

CSI CHRIST CHURCH OF CHICAGO

Parish Messenger



JOIN US FOR WORSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP

Malayalam service: 1st and 3rd Sundays.

English service: 2nd Sunday

Youth and Young Adults (YAYA) Worship 4th Sunday

Sunday services can be attended in-person or online.

[Zoom Link](#)

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at 1 312 626 6799, Meeting ID: 757 719 2513 # #, password

5857 #

Sun 9:15 - 9:50 AM : Sunday School

Sun 9:30 - 9:50 AM : Bible Study

Sun 10 AM - 12 NOON : Worship Service

Fri 9:00 AM : Fasting Prayer

Sat Evenings : Cottage Prayer

Be still, and know that I am God. Psalms 46:10a.

1095 E Thacker St, Des Plaines, IL-60016. PHONE : 773-234-1034



The Courage Not to Return

Ur was an ancient city situated on the banks of the Euphrates River, about 350 kilometers south of Baghdad in present-day Iraq. Archaeologists have discovered remains dating back nearly six thousand years among the ruins of the city. At the beginning of the fourth millennium BC, Ur was the capital of a powerful empire. Around the beginning of the second millennium BC, the city was destroyed through numerous wars. It was probably during this period of migration that Terah, the father of Abraham, set out with his family from Ur. It was an era marked by great migrations and military campaigns. The Bible refers to the city left behind by Abraham's ancestors as "Ur of the Chaldeans."

Chaldea became synonymous with Babylon, the great power that ruled much of the Middle East during the seventh and sixth centuries BC. Strictly speaking, from the ninth century BC onward, the region of Mesopotamia between the city of Babylon in the north and the Persian Gulf in the south was known as Chaldea. The tribes of this region conquered neighboring kingdoms in the seventh century BC and established the Neo-Babylonian, or Chaldean, Empire. Therefore, the designation "Ur of the Chaldeans" is anachronistic when viewed in relation to the actual historical period of Abraham. Nevertheless, the designation helped later readers understand where Ur was located.

Terah left Ur with his family in order to go to the land of Canaan. Before that, his son Haran died in his native city of Ur (Genesis 11:28). The Bible does not tell us whether this death was the reason that Terah decided to leave his homeland and city. Yet, can we see in this event a hint that death was lurking in the city they were about to leave? Ur never appears again in the history of salvation. It is mentioned only once more, and even then only as a city that had been left behind (Genesis 15:7).

Ur of the Chaldeans was the source and homeland of the ancestors. But Terah and his family left it behind. It was the Lord Himself who brought the ancestors out of that place. Their destination was Canaan—not a return to Ur! When we attempt to return to our sources, we must carefully discern which sources we are talking about. There are sources that we have abandoned and perhaps ought to leave behind; there are also things that have been lost to us, knowingly or unknowingly. Therefore, discernment is essential in our journey to rediscover our sources.

Our inheritance was not in Chaldean Ur; it was in Canaan. The Ur of the Chaldeans stands as a signpost of time, reminding us that not every place of origin is a place to which we are called to return. The call of Abraham is fundamentally a call to leave the familiar world and enter a new future created by God. Abraham's call involves a radical break: "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you" (Genesis 12:1). The significance is not merely geographical. Abraham is being asked to leave behind the social, economic, familial, and cultural securities that constituted his identity. Thus, Ur can be understood symbolically as the established world from which God calls Abraham.

Some things in our past are precious and must be remembered. Some things have been lost and need to be recovered. But some things were left behind precisely because God was calling us into a new future. Therefore, returning to our "sources" requires discernment. Not every source is a spring of living water. Not every origin is our destination. Not everything we left behind is meant to be recovered. Sometimes faith means remembering where we came from while refusing to go back there. Faith is the courage to leave the settled world and trust God's promised future.

