

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

REMEMBERING THE GOODNESS OF GOD

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NEWSLETTER
NOVEMBER 2015



HOREB MAR THOMA CHURCH

LOS ANGELES



Vicar's Message



Rev. Larry Varghese

Dear Brothers and Sisters
in Christ,

November always has a
way of shifting our
perspectives.

We think of

Thanksgiving Day and it reminds us to be more appreciative of what God has given us. Autumn becomes more of a reality in SoCal and we recall how life has its seasons of ebbs and flows. It prepares us mentally for winter and Christmas. November also, in a way, marks the beginning of the end of the year. October was a little too far away but now there's no denying that the year will soon come to an end. What will we do with the time God has given us? Before we get into holiday shopping mode can we simply be more thankful now as families? Will we make the conscious effort to mentally prepare for the celebration of Jesus' birth? Let us not wait till the end of the year to commit to needed changes. Let's be grateful that God has given us this month to enjoy his grace and let us, as a community of faith, live our lives reflecting his grace to those around us.

Yours in Christ.

Larry Achen

God Given Time

SEVIKA SANGHOM ARTICLE

by Mrs. Sherly Saji



God's gift of time is a treasure!

Do you ever feel that you are so busy coping with the pressures of life that it is a struggle to make time to spend with God? A woman's work is never done. It can be hard juggling everything that needs to be done; looking after children, spending time with your husband/family, cooking, catching up with friends, cleaning the house, doing the shopping, pressures at work, doing jobs at church etc. Many times we can feel that there isn't enough time in the day to get everything done. Time is something we all treasure. It is something we wish we had more of but it just seems to slip so quickly through our fingers. **I sometimes find myself thinking if only I had more time, I would spend it in prayer, read the Bible, and do more outreaches. It is at these times that we find we need to assess our priorities.**

What should my focus be each day? Our main aim as a Christian should be serving God and putting Him first no matter what we are doing. Jesus said there are two important commandments...'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself. (Matthew 22:37-38)

How can we do this?

Start the day by committing to God in prayer and asking for his help and guidance throughout the day. 'Commit to the LORD whatever you do, and your plans will succeed. (Proverbs 16:3) It is during the busy times that we should remember the story of Mary and Martha in the Bible. **We often feel that we are like Martha wanting to organize and sort everything.**

One Day Women's Fellowship

Saturday, November 7th

10am to 2 pm @GGUMC, RM #15

SPEAKER: Mrs. Buelah Jacob

Morning - "The Second
Coming of Christ"

Afternoon - "Signs of His
second coming"

ALL ARE WELCOME



But God doesn't want us to be so busy that we don't spend time with Him. Mary had chosen the better option of spending time with Jesus. Yes, like Martha we might have work commitments and things that we must do, but it is more important to know what God would want us to do. For example, if we have a prayer meeting in our house, we spend the last minute still arranging our house & food items but do we spend time to pray before prayer meetings that this meeting be a blessing for others to come & the Holy spirit to abide in us? That this meeting will bring fruit of the spirit to others? We need to be careful not to be like the seed in the parable of the sower that landed among the thorns ... Mark 4:18-19 ...'Still others, like seed sown among thorns, hear the word; but the worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth and the desires for other things come in and choke the word, making it unfruitful.' There are so many things that can occupy our time and many of these things are important, but the most important is spending time with God. **We are often challenged with the options of spending our spare time by watching TV, going on social media, or on our phones but instead of these options, ask yourself the question: How would God want me to spend my spare time? Take time to listen to His voice.**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Unity Sunday

Joint Service with St. Peter's CSI
November 8 @ 3pm GGUMC

Thanksgiving Dinner

Nov 29 @ GGUMC, after Service
(First Fruits Collection)
All our invited



NOVEMBER CALENDAR

Sun Nov 1	3:00pm - 5:00pm	Holy Communion Service(English)-GGUMC World Sunday School Day; ; General Body—Elections
Tues Nov 3	7:00pm—8:30pm	Edavaka Mission Bible Study - Mathew Koshy, Cerritos
Sat Nov 7	10:00am - 2:00pm	One Day Women's Conference - GGUMC
Sat Nov 7	7:00pm - 8:30pm	South Area Prayer - Susan & Raj Abraham, Irvine
Sun Nov 8	3:00pm - 5:00pm	Unity Sunday; Holy Communion with CSI (English) - GGUMC
Tues Nov 10	7:00pm—8:30pm	Edavaka Mission Bible Study - Rev. Larry Varghese, Garden Grove
Wed Nov 11	9:00pm—10:00pm	Western Regional Tele-prayer Conference - 714-432-1500 638599#
Sat Nov 14	6:00pm - 8:00pm	West Area Prayer - Thankamma & Thomas Mammen, Long Beach
Sun Nov 15	3:00pm - 5:00pm After Service	Holy Communion Service (Malayalam) - GGUMC Sunday School Parent-Teacher Meeting
Tues Nov 17	7:00pm—8:30pm	Edavaka Mission Bible Study - Mathew Thomas, Cypress
Fri Nov 20	7:00pm - 8:30pm	East Area Prayer - Susan & Dr. Thomas Mathew , Brea
Sat Nov 21	4:00pm - 7:00pm	Young Family Fellowship - Seena & Binoy Abraham , Gardena
Sun Nov 22	3:00pm - 5:00pm 5:00pm - 6:00pm	Holy Communion Service (English) - GGUMC Youth Fellowship - GGUMC
Tues Nov 24	7:00pm—8:30pm	Edavaka Mission Bible Study - Juby Mathew, Signal Hill
Fri Nov 27	7:30pm	Edavaka Mission Monthly Prayer—Jiju & Anina Cholakath, Irvine
Sun Nov 29	10:00am 3:00pm - 5:00pm	Edavaka Mission—Terrance View Outreach/Worship Divine Service & Witnessing - GGUMC First Fruits Collection; Thanksgiving Dinner
Every Thursday	9:00pm - 10:00pm	Weekly Tele-prayer conference - (712) 432-1500;969538#



MONTHLY MEMORABLES

On Sunday September 27, 2015, Horeb Mar Thoma Church participated in the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure 5k (3.1 mile) Run/Walk at Fashion Island Mall in Newport Beach. The church team "Horeb MTC" had over 50 members with ages ranging from 4 to 50, that raised funds and participated in the 5k. Through personal donations and fundraising, Horeb MTC was able to raise \$1251 for the Komen Foundation which was enough to provide 10 free mammograms for the community. Horeb MTC gathered at Fashion Island at 6am for the start of the race with enthusiasm. We appreciate Daison Thomas who coordinated this race, which was the first event of its kind for Horeb and was a great success. (On the left, the moment Dr. Sunil Thomas pulled his hamstring during the first 1/4 mile of the Race. Below is the group photo of the Horeb Delegation)

