

The Tenth of Twelve Autumn Mahlburg 2020 Steinbeck Scholarship Recipients



My name is Autumn Mahlburg and I was born September 13, 1999 at my Dad's first congregation, St. Luke's in Clinton Township, Michigan. However, I spent most of my life at my Dad's second congregation, Zion in Tawas City, on the east side of Michigan. In 2014 my Dad made the decision to become a missionary. Three years later, in 2017, we moved overseas to Sri Lanka.

There my Dad is the English-speaking pastor at Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Colombo. In normal circumstances, he would also regularly travel up into the mountains to visit thirteen other congregations of the Ceylon Evangelical Lutheran Church (CELC), one of which is on a rubber plantation and the rest on tea plantations. Covid has greatly impacted my Dad's ministry, as travel restrictions prevent him from traveling to these other congregations.

I lived in Colombo with my family for little over a year before I moved back to Michigan to attend Kendall College of Art and Design of Ferris State University (KCAD of FSU) in Grand Rapids. I am currently a Junior and majoring in Illustration. My hope is to be able work with CPH and the Ceylon Evangelical Lutheran Publishing House (CELPH) to create covers and illustrations for books. Currently my classes consist of Professional Practices, Watercolor Techniques, Narrative Perspective, Advanced Inking, and Fiction Workshop. The hardest part of going to college is knowing that my parents are halfway around the world, but I am thankful for the support of my extended family and other friends. I am also thankful for this scholarship since I don't have to worry about the cost of art supplies for my classes.

Sincerely,
Autumn Mahlburg