11	Mr. Erol Shailesh Watsa	9:00 a.m	
Epistle	1 Peters 2: 1 - 10	Miss Vivian Evangeline Shiri		
Gospel	St. John 17: 1 - 8	Wg Cdr I D Soans (K)	1	
Evening Service	Preacher: Rev. Dr	. Samuel Sunith R	6.15 p.m	
	18th Sunday after Pentecost			
12th October 2nd Sunday	Harvest and Thanksgiving Sunday			
	Theme - Harvest: Celebration of Gratitude and Obedience			
	Preacher: Rev. Samuel B. Pujari	Combined Worship Service		
Old Testament	Deuteronomy 26: 1 - 11	Mr. Joshi Mark Premnath		
Epistle	1 Timothy 6: 6 - 12	Mr. Prajwal Jacob	8:30 a.m	
Gospel	St. Luke 21: 1 - 4	Mr. David Soans (K)		
	No Evening Se	ervice		
	19th Sunday after Pentecost			
*10.4 0-4-4	Theme - Nicene: Challenges and Realities			
*19th October 3rd Sunday	Celebrant: Rev. Samuel B. Pujari Preacher: Rev. William Jones S	*Kannada Holy Communion	8.15 a.m	
	Preacher: Rev. William Jones S	English		
Old Testament	Praverbs 8: 22 - 31	Mrs. Arpana Pallavi Palanna (K)		
Old Testament		Miss Ana Johanna Flemingson		
Epistle	Colossians 1: 15 - 17	Mrs. Savina Peters (K)	9.30 a.m	
Epistie		Mrs. Rose Walters		
Gospel	St. John 1: 1 - 14	Mrs. Soumya Namrata Sumitra (K)		
		Dr. (Mrs.) Shreyanka Suresh Shetty		
*Evening Service	Holy Communion Service - Celebrar		6.15 p.m	
26th October 4th Sunday	20th Sunday after Pentecost  Reformation Sunday			
	Theme: Celebration of God's Sovereignty, Justice and Peace			
	Preacher: Rev. Manohar Chandra Prasad	Kannada	8.15 a.m	
	Preacher: Rev. Manohar Chandra Prasad	English		
Old Toolson	Exodus 7: 1 - 7	Mrs. Evelyn Sumana (K)	9.30 a.m	
Old Testament		Ms. Aparna Bhaskar		
Epistle Gospel	Romans 13: 1 - 7 St. John 18: 33 - 38	Mr. Anoop Justin (K)		
		Mrs. Agnita Robert Narendra		
		Mrs. Ramya M. C (K)		
Evening Service	Proachor: Roy Dr	Mrs. Sandra Ligory . Samuel Sunith R	6.15 p.m	