Rev. D. S. Arun

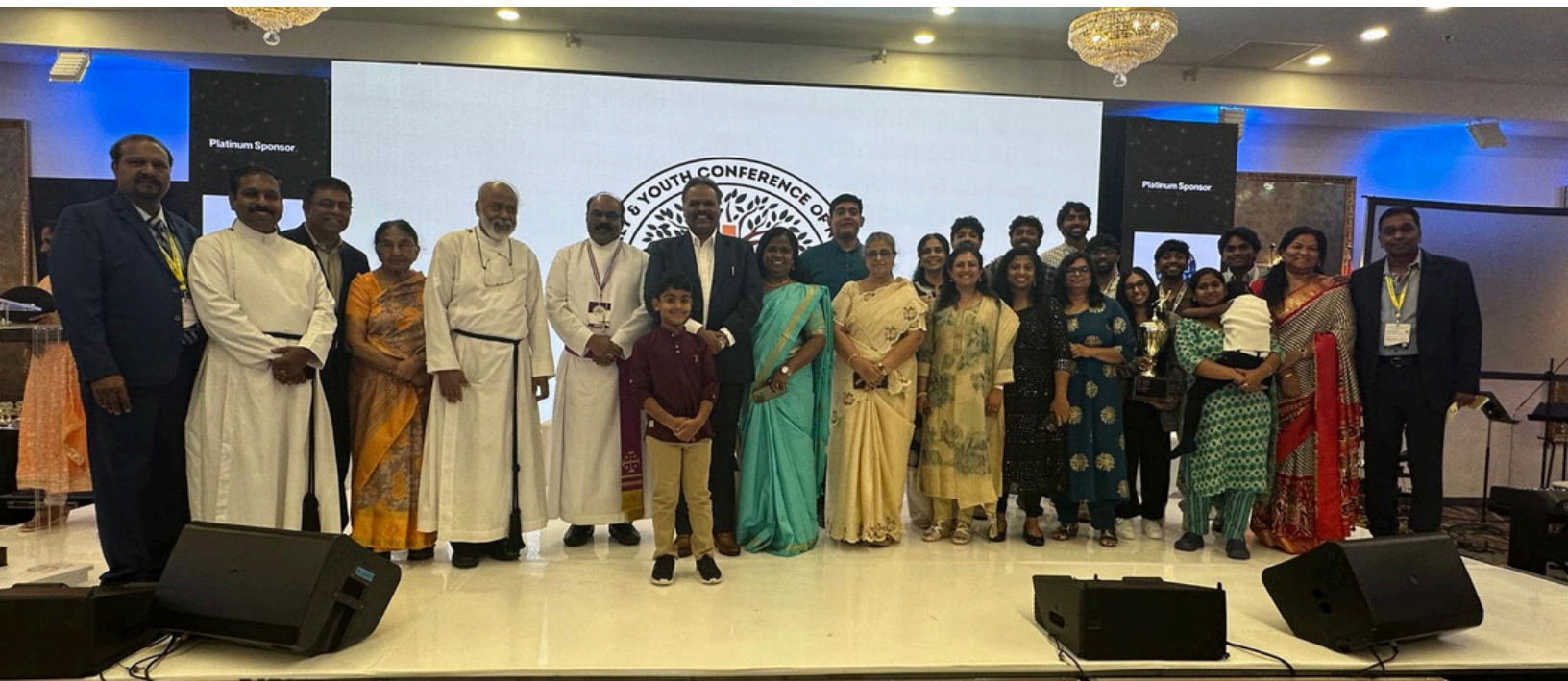
JULY MEMORIES

VBS 2026



JULY MEMORIES

CSI North America Family Retreat





LECTIONARY & DISTRIBUTION OF ELEMENTS

August 16, 2026, Sunday; 11th Week after Pentecost

Theme: Holy Eucharist: Table of Reconciliation (Malayalam)

