

Lamp Lighters World Ministries

August 2025

We have certainly had strange weather patterns literally all over the United States this year.

Here in Joplin we were getting so much heavy rain regularly until July and now it is dry and hot. Many of you have experienced the same or other weather related problems.

It's also hot and dry in Sri Lanka, which is normal for this time of year, but seems more intense this year than others.

I think that maybe some of our weather related misery may be a reminder to us of how temporary this earth we call home actually is. It's not going to last for ever.

We know Jesus is coming back and we need to take the message of the Gospel to as many as we can. Time is running out for this earth, and Jesus will be ushering in the new heaven and new earth, maybe before we expect it to happen.

Thank you for your faithful prayers and financial support that is enabling our preachers and coworkers to take the message of salvation to the people in Sri Lanka! You are such a blessing to the ministry! May God continue to bless and use you to His glory.

Because of Christ,

Steve, Niranjana, and Sona

P.S. I'm excited to be returning to Sri Lanka in August. I get to see my children again, of which two daughters will be married while I'm there, and to see the churches and preachers and their families again. One preacher and family I will meet for the first time.

NEWS FROM NIRANJANA

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

By the grace of the Lord, we are entering the 8th month. For eight months, God has strengthened us to serve Him amidst challenges and struggles, given us counsel, and taught us to hold on to His words and live by them consistently.

In the eighth month, we are experiencing days when the temperature in Sri Lanka has increased and the impact of the sun is high. This is a time when water bodies have dried up, lands have become parched, and the need for water is felt more intently.

The weather has caused some skin diseases and allergies, as well as throat problems. We are longing for rain. It is easy to imagine that people will be thirsty for God's words in the coming days.

Thank you for your faithful prayers and financial support. God bless you.

PERIYA KALLAR MINISTRY

Regarding the ministry of the Periya Kallar Church, there is a need for greater attention and active concern. The church has been attacked every time because of the leaders involved in the ministries there and the current situation needs to be built with more attention and caution under the guidance of the Spirit of God and by His word.

Last month, God graciously blessed all the Christian churches to hold a three-day fasting and prayer meeting at the Periya Kallar Christian Church. We observed the mighty works of the Lord.

The way other church leaders in the area are acting regarding the church is very worrying. However, we are trusting in our faithful God that He will change the plans and slander of men and God's vision will be fulfilled through that church.

VBS to be held in AUGUST

As we usually do over the years, we had planned to hold our Vacation Bible School for Sunday School students during the 2nd term of the school holidays. We were prepared to hold the VBS for five days, but the regular school educational activities have not returned to normal in Sri Lanka this year.

Because of this we have decided to hold a one-day VBS on the upcoming holiday (Full moon day), 08.08.2025.

Therefore, VBS will be held in all churches on those days. Please pray for new children to join it. And that through them we can also influence their parents and families for Christ.

NEW SATELLITE SUNDAY SCHOOLS

Last month, God gave us the grace to start Sunday School in three new places. They were Devapuram on the northern side of Batticaloa (an area full of religious restrictions that have prevented churches from operating there until now) and Periya Neelavanai Church in Sammanthurai and apartment flats area (built after the tsunami) of Periya Neelavanai.

28 children joined in Devapuram, 30 children in Sammanthurai and 34 children in the flats area.

The Devapuram Sabbath School is conducted by Pastor Sivarajah and the other two areas are conducted by Sunday school teachers from Periya Neelavanai under our supervision.

Praise God with us for these new opportunities to serve and grow the body of Christ

STEVE'S NOTES

Plans are in place, tickets and visa purchased, and excitement is growing by the day for me to go back to Sri Lanka! The plan is for me to be there for one month. I leave August 12th and return to the States September 13th.

I've been planning this trip ever since my return to Sri Lanka last year. There was a very long wait to go back last year, due to Shanthi's illness and eventual going to be with Jesus. Then Covid hit and I couldn't return, not just because of the disease itself, but also government regulations prevented me from going.

One of the exciting parts of this trip is two of my daughters, Sowmiya and Tharsha will be getting married while I'm there. Both of their intended husbands are Christian young men and involved in ministry work in our church in Koddai Kallar.

They say they are fully prepared for their weddings, and hope so as they will happen the week after I arrive in Sri Lanka.

Pray for a good trip without any problems and pray for God to be honored in their marriages.

PRAYER CONCERNS

1. Faithful preacher and family for the Periya Neelavanai and Periya Kallar Churches.
2. For good fellowship among the co workers
3. For existing and new children in VBS
4. For weddings of Steve's daughters
5. For the building works in Porativu to progress.
6. Safety in travel as Steve returns to Sri Lanka.