

## WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

We asked our friends from around the world to join us for our World Communion Celebration and share where they've seen God at work. Here's what they said.

**Meet Biyoora. She is from Sri Lanka and recently finished her studies in the Philippines to become a pastor.**



“Let us take pride in calling ourselves Christians, and let us always stay united to celebrate the World Communion Sunday, which bonds us together. Best wishes on this day. I am Pastor Biyoora. I belong to the Church of the American Ceylon Mission. I am from the north part of Sri Lanka, especially from the Kilinochchi district where the ethnic civil war occurred in 2009. At the moment I am living in the Philippines. I came here to pursue my Master of Divinity program in 2016 at Union Theological Seminary. I thank God. Sometimes in the past years, I wanted to give up on my studies, but God gave me more strength, courage, wisdom, and guidance through people to complete this degree in a foreign land. Last month I'm graduated from the seminary. Now I'm waiting to fly back to Sri Lanka.

Thank you Pastor Sarah. Thank you all members and partners of Zion church to giving this opportunity to be with you in this celebration. Have a blessed and joyful World Communion Sunday. Thank you again.”

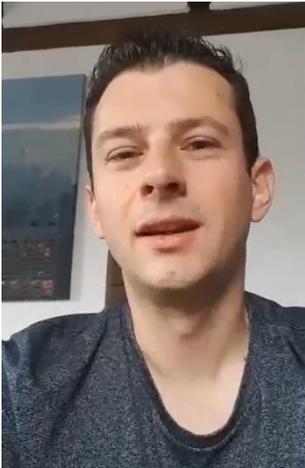
**Meet Andrew. He was with us at Zion last summer while he was preparing for his assignment as a mission coworker for Global Ministries.**



“Greetings, Zion. My name is Andrew Larson, and I live here in the Philippines. I'm here in the Philippines serving with Global Ministries. Global Ministries is the joint mission between the Disciples of Christ and the United Church of Christ, with partners throughout the world. While I'm here, while I work with our partners, I work on justice, peace, and human rights programming. A time that I saw God recently is when we packed bags of food for over 1,000 different

families to make sure that those vulnerable in our community still receive the proper nutrition and nourishment they need during this global health crisis and pandemic. Thank you for letting me join you this morning on this global World Communion Sunday and a time that we can remember that our community stretches across all sorts of barriers. Peace be with you.”

**Meet Jörn. He was part of Generation 4 of the Indiana-Kentucky Conference Young Ambassadors Program. This is an exchange program between youth in our conference and youth in Germany.**



“Greetings Zion. I’m Jörn. I was in Generation 4 of the Young Ambassadors Partnership with the United Church of Christ, Indiana-Kentucky Conference and the Church of Westphalia, Church of Wittgenstein. I saw God at work in my own life. Four years ago I had to finish my Master degree, and I had 9-10 hours at work because of so much to do and at home I had to write my Masters Thesis. So, I did not really have enough time for anything else—for my family, for friends, for everything. So, I prayed to God that he could help me to handle this stressful time, to handle the Masters Thesis, and all the work at my office, and he did. It was a really hard time, an extraordinary period of my life, but he helped me. He carried me through this period, and I’m very thankful to see him work. Good greetings, and have a nice Sunday!”

**Meet Jude. Jude was one of the students the Indiana-Kentucky Conference Sri Lanka Partnership Team sponsored attend seminary in the United States. He was a classmate of Pastor Sarah’s. Jude continues to be active in our Sri Lanka Partnership.**



“Hello! Good morning, Zion. Greetings to you on the World Communion Day. I’m Pastor Jude Sutharshan from Alaveddy church, located in the northern province of Sri Lanka, a country halfway around your place in the globe. I’m really happy to say that we experience God at work at this time in our midst. During the Corona time, many of our people lost their job, we were under lock down, we couldn’t meet each other, we couldn’t start our worship. Many people were suffering, many who lived alone, many lived with illness and couldn’t get medical support or even their basic food stuff during the lockdown, but somehow God helped us through many of our friends to support our church members and also outsiders to help them with emergency food stuff, but when we were allowed to come and start worship in our churches by the end of June 2020, what we did, we tried to go online. You won’t believe we get only 50 people in the church in person to worship, but we get more than 1,000 people on our Facebook Live, and many of our friends are responding to us, writing emails and they all ask, “how can we help you? How can we take part in your ministries? I think that’s a big thing. Our worship is not only within these four walls, and we experience that the whole world is one, and the humanity is one, and the church is one, especially on the day of World Communion Day. I think that’s the message that we experience through the work of God that we may speak different language, we may follow different cultures, we may live in different countries, but we are one. We are worshipping together literally. That’s the work of God. May God bless you all and Happy World Communion Day. Thank you.”