



# Interact

A MONTHLY BULLETIN OF THE INDIRANAGAR METHODIST CHURCH

May 2025

*For Private Circulation only*

## **REMAINING STEADFAST**

In Distressing Times



**"Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him".**

*James 1:12*

# ONLINE WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

## ON THE EPISTLE OF ROMANS

MAY 2025 | 7 PM

Study No.	Topic	Led By	Date
26	<b>Governmental Authorities</b> Romans 13:1-7	<b>Rev. Alexander Augustine</b>	14th May
27	<b>Neighbourly Love</b> Romans 13:8-14	<b>Rev. Paul Royappa</b>	21st May
28	<b>The Work of God</b> Romans 14:1-23	<b>Rev. Alexander Augustine</b>	28th May

### ELECTRONIC CITY METHODIST WORSHIP CENTRE

(An extension of the Indiranagar Methodist Church)

**WORSHIP SERVICE AT 9:30 AM EVERY SUNDAY**

**Theme: Remaining Steadfast in Distressing Times**

May 04 *	<b>Standing Firm in Distressing times</b>	<b>Rev. John Wesley</b>
May 11	<b>The Power of Perseverance</b>	<b>Rev. Robert</b>
May 18	<b>Living an Authentic Christian Life</b>	<b>Rev. Robert</b>
May 25	<b>Aldersgate Sunday</b> <b>Heart Strangely Warmed</b>	<b>Rev. Robert</b>

\* Holy Communion

Place of Worship:

3rd Floor, Above Amma's Bakery, Niladri Road, Electronic City Phase -1

For details, kindly Contact Rev. Robert @ 9972796711

Mr. Anuj Gupta @ 9742522249

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## Our Pastors

**Rev. Paul Royappa**

Senior Pastor - 8861154624

**Rev. David Nathaniel**

Associate Pastor - 9448258609

**Rev. Alexander Augustine**

Associate Pastor - 7406834683

## Contact

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13th Main, 100 Feet Road  
HAL II Stage, Indiranagar  
Bangalore - 560 008  
Church Office:  
080 25268863 / 41255628  
Email: office@imc.church  
Website: www.imc.church

## Indiranagar Methodist Church

### OUR VISION

Our vision is to Preach and teach people to be Disciples of Christ. To see people saved, transformed, equipped, rooted in prayer & God's Word and grounded in unity and love to serve all people with humility and faithfulness. Engaging the next generation and reaching out to the unreached and care for the needy.

### OUR MISSION

We CALL people to faith in Jesus Christ by proclaiming the Word and CELEBRATE God's presence through worship as one body under the Lordship of Christ. We strive to CONNECT people together in caring relationships as we grow together in the knowledge and love of God the Father, COMMISSIONING every member to serve in ministry by power of the Holy Spirit.

### Our Core Values

Christ and Word-Centered  
Fellowship & Unity in diversity  
Holiness & Witness for Christ  
Care and Reach out to every one  
Developing Godly generation  
Grow and serve as the Disciples of Christ

# Pastoral Letter

Dear IMC Family,

Greetings to you in the matchless name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. We praise God for the way He led us all through the past 4 months.

Last month we focused on the theme **'Journey to the Cross & Triumph**, and this month we, the pastoral team have prayerfully chosen the theme **'Remaining Steadfast in Distressing times.'** As we stand in the midst of challenging times whether personal struggles, communal hardships, or societal unrest our hearts can often grow faint, and our resolve may feel weak. The distress we face seems unrelenting, and we can be tempted to lose sight of God's enduring presence and His faithfulness. Yet, it is precisely in such moments, when we feel most fragile, that we are called to remain steadfast.

In this letter, we want to remind you not only of the sustaining power of God's promises but also of the testimony of those who have gone before us particularly the story of the founder of Methodism, **Rev. John Wesley's experience at Aldersgate**. It is a powerful reminder that, even in our most distressing moments, God's grace is sufficient, His

power is made perfect in weakness, and His light shines brightest in the darkest of times.

