

# THE MAR THOMA CHURCH OF DALLAS FARMERS BRANCH

## CHURCH

11550 LUNA ROAD  
DALLAS, TX 75234  
TEL: (972) 830.9300



## PARSONAGE

3621 CANYON OAKS  
CARROLLTON, TX 75007  
TEL: (972) 939.0699

Items to be included in the lifetimes should be submitted to the Secretary by the 3rd Sunday of each month. If information is incorrectly printed, please contact the Vicar and Secretary to make the corrections. Please feel free to contact the Vicar or Secretary with any questions or comments. Your feedback is appreciated.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

President	Rev. Minoy N. Kuruvilla	(972) 939-0699	minoyatchen@gmail.com
Youth Chaplain	Rev. Jaisen Thomas	(972) 495-5393	revjathomas@yahoo.com
Vice President	Eapen Thomas	(972) 492-0814	s.eapen@verizon.net
Secretary	Mr. Anwar Achankunj	(214) 952-9262	secretarymtcfb@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Abraham T. Mathew	(972) 899-2071	rajanmatt@yahoo.com
Accountant	Jacob Varughese	(972) 329-4271	Varughese.jacob10@gmail.com
Adult Lay Ldr.	Mr. Varghese Abraham	(469) 556-6835	mohankoodal55@yahoo.com
Youth Lay Ldr.	Mr. Justin Chandy	(972) 529-2069	justin@jchandy.com
Sun School Sup.	Mr. Thomas Andrews	(817) 498-9372	thomasandrews81@hotmail.com
Facility Manager	Mr. Philip Thomas	(214) 415-5688	punalurthampy@yahoo.com
Mission & Outreach	Mr. George Varghese	(972) 691-1482	jayn7@hotmail.com
Sound Engineer	Mr. Chacko N. Mani	(214) 215-6158	cbaby@mail.com

**Mar Thoma Life Times, Volume IX, September 2011**, Published by Anwar Achankunj the Secretary, Mar Thoma Church of Dallas Farmers Branch on behalf of the Executive Committee



# MAR THOMA LIFE TIMES

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE MAR THOMA CHURCH OF DALLAS, FB

SEPTEMBER 2011



*Family Retreat 2011  
September 9th - 11th  
Sky Ranch, Texas*




The Mar Thoma Church of Dallas  
Farmers Branch

11550 Luna Road, Dallas, TX 75234  
972.830.9300  
www.mtcdallasfb.org

# WORSHIP



# SCHEDULE

<p><b>Sept 4</b> <i>Evangelism - Co responsibility of Woman</i></p> <p><b>Area:</b> <b>Savika Sangham</b></p>	<p><b>9:00 AM:</b> Sunday School <b>9:15 AM:</b> Adult Bible Study <b>10:15 AM:</b> Holy Qurbana <b>(MALAYALAM)</b></p> <p>SAVIKA SANGHAM SUNDAY Grand Parents Sunday</p>	<p><b>1st Lesson:</b> Prov 31: 10-31 <b>2nd Lesson:</b> Acts 16: 6-15 <b>Epistle:</b> 2 Tm. 1: 1-5 <b>Gospel:</b> St. John 20: 11-18</p>
<p><b>Sept 11</b> <i>Sacrament of Marriage</i></p> <p><b>Area:</b> <b>IRVING SOUTH</b></p>	<p><b>9:00 AM:</b> Sunday School <b>10:15 AM:</b> Holy Qurbana <b>(ENGLISH)</b> <b>FAMILY RETREAT</b></p> 	<p><b>1st Lesson:</b> Gen. 1: 26-31 <b>2nd Lesson:</b> Rev. 19: 1-10 <b>Epistle:</b> Eph. 5: 21-32 <b>Gospel:</b> St. Mark 10: 1-9</p>
<p><b>Sept 18</b> <i>Care the Aged Senior Citizen Day</i></p> <p><b>Area:</b> <b>PLANO</b></p>	<p><b>9:00 AM:</b> Sunday School <b>9:15 AM:</b> Adult Bible Study <b>10:15 AM:</b> Holy Qurbana <b>(MALAYALAM)</b></p> <p>SENIOR CITIZEN SUNDAY</p>	<p><b>1st Lesson:</b> Isa. 40: 21-31 <b>2nd Lesson:</b> 1 Tim 5: 1-10 <b>Epistle:</b> 1 John 3: 1-10 <b>Gospel:</b> Luke 2: 25-38</p>
<p><b>Sept 25</b> <i>Baptism Incorporation of The body of Christ</i></p> <p><b>Area:</b> <b>CARR. EAST</b></p>	<p><b>9:00 AM:</b> Sunday School <b>9:15 AM:</b> Adult Bible Study <b>10.15 AM:</b> Holy Qurbana <b>(ENGLISH)</b> Sunday School</p>	<p><b>1st Lesson:</b> Exo 14: 15-31 <b>2nd Lesson:</b> Tit. 3: 3-8 <b>Epistle:</b> Rom 6: 1-11 <b>Gospel:</b> St. John 3: 1-8</p>
<p><b>Oct 2</b> <i>Christian witness In a Secular World</i></p> <p><b>Area:</b> <b>Edavaka Mission</b></p>	<p><b>9:00 AM:</b> Sunday School <b>9:15 AM:</b> Adult Bible Study <b>10:15 AM:</b> Holy Qurbana <b>(MALAYALAM)</b></p> <p>EDAVALA MISSION SUNDAY</p>	<p><b>1st Lesson:</b> Dan. 3: 16-30 <b>2nd Lesson:</b> Acts 18: 24-28 <b>Epistle:</b> 1 Thess. 1: 1-9 <b>Gospel:</b> St. Mat 5: 10-16</p>

