

NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2022

Am I looking for a perfect church?

In 1 Corinthians 12:12-31, St Paul gives one of the most famous pictures of the unity of the church. We are fascinated by the way in which the different parts of the body cooperates with each other. A body consists of many parts but there is in it, an essential unity. A body is healthy & efficient only when each part is functioning well. The parts of the body are not jealous of each other neither do they covet each other's functions. Paul also reminds us that we need each other, as every part of the body depends on each other. There is no such thing as isolation neither in the body nor in the church.

God has given every member of his body a role that pleases him(1 Cor 12:18). God considers every role in the church to be honorable.(1Cor 12:23-24). He has given every one a specific role to fulfill. We need each other. In the body there is no question of relative importance. We need to rejoice in our God given gifts, big or small and respect, honor lift up and cooperate with each other to bring glory to God's name. Another important thought that is

developed from this analogy is that since Christ is not present in the physical body on this earth, we become his representatives in this world. As it is expressed that “ He has no hands but our hands, He has no feet but our feet, He has no voice but our voice, He has no help but our help, to lead people to His side.”

We cannot represent Christ to others if we do not have unity among ourselves. In spite of our differences, we can work together understanding each other with kindness in our spirit. May God equip us to serve Him by building relationships, encouraging unity, providing stability to others, speaking truth in love and developing Christlikeness in our character. As we know there is no perfect church as people are not perfect. The perfection we do not have in ourselves comes as a gift from God as He is perfect. We grow everyday towards maturity receiving the grace of God through Jesus Christ.

Grace & peace,
Pastor Saroj Sangha.

THE TWO SISTERS LEAH AND RACHEL WHO WERE MATRIARCHS OF ISRAEL

“Then the elders and all the people at the gate said, “we are witnesses. May the Lord make the woman who is coming into your home like Rachel and Leah, who together built up the family of Israel.” (Ruth 4:11)

In Genesis 27:41 the complicated story of Jacob, Leah and Racheal comprise one of the largest sections and includes much information relevant to the history of the Jewish people. Female characters and their point of view are not ignored and their deaths are rarely mentioned. It is unlikely that Rachel and Leah as portrayed in Genesis, existed historically. The first parents of Israel, the cradle of Hebrew history, religion and Jewish group identity.

In the Old Testament the two sisters stood in one environment most of the day of their lives, there was always this complete difference of character. Rachel is introduced as graceful, gentle and beautiful and well favored. While Leah was much less beautiful than her sister is evident from the text. In one translation she is called weak-eyed and in another sore-eyed. They both remind us of two plants, one frail and one strong and yet growing in the same soil. Conflict arose between two sisters and forced them to the awkward position of sharing one husband, Jacob. They both did not quarrel but wrestled in mind and spirit through their lives.

Rachel had Jacob’s love but she was barren whereas Leah blessed with children but hungered for Jacob’s love. Even in her heavy affliction of being unloved she neither envied nor complained. She was unloved and forgotten but God blessed her with progeny. She sought peace with God and found happiness. Her mourning was turned to praising. Racheal had only two sons with Jacob but she became the mother figure of the Hebrew nation. Rachel and Leah remembered quintessentially as mothers, the bearing of children in the kin-based culture reflected in Genesis. The pains of childbirth came upon Rachel and she was the first woman in the Bible to die in childbirth giving birth to Benjamin.

Rachel was the more petulant, peevish and self-willed of the two; Leah was more meek, submissive and gentle. Leah sought peace in God’s unfailing tenderness. Leah had turned within herself and had become more spiritually sensitive than her sister Rachel. Leah had her heartaches, when her daughter Dinah was defiled by Shechem, the son of Hamor.

Jacob set a pillar upon her grave again showing his great love for her, is the oldest single memorial to a woman mentioned in the Bible, Rachel’s honors and blessings were many and Leah is honored beside Rachel as one which “Did build the house of Israel.”

By Suneethy Durgam

2022 October Prayer Requests

God tells us to "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." [Galatians 6:2]

Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for your faithfulness to nourish and protect us. Loving God, thank you for the prayers of others that sustain us in our worst times, for praying friends hold us up when we cannot stand on our own. Help us also to be mindful of others' needs and to lift them to you in prayer. .



*"And ALL things,
whatsoever ye shall ask
in prayer, BELIEVING, ye
shall receive."*

Matthew 21:22



Prayer Request



Please pray for **Mr. Paul Jerome Kola and Mr. Anil Somaram** who are hospitalized.

PRAYER SUPPORT FOR THE FOLLOWING:

Mr. Gideon Korani, Mr. Anthony Robinson (Pauline Robinson's son), **Mr. Sikander Henry, Mrs. Victoria Jaipal** (Sharmila Thomas' mother), **Mrs. Stella Samuel, Mr. Sherlock Ratanjee, Mr. Raphael Neville Victor, Mr. Richard McMullen, Mrs. Esther Cornelius** (Angela's mother-in-law), and **Mrs. Asuntha Francis** (Mrs. Rachel Samuel's sister).

CHILDREN RECEIVING CARE AT HOME: Elysia Durgam and Abigail Channuri.

OCTOBER 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 Men's Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Via Zoom
2 World Communion Sunday 17th Sunday after PENTECOST 10:30 In person and online Worship Service Bishop LaTrelle Easterling Visit	3	4 Office Hours are: Tuesday – Friday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm	 5 7.00 pm Bible Study & Prayer Office Hours are: Tuesday – Friday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm	6 Office Hours are: Tuesday – Friday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm	7 Office Hours are: Tuesday – Friday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm	8 Men's Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Via Zoom
9 18th Sunday after PENTECOST 10:30 In person and online Worship Service Pastor Sudhir Kirby Msg.	 10	11 Office Hours are: Tuesday – Friday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm	12 7.00 pm Bible Study & Prayer Office Hours are: Tuesday – Friday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm	13 Office Hours are: Tuesday – Friday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm	14 Office Hours are: Tuesday – Friday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm	15 Men's Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Via Zoom Ad Council Mtg 10:00 – 12:00 p.m.
16 Stewardship Sunday 19th Sunday after PENTECOST 10:30 In person and online Worship Service Holy Communion Memorial Comm. Meets	17	18 Office Hours are: Tuesday – Friday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm	 19 7.00 pm Bible Study & Prayer Office Hours are: Tuesday – Friday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm	20 Office Hours are: Tuesday – Friday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm	21 Office Hours are: Tuesday – Friday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm Bhajana & Songs 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.	22 Men's Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Via Zoom Children & Youth Leaders Training by Susan M Harry 10:00 – 3:30 p.m.
23 20th Sunday after PENTECOST 10:30 In person and online Worship Service	 24 UN Day !!	25 Office Hours are: Tuesday – Friday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm	26 7.00 pm Bible Study & Prayer Office Hours are: Tuesday – Friday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm	27 Office Hours are: Tuesday – Friday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm	28 Office Hours are: Tuesday – Friday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm	29 Men's Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Via Zoom
30 21st Sunday after PENTECOST 10:30 In person and online Worship Service Shepherd's Table at 5:00 p.m.	31					

