

CrossTalk



Reflecting on Christmas & Embracing the New Year



The Pastor and the Pastorate Committee of the Kothanur CSI Church extend their warm and prayerful New Year greetings to you and your family.

May this year 2026 bring you abundant blessings from our gracious Lord in every aspect of your life according to the following scripture:

“Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us” (Ephesians 3:20).

IN THIS ISSUE...

From the Pastor	3
Secretary's Note	4
Sunday School Updates	5
Youth Fellowship Updates	6
Career Guidance Seminar	7
Women's Fellowship Updates	8
Men's Fellowship Updates	9
Choir Ministry Updates	10
Remembering Harvest 2025	11
PETRA Community Outreach	12
Developing Young Musicians	13
Bible Study Update	14
Kannada Congregation Update	15
Joy of Christmas	16

CrossTalk





OUR SERVICES :

- Sunday : **KANNADA SERVICE**
@ 7.30 am
- ENGLISH SERVICE**
@ 9.00 am
- SUNDAY SCHOOL**
@ 9.30 am
- TAMIL SERVICE**
@ 6:30 pm
- YOUTH FELLOWSHIP**
@ 11.00 am After the Worship Service
- Women's Fellowship**
1st and 3rd Saturdays @ 5.00 pm
- Men's Fellowship**
1st and 3rd Saturdays @ 5.00 pm
- Friday : **PRAYER FELLOWSHIP**
@ 6.00 am
- BIBLE STUDY**
@ 7.00 pm
- Monday to Friday : **TAILORING CLASSES FOR WOMEN**
2.30 pm - 4.30 pm



HOLY COMMUNION :

- ❖ **COMBINED Holy Communion**
1st Sunday @ 9:00 am
6:30 pm
- ❖ **TAMIL Holy Communion**
2nd Sunday @ 6:30 pm
- ❖ **ENGLISH Holy Communion**
3rd Sunday @ 9:00 am
- ❖ **KANNADA Holy Communion**
4th Sunday @ 7:30 am
- ❖ **ENGLISH Early Morning Service & Holy Communion**
1st Day of Every Month @ 6:00 am

Foreword: From the Pastor



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It gives me great joy to reach out to you through our CrossTalk. I am thankful to the editorial team for compiling this issue.

As we have begun this New Year of 2026, we are thankful to God for His loving-kindness, goodness, faithfulness and grace in our life and in the life of the Church.

We are thankful to God for all those opportunities that God gave to us in the past year to share God's love, to express God's compassion, to manifest God's presence in our works of faith.

It is my prayer that this year will continue to bring to us more opportunities to participate in the work of God, and to engage ourselves in God's mission of spreading love, joy, peace and hope in the world.

We have received God's abundant grace in many ways throughout the past year, and it is with that same confidence that we continue to put our trust in God.

I am reminded of the assurance of Apostle Paul in 2 Corinthians 5:17, (English Standard Version): **"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come."**

These words always gives me hope as it is an assurance of a new opportunity to become a better person. It is an opportunity to become a better Christian. I pray that we would move forward in this year with this motivation to become better witnesses of God's love in the world. Amen.

Rev. Navin K. John
Presbyter In-Charge, Kothanur CSI Church

Some glimpses of the year gone by:

Secretary's Note

As we have concluded another year, we praise God for journeying with us throughout the days and months of 2025 gone by.

I also take this opportunity to thank our Pastor, the Pastorate Committee and the leaders representing different fellowship groups and Wings of the Church for sending the updates of their involvement in the different aspects of the Ministry of the Church.

Some of the highlights of the last quarter have been as follows:

- The Harvest festival of our Church was celebrated on the 12th of October on a grand scale, as we could use the space available adjacent to our church compound, and the success was attributed primarily to a clear Vision on the enduring significance of the outreach Mission of the Church.
- The Music classes with 18 students continue to meet for practice from 3 to 5 pm every Sunday, and we are grateful to Mr. Emmanuel Jebarajan for giving the leadership with his immense experience.
- The retreat/outing for the Sunday school children was arranged on the 1st of November at Elim Resorts in Kanakapura. The future plan includes a two-day Retreat for the teens/young adults in early 2026
- A seminar on Career Guidance was arranged on Sunday

the 9th of November for the benefit of youth, and we are grateful for the resource person, Prof. Richard Nathaniel, for his great thoughts and insights.