# SEPT. PRAYER MEETING SCHEDULE



Area	Date	Residence of	Time
<b>Carrollton East</b>	09-03 09-10 09-17 09-24	TBD Family Retreat Shaji Mathew Bijili George	6:30 6:30 6:30 6.30
<b>Carrollton North</b>	09-03 09-10 09-18(Sun) 09-25(Sun)	TBD Family Retreat P T Mathew Samuel Yohannan	6:30 6:30 6:30 6.30
<b>Carrollton West</b>	09-03 09-10 09-17 09-24	TBD Family Retreat TBD TBD	6:30 6:30 6.30 6.30
<b>Coppell</b>	09-03 09-10 09-17 09-24	Jacob M Skariah Family Retreat Sam Alex Aleyamma Mathew	7:00 7:00 7:00 7.00
<b>Dallas/ Mesquite</b>	09-03 09-11(Sun) 09-18(Sun) 09-24	TBD Raju George Thomas Varughese (Shaji) TBD	6:30 6.30 6:30 6.30
<b>Fort Worth &amp; Mid Cities</b>	09-03 09-10 09-17 09-24	Regi Andrews Family Retreat TBD TBD	6:30 6:30 6:30 6.30
<b>Garland</b>	09-04(Sun) 09-10 09-17 09-24	Chacko N Mani Family Retreat Babu Karimpanamannil Mathew Varghese	6:30 7:00 7:00 7.00
<b>Irving North</b>	09-03 09-10 09-18(Sun) 09-24	TBD Family Retreat Chacko Johnson Aji and Diana	6:30 6:30 6:30 6.30
<b>Irving South</b>	09-03 09-10 09-17 09-24	TBD Family Retreat TBD TBD	6:30 6:30 6:30 6.30
<b>Plano</b>	09-03 09-10 09-17 09-24	Thomas M Mathews Family Retreat Thomas K Mathews John Mathew	7:00 7:00 7:00 7.00



**“I have no one to help me...” (St. John 5:7). Have you caught yourself saying this? Is hope a reality in your life?**

It sometimes seems that when our struggles and trials in life become so great that instead of growing in faith we begin to lose hope. Yet, hope is the very essence of our Christian faith and life. It is this faith that we profess when we proclaim that God sent his only begotten Son Jesus Christ, who died, resurrected, ascended into heaven and will come again to receive His Church. It is this faith in Jesus Christ that must eclipse the darkness of our pain and anxieties. When we lose hope we may go through a process of self-loathing and see our problems as bigger than our God.

In St. John 5:1-10, Jesus meets a man who had been an invalid for 38 years! When Jesus speaks to him, his words reveal that he had lost hope in others, in himself and in everything. In fact, his lack of hope and faith blinded him to see Jesus as God who stood before him. Yet, Jesus demonstrated His power and healed the man by making him to walk and forgiving his sins. That is, what seemed like an insurmountable burden of 38 years was lifted in a matter of seconds! When we are at our lowest state and are losing hope remember that Christ is nearby and is willing to comfort and restore! Trust in Jesus Christ and grow in faith so that our problems do not become greater than our God. He is more than sufficient!

