

# NEWS LETTER

## Otahuhu Community Baptist Church

*Knowing Christ - Growing in Christ - Going with Christ*

### TAKE NOTE:

#### 8th November 2020

#### MISSION SUNDAY

The second Sunday of every month is observed as the Mission Sunday in all three services. We pray for church supported missions and missionaries during the service

#### 15th November 2020

#### THANKSGIVING SERVICE

This year has been quite different compared to all the years and we have to thank God for bringing us through. A Combined Thanksgiving Service is organised on the 15th October.

#### 28th November 2020

#### CAROL SERVICE

We have come to the time of Christmas celebrations and we will start it with this Combined Carol Service in the evening

**2020 TARGET: Praying for , 50  
Born Again Experiences, 200  
Witnessing's**

### THANKING GOD FOR ALL THINGS IN 2020

Looking back on all the months that has gone by that were quite challenging for everyone in some way or the other, it is a relief we have made it through till the end of the year. This was made possible only by God's pure grace. It was our Lord's kindness and faithfulness upon our lives that has helped us survive. This month let's thank God for all that He did in our lives in all those days and months.

### MEMORY VERSE COMPETITION

The Memory Verse Competition held on 17th October was great. Good participation and good enthusiasm from all participants and judges. Well done to all. Thanks to Sudha for organising it.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**FASTING PRAYER MEETING -**  
Friday, 6th November from 8pm-  
10pm @ Church

**HAMILTON MINISTRY - Saturday,**  
14 November, 5:30pm @  
Discovery Christian Centre

**THANKGIVING SERVICE -**  
Sunday, 15th November,  
Combined Service.

**BAPTISM SERVICE - Sunday,**  
22nd November, English Service

**COMBINED CAROL SERVICE-**  
Sunday, 28th November from  
6:30PM

## PRAYER NEEDS

THANK GOD FOR :

- Thank God for His wonderful protection during this pandemic.
- Thank God for providing jobs for people who had been made redundant. Let's praise our Jehovah Jireh.

PRAY UNTO GOD FOR:

- Pray for the Lord's protection on our parents and elderly
- Pray for the upcoming Christmas season that the Lord will bring back the joy and peace during this season.

## VERSE FOR THE MONTH

**PSALM 118: 1**

"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good and His love endures forever."

## MISSIONS COMMITTEE UPDATE: from Rachel Jacob

The Missions Committee are beginning to plan the Christmas Missions Project. If there are any ideas or suggestions, please feel to approach the team to discuss.

## CHURCH PICNIC

After a long time and a long lockdown in the country, it was a blessing to go on a church picnic. Please find some photos at the end of the Newsletter, page 6.

## COMBINED CAROL SERVICE

Christmas for 2020 should be good. We as a church will make that happen. Members are requested to form groups to their liking and present one Carol Song. Carol Songs should be Christmas songs only. This is the best time to bring along your friends to the program.

## SISTER LILY - FROM CHINESE CONGREGATION:

Sister Lily is doing well as per Ps. Grace. She is going through treatment in China. Please do keep her and her family here in your prayers. May our dear Lord bring her back to her family being completely healed.

## CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS FOR 2020:UPCOMING EVENTS



**CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS 2020**

**28th November, Saturday, 7pm**  
Carol Service ( Combined Service - with shared dinner)

**12th December, Saturday, 5:30pm**  
Hamilton Christmas Program

**20th December, Sunday, 10:30am**  
Christmas Celebration Program ( Combined Service )

**24th December, Thursday, 6:30pm**  
Christmas Eve Service ( English Congregation)

**25th December, Friday, 8am**  
Christmas Morning Service (Tamil Congregation)

**25th December, Friday, 4pm**  
Christmas Service & Baptism Service (Chinese Congregation)

**CAROL ROUNDS WILL BEGIN FROM THIRD WEEKEND OF NOVEMBER**

**INVITE YOUR FRIENDS TO ALL OUR CHURCH CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS**

## **'Fellowship of the Church' by Pastor Mike**

How wonderful it is for the Church to have fellowship once again! After experiencing lock downs this year, we certainly do appreciate being able to enjoy fellowship together!

But the Church fellowship is more than just 'being together'. The important element that makes true fellowship is 'having (something) in common'.

We read then, of the first mention of the word '*fellowship*' in the Book of Acts, and indeed in my Bible, the word '*fellowship*' is first found here in the Book of Acts:

***"And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers." - Acts 2:42***

'*Fellowship*' is something that the original Church started to practice or do straight away! It was a natural and normal thing for the Church to start doing and wanting to do!

Look carefully in the verse at what the fellowship was originally centred around...it was the teaching of the Apostles, the breaking of bread and prayers. But in full understanding of the Church's commitment to this, it reads ***"And they devoted themselves to..."***. Wow!

This kind of commitment and devotion to the *fellowship* brought with it an incredible harvest of blessings and growth in the early Church. See the following...

### **1. The Church was Unified**

*"And all who believed were together and had all things in common." - Acts 2:44*

### **2. The Church was Magnified**

*"Praising God and having favour with all the people." - Acts 2:47a*

### **3. The Church was Multiplied**

*"And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved." - Acts 2:47b*

What a powerful testimony the early Church had to the unbelieving Jews in Jerusalem, not only because of the miracles done by the Apostles, but because of the '*fellowship*' within the Church, as they devoted themselves to the teaching of the Apostles, breaking of bread and prayer.

This demonstrated their love and commitment to each other and to how they were serving the Lord!

Here are a few more great Bible verses related to fellowship that we can be blessed by:

***"God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord." - 1 Corinthians 1:9***

***"The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all." - 2 Corinthians 13:14***

*Praise the Lord for powerful fellowship amongst us! Let's see what the Lord can do through it!*

God bless.

**FELLOWSHIP AND FEED TIME - ENGLISH CONGREGATION**



# CHURCH PICNIC - TAMIL CONGREGATION