**The Call to Remain Steadfast in Our Distress:** We do not know the full extent of the trials you may be facing right now. Perhaps you, like Wesley, feel the weight of spiritual dryness or emotional exhaustion. May be you are struggling with doubt, sorrow, or even physical pain. Whatever the cause of your distress, I implore you to remember that **God's grace is more than enough** to carry you through.

In the Scriptures, we are repeatedly urged to stand firm in the face of adversity. The Apostle Paul, writing to the Corinthians, encourages us to **"be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain"** (1 Corinthians 15:58). These words remind us that our steadfastness is not based on our own strength but on the enduring work of Christ. In Christ, our labor for Him is never wasted, no matter the trials we face.

And just as Rev. John Wesley's heart was warmed and his life transformed by the realization of God's grace, so too can we find hope and renewed

strength in the assurance that God is with us through every trial. When we are weary and worn, God invites us to **“come to Him, all who labor and are heavy laden, and He will give us rest” (Matthew 11:28)**. There is rest in His presence, comfort in His promises, and peace in His love.

### **Practical Steps for Steadfastness in Distress:**

**Acknowledge Your Distress Before God** - Wesley’s journey to Aldersgate was one of honest searching. When we are in distress, it is important to acknowledge our struggles before God. Speak openly with Him about your doubts, fears, and burdens. God is not distant from your pain; He is near to the broken-hearted.

**Embrace God’s Grace, Not Your Own Strength** - Often, in distress, we may try to fix ourselves or strive harder in our own strength. However, true steadfastness comes from surrendering to the sufficiency of God’s grace. Just as Wesley experienced the warmth of God’s grace in his moment of desperation, we too are called to rely not on our own efforts but on the finished work of Christ.

**Revisit the Scriptures** - In times of trial, the Word of God serves as a lamp to our feet and a light to our path (**Psalm**

**119:105**). Just as Wesley’s heart was stirred by the reading of Luther’s preface, allow the Scriptures to speak truth into your distress. Meditate on God’s promises, and let His Word bring you peace.

**Join Together with the Body of Christ** - Rev. John Wesley was not alone in his distress. He found fellowship with others who were also seeking the Lord, and together they encouraged one another. The Church is meant to be a community of believers who support one another, particularly in times of difficulty. Lean on your brothers and sisters in Christ for prayer, encouragement, and strength.

**Remember God’s Faithfulness** - Reflect on how God has been faithful to you in the past, even in your most difficult moments. Just as Wesley looked back on his journey and saw the hand of God guiding him, remember that God’s faithfulness never wavers. He who has been faithful in the past will continue to be faithful in the future.

### **The Aldersgate Experience: A Glimpse of Steadfastness in the Midst of Spiritual Distress**

Many of you may be familiar with the story of **John Wesley’s Aldersgate experience**. On the evening of **May 24, 1738**, Wesley attended a meeting at

Aldersgate Street in London, where a reading from Martin Luther's **Preface to the Epistle to the Romans** was being shared. As the words of the passage were read, Wesley recorded in his journal that his heart was "**Strangely warmed.**" In that moment, he experienced the deep assurance of God's love in a way he had never known before.

Wesley had spent years struggling with feelings of spiritual inadequacy and a sense of separation from God, despite his earnest efforts to serve the Lord. He had been active in ministry, striving for holiness and seeking the grace of God, yet for all his striving, he lacked the assurance that he was truly saved. It was at Aldersgate that he received the breakthrough of grace, realizing that salvation comes not by works or effort but through faith in the finished work of Christ.

His experience was one of transformation. It was in his moment of spiritual distress, when he had been searching for the peace that passes all understanding, that God's grace met him powerfully. Wesley's heart was warmed, and he knew in that moment that Christ had died for him. The assurance of God's love flooded his soul and gave him a new

strength to continue in his calling.

This experience at Aldersgate serves as a reminder that, even in times of spiritual dryness or distress, God is always at work. **He is faithful to meet us where we are** whether in the depths of despair or the heights of spiritual longing. Just as Wesley experienced the warmth of God's love in the midst of his distress, we too can be assured that God will never leave us nor forsake us.