I'd like to share a story of hope I read earlier this week:

“About 20 years ago there was a house near the entrance of our subdivision that kept their Christmas lights burning long after the season was past. They burned through January. Even through the first of February those outside lights burned every night. Finally, about the middle of February I became a bit critical and said, “If I were too lazy to take my Christmas lights down, I think I'd at least turn them off at night”. But about the middle of March there was a sign outside of their house that explained why they had left the lights on. It simply said, “Welcome home, Jimmy”. We learned that family had a son in Vietnam and they had unashamedly left their Christmas lights on in anticipation of his return. ”

May God Almighty strengthen us all to understand witness lives of hope at all times! Your brother in Christ, Jaisen Achen C- 214-604-6678.

When we are overburdened, the world seems a colder place. The sun may be shining, but our heads are bowed low so we don't notice. The birds sing, but our ears are filled with cries of the hearts—cries of pain, sorrow and weariness. We put distance between us and others as our problems absorb our time and attention. Perhaps we are weighed down by unmet expectations, sudden trauma or death, or simply too much responsibility. Another possibility is that sin is causing our heaviness of heart. Whatever the cause, however, the result is the same: a crushing weight. Only the amount of the weight varies.

Into our bleakness comes the voice of Almighty God inviting us to draw near and find rest in Him.

"This is what Lord says: 'Stand at the crossroad and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good ways is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your soul...' "(Jeremiah 6:16a)

1. **"Stand at the crossroad and look"**: In the time of turmoil, our minds race a head to think of all that could happen in the future. We ask ourselves lots of "WHAT IF" questions and frequently fall victim to unfounded worry. To "STAND" means to turn our mind from its troubling thoughts of the future and focus on God. It is similar to being at an intersection with signs pointing many different ways. We wait until we know which direction the trail is heading.

2. **"Ask for the ancient paths, as for good ways is"**: The road of trouble has been well travelled by the saints of the faith, and their footsteps have made it into a path of glory to God. Meditate on the cries of King David in Psalms or on the prayers of others in the Bible. Ponder their responses as well as the ways they reveal their faith and trust in God even while suffering greatly. Accept the spirit's revelation of the ancient path of faith and the good way of trust. Then pray for courage to walk those paths as Jesus Christ did.

3. **"Walk in it and you will find rest for your soul"**: With eyes firmly fixed on our saviour, resolve to walk down this road of suffering in a way that is honoring to Him. Draw deeply on the Holy Spirit's strength for the next step, and seek to be obedient in thought, word, and deed. You will discover that as you follow Him, sweet, soul-satisfying rest will be found.

The family retreat is a time to look up to our heavenly Father and chose the right direction of our lives or to re-arrange it or to re-strengthen it in Him.. Jesus offers living water—take time to drink until our soul is strengthened. What will be our response...Israelite response was :“We will not walk in it”( Jer.6:16b). Lets grab the opportunity and take rest in Him leaving all burdens which seems unbearable and make a difference in our lives as well as in others.

May God bless  
Minoyatchen



## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS.....

Date	Name	Prayer Group
1	Latha Alice Thomas	Coppell
	Susan Abraham	Dallas / Mesquite
2	Sally Celene Parampottil	Coppell
	Jacob M Idichandy	Garland
	P V John	Garland
	Sneha Kuruville	Irving South
3	Jolly George	Carrollton North
	Biju Thomas	Carrollton North
	Nina Samuel	Irving North
4	Priya Mathew Elanjickal	Irving North
	Jaime Thomas	Carrollton West
5	Mathew John	Carrollton East
	Kevin Abraham	Carrollton North
	Siby Somar	Carrollton East
6	Bianca E David	Plano
	Shiji Mathew	Coppell
	Sino Abraham	Irving South
7	Dony Daniel	Carrollton North
	Dr. Ben Mathew	Plano
8	Betsy Cherian	Carrollton West
	Abigail Sarah Mathews	Dallas / Mesquite
	Reuben John	Carrollton North
	Nancy Joseph	Coppell
9	Moses Varghese	Fort Worth Mid Cities
	Ashby Abraham	Carrollton North
10	Ansu Thomas	Irving South
	Sossamma John	Carrollton North
	Josh Varghese Thomas	Dallas / Mesquite
	Marykutty Thomas	Irving South
12	Abel Mamoottil Mathew	Fort Worth Mid Cities
	Kurian Varghese	Plano
	Dr. Varghese P Samuel	Other Area
	Aaron Mamoottil Mathew	Fort Worth Mid Cities
13	Smitha E Mathew	Irving South
	Ashby Ann Thomas	Carrollton East
14	John Philipose	Carrollton West
	Melvin Abraham Thampy	Irving South
	Sangeeth George	Carrollton North
	Mathew Jacob	Plano
15	Jose Thomas	Carrollton West
	Sterlin V Charly	Carrollton East
	Sibin E Abraham	Coppell
	Saji J Simon	Carrollton West
16	Santhosh Joseph	Carrollton East
	Dikxi Varghese	Fort Worth Mid Cities
	Sweetey A Samuel	Carrollton East
17	Samantha Rebekha Mathew	Plano
	Reba Mathew	Garland
	Nicole Elizabeth Kummer	Carrollton West

