

News from Rev. Dr. Edward and Monica Naumann, serving the Lord in South Asia

More Baptisms in Kuliypitiya



Easter Day Events: April 21

06:30 Naumann family leaves for Kuliypitiya, to witness the baptism of 3 infants.

08:30 bomb blasts go off in Colombo, Batticaloa, Negombo, at churches and hotels, killing several hundred people.

09:00 Easter service begins. Pr. Naumann preaches sermon, and three infants are baptized.

15:00 Naumanns arrive back home safely in Colombo.

Please continue your prayers for the safety of all people in Sri Lanka, as well as for us.

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A small toddler's paddling pool served as a baptismal font on Easter morning. Rev. Ariyaratne baptized his own infant granddaughter, while her mother looked on with tears of joy. For my part I stood with a different expression on my face, my mind being torn in two directions, partly to the historic and joyous moment that was unfolding in front of my eyes, and partly to the horrific news of the terrorist attacks, which I had heard about just minutes before this photo was taken. Seconds later I was receiving an infant into my own arms, and I had the privilege of baptizing two baby girls, Enara and Chanudi (also baptizing in Sinhala for the first time!). Thanks be to God for these three little girls, who have been crucified with Christ, buried, raised to new life, and are now heirs of the Kingdom of God!





Prayer requests

- Thanks to God for the new life in Christ of Enara and Chanudi. May guardian angels keep them, and protect them from all harm. And may they be preserved in the one true faith.
- For peace and stability in Sri Lanka; for the government and all who are in authority, that they may rule with wisdom and justice.
- For the victims of violence and hatred, that those who grieve may be comforted.
- That the enemies of peace may come to know the love of Christ, and join with us in receiving everlasting life.
- For the elections taking place in India, that the country will become more open to the Christian faith.
- For our Children's education, which has been disrupted by recent school cancellations.

Let's Talk!

Want to speak with Pastor Naumann directly? Feel free to add him on Skype.
Username: EdwardN82

Graduation at Seminary in India



The faculty and students of Concordia Theological Seminary, Nagercoil, processed through campus for the end of the 94th commencement service. It was a bittersweet occasion, as their joy was tempered by the knowledge that the Indian immigration authorities had refused entry to India for their guest of honour from the LCMS, even though he had a valid visa. Sadly, this kind of institutionalized opposition to Christianity is not uncommon in India, where Nationalism and Hinduism often go hand in hand.

Keeping Calm and Carrying On

After Easter, Sri Lanka was on the front page on every news outlet in the world—and rightly so, because of what happened. We were especially conscious that Christians and tourist spots had been targetted, so we felt especially vulnerable. Only a week earlier, we had gone for Sunday brunch to one of the hotel restaurants that was bombed. Many other such thoughts came to mind, but most especially the possibility of further attacks and the ongoing danger. There were rumours of further plots. The police were finding detonators and explosives every day, in different locations. The Roman Catholic Church even cancelled all Sunday services, for fear that another attack upon a church would claim more lives. Slowly, in the last few days of Easter week, signs of movement were starting to return to Colombo. So on the first Sunday after Easter, with some trepidation, we all went to church for the 9.30 communion service, and were glad not to hear news of any problems elsewhere on the island. After church we went to our go-to Indian restaurant for some ghee dosai, vegetable biriyani, and 'paneer 65'. Despite the fears of last week, day by day life is normalizing, and we are carrying on with our work as before. Thank you to all of you who have been keeping us in your prayers during this difficult time!

Pastor Edward Naumann