**A Final Word of Encouragement:** Dear friends, we know that times of distress can seem overwhelming, but take heart. You are never alone. Our Lord Jesus Christ, who suffered on the cross for us, understands your pain. He is the Good Shepherd who walks with you through the valleys of life. In your distress, He is there to carry you, to heal you, and to bring you into the peace that transcends understanding. Just as Wesley found in his moment of distress the transforming power of God's grace, so too can you find strength and peace in His presence today. Remain steadfast in faith, trusting that God is working in you even when you cannot see it, and that His grace will see you through every trial.

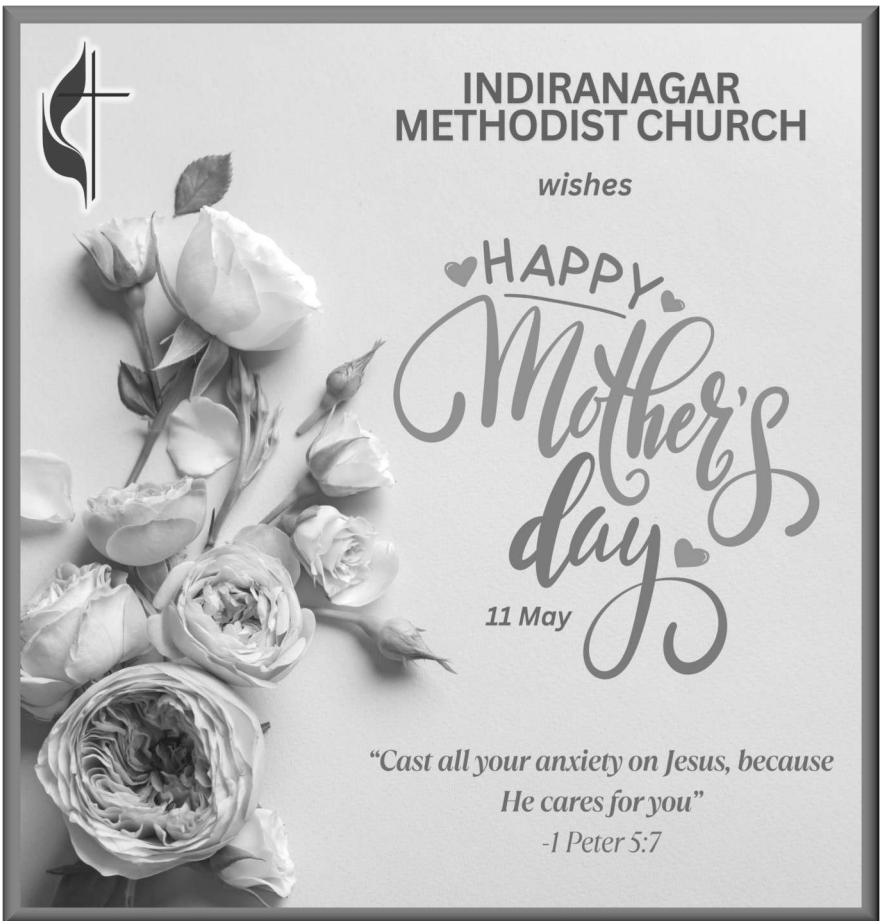
Thank you all for your prayers and financial support for **our VBS and Vernacular VBS**. Our sincere thanks to the VBS Director Mrs. Usha Jones, VBS Coordinator Mrs. Saritha Sathesh, VBS core team, Teachers, volunteers, Parents and all those who contributed towards the needs of the VBS. Pray that VBS children would continue to grow in the Lord and be God's witnesses.

Be assured of our constant prayers for you and your family. May the Lord bless you and keep you, may His face shine upon you, and may He give you peace.

God bless you all.

**The Pastoral Team - IMC**

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# NEWS ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Our Gratitude:** We thank Bishop Dr. Nathan Chesoli for ministering to us last month. The congregation is requested to pray for the pulpit ministry of IMC.

**Child Baptism:** Abilene John D/o. Mr. Jacob John & Mrs. Aishwarya John was baptised on Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> April 2025.