- The medical camp organized by the Outreach team of our Church was held on Sunday the 23rd of November at the Government Higher Primary School in Razakpalya near Bagalur.
- Apart from Bagalur, the focus of Missional initiatives will also be centered around Devanahalli in the year 2026.
- We also fondly remember the few members we lost last year. We thank God for their lives and continue to pray that the Holy Spirit may comfort their families.
- As I conclude, I quote these great words of comfort and solace, and for me, unfortunately, the author is unknown and it appears like a Prayer.

**"May the light of God guide us,
The love of God surround us,
The shield of God protect us,
The Peace of God fill us.
May the Lord grant His Blessings
upon each one of us."**

With New Year greetings,
L. Prashanth Solomon,
Hon. Secretary, KCSIC



Joy in Action:

Sunday School Updates

Report by our Sunday School Director, Mrs. Shalom Roger & Team



As Sunday School moved into a new quarter, we looked back with grateful hearts, thanking God for His guidance, protection, and provision over all our children throughout the past year. As 2025 came to a close, we praised God for His faithfulness through every high and low—during examinations, church activities, extracurricular engagements, academics, and in meeting the daily needs of our children.

We joyfully share a brief reflection on how God built and nurtured our children in His house through various church activities during the previous quarter.

12 October – Annual Harvest Festival

Our children were encouraged to actively participate in the Annual Harvest Festival, a time when the church came together to thank God for His abundant blessings. A special mention goes to Dr. Priya, whose idea of raffle tickets brought fresh enthusiasm and greater involvement among the children. Many children also joyfully contributed by making bands, keychains, and earrings to sell and raise funds for the church. We thank God for every child who invested their time, resources, and talents to make this initiative a success.

1 November 2025 – Sunday School Picnic

There was no end to the fun as our children and teachers enjoyed a refreshing picnic at Elim Resort, Kanakapura. We sincerely thank our Pastor and PC members for making this outing possible. The joy and excitement were evident in the photos and videos shared. Above

all, we thank God for His protection and for bringing everyone back safely with hearts full of gratitude.

16 November 2025 – World Sunday School Day

As the world celebrated children, we at KCSI joyfully observed World Sunday School Day. The choreography, skits, and songs beautifully reminded the congregation that God continues to work through the younger generation and that He has a divine plan for the future.

On this day, our Sunday School Director shared a meaningful message, reminding us that Jesus never viewed children as insignificant. Instead, He placed them at the center of His ministry, teaching that unless one becomes like a child, one cannot enter the Kingdom of God.

We thank God for guiding our children as they presented the timeless story of Christmas on 20.12.25 with renewed joy and creativity. We remain grateful to the church for standing with our children in prayer as they continue to grow in faith and understanding with each passing year. ■



Forward in Faith: Youth Fellowship Updates

**Highlights of our Youth Fellowship by its President
Mr. Prajwal Anand and Secretary, Ms. Anoosha Beauke**

The Kothanur CSI Church Youth Fellowship came together for a joyful Christmas gathering on 7th December filled with devotion, games, fun and a lovely potluck fellowship dinner. A big thank you to everyone who joined and

made the evening so special! Rev. Navin K John shared God's Word, thanked and appreciated the fellowship for all their proactive involvement in Youth ministry.



With the theme "Youth with Christ in Action," our amazing youth fellowship members truly stepped up and led various parts of the Church service on October 26, 2025. The service was led by Rev. Navin K John, and we were blessed by the inspiring Word of God from Rev. Jebaraj Louis.

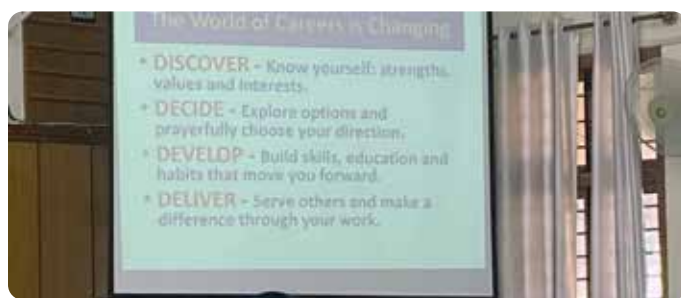
A special moment of prayer was offered for all the youth as they held candles — a beautiful symbol of their commitment to serve the Lord and follow His guidance in their journey ahead. We thank God for our vibrant, faith-filled youth who continue to shine His light in action!



