Serving the Lord in ASIA

News from the Jastrams

Pentecost Season, July/August 2021

"Show us your steadfast love, O LORD, and grant us your salvation." (Psalm 85:7)

Mission in Motion

From our neighborhood…

"What's the difference between Roman Catholics and Lutherans anyway?" a neighborhood Japanese friend asked me during a recent conversation. He was gardening in the backyard where his friend, an arborist, was providing a helping hand.

Both of these neighbors took a break from their gardening to learn a little about the Reformation, Luther, and salvation by grace alone, through faith in Christ alone, with Scripture alone as its foundation. We had been talking about the origins of the neighborhood Shinto shrine, its shared history with Japanese Buddhism, and the post WWII period of foreign missionary work in Japan. I wanted to double-check on some details of the shrine's dedicatory plaque, and the neighbor's friend who was helping in the garden just happened to be quite well-informed about local neighborhood history and even knew of other non-Lutheran missionaries!



TREE-TRIMMING: A COMMON SIGHT IN MITAKA

Toward Yokohama and Okinawa

Our mission efforts in leading worship and catechesis for LCMS expats continues steadily with apartment services moving toward use of a worship space in Yokohama this fall.

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Rev. Dr. Jastram is the Asia Lutheran Resource Coordinator:
Making Lutheran resources of theology and worship available in Asia.

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

- *Our partners in mission, for your generous June support, and for the sustaining contributions of individuals, congregations, districts, and LWML groups that make this mission work possible.*

WE PRAISE GOD FOR:

- *The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod which is the source of the International Development Grant that makes possible our translation project of Walther's Law and Gospel text into the Japanese language.*
- *New venues for worship opportunities with expats in Yokohama and Okinawa.*

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- *Ongoing Lutheran resource projects throughout Asia, numbering well over one hundred, in Hong Kong, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Cambodia, Papua New Guinea, and Taiwan.*
- *Japan, in its resolve to hold safe Olympic Games under challenging COVID precautions.*

NEWSLETTERS INFO

Want to catch up? Here's our archive link: tiny.cc/dvv9iz

Want to self-subscribe? Go here to receive your own email newsletter: http://eepurl.com/ddOobf

To be ADDED or REMOVED from our mailing list, you can also send an email message to daniel.jastram@lcms.org with the word ADD or REMOVE in the subject line.

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We were also glad to receive additional requests for providing the same to LCMS folk in Okinawa starting this fall, which has benefited from a long-term LCMS missionary presence and hosts 75% of all military personnel in Japan.

Both of these are continuing coordinated efforts of the LCMS military chaplaincy program together with LCMS non-military missionary effort, working in coordination under the LCMS Office of International Mission to provide spiritual care for Lutherans around the globe.



And now YOUR neighborhood!

We continue to give thanks to God for his gracious mission support comprised of you, our network partners, who accomplish this work through us as your missionary agents. Our high priority for network support has incorporated greater use of online connections these days. At the same time, "reconnecting with family is also our work", as our regional director recently reminded us in discussions about our summer plans amidst fluctuating COVID precautions in Asia.

Consequently, our usual priority for congregational, in-person visitation, in relation to reconnecting with family, will likely be reversed this summer, with expeditious visits in Minnesota and South Dakota in late July and early August. Please contact us if an in-person visit seems feasible for your congregation during that time. We would love to reconnect!

To support the LCMS through the work of Daniel Jastram, 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 Asia-Jastram."

Gifts can also be given securely online through the LCMS website, on my online giving page at lcms.org/givenow/jastram.