**Pastorate Committee Meeting:** Will be held on Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> May 2025 at 7 pm in the Board Room, IMC Annexe. All the Pastorate Committee members are requested to attend the meeting without fail.

**Wednesday Online Bible Study:** Will resume every Wednesday from 14<sup>th</sup> May at 7 pm Online. We will be continuing the Bible study series on the book of Romans. The Pastoral team will conduct the Bible studies. The details will be posted on our church whatsapp groups. Invite you all to participate and be blessed.

**Area Fellowship Groups:** There will be no Area Area Fellowship Groups this month. This will resume from June 2025

**Methodist Youth Fellowship (MYF):** Will meet every Sunday soon after the 9:30 am worship service in the church. We invite all youths who are above 18 years and below 25 years, to attend and be blessed. The Interact | May 2025

youth meets every Friday at 5pm for a time of prayer in the church. For details contact MYF President, Mr. Sudheer at 9902543319.

**Senior Citizens Fellowship:** There will be no Senior Citizens Fellowship this month. Will resume from June 2025.

**Methodist Young Adults Fellowship (MYAF):** Will meet every Third Sunday soon after the 9:30 am worship service. Age group 26-39 years are invited to attend. They also meet for online prayer every Thursday at 9:30 pm. For details kindly, contact Mr. Nikhil at 8522985588.

**Thank You:** We want to express our sincere thanks to you for your financial support towards the ministry of our Church through Tithes and contributions.

**How to Interact?** You can send your short write-ups, testimonies & articles for the Interact in softcopies. Because of the limitation of space in the magazine, the articles are selected on "First cum First serve basis" and the Pastoral teams' decision is final. Articles and essays are to be limited to a maximum of 2 A4 size papers. The last date for submitting these articles is **before 20th of every month** to **office@imc.church**

# TAKE IT TO THE LORD

**Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours - Mark 11:24**

## **PRAISE GOD**

- For His grace and strength that sustained us in the past month and all the things He has in store for us in this month.
- For protecting His people at all times.
- For His work in and through the various activities of our church.
- For His blessings upon those who celebrated their birthdays and wedding anniversaries in April 2025.
- For His healing and restoring people in the church.
- For the ministry that God has enabled us to do in the church and in the city.
- For all the outreach programs and missionary works in and through our church.

## **PRAY FOR**

- The ministries of Methodist Church in India.
- Spiritual revival in all the churches in Bangalore & Karnataka.
- The various activities & Pulpit ministry in May 2025.

- Our Hon'ble Bishop Dr. Anilkumar Servand, Rev. Sebastian Ravi Kumar, District Superintendent-Bangalore, MCI; and all the Pastors and leaders.
- The ministry and families of our IMC Pastors - Rev. Paul K. Royappa, Rev. David Nathaniel and Rev. Alexander Augustine.
- Our Pastorate Committee members and organizations: WSCS, MMF, MYF, MYAF, Sunday School, and Senior Citizens fellowship.
- Our Choir and Praise and Worship Team.
- Missionaries and missionary organizations in our country.
- Those who are poor and in need.
- Our children and young people that they will grow in the Lord.
- God's healing upon Mr. Vijaya Kumar Samuel, Mr. Krishna Murthy, Mrs. Emily Paulson, Mr. Solomon Sukumar, Mrs. Evelyn, Mrs. Susan Chander and all sick people.

**For Pastoral visits, Home Communion, Counselling and prayers, please contact the Pastoral Team.**

## WHAT KIND OF SOIL ARE YOU?

**A** new resident at the rehabilitation center was given the task of planting bean seeds. With no experience growing vegetables. Sam quickly became bored waiting for the seeds to sprout. After weeks of seeing nothing happened. Sam finally noticed signs of life coming up he had to put poles in the ground for the beans to climb. One day Sam ran excitedly into the kitchen with some freshly picked beans for dinner “Wow All this from tiny seeds” he exclaimed. I’ve learned a lot. As I talked with Sam it became clear that he learned more than how plants grow. If we willingly listen to God in His word and do what’s right for the right reasons and for the right length of time, our lives will be fruitful. In Luke 8, Jesus used a parable to teach that the seed of the word of God will produce a harvest in good soil. People who welcome God’s word, obey it and bear fruit. Other however have resistant hearts that fall prey to the devil do not allow the seed to take root or are overgrown with the cares and temptation of life. God’s word is good seed. Is your heart good soil? Lord, I would be soil in which you can plant promise of fruit. “To be spiritually fruitful, plant God’s word in your heart.”