Old Testament	Exodus 24: 3-11	Mariamamma Karottu
Psalm	Psalm 85	Rian Varghese
New Testament/Epistle	1 Corinthians 10:14–22	Manoj Thomas
Gospel	Matthew 5:23–26	Presbyter
Kiss of Peace/Elements		John Mathew (Thampi) & Rosamma Mathew
Offertory		Jenna & Jonah Oommen

August 23, 2026, Sunday; 12th Week after Pentecost / 4th Sunday in August -YAYA Sunday

Theme: From Bondage to Freedom: God Walks with the Oppressed (English)

Old Testament	Deuteronomy 26:5–11	Shawn Mathew
Psalm	Psalm 146	Amaya Das
New Testament/Epistle	Philemon 10-18	Ben Lukose
Gospel	John 4: 5-14	Presbyter
Kiss of Peace/Elements		Shane Joy & Glenn Joy
Offertory		Elijah Chacko & Rian Varghese

August 30, 2026 – 13th Week after Pentecost; Harvest Sunday

Theme: Strangers No More: Welcoming the Migrants and Refugees

Old Testament	Leviticus 19:9–10, 33–37	Meljo Varghese
Psalm	Psalm 146	Elijah Chacko
New Testament/Epistle	Ephesians 2:11–22	Linda Sigamony
Gospel	Luke 10:25–37	Presbyter
Kiss of Peace/Elements		Sam C & Reena James
Offertory		Elisha Chacko & Amaya DS

AUGU CELEBRATIONS

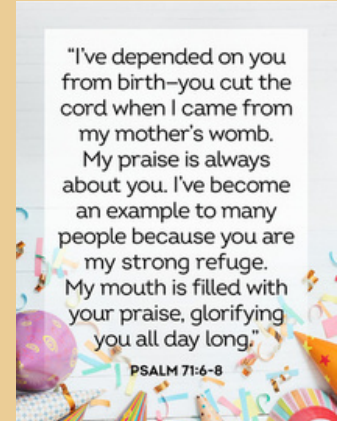


Birthdays



1 Jerin Mathew Koshy
4 Andrew Meresh
5 Benjamin Lukose
5 Oliver Steven Koshy
5 Kade Mathew Koshy
6 Christy Idichandy
6 Shibu Mathew Philip
7 Jonathan Ampalloor
8 Joash Ampalloor
12 Mariamma Karottu
13 Arunima K Alex
13 Jessy Alexander
14 Reji Sumam

15 John Mathew (Thampy)
16 Manoj V Thomas
23 John T Mathews (Rajan)
23 Sheela Joseph
25 Sheela Isaac
26 Kristin John
27 Ezra Idichandy
30 Meljo Varghese
30 Richard David
30 Linda Sigamony



*May God's blessing
be on each and
everyone of you !!!*

Anniversaries



8 Jijo Varghese & Lini Varughese
17 Dilu Idichandy & Christy Idichandy
17 Tomin Babu & Angela Babu
22 Shaji Kurian & Sachu Kurian
22 Shibu Kurian & Latha Kurian
26 Sam C James & Sebreena James
27 Christina & Rev. Joe Varghese
28 Mammen K John & Leela Mammen

