

## 🙏 50 Years of God's Faithfulness and Merciful Providence. 🙏

Today's celebration of the Golden Jubilee Anniversary brings back to me nostalgic memories of a day in May 1972 when we as a family living in Raynor Park, SW London had the pleasure of having as our honoured guest the **late Rev. S W Arasaratnam**. Following the Dinner that evening Rev Arasaratnam led us in a time of Worship and Prayer in Tamil and quite coincidentally I sang a rendition of "Varum Ayah Pothahare" which triggered much emotion for us all, reminding us of the years of worship and fellowship in our own mother tongue way back in Sri Lanka.

This compelled me to express my desire and the longing of many a migrant heart to be able to congregate and have worship services in Tamil in keeping with our culture and traditions. Rev Arasaratnam took note of my passionate plea and after discussing the matter further, assured us that he would pursue the matter further. Days later he informed me that the Putney Methodist Church was willing to lend the Church premises to conduct Sunday Services.

On the **28th May 1972**, the **very First Worship Service in Tamil** was held at the **Putney Methodist Church @ 4pm** under the able and blessed leadership of **Rev. S W Arasaratnam** who gave the message and pronounced a Benediction that has seen the goodness and blessing of God not only to the mini congregation of 10 at the first service but to the countless Sri Lankans and other nationalities who have made U K their home.

I feel a sense of pride, joy and thankfulness to have been instrumental in making the initiative and can attribute this solely to the guidance and direction of our almighty God. He has blessed humble beginnings fortifying it with able and spirit filled leaders following the tradition set by late Rev S W Arasaratnam and building the Church to greater heights. The **London Tamil Christian Congregation** [previously known as the Putney Church], stands as a proud testimony to the faithfulness and blessed providence of God under the able leadership of **Rev. Jessie Anand** who has steered the church to be a source of great blessing to the congregation in LTCC.

It is my prayer that as we celebrate 50 Golden years of God's goodness to us that we and our future generations will in thankfulness carry the torch of the Gospel to many more seeking hearts and be blessed.

I am thankful for the opportunity given to me to express my joy and happiness of fulfilled dreams and vision and pray that LTCC will grow in the Lord from strength to strength and in the process be a blessing to this generation and many more generations to come and that the name of God will be glorified and exalted.

**Vathany C Thangiah**

Founder Member