- Mrs. Elsie Peter

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### IMC Vernacular VBS 2025

IMC Vernacular VBS is starting from 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> May.

We are expecting around 250 children.

We value your prayer and generous contributions.

Kindly use this QR Code for Donation for Vernacular VBS



#### For details contact

Mr. & Mrs. Benjamin Christopher at 9945593463 or  
the Church Office at 080-41255628/25268863

# MMF SESSION & MMF SUNDAY

March 2025

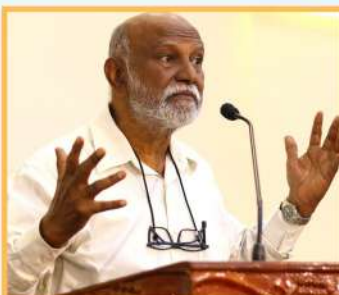
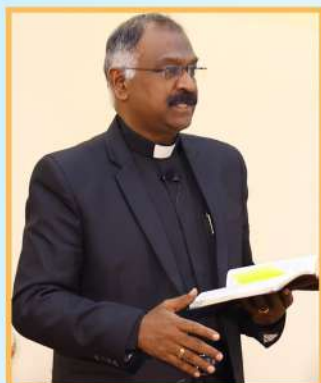


# METHODIST MEN'S BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP

12 Apr 2025



# IMC GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE





# GLIMPSE OF IMC VBS 2025





**VBS  
VOLUNTEERS  
& TEACHERS**



# IMC EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE



# IMC EASTER SUNDAY SERVICE



20 Apr 2025

# IMC WSCS TEAM PREPARING BUTTERMILK FOR GOOD FRIDAY



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# ELECTRONIC CITY METHODIST WORSHIP CENTRE VBS 2025



# ELECTRONIC CITY METHODIST WORSHIP CENTRE - PALM SUNDAY

13 Apr 2025



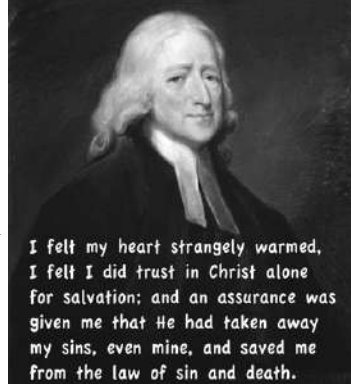
# REV. JOHN WESLEY

## HIS ALDERSGATE EXPERIENCE

### *HISTORICAL CONTEXT*

Rev. John Wesley, born in 1703, was an Anglican cleric and theologian who, along with his brother Charles Wesley, founded Methodism. Wesley's early ministry was marked by a rigorous pursuit of holiness and a deep commitment to the Anglican Church. Despite his efforts, Wesley often felt a lack of assurance in his faith and struggled with doubts about his salvation.

John Wesley



On May 24, 1738, Wesley attended a meeting at Aldersgate Street in London. This gathering was a turning point in his spiritual journey. The meeting was a Moravian society gathering, where someone was reading Martin Luther's preface to the Epistle to the Romans. As Wesley listened, he experienced a profound spiritual awakening. He later described this moment in his journal, stating that he felt his heart "strangely warmed." He realized that he trusted in Christ alone for salvation, and he felt an assurance that his sins were forgiven. Three days earlier, on 21 May 1738, Rev. Charles Wesley had his conversion experience and together they led many to salvation through Rev. John's preaching and Rev. Charles' hymns.

This experience at Aldersgate was pivotal for Wesley. It marked the beginning of a new phase in his ministry, characterized by a fervent evangelical zeal. Wesley began to preach the doctrine of salvation by faith alone, emphasizing the importance of personal faith and the transformative power of God's grace. His preaching and organizational skills led to the rapid growth of the Methodist movement, which spread across England and eventually to America.