*Those who remain in Love,
remain in God and God remains
in them.*

John 4:16

Happy Anniversary



CSI Christ Church of Chicago
Calendar Of Events Of The Year 2026

DATES	EVENTS
Jan 18	Annual General Body
Jan 25	Council Sunday
Feb 1	Installation of the Executive Committee for 2026
Feb 8	Healing Ministry Sunday
Feb 14/21	Lenten Retreat 10 am-12 pm
Feb 18	Ash Wednesday – Service at 6:30 PM
Mar 7	Ecumenical Council World Day of Prayer
Mar 8	International Women's Sunday
Mar 29	Palm Sunday
Mar 30-Apr 1	Vespers
April 2	Maundy Thursday - Holy Communion Service
April 3	Good Friday - Service 6:00 PM-9:30 PM
April 4	Women's Fellowship Chain Prayer & Evening Prayer at Church 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM
April 5	Easter Sunday
May 10	Mother's Day
TBD	Chicago Ecumenical Council Family Night
TBD	Youth Gathering at Parsonage
TBD	Regional Youth Retreat
June 7	Education Sunday/Celebrating Graduates
June 21	Father's Day
June 19-21	Weekend Family Retreat
July 12 	Theological Sunday
July 17-18	Unity VBS
July 23-26	35th CSI North American Family Conference (Dallas, TX)
Aug 1	Church Picnic
Aug 2/9	Back to School Prayer
Aug 9	Student Sunday
Aug 30	Harvest Sunday/Family Sunday
Sept 12	Women's Retreat
Sept 13	Women's Sunday
TBD	Choir Retreat

Sept 20	Senior Citizen Sunday
Sept 27	CSI Formation Day
Oct 16-17	Annual Convention 6pm-9pm
Oct 18	Choir Sunday/Parish Day
TBD	Ecumenical Council Convention
Nov 1	World Sunday School Day (Daylight Savings Day)
Nov 22	General Body Meeting for the Election of Executive Committee members for 2025
Nov 27, 28, 29	Christmas Carol Rounds
Dec 5, 6, 12, 13	Christmas Carol Rounds
Dec 5	Ecumenical Council Christmas Celebration 5pm
Dec 12/19	Carols and Lessons Service -5:30pm
Dec 12/19	CSI Unity Carol Service -5:00pm
Dec 25	Christmas / Sunday School Christmas Program 10 am
Dec 31	Watch night service -10:30 pm
Jan 17	Annual General Body meeting
Jan 31	Installation of New Church Executive Committee/Joint Committee Meeting

Monthly Accounts 2026 June			
CSI Christ Church of Chicago MayAccounts 2026	INCOME	EXPENSE	
Category	June	June	
Subscription	\$5,695.00	\$0.00	
Offertory	\$907.00	\$0.00	
Thanks Offering	\$1,613.00	\$0.00	
Tithe	\$1,435.00	\$0.00	
Special Donation	\$150.00	\$0.00	
St. Martin's rent	\$0.00	\$2,200.00	
Church Supplies/Communion Elements	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Car Insurance	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Church Car Maintenance	\$0.00	\$85.00	
Church Maintenance/Emergency Repair	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Church Cleaning, Land scape, Snow removal	\$0.00	\$321.73	
Ch:ComEd	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Ch:Peoples Energy	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Ch&Psng Insurance	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Ch:Water	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Ch:Garbage	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Psng:ComEd	\$0.00	\$96.11	
Psng:Nicor	\$0.00	\$74.94	
Psng:Clean/Maint	\$0.00	\$540.08	
Psng:Internet	\$0.00	\$84.93	
Psng:Phone, cell	\$0.00	\$149.10	
Psng:Water	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Presbyter's Honorarium	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	
Presbyter healthcare	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Hospitality/Refreshments	\$90.00	\$417.00	
Mission/Charity	\$25.00	\$0.00	
Women's Fellowship	\$670.00	\$320.00	
Mens Fellowship	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Sunday School	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Youth	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Choir	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Visiting Pastor	\$0.00	\$400.00	
Presbyter gift/Visiting Pastors	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Legal/Tax/Visa Processing-W2/W3	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Miscellaneous	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Carol Rounds	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Family Retreat	\$7,525.00	\$9,303.03	
Building Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Kerala Fest Fundraising	\$0.00	\$0.00	
CSI Council Membership / Conf	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Ecumenical Council	\$390.00	\$0.00	
Family Sunday/Harvest	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Confirmation	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Cottage Prayer	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Parsonage Maintenance special Fund	\$1,050.00	\$11,000.00	
Presbyter's PF in India	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Presbyter-Visa Amendment/Processing	\$0.00	\$940.00	
Sub Total	\$19,550.00	\$27,931.92	
Ledger Summary	General	Reserve	Building Fund
Opening balance at the beginning of the month	\$11,756.77	\$915.65	\$743,196.26
Add Income May	\$19,550.00		
Move matured CD to General	\$0.00		\$0.00
Less (Expenses) May	\$27,931.92		
Move General to CD	\$0.00		\$0.00
Move Reserve to General	\$700.00	\$700.00	\$0.00
Move Harvest Fund to Building Fund			
Move Kerala Fest to Building Fund			
Move Caroling contributions to Reserve Fund			
Closing Ledger balance end of the month	\$4,074.85	\$215.65	\$743,196.26

