

# SHEKINAH

Quarterly Newsletter from

CMCC  
Central Maryland  
Christian Church

Fall 2011

Volume 3 Number 2

*Thoughts from my heart...*

## Just like Abraham!

“Now it was not written for his (Abraham’s) sake alone that it was imputed to him, but also for us. It shall be imputed to us who believe in Him (Christ).....” (Romans 4:23-25)

Abraham was loved by God very much! He was showered with so many blessings because of one reason, his faith! God seems to rejoice exceedingly when He sees faith in us! When the centurion demonstrated his faith in Jesus Christ, our Lord marveled and rejoiced! (Mat. 8:10-12) When the Syrophenician woman displayed her strong persuasive faith, Jesus was amazed again! Yes, we can make our God rejoice over us because of our faith in Him. Also, it is possible for us to walk just like Abraham every day, if we trust our Savior, and obey His calling in our life! Our calling is no different from Abraham’s call! Abraham was an ordinary man just like you and me, and he was bewildered over God’s will just like we are sometimes! Let us see some striking similarities between Abraham and us.

Just as Abraham was called out of his kindred (relatives) and country, we are also called out of our earthly attachments and passions, and told to seek those things that are above and to set our mind on things above, not on things on the earth

(Colossians 3:1,2). Just as Abraham stepped out in faith, trusting God’s promises, we also must step out in faith to follow Christ, and strive to obey Him so that we may receive the heavenly blessings. In the beginning of his journey, Abraham did not exactly follow the will of God in his life. When God said that he needed to move out of his kindred, Abraham insisted on taking Lot with him. He not only took Lot with him, but also made Lot almost equal to him! The servants of Lot started harassing Abraham’s servants because of their increased power and wealth! Eventually, Abraham had to break away from Lot.

Initially, Abraham also did not know where to settle down. He started drifting around, and eventually ended up in Egypt! We also wander around often in our life. We are not too sure about God’s will in our lives, and we tend to move around chasing the greenery! (Gen. 13:10,11). God had promised Abraham that he would become the father of many nations! But Abraham did not have even a single child at that time. Sarah thought that Abraham’s descendants were not to be through her. She used her maid servant Hagar to fulfill God’s promise. We all tend to do that. We take God’s will in

our own hands, and instead of waiting, we try to make it happen faster! Many Christians blindly rooted for going to war against Iraq because they felt that such an act of war would speed up the fulfillment of Biblical end time prophecy! Both Abraham and Sarah became miserable because they miscalculated God’s will in their lives. Ishmael and Hagar became a thorn in the flesh for them, and virtually had to be driven away! (Galatians 4:21-31).

But something beautiful happened! Sarah became pregnant when she was 90 years old! Isaac was the child of promise for Abraham and Sarah. After this miracle, Abraham never wavered in faith! His faith became so strong, and he did not hesitate even a little bit to offer his own son Isaac as a sacrifice, as per God’s command! (Hebrews 11:17-19). Abraham’s journey shows us the progression of his maturity in faith: from wobbly faith to a strong faith that was unshakable. We are all on our faith journey. Some of us may be novices in climbing this mountain of faith in Christ, and some may be intermediate, and others may be experts. Our life is a learning

*Also in This Issue ..... Children’s Ministry Pg. 2 ; Young Adult Ministry Pg. 3;*

*Women’s Fellowship Pg. 3, Local Missions Pg. 4; Announcements Pg 4*

experience. The sooner we understand that God exists, and the promise of blessings is through His Son Jesus Christ, we will start tasting the heavenly blessings of eternal life. Abraham was a simple person, and he followed two simple principles: He **trusted** God's promises, and **obeyed**. He was confused like you and me and it took him 99 years to have a

clear understanding of what faith is all about. Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness! It is about time, we believe in Jesus Christ as our Lord, and in the gift of Eternal life which is in Him. God is watching us very closely to see if we would bear any fruit of faith. We can see and feel God only through the eyes of faith. It is high time, we trust in God's Word,

and step out in faith! Come, taste and see! Life can indeed be very exciting when we hold God's hand and walk in faith! Yes, we can all be just like Abraham, and we can be his children of promise if we walk by faith!! Christian faith is very simple! Just trust Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior, and obey His Word! Do you trust Him?



Our VBS this year was a blast, as usual. We had many new children and it was a pleasure to teach them God's Word . We trust and pray that the seeds we have sown, will take root and produce fruit in due time. Many of these children have joined us at Kidz Club every month. Praise God!



**CMCC thanks the volunteers and parents who gave their time and treasure to make this a blessed week for the children.**

# YOUTH MINISTRY

**The Young adults** meet every Friday for a time of Bible study and Fellowship. On July 30th they conducted the first YAS worship... It was such a blessing to hear the Word of God through songs, skits and mini-messages. CMCC will have YAS worship every **5th Sunday**. The next one is on October 30th. Come and be blessed.

This group has been studying the Gospel of Matthew. This Bible study has enabled them to form a closer bond with each other too. They faithfully follow the principles of Acts 2:42, which is the foundation on which CMCC stands.



**The Women's fellowship** meets every second Saturday of the month for a time of prayer, learning the Word and sharing. They are currently learning how to overcome insecurity in life based on Beth Moore's 'So long Insecurity'. They uphold every woman in the group in prayer for their specific requests everyday of the month. Any woman who would like to join in and grow in the Lord, is welcome. This is not a gossip club!

As a group they have started sponsoring a woman through World Vision's Micro projects. This is a program that helps a woman get a loan to start-up a small business in her community.



CMCC has always supported missionaries abroad. We continue to support 2 missionaries in India.

As part of Kidz Club, we pack shoe boxes to be distributed through the Samaritan's Purse operated 'Operation Christmas Child' program

This year we are focusing more on missions closer to home too. Though we have been involved in local missions sporadically, we will now have an ongoing program.

- ☞ **Soles for souls:** A project to collect gently used/new shoes to be distributed to people in need in the US and around the world.
- ☞ **House of Ruth:** This project provides essential supplies to battered women and their children.



## CMCC's Annual Retreat

**When : November 4 –6, 2011**

**Time :** Friday—7:30pm; Saturday— 10am—2pm; Sunday—10:30am

**Where:** CMCC, 3229 Corporate Ct., Ellicott City, MD 21042

**Special Speaker: Eva. John Jeyaseelan**



*All are Welcome!!!*



### Announcements

**October 29 :** Young Adults Sunday—Music, skits, messages galore

**November 20:** Special Thanksgiving service. **No service on Thanksgiving Day.**

**December 17:** Family sing-song service

**December 25:** Christmas Service @ 10:30am followed by lunch

**December 31:** New Year's Eve Service @ 11pm. **No 10:30am service on January 1, 2012**

### Monthly Schedule

Sunday Worship Service - 10:30 am

Women's Fellowship - 2nd Saturday @ 2:30pm

Children's Sunday School - 10:15 am

Kidz Club - 2nd Saturday @ 4:30 p.m.

Bible Study & Prayer Session every Friday, @ 7:30 p.m. Call for location. (except the 2nd week) .

Young Adults Bible Fellowship every Friday @ 7:00 p.m. Call for location. (except the 2nd week)

### Contact



3229 Corporate Ct, Ellicott City, MD 21042 410-



418-4500



[pastor@acts242church.org](mailto:pastor@acts242church.org)

Visit: [www.acts242church.org](http://www.acts242church.org)