### *SIGNIFICANCE AND LIFE APPLICATIONS*

The Aldersgate experience represents a key moment in the history of Methodism, highlighting the importance of personal faith and assurance in the Christian life. For us today, Rev John Wesley's Aldersgate experience reminds us of:

1. Importance of personal faith and the assurance that comes from trusting in Christ. It encourages believers to seek a deep, personal relationship with God.
2. The transformative power of God's Word. It serves as a reminder that no matter our doubts or struggles, God's grace through His word is sufficient to bring about profound change in our lives.
3. It inspires us to share our faith with others and to live out their beliefs with passion and commitment.
4. It encourages believers to seek support and fellowship with others as they grow in their faith.

## ALTAR FLOWERS - APRIL 2025

Date	Contributors Name	Message
<b>6<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Dev Mehra</b>	from his first salary with a heart overflowing with gratitude and as a testament to God's abundant mercy and unwavering love. As it is written, 'Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.' (James 1:17). He acknowledges that all blessings flow from the Lord."
	<b>Sharmila Rao's Grandsons Kian &amp; Koa, her daughter Nicola &amp; Son-in-law Alex</b>	in Thanksgiving to God on the occasion of Sharmila Rao's birthday on 11th April.
	<b>Mrs. Daisy Varghese</b>	in thanksgiving to God on the occasion of her daughter, Bindu Varghese's birthday.

## SPIRITUAL SIGHT

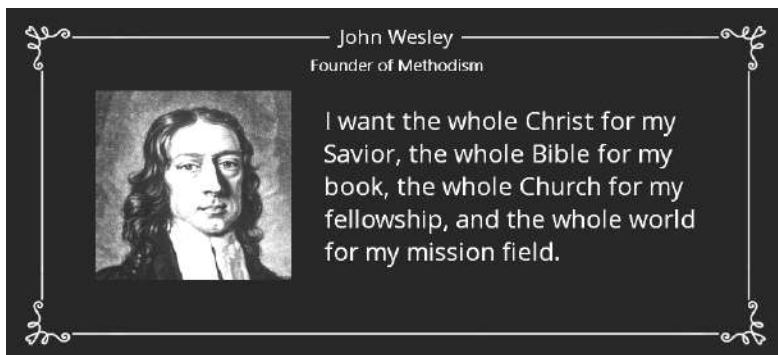
The eyes of our heart must be opened  
to see by faith and to believe,  
If we only trust in his promises,  
His blessings we shall receive.

The armies of God in the heavens  
protect us from evil and harm,  
As we resist the temptations of the enemy,  
we are kept by the Saviour's mighty arm.

If we only look to the Lord  
we find we have all we ever need,  
By faith in God we see the answers,  
to the prayers for which we believe.

Open our eyes Lord each day  
that we may see you and your power,  
We want to draw closer to you by faith,  
as we look to you, every moment and hour.

**- Jo Ann Kelly**



# MEMORIZE THE **BIBLE**

**Your word is a lamp for my feet,  
a light on my path.**

*Psalm 27:1*

**04-May-2025**

Brothers and sisters, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

**- James 5:10**

**11- May-2025**

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

**- Hebrews 12:1-2**

**18-May-2025**

We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, 4 because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all God's people.

**- Colossians 1:3-4**

**25-May-2025**

They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"

**- Luke 24:32**

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### Word Search for The Crucifixion of Jesus

Find the words on the list that are hidden in the puzzle. The words can be left to right, or up and down.