CSI Christ Church of Chicago July Accounts 2026		INCOME	EXPENSE
Category	July	July	
Subscription	\$4,765.00	\$0.00	
Offertory	\$765.00	\$0.00	
Thanks Offering	\$1,175.00	\$0.00	
Tithe	\$625.00	\$0.00	
Special Donation	\$0.00	\$0.00	
St. Martin's rent	\$0.00	\$2,200.00	
Church Supplies/Communion Elements	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Car Insurance	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Church Car Maintenance	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Church Maintenance/Emergency Repair	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Church Cleaning, Land scape, Snow removal	\$0.00	\$514.04	
Ch:ComEd	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Ch:Peoples Energy	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Ch&Psng Insurance	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Ch:Water	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Ch:Garbage	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Psng:ComEd	\$0.00	\$158.31	
Psng:Nicor	\$0.00	\$44.04	
Psng:Clean/Maint	\$0.00	\$650.00	
Psng:Internet	\$0.00	\$84.93	
Psng:Phone, cell	\$0.00	\$219.62	
Psng:Water	\$0.00	\$124.41	
Presbyter's Honorarium	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	
Presbyter healthcare	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Hospitality/Refreshments	\$0.00	\$20.00	
Mission/Charity	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Women's Fellowship	\$75.00	\$0.00	
Mens Fellowship	\$360.00	\$109.00	
Sunday School	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Youth	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Choir	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Visiting Pastor	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Presbyter gift/Visiting Pastors	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Legal/Tax/Visa Processing-W2/W3	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Miscellaneous	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Carol Rounds	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Family Retreat	\$50.00	\$0.00	
Building Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Kerala Fest Fundraising	\$0.00	\$0.00	
CSI Council Membership / Conf	\$0.00	\$2,960.00	
Ecumenical Council	\$0.00	\$510.00	
Family Sunday/Harvest	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Confirmation	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Cottage Prayer	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Parsonage Maintenance special Fund	\$92.00	\$168.00	
Presbyter's PF in India	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Presbyter-Visa Amendment/Processing	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Presbyter gas allowance	\$0.00	\$100.00	
Total	\$7,907.00	\$9,862.35	
Ledger Summary	General	Reserve	Building Fund
Opening balance at the beginning of the month	\$3,874.85	\$215.65	\$0.00
Add Income July	\$7,907.00		
Less(Expenses)July	\$9,862.35		\$0.00
CD at Chase bank	\$0.00		\$250,000.00
Interest earned at maturity @3.73(Nov 9)	\$0.00		(\$2,155.15)
International Bank	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$499,178.59
International bank interest earned July			\$1,356.67
Move Kerala Fest to Building Fund			
Move Caroling contributions to Reserve Fund			
Closing Ledger balance end of the month	\$1,919.50	\$215.65	\$752,690.26

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Let's pray together for an own
place of worship!

Join our prayer programs until we
buy the church. 🏠 🏛️.

JOIN ZOOM TONIGHT: 7. PM
WEDNESDAY PRAYER

Many Spl.
Prayer Events

Full Bible Reading
Plan by Church

Wednesday Prayer
Through Zoom - 7 pm

CSI CHRIST CHURCH OF CHICAGO