Grace-filled Success: Career Guidance Seminar

CAREER GUIDANCE SEMINAR – A Grace-filled Success!
By the grace of our Lord and the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we had a successful Career Guidance Seminar today with 80+ participants in attendance — not only from Kothanur Csi Church, but also from few other churches. The seminar began with an encouraging praise and worship by our Youth Fellowship, an exhortation by Rev. Navin K John, and followed with an insightful session led by Prof. Richard Nathaniel. Prof. Nathaniel (an accomplished academician, career counsellor, and our own Choir Director) emphasized

on God's people being well-equipped with the relevant knowledge to face today's challenging world of work. He shared valuable insights on considering the choices we are called to make regarding our career, the importance of matching our skills and interests with the right opportunities, and the pathways to achieve our goals in academic areas with parental consultation rather than coercion. His talk was inspiring and deeply appreciated by all participants. A special thanks to the KCSIC Pastorate Committee for conceptualising this seminar and to the Youth Fellowship for their dedicated support throughout the event.



Radiant in God's Love: Women's Fellowship Updates

Highlights of our Women's Fellowship by its Secretary, Mrs. Kavitha Suresh

"God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day."— Psalm 46:5



Church on 1 November 2025. Members participated in various events including vernacular group singing, pick and sing, collage making, Bible quiz, and flower arrangement.

Diocese Fellowship

- Participated in the KCD Women's Fellowship Thanksgiving Service at St. Mark's Cathedral.
- Attended the **KCD Women's Fellowship General Body Meeting** held at Bishop Cotton Girls' High School, where our Bishop, **Rt. Rev. Vincent Vinodh Kumar**, delivered an inspiring message titled "Empowered by Faith and United in Purpose."

New Members

We joyfully welcome the following members into our fellowship: - Mrs. Remali
- Mrs. Sharon Bhaskar
- Mrs. Helen Robert
- Mrs. Rani Samson
- Mrs. Sujatha Raja Sukumar

Gratitude & Invitation

We express our sincere thanks to **Rev. Navin K. John** and **Pastoramma Mrs. Niveditha Navin** for their constant encouragement and support. The Women's Fellowship remains committed to serving the Lord with the gifts He has graciously given us.

We warmly invite more women of our church to join us as we continue to build God's Kingdom through **faith, service, and fellowship**.

The Women's Fellowship of Kothanur CSI Church holds regular monthly meetings on the **first Saturday of every month**, providing a time of prayer, devotion, and fellowship.

Learning God's Ways

During one of our monthly devotions, Mrs. Remali shared an inspiring message on the vital role of women as strong anchors in families, the calling God has placed upon women, and the strength found in a gentle and godly spirit.

Church & Community Participation

- Actively participated in the Harvest Thanksgiving Festival, centred on the theme "Gratitude for God's Bountiful Blessings."
- Took part in the Bible Quiz Competition held at Bishop Cotton Women's Christian College in August.

ATHAUA 2025

Our unity and enthusiasm were evident through participation in ATHAUA 2025, organised by St. Andrew's



Building God's Kingdom Together: Men's Fellowship Updates

Mr. Yohan John K
Communications Coordinator

Mr. Lurd John & Mr. Mohan Ebenezer
Treasurer(s)

Mr. Jonathan Jabez J
Secretary

Men's Fellowship November Activities

Men's Fellowship continues to meet regularly and assist in helping with worship, Bible reading, offertory collection, fundraising through breakfast sales etc.

Twice a month Men's Fellowship members visit Senior Citizen homes (Advantage Elder Care in Yelahanka and Kothanur) and assist our Pastor Navin John in conducting Communion Service. Men's Fellowship members make it a point to participate meaningfully in the 6 am intercessory prayer on Fridays, also Bible Study on Friday evenings at 7 pm.

Mr. Raja Sukumar and Mr. Suresh Kumar were warmly welcomed into Men's Fellowship.

One Accord Inter-Church Men's Fellowship event

Men's Fellowship also participated in One Accord '25 an initiative of the St. John's Church on Saturday 22nd November. It was a whole day affair, essentially of Bible Quiz and Singing competition amongst Men's Fellowships of the different churches in CSI Karnataka Central Diocese (Bangalore civil area). It was a fine gathering and the standards in Singing and Bible Quiz were impressive and enjoyable.

The program began with edifying worship and a great message based on Mark 2 :3-11, about the 4 men who brought the paralytic to Lord Jesus Christ, that the 4



would have been liberated by Triune God from Self/Selfishness and so overcame obstacles in the shared goal of bringing needy to Our Lord Jesus Christ.



