



2019 - YEAR of FAITH

TUVIA

Oct - Dec 2018

Vol: 31

SHELTER HOUSE DECADE CELEBRATION



Shelter House completed a decade of ministry in November 2018. There were special services all through the month. Dr. Jacob Cherian, Rev. Billy Graham and Rev. Sam Varghese were the guest speakers who encouraged the church to go to the next level as ordained by the Word of God.

The grand finale was held on November 17-18. The thanksgiving worship was led by Pr. Ashley and Sis. Sheba. The Service was a reminder of God's mercies as Bro. Wilson, Bro. Bewin and Sis. Priya took time to share their thoughts in brief regarding the ten years of the ministry as they were very much a part of the church from the inception. 'Pastor is like a father' was a wonderful poem that was dedicated to our Pastoral family by Sis. Sharon. Our guest speaker, Pr. Sam Varghese from Life Fellowship Church in Trivandrum gave powerful insights on 'Why we are here as a church?' and what is God expecting from us? He explained that God expects us to willfully pray the prayer 'Let Your will be done' and look to His face. He compared the first century church to today's church and encouraged the church to take up the blessed responsibility to be on Kingdom business and make disciples.

There was a video clip of men of God from all over the world sharing their greetings to our church on the completion of ten years.

The Green Pastures Sunday School Anniversary Program was also held and the children performed a skit, dance and sang a song to glorify God's name. Prizes were distributed to our Sunday School Children who topped in assessment and talent test. The service ended with blessings and benediction from the Pastor and a fellowship lunch.

- Sis. Annie Sekar

Pastor's Desk

Blessed New Year Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. I pray that this year we will see every mountain of every sort giving way as our faith in the Lord is revealed.

Faith overpowers every mountain! To possess that faith would require a close walk with the Lord for faith as small as mustard seed can move away mountains. The disciples who were physically with the Lord Jesus could not develop that faith as the Lord called them as "Faithless" and "O ye of little faith". We should examine our faith everyday. Our faith in the Son of God will make our churches and homes centres of His glory and grace. This year is declared as the Year of Faith at Shelter House.



The past decade was more or less a foundation for our ministry and I believe the next ten years, God willing, will be where we are going to grow, branch out and yield fruits significantly for the Lord Jesus and for the glory of God, the Father. This New Year let's make that mighty resolve to go forward, crossing every hurdle and speaking to every mountain standing in front of us to make way. We will see the glory of God as our faith is strengthened. I also would like to remind you of this year's Conference. Kindly register before hand and use these moments to grow closer in your walk with the Lord. "Faith that will move mountains.." (1 Cor 13:2)

Blessings,

Pastor Ashley Benjamin

SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The women's fellowship was conducted on Nov 3rd. Pastor Ashley encouraged the women to play a great role in the Kingdom affairs just like Jochebed was passionate in defying the Pharaoh's orders to bring up Moses. The women had a blessed time in the Lord's presence and the meet ended with a good time of fellowship and breakfast.



EPAPHRAS MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The men gathered for a wonderful time of worship and meditation of God's word on Nov 10th. They shared their experience with Shelter House and how the church was a blessing to each one of them.



VoH

VoH screening of Paul, the Apostle helped us to see how the first century church operated in communities.

DECADE CELEBRATIONS HOLY LAND TRIP

- Sharon Angel

The first delegation of Shelter House left for the Holy Land on the 9th of October. By the grace of God we were able to begin our tour from Amman, Jordan. It was a privilege to begin our journey from the east side of Jordan, along the same route the people of Israel once took to reach the Promised Land. We saw the Jordan valley from the heights of Mt. Nebo, taking in the sight that filled the eyes of 120-year old Moses. We were able to have a look at the oldest available map of the Bible land at Madaba and float on the waters of the Dead Sea.

We entered into the borders of Israel, visiting Mt. Tabor, the Mount of Transfiguration, Nazareth, the hometown of Mary and Joseph. The land of Israel is indeed a prosperous land filled with the bounty of heaven. Each day began and closed with worship and prayers. We couldn't help but be in awe as we visited the synagogue in Capernaum where Jesus preached, the famous Mount on which He preached the Beatitudes and Tabgha where the multiplication of five loaves and two fish took place. It was a blessed opportunity to sail on the Sea of Galilee, where Jesus once walked on its waters.

