

Lamp Lighters World Ministries

March 2025 Newsletter

March is here which brings the promise of spring is not far in the future. I don't know about you but I'm definitely done with ice, snow and cold.

I have jonquils coming up in my yard already in spite of three days in a row of negative temperatures last week.

Spring is always a reminder of new birth in nature around us. Birds are looking for mates and nesting places, grass is beginning to turn green again, trees are beginning to bud, and soon will have leaves again.

The transformation from dead, dreary and cold will happen soon, and we rejoice in that.

It should be a reminder to us also of the transforming power of Jesus Christ! He takes our lives that were dead and gives abundant life and life eternal. He takes the life that is dreary and gives that life joy. The life that is cold and seemingly lifeless and gives it hope.

What an amazing God we have who uses nature to remind us of what He has done for us!

So many in our world, especially in Sri Lanka, need to hear this message of new life, joy and hope.

You are a part of that message by your faithful prayers and financial gifts. We are so grateful to God for what you do to support this ministry. May our God bless you abundantly for all you do!

Because of Christ,

Steve, Niranjana and Sona

News from Niranjana

We greet you all in the Lord Jesus name,

May the Spirit of God help us to contemplate the grace of God in this new month with good health, strength, desire to serve, and burdened heart for souls.

Many events have taken place in the past month and many changes are evident in many activities.

Questions have arisen as to whether the country will be able to move towards the expected solid state. Looking at the current situation in Sri Lanka, it is impossible to confirm whether the country is taking steps towards a stable future. There is a continuous increase in the prices of essential goods and shortages. The number of people who have been targeted by

shootings and died in Sri Lanka has also increased.

Especially in Sri Lanka, activities are being carried out against the ministries of God. There are indirect and direct tribulations such as opposition to the gospel work and problems in establishing churches. However, we know from the Bible that the Lord governs everything, and that whenever crises and tribulations come, God has given great deliverance to His people, and that the gospel has spread to many places. Therefore, God must change all these circumstances. We are waiting with faith in Him every day for His mighty deeds to happen in the country and God's grace to live a fearless, peaceful and happy life.

Thank you for your prayers and financial supports for Sri Lanka ministries.

Progress made with Porativu Land Purchase

We have received the official deed of the land in Porativu, praise the Lord!

Our plan now is to submit the applications this month to get water and electricity connection in our name on that land. Similarly, we are going to apply for permission to construct a church building on the property. The work for that is currently in progress. Please continue to pray that everything will go on without any hindrances.

Youth Camp Plans Underway

All the initial arrangements are in progress for the youth camp to be held next month. We are expecting more than 100 young people to attend this year.

Application forms have been given to all the churches and the details of those who will come are being collected. We visited and selected the location for the camp last month and we have decided to do it in the central part of Sri Lanka.

The purpose of this youth camp is twofold, to help youths who are in bondage to the control of the world to come closer to God's love and to encourage them to participate in the ministry. Please continue to pray that it will be a blessing to everyone, that it will be well run and that all needs will be met.

Small Groups are Meeting

As per the decision taken earlier this year, house services and small group services have been started. A house service is being held by the Periya Kallar Christian Church in another part of the Periya Kallar area. The Mahiloor Christian Church and the Periya Neelavanai Christian Church are conducting house services. The pastor of Porativu Christian Church has started conducting service at another new place. But since it is located a little far away, there are problems in transportation and visiting.

Prayer Concerns

1. Pray for the remaining plans and execution of the Youth Camp next month.
2. Cooperation and unity among the coworkers.
3. Starting of new churches in other areas.
4. Progress for the plans new building in Porativu.
5. A preacher and family who will take on the Periya Neelavanai ministry.

Steve's Notes

Briefly Nirajan made mention of a new ministry opportunity which was given to our preacher Kushaya who serves at Porativu. There were approximately 30 people who came for the meeting and worship service.

While this sounds amazing on the surface it is not without potential problems.

First the distance for travel is over an hour away, in the Akkaraipattu area and transportation is still difficult. This is a major issue dividing of time between two congregations

Secondly with the planning of the new building in Porativu and a growing congregation there, division of time would be very difficult.

Third, many times disgruntled church members of other churches leave their church and look for someone to start a new church.

Lots of prayer and wisdom is needed for God's direction. If this is God's will He will open all the doors and make it work!

I am starting to make my plans to return to Sri Lanka in August of this year as two of my daughter's weddings will take place and to again encourage the preachers and churches. Pray that all my plans will work according to God's will.