



# SERVING THE LORD IN SRI LANKA NEWS FROM THE MAHLBURG FAMILY



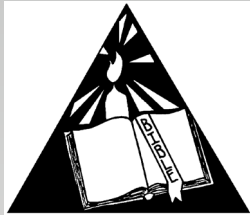
June  
2020

[smahlburg@yahoo.com](mailto:smahlburg@yahoo.com)



## Daily Devotions with Rev. Steven Mahlburg

What a privilege it was to record daily devotions during the curfew. Without being able to have services or even visit people here, it was a way to minister to them. I encourage everyone to take time each day to hear God's Word, to offer up prayers and praise, and to sing hymns. We have practiced daily devotions in our family for many years. We begin our day in God's Word. The Lord has blessed and strengthened us in our lives through these devotions.



### Family Dates

Wedding Anniversary **August 11**

#### Birthdays:

Steven	<b>January 27</b>
Martha	<b>December 11</b>
Autumn	<b>September 13</b>
Liberty	<b>July 15</b>
Skye	<b>May 29</b>
Rose	<b>March 19</b>
Duncan	<b>July 24</b>



To be added to or removed from this mailing list, send an email message to [newsletter@mahlnews.com](mailto:newsletter@mahlnews.com) with the word ADD or REMOVE in the subject line.

## Telling the Mighty Works of God

*And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language?... we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God. Acts 2:8,11*

On Pentecost, Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to bring the Gospel to people of every language. Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to His disciples as evidenced by the miracle of everyone hearing the Gospel in their own language. Thanks be to God that despite the challenges due to the coronavirus, the Holy Spirit continues His work of bringing the Gospel to every language including to the people of Sri Lanka.

Praise be to God that after two months under strict curfew, the restrictions in Sri Lanka are beginning to ease. It was great to see some people I have not seen since before the curfew. I was able to meet with Rev. Devanesan to catch up and discuss mission and ministry in Sri Lanka.

We are not able to have regular church services for the next few months. But we pray, this restriction will be lifted sooner. I will continue

recording the Sunday services for our English speaking members. The pastors and evangelists are ministering to their members as best as they can under the government restrictions.

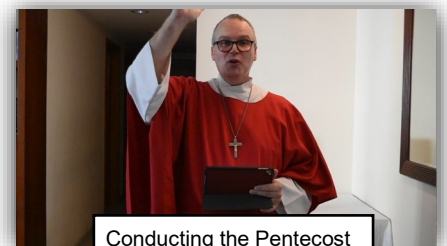
Currently, travel in and out of Colombo is restricted. Please pray that this restriction is lifted soon so that I can return to the upcountry where most of the people from our church partner live.

I know the church is facing challenges all over the world as a result of the coronavirus. I also know that the Holy Spirit reveals opportunities in the midst of challenges. I am excited to tell others about the eternal cure for the virus of sin. Jesus' saving work in His life, death, and resurrection is the cure. He gives us life even in the midst of death.

Thank you for your prayers. The Lord hears them and we are grateful. Thank you for your continued partnership in God's Work in Sri Lanka. Through your financial gifts, we are able to continue to serve the Lord in Sri Lanka.



Rev. S. Devanesan is the pastor of Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Colombo, two other congregations, and a mission station in other parts of Sri Lanka



Conducting the Pentecost service from our apartment



**PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

- Ears to be open to the comfort found in Christ
- Those affected by covid-19
- The unemployed
- Continued lifting of restrictions
- Continued financial support for local congregations and mission work around the world

**GIVE THANKS FOR:**

- Current ease in restrictions
- Provision of the most essential: God's Word
- Support of brothers and sisters in Christ
- Use of the internet to spread God's Word

**PRAISE GOD FOR:**

- Sending the Holy Spirit
- Spread of the Gospel
- The many congregations and individuals who pray for us, encourage us and partner with us

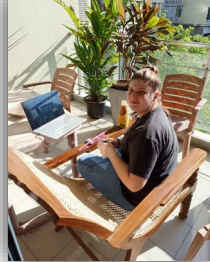
**CONSIDER:**

- Adding us to your congregation's mission budget as a Together in Mission partner (Call 888-930-4438 for details).
- Starting, continuing, or increasing financial support for mission work in Sri Lanka (See below).
- Having a Skype update with your congregation, Bible study, Day School, Sunday School, Women's group, etc....

# Family News



Rose and Duncan working on their computers for school



Skye working on our balcony



Skye celebrates her 17<sup>th</sup> birthday



Skye cuts her birthday cake

*Together in Jesus' Service,  
Steven & Martha,  
Autumn, Liberty, Skye, Rose, and  
Duncan*

Welcome to June! We have gone through quite a bit since our last newsletter and I will endeavor to bring you up to speed.

The kids were able to start their new school term on time. School looks different though. They were able to do their classes online. There were some snags when things first started. Things are running smoothly now.

The curfew has been lifted some. It is now only in place at night and on certain days designated by the government. I can now go to the grocery store. There are changes there though. I have to wear a mask and have my temperature taken as well as use hand sanitizer before they let me in the store. The number of people in the store is limited also. The cashiers wear gloves, face masks, and face shields. They have put up big plexiglass dividers between shoppers and cashiers. There is a small opening where you can hand them your cash.

Just recently we celebrated Skye's 17<sup>th</sup> birthday. I was thankful that I was able to do some birthday shopping for her so she could have birthday presents. It is hard to believe that it has been 17 years since the day that Steven dropped me off at the hospital and had to run back to church to do the Ascension Day service. Don't worry, he got back in time for her birth.

This is certainly turning out to be a memorable year. I wonder what the rest of the year holds.

**SOCIAL MEDIA**

Instagram: [stevemahlburg](#)

Twitter: [twitter.com/MahlburgMission](#)

Facebook: [facebook.com/groups/missionSriLanka](#)

Kindly consider a special gift to further support LCMS mission work in Sri Lanka. The instructions below explain how you can give this gift.



There are many opportunities to serve as short-term or GEO missionaries. Check out the current list and download an application at [lcms.org/service](#). Click on "Service Opportunities."

To support the LCMS through the work of Steven Mahlburg, you may send a tax-deductible gift to:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
P.O. Box 66861  
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

Make checks payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Mark checks "Support of Mahlburg-Sri Lanka". Gifts can also be given securely online through the LCMS website, on my online giving page at [lcms.org/Mahlburg](#).