Our next destination on the tour took us to David's tomb, Mt. Zion from where Jesus Christ will reign as King very soon and then onto Bethlehem where we were able to see the Nativity church, Shepherd's field and meditate on story of Ruth and Boaz. The last day in Israel was definitely a day filled with activity! It was the whole day dedicated in walking in and around Jerusalem. We were able to visit the Western wall and pray there at that incredible atmosphere. We began at the Mount of Olives where Jesus wept over Jerusalem, from where He ascended to heaven and that is where He will be coming back again. From there we took the steep road down to the

garden of Gethsemane, passing by the tombs of Prophets at the Kidron Valley. Walking through the narrow market streets of Jerusalem, we couldn't bear to imagine the agony Jesus went through as He passed Via Dolorosa carrying the heavy cross all for the redemption of mankind. The 14 Stations of the Cross leads you outside the city gates of Jerusalem where Golgotha stands where Jesus was crucified. We could view this from the garden tomb which holds the empty tomb of Jesus and this was the beautiful end to our stay in Israel. The garden tomb gave us hope and the much needed motivation to finish the mission God has called us to complete.

The last part of the journey was through the Sinai Peninsula onto Egypt. We were able to visit the pyramids, Sphinx and Coptic churches in Egypt and learn about their life ever since civilization began. This helped us get an idea of how Moses was brought up in Egypt and how bad slavery of 430 years must have been for the Israelites. Our time in Egypt brought with it a new perspective on the living for the Lord when living in a world of sin. The baptism of Tirzah and Hannah along with fifteen others was a highlight of this tour as Pastor Ashley conducted the baptism in the Yardenite Baptismal site. After 10 days of living in the land where the Bible comes alive, we returned back with fire burning in our spirits to live evermore radically to the glory of God because if everything recorded in the Bible has been true so far, then what is to come will surely come to pass as the Bible says so.



CHRISTMAS PRESENCE

The joyous and uplifting Christmas carol service was held in the evening of 16th December. The Shelter House Choir led by Sis. Sheba Ashley took the Church into the Christmas spirit reminding of the significant birth of Christ the King born to bring peace, hope and joy to the broken lives.

The Sunday School Children portrayed the Christmas story through their singing and choreography. Pastor Ashley shared that Christmas is not about getting presents but about knowing and being filled with His presence. It was a wonderful evening of carol singing.



Miracle baby through Faith & Prayer

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus. I'm Sankari, a Hindu born girl but saved by Christ at the age of 14. Right from my young age, I was brought up in the faith of the Lord. As my family was serving idols before salvation, we had lot of struggles in overcoming the curses that were implanted through our ancestors but my family had overcome everything by prayer and fasting. Growing up seeing the faith of my parents and the grace of our Lord Jesus upon my family, I was too dependent on my parents for prayer. Even after getting married, I depended much on my parent's prayer but that didn't work in my family life.



After 2 years of married life we still didn't have children. We visited the doctor for fertility treatment. Month after month with great pain, we visited the doors of hospital by putting our faith in doctors which led us to stay far away from faith and prayer. This created a lot of fights and chaos in my family which even led to thoughts of separation. But our Lord didn't leave us. He spoke to us through our Pastor's sermon that definitely we are going to have a baby naturally. Waiting for that day, we re-started our family prayer calling onto our Lord and within a month I got conceived but that baby didn't even last for a month and it was aborted due to wrong medication and we were completely distressed. Amidst the pain of losing the baby we started trusting in God's promise that He would give us a child naturally. We stopped visiting hospital and we started putting our faith in our Lord. Our faith didn't fail. Again I was conceived naturally and here we have our little baby Niwaan in our hands who is already 11 months old. Having a baby now-a-days is really an uphill struggle for people with infertility problem but that's not the case for people with faith in God. Praising God for all His mercies.

VISION SUNDAY

The Vision Sunday Service was held on 16th December. At Shelter House, it is a special day as the Church gathered together for a combined thanksgiving service. The significant achievements made during the year were highlighted and Pastor Ashley presented the vision for the year 2019.

The Blessing of the year award was given to Sharon Angel and Nirmal Kumar and the Beryl Circle was announced as the best circle for the year 2018.

Leadership excellence award were given to Shabu for Circles and Steffy for Something Beautiful Women's fellowship. Special recognition awards were given to the music team and Bible transliteration team.





Christmas Circle Community Outreach

Christ is a must in Christmas. Shelter House Circles launched out to communities around displaying the love of God.

The Beryl circle visited Angels Orphanage at Shivaji Nagar and spent time teaching the 55 children gospel songs and verses. Lunch was provided for the kids along with distribution of Bibles, school stationery items, daily necessities, light bulbs and paints.



The Onyx Circle shared the joy of Christmas with the kids and adults at the Prison Rehabilitation Centre at Carmelaram. It was a blessed evening of singing carols, sharing the word of God and distributing some gifts.

The Sapphire Circle visited Navachetana, an NGO with 18 years history of caring for the mentally destitute people. The circle members had a good time of singing and sharing the message of Christmas with the residents. They shared the joy of meeting these wonderful people through cake cutting, distributing fruits and providing monthly household supplies.



The Emerald and Jasper Circle visited Gaspar Foundation Orphanage and Mercy Home for girls. The circle members spent an evening sharing the message of God's love with the children, prayed for them and distributed cakes and monthly provisions.