CAESAR  
CLOTHES

CROSS  
CRUCIFY

FINISHED  
GOLGOTHA

PASSOVER  
PILATE

SOLDIERS  
THIRSY

**Sermon Notes: Please use this section for notetaking and reflection**

**MAY 04: STANDING FIRM IN DISTRESSING TIMES - JAMES 5:7-11**

**MAY 11: THE POWER OF PERSEVERANCE - HEBREWS 12:1-3**

**Sermon Notes: Please use this section for notetaking and reflection**

**MAY 18: LIVING AN AUTHENTIC CHRISTIAN LIFE – COLOSSIANS 1: 3-8**

**MAY 25: HEART STRANGELY WARMED – ALDERSGATE SUNDAY**



## Bank & UPI Details For Tithes & Offerings



Account Name	- Indiranagar Methodist Church
Account Number	- 0399053000014868
Type of Account	- Savings
Bank Name	- South Indian Bank
Branch	- Indiranagar
IFSCCode	- SIBL0000399

## For Church Planting & Outreach



Account Name	- Indiranagar Methodist Church- Church Outreach Account
Account Number	- 0399053000015301
Type of Account	- Savings
Bank Name	- South Indian Bank
Branch	- Indiranagar
IFSCCode	- SIBL0000399

Kindly email the details of transfer such as transaction reference number, date of transfer and purpose of transfer along with your name and contact details to - [finance.imcblmci@gmail.com](mailto:finance.imcblmci@gmail.com) for accounting purpose

# MMF SEMINAR

With Mr. Anand Pillai  
Part 2

- Are you in control of your professional life, or are circumstances controlling you?
- Are you responding with wisdom and courage, or merely reacting to challenges?

## LEADING A DANIEL'S LIFE IN A NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S WORLD

JOIN US AT INDIRANAGAR METHODIST CHURCH FOR A HALF-DAY SEMINAR WITH ANAND PILLAI AS HE UNPACKS POWERFUL LEADERSHIP LESSONS FROM DANIEL—ONE OF THE BIBLE'S MOST REMARKABLE FIGURES WHO THRIVED IN A CHALLENGING WORLD.

HURRY!  
Limited  
Seats!

10 MAY 2025  
9 AM TO 3 PM

Register  
now!  
200 INR

Learn how to:

- Make bold, strategic decisions in difficult environments.
- Convert problems into opportunities.
- Influence leadership and drive change with wisdom.

WITH AN OVERWHELMING 9.3/10 RATING FROM 4,850+ ATTENDEES ACROSS INDIA, THIS SEMINAR HAS TRANSFORMED COUNTLESS PROFESSIONALS.

### THIS IS OPEN FOR ALL!

FOR DETAILS KINDLY CONTACT MMF PRESIDENT, MR. MANOJ MOSES AT 9845176107 OR MMF SECRETARY, MR. AMARNATH AT 9900263289

## WSCS CORNER

### WORD FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2025

*"How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him  
who brings good news, who proclaims peace,  
who brings glad tidings of good things, who proclaims salvation,  
who says to zion, " your God reigns!"*

ISAIAH 52 : 7

## REDEEMING HOPE OUTREACH

DATE: TUESDAY, 13<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2025

STARTING FROM IMC @ 11:00 AM

For more information please contact  
WSCS President Mrs. Usha Jones on 9740394222



# INDIRANAGAR METHODIST CHURCH

Pulpit Calendar - May 2025

*Theme: REMAINING STEADFAST IN DISTRESSING TIMES*

**Sunday Services: 7:00 AM, 9:30 AM and 6:00 PM**

Date	Sermon Title / Speaker
<b>May 04</b> *7:00 AM *9:30 AM *6:00 PM	<b>- Standing Firm in Distressing times</b> - Mr. Anand Pillai - Rev. Paul Royappa - Rev. Kulothungan
<b>May 11</b> 7:00 AM 9:30 AM 6:00 PM	<b>- The Power of Perseverance</b> - Rev. Paul Royappa - Mr. Anand Pillai - Rev. Alexander Augustine
<b>May 18</b> 7:00 AM 9:30 AM *6:00 PM	<b>- Living an Authentic Christian Life</b> - Mr. Vijay Paulson - Rev. Alexander Augustine - Rev. Paul Royappa
<b>May 25</b> 7:00 AM 9:30 AM 6:00 PM	<b>- Heart Strangely Warmed (Aldersgate Sunday)</b> - Rev. Alexander Augustine - Rev. Paul Royappa - Rev. David Nathaniel

\* *Holy Communion*