Our Men's Fellowship did very well in Bible Quiz (Bro S M Dhinakar, Col. Issac and Bro Lurd Wing John represented us) and in Singing did quite well too (Bro Jonathan Jabez with Jeffery on guitar, Solo and Group Song- Sing of My Redeemer by Bros. Homer, Dhinakar, Peter, Mohan Ebenezer, Yohan John, Jonathan Jabez , Lurd W John, with Dr. Paul on Harmonica and Bro Michael on Saxophone).

The program ended with Worship of Triune God by all MFs together in One Accord !



Singing His Praise: Choir Ministry Updates

**Highlights of the Choir Ministry - Choir Director: Prof. Richard Nathaniel
Updates by Ms. Kirupa Collison**

Music has a way of uniting hearts, lifting spirits and preparing us to encounter God. It is this love for music and a desire to lift our voices in service to Him that draws together the members of the Junior and Senior choirs in faithful fellowship each week. The Choir ministry has been growing joyfully both in numbers and in spirit and we are happy to share a few highlights from this season:

Ministry

The Senior Choir presented a variety of anthems, contemporary worship songs and traditional hymns, supporting service themes throughout the quarter. This included the introits at the 9:00 AM service as well as special songs rendered during the first Sunday service of each month. At the Church Annual Thanksgiving service, the contemporary song 'Thank You' perfectly expressed our joy and gratitude as a church for all the blessings God showers upon us.

The Junior choir reminded us of how important our daily communion with God is, through their rendition of the melodious song, 'Just Pray' during the morning service on 7th October. Our choir director Prof. Richard Nathaniel's long association with Mr. Reji Chandy, conductor of 'Glorious' Choir brought us an invitation to participate in their 'Festival of Harmony' program. This annual event brings together school and college choirs, gospel groups and bands from

all over Bangalore and other parts of the country for a glorious evening of fellowship, worship and praise.

The CSI Kothanur Church Senior choir was the only church choir invited to participate in this program and we presented two very meaningful numbers, 'Faith To Carry On' and 'Without Him' which were much appreciated by the audience.

Christmas and beyond

On 6th December, the Senior Choir participated in the Christmas celebrations of the Pavanasar Lutheran Church, presenting two carols, 'Joy, Joy, Unspeakable Joy' and 'Good News'. This was followed by 'Carols by Candlelight' and Christmas and New Year services.

The Senior Choir meets every Saturday from 6:30 - 8:30 PM. The Junior Choir practices every Sunday after the morning service from 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM. If you have a heart for worship and a desire to sing, we would love to have you join us. New members are always welcome! It is a privilege to lead and worship through music.

We are grateful to you, the congregation, and to our pastor and the pastorate committee for your continuing prayers and support.



Gratitude for God's Bountiful Blessings: Remembering Harvest 2025



Kothanur CSI Church observed its Annual Thanksgiving Service 2025 & Harvest Festival today, centered around the theme "Gratitude for God's Bountiful Blessings". The festive day drew a large crowd of members, their families & relatives, and many visitors, all of whom participated with great fervour. The **Harvest Committee**, guided by the **Pastorate Committee** and supported by all the **wings/fellowships**, collectively organized the celebration including 20 stalls, featuring 5 live food counters and a selfie booth. The occasion was honoured by the presence of local leaders, including Mr. Prakash. Rev. Navin K John led

the celebrations, prayed and dedicated our revamped website: www.kothanurcsi.org and also released the print version of our redesigned newsletter, "CrossTalk". Besides auction of gifted items, there was also a lucky draw of the "Joy of Giving in Little Minds" fundraising initiative undertaken by our Sunday School children. Three winners were given prizes by the chief guests. We offer our hearts full of thanks and praise to our eternal **Lord and Saviour JESUS CHRIST** for His enduring mercies and for making this thanksgiving festival a grand success for His own glory!



KCSIC Social Engagement Activities: **PETRA Community Outreach**



The outreach team of Kothanur CSI Church conducted a medical camp on 23rd November at Razakpalya near Bagalur, reaching about 155 needy people. We also praise God for giving us the opportunity of partnering with **Concentrix** corporate company in providing

school bags for the 140 children of the Government Urdu higher primary school located in Razakpalya. We consider it a landmark event in addressing the needs of children. We thank all volunteers, and participants for their overwhelming support.