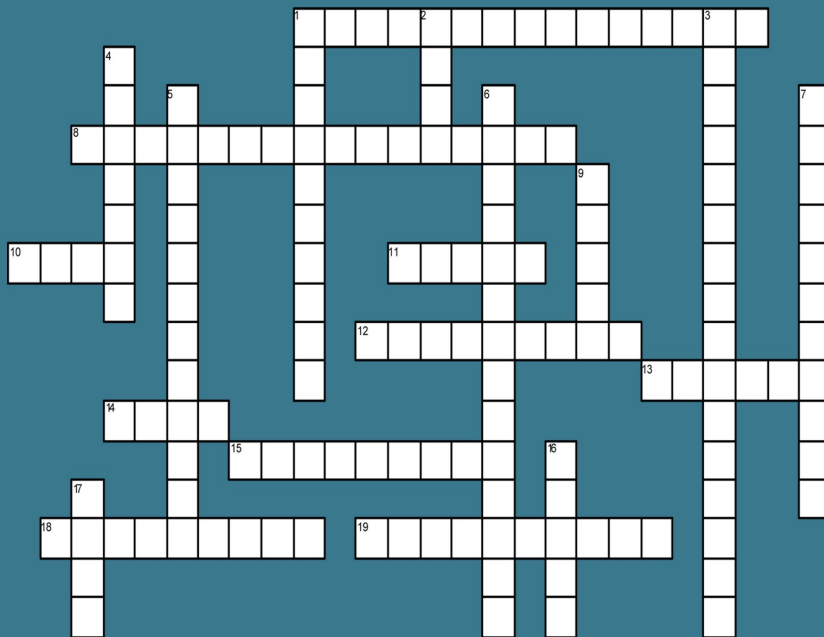
GET TO KNOW

Name:	Siraj	Safia
Birthday:	30 th August	03 rd June
Wedding :	06 th July	
Working as:	Head of Operations	Home Maker
Interest:	Planting	New recipes to cook
Favorite Food:	South Indian Meals	Mutton Biryani, Tandoori Chicken
Favorite Sports:	Cricket	Shuttlecock
Hobbies:	Watching Cricket, Window shopping	Cooking, Listening Music



What does Shelter House mean to us: Shelter House Church is a blessing for us. Our Pastor is very approachable and always holds us in his prayers. Our journey continues with Shelter House.

Crossword: The Tabernacle



Send answers to the Crossword to 8971705050 by Jan 26th.

ACROSS

- 1 The ark of the covenant contained the tablets with the _____.
- 8 What was the only item in the Holy of Holies?
- 10 What tribe of Israel was in charge of the tabernacle?
- 11 Aaron's _____ that budded was also in the ark of the covenant.
- 12 God told the people of Israel that he wanted a place to dwell among His people. What was the name of that place?
- 13 The altar was placed before the door of the tabernacle and was called the _____ altar because of its appearance.
- 14 The altar of incense was overlaid with pure _____.
- 15 What was the name of the outer room of the tabernacle?
- 18 What was made of pure gold having seven branches?
- 19 During the Israelite's wanderings in the _____, the tabernacle traveled with them.

DOWN

- 1 What was the other name God told his people to build so that He could dwell among them?
- 2 How many times did the high priest enter the Holy of Holies?
- 3 What was the name of the table made of acacia wood and overlaid with gold?
- 4 What separated the inner room from the outer room?
- 5 What was the name of the inner room of the tabernacle?
- 6 On what day was the high priest able to enter the Holy of Holies?
- 7 What was the purpose of the altar that was overlaid with pure gold?
- 9 What made of bronze, contained water and was placed between the altar and the tabernacle?
- 16 A gold jar filled with _____ was also in the ark of the covenant.
- 17 Before entering the tabernacle, Aaron and his sons were to _____ their hands and feet at the laver.

SHELTER HOUSE CONFERENCE 2019

February 07-09, 2019

Venue: Ecumenical Christian Center

SPEAKERS:



Dr. Anand Pillai

Dr. Finny Philip

Pr. Ashley Benjamin

Registration Details:

- *Rs 1600/- per adult for Shelter House Members
- * Rs 2200/- per adult for Outside Delegates
- * Rs 1000/- for Children 6-12 years

You can partner with the Church - Own Facility Project by depositing a cheque in favor of "Shelter House Trust Church Building Fund"

Savings A/C Number: 914010007634658

IFS Code: UTIB0000009

Bank: Axis Bank, Bangalore Branch

To Transfer Offerings and Tithes:

A/c name: Shelter House Trust

Savings A/C number: 520401000042483

Bank: Corporation Bank

A/C Branch: Arekere Gate

IFSC Code: CORP0000507