### SAVIKA SANGHAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### Sevika Sangham Day

Our parish will celebrate Sevika Sangham day on Sunday September 4th to recognize and honor the contributions of the Sevika Sangham. After the worship service, Sevika Sangham members will host the grandparents day program for all grandparents in our church. All grandparents are invited for the special program. Lunch will be served.

#### SEVIKA SANGHAM FAITH PROMISE PROGRAM

Our parish Sevika Sangham is raising funds through the Faith Promise program. The purpose of the Faith promise program is to collect funds from members and provide assistance to needy families in India and locally for medical, marriage, education and mission aid. The Sevika Sangham requests all members to help the Faith promise program by your prayers and generous financial support.

#### SEVIKA SANGHAM NATIONAL CONFERENCE

The 2011 Marthoma National Suvisesha Sevika Sangham conference will be held in Chicago from Sep 29th - Oct 2nd. The theme for the conference is - Choice, is it right. All sevika sangham members are eligible to participate in the conference. Please contact the Sevika Sangham Secretary, Mrs. Elsie Andrews for more information.

#### Fun With Purpose – October 8<sup>th</sup>

A program called Fun with Purpose will be held on Oct 8th by the Sevika Sangham for its members in the parish. This intention of the program is to encourage the members to come together for an informal get together for devotion and fun filled activities.

#### Parish Sevika Sangham Retreat – October 15<sup>th</sup>

The parish Sevika Sangham retreat will be held on Oct 15th 2011 from 9:00 – 1:00 PM. Details of the retreat will be announced in the coming weeks.

## Sept. 2011 Wedding Anniversaries

Date	Names	Prayer Group
1	John P Varghese & Thankamma John	Carrollton East
	Chacko N Mani & Susan Chacko	Garland
3	Shawn T & Elizabeth Chacko	Plano
4	Zachariah & Reeni Mathew	Fort Worth Mid Cities
	Thomas & Sosamma Zachariah	Carrollton West
5	George A. & Sherin Thomas	Fort Worth Mid Cities
7	Samuel V Thomas & Eunice Samuel	Carrollton East
9	Jose Cherian & Anne Varghese	Carrollton North
10	Stacen & Praseetha Joseph	Carrollton North
11	Thomas & Bamini Mathew	Coppell
	P T Issac & Lelamma Issac	Garland
12	Sojan & Binsy Easow	Plano
13	Babu & Jaya Varghese	Carrollton West
	Rev. Minoy N Kuruvilla & Merin Minoy	Carrollton West
14	Philipose C. Samuel & Marayamma Philipose	Carrollton West
15	John T Mathew & Mariamma Mathew	Irving South
	Bryte Abraham & Latha Thomas	Coppell
18	Sujan & Gisha George	Carrollton North
20	Mathews T & Susan Abraham	Coppell
21	Mannil R Titus & Mariamma Rajan	Carrollton East
22	Sammon & Sunitha George	Carrollton North
26	Jacob K & Latha Chacko	Dallas / Mesquite
27	Manoj & Jaime Thomas	Carrollton West
30	Dr. Ben & Jini Mathew	Plano

### HEALTH SEMINAR

When it comes to taking medicines, Our body needs natural medicines -not the conventional medicines which has lots of side effects. In ancient life Science the 'Ayurveda' takes a completely natural approach to health care. Nature has a natural solution for most common ailments. There are successful treatments for most of the ailments like asthma among children, constant allergies, arthritis ,depression, ADD, sleeplessness, digestive problems etc. Please attend the health seminar on Sat. Sept.17th 2011 from 9.30 -11 a.m. at the parish fellowship hall. Dr. Preeti Gupta will explain how ayurveda based health care alternatives can help you. Dr. Preeti Gupta is a 3rd generation Ayurveda Practitioner from India.