Music Classes at KCSIC: Developing Young Musicians



“PRAISE HIM with the sound of the trumpet; praise Him with the lute and harp.” (Psalm 150:3)

Devasagayam, Dr Mercy Anthony for conducting the sessions. Special thanks to Mrs. Jacintha for support and coordination. Kothanur Csi Church children enrolled in this course are joyfully learning and practicing a variety of musical instruments. Praise be to God!

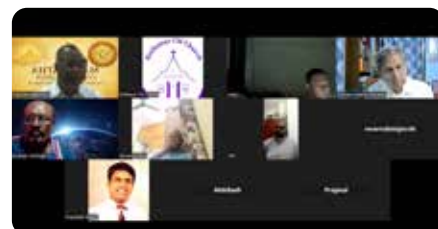
Here are a few glimpses from our weekly music classes. A heartfelt thanks to Dr. Emmanuel Jebarajan, Mr. Dinesh

Christ in Every Chapter: Bible Study Update

The Kothanur CSI Church conducts regular Bible Study series. Each series feature enriching sessions led by our Pastor, Rev. Navin K John, along with dedicated lay preachers from our congregation.

Every session offers thoughtful teaching, clear biblical explanation, and meaningful reflection to guide participants in their faith journey. All sessions are live relayed through zoom, and the recordings are then made available in the KCSIC YouTube channel. If you are seeking a deeper understanding of God's Word—one that combines sound theological insight with practical application for everyday life, then we encourage you to visit our YouTube channel (type Kothanur CSI Church in the search box) and then access our Bible Study video series, which are designed to help everyone grow spiritually and strengthen your personal relationship with Christ.

We invite you to watch, reflect, and grow together in God's Word. ■



Kannada Congregation Update : Lyric Singing Competition



The Kothanur CSI Church Kannada Bhajana Group participated in the Kannada lyric singing competition held at Shaffer Memorial Church on November 2nd as part of its 75th anniversary celebrations. Their performance was widely appreciated, with many praising the unique choice of a rarely sung lyric and commending the group's efforts to revive such lyrics. ■

In Loving Memory: Remembering Our Dearly Departed (2025)



Dr. Mohan Selvaraj



Mr. Bernard Shaw



Mrs. Gladys Joseph



Mrs. Grace



Mr. Winfred Viren Gona

During 2025, we unfortunately lost five members in our congregation. Each loss has touched us deeply and reminded us of the fragility of life and the importance of compassion, care, and prayer. Among those we remember are:

- **Dr. Mohan Selvaraj** - a founding member of the Kothanur CSI Church. He was a visionary and dynamic Servant of God, who has made significant contributions to the Karnataka Central Diocese and the Church at large.
- **Mr Bernard Shaw** - a member of the KCSIC Pastorate Committee and a dedicated elder of the Church. Besides being a regular member of the Men's Fellowship, he was also leading the Bible Study Fellowship of our church.
- **Mrs. Gladys Joseph and Mrs. Grace**, who slept in the Lord at the ages of 85 and 87 respectively, leaving

behind wisdom and generations influenced by their presence.

- Mr. Winfred Viren Gona, whose untimely passing is deeply mourned.

We give thanks to God for all of their lives and pray for their bereaving family members. May the Spirit of God continue to console, comfort and lead them.

- With prayers from The Pastor, KCSIC Pastorate Committee, Wings of the Church & Congregation at large

"The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit." (Psalm 34:18)

Highlights from KCSIC Christmas 2025

Joy of Christmas:

On Christmas Bells by Mrs. Eunice Novel Doddamani:
When the gentle bells rang at mid night, and echoed the snowy streets, families stepped outside with smiles. Each chime seems to whisper a message of love calling people to feel the warmth of Christmas, reconnect and to celebrate togetherness. Christmas bells carries a deep spiritual symbolism and hold a very significant place. Christmas, bells proclaim the good news of the birth of our Lord and Saviour

Jesus Christ. As it states in Luke 2:10 "And the angel said unto them, Fear not for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people." The sounds of bells ringing resounds happiness and reminds people of the essence of Christmas. Christmas bells carry a call to awaken our spirits encouraging us to spread peace and cherish the blessings we often overlook. It also invites every heart to share kindness and celebrate the miracle of God's love.





A team from KCSIC went to the Serai, Bandipur, to share the Christmas message (pictures below) among the non-Christians located in the Tribal region.



Inter-Faith Christmas 2025







Kothanur CSI Church

Editorial:

CrossTalk

To God be all the glory!

The CrossTalk newsletter is brought to you by our Communications Team. We welcome your feedback and articles—please send your literary contributions to hellocrosstalk@gmail.com.