



SERVING THE LORD IN SRI LANKA NEWS FROM THE MAHLBURG FAMILY



October
2020

smahlburg@yahoo.com

In The Beginning



We said goodbye to the Vicar Ben and Grace, Larson and Hollen who returned to the US on completion of their vicarage. We were blessed to have them in Sri Lanka. The music program which Ben started will inspire young people to pursue music in the church and encourage them in the faith.

They did well in this unusual vicarage. The Covid-19 lockdown was a great challenge to his vicarage, but he did great. We pray that God bless and watch over them as they await the birth of their third child. We pray for God's guidance and wisdom as Ben returns to complete his seminary studies. He will be a great pastor.

Bro. Sebastian and Rev. Devanesan baptizing a father and child in a river near Yatitanthota



And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. Genesis 1:31.

What does baptism have to do with creation? In Holy Baptism, we are reborn. We are a new creation in Christ (2 Cor. 5:17). We give thanks to God for the new creations God has made in Mr. Puthra and his son Jeyson. Thanks be to God for these faithful servants to minister to these people with God's Word and Sacrament.

We started a Bible study on Genesis. This is open to all people. We have people attending from outside the church as well as from within. I am excited to teach on this book which reveals the foundations of the Christian faith and guides us to rebirth and new creation we have in Jesus.

Despite the challenges of Covid-19 restrictions, the Lord continues to bless his work in Sri Lanka. Thanks



be to God, I am able to continue to work with the local church in Sri Lanka. I was able to meet with the pastors and evangelists last month to plan for the future of the Ceylon Evangelical Lutheran Church including the training of church workers, publishing Christian materials, church constitution and budget matters, and studying God's Word.

Your prayers and partnership allow us to continue to serve God in Sri Lanka. Thank you.

| Family Dates | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Wedding Anniversary | August 11 |
| Birthdays: | |
| Steven | January 27 |
| Martha | December 11 |
| Autumn | September 13 |
| Liberty | July 15 |
| Skye | May 29 |
| Rose | March 19 |
| Duncan | July 24 |



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



A painting by a local artist to be featured in church publications



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- *New Tamil and English Bible Study in Colombo*
- *Those affected by covid-19*
- *Development of effective treatments and vaccines for Covid-19*
- *The unemployed*
- *Continued financial support for local congregations and mission work around the world*

GIVE THANKS FOR:

- *The grant to provide food for over 300 families.*
- *Feeding us with God's Word*
- *Support of brothers and sisters in Christ*
- *Cheerful givers*

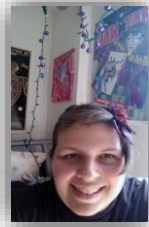
PRAISE GOD FOR:

- *Being our immovable Rock through the storms of life*
- *Opening hearts to the Gospel*
- *The many congregations and individuals who pray for us, encourage us and partner with us*

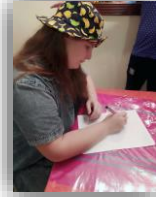
CONSIDER:

- *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



Autumn at 21!



Skye working on homework



Steven and I celebrated 31 years in August

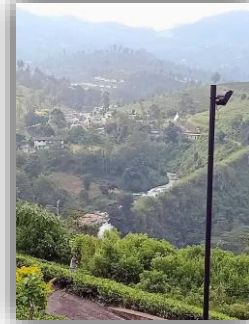


First day back to school!

August was pretty full for our family. There was much to do to get ready to go back to school. Steven and I celebrated our 31st wedding anniversary on the 11th. We also snuck a quick trip up country into the month.

September saw the beginning of another school year. Autumn is starting her junior year at Kendall and celebrated her 21st birthday on the 13th. Liberty started her sophomore year at CMU. Skye is in her last year of A Levels and is starting the process of picking a University to attend next year. Rosie is on her last year of O Levels and will soon start studying for the exams in May. Duncan is starting Form 3.

Skye was selected for the school musical. Rose is enjoying Art and Drama clubs. Duncan was picked for Model UN. We will have a very busy afterschool schedule this year.



We never get tired of the up country scenery

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.

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

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](#).



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."