Lunch will be served.

For more details please contact  
Mr.Abraham Mathew @ 214-321-7561

## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS.....

Date	Name	Prayer Group
18	Sean Philip	Irving North
	Shali Alice George	Carrollton East
	Rincey Daniel	Carrollton North
	Macy A John	Irving North
	Saja Varghese	Irving North
19	Lilly Alex	Coppell
	Bipin G Thomas	Plano
20	Andrew Verghese	Plano
	Tobin Abraham	Coppell
	Robin Abraham	Carrollton North
21	David Mathew Idichandy	Garland
	Christian Verghese	Plano
	Sam Alex	Coppell
22	Anna A Mammen	Plano
	Jai Sawkar	Coppell
	Joann Mathew	Plano
23	Smitha Abraham	Coppell
	Reema Kurian	Plano
	Joseph T George	Carrollton East
	Manju John	Carrollton East
	Nirmala Varghese	Carrollton East
24	Kiran Jacob Cheriyan	Coppell
	Varghese Varghese	Coppell
	Sosamma Abraham	Garland
	Sujith Mathew	Garland
	Mathew Aringada George	Coppell
25	Bryte Varghese Abraham	Coppell
25	Bindhu Varghese	Fort Worth Mid Cities
26	Selwin Stanly	Carrollton East
27	Sneha George	Carrollton North
	Jacob John	Carrollton East
	Winslo Idicula	Garland
	Lena Skariah	Irving South
28	Hephziba Mary Varghese	Dallas / Mesquite
	Philipose C. Samuel	Carrollton West
	Rekha J Daniel	Irving North
29	Andrian George	Plano
	Zachariah Mathew	Fort Worth Mid Cities
30	Nathan Tinu	Irving North
	Ashlin Koleth	Garland



### Birth

Biju and Anu Zachariah of Plano prayer group are blessed with a baby boy, Joshua Thomas Zachariah in August 2011.

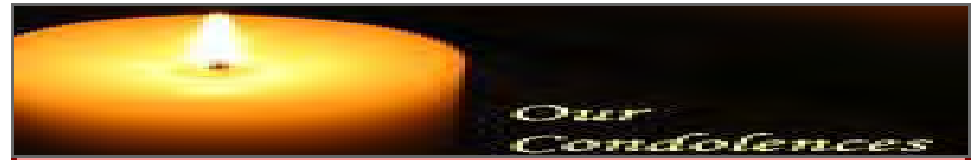


PLEASE REGISTER YOUR NAME FOR THE UPCOMING FAMILY RETREAT

CONVENER: MR. PHILIP THOMAS

DATE: SEPTEMBER 9TH -11TH, 2011

SAVE THE DATE



Mr. Simson Mammen ,68 years old, Carrollton Mar Thoma Church member, brother of Mr. Mammen Koshy of Coppell prayer group ,passed away on Thursday August 11, 2011.

Father of Mrs. Sosamma George (Valsamma) wife of Mr. Raju George, Dallas/Mesquite Prayer Group, passed away in India, Elanthur Kerala on August 10, 2011 .

Mr. Mammen Cherian, aged 94, maternal grandfather of Dr. Sindhu A Abraham of Plano prayer group passed away in Chennai on August 11, 2011.

Our deepest **condolences** go out to these families for **their sad loss and** let's keep them in our prayers

Mar Thoma  
**Fest**  
*Charity for Humanity*  
Supporting Snehatheeram and MCRD  
OCTOBER 1 ST, SATURDAY 2011

## Address Change



Alexander Joseph  
5408 Royal Lytham Road  
Keller, TX 76244 Phone: 817 337 4110 ( Fort Worth Mid Cities)

Vincent Varughese  
1201 Oakley Dr.  
Murphy, TX 75094

Sajan John  
664 Forest Hill Dr  
Coppell TX 75019. Phone 214 242 0601