

Asia Calling: Jastrams to Japan

January/February 2018

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By Water and Land



Fiona and Hendrik: our grandchildren and children of God (University Lutheran Chapel, Pastor Kind).

Crackle, screech, crackle! Dan pauses and adjusts his mike before preaching. After the service, he removes the culprit from his pocket: his cellphone had interfered with the wireless mike box sharing the same space. Hey! He sees my text announcing the birth of our fourth grandchild to our daughter Hannah, born just hours earlier. "Thanks be to God!" he texts back. That was January 7th, Mount Calvary Lutheran Church in Brookings, South Dakota. On January 23rd, our older daughter Eleanor gave birth to our fifth grandson, her second son, also in the Twin Cities. And, before we returned to Japan, our two grandchildren had been born again in the waters of baptism.



Setting up for an evening presentation—one of thirty Dan made while stateside (Granite Falls, MN with Pastor John Shultz).

Home Service. LCMS missionaries reconnect with their earthly AND church family every two years. Besides welcoming our new precious grandchildren, Dan and I visited supporting congregations and individuals and made new church connections as well. This gave us an opportunity to share the work being done on your behalf, for you to ask questions, and perhaps even decide to join in this work as supporters, if you haven't yet done so. We were grateful for this opportunity, and especially happy to connect faces with names!

Not Kansas.

Using the Twin Cities for our home base, we drove west as far as the Black Hills, South Dakota, and then east as far as Birchwood, Wisconsin, to visit congregations and individuals.

We wish there had been enough days to visit all of you! Next time around we hope to include the Milwaukee area and Kansas in our travels when we come again during more seasonal weather!

After sixty days in the States we are now back in Tokyo. Language studies resume for Dan and plans for a trip to our sister seminary in India this March are moving forward. Next month my plans include a trip to Kyoto for a psychology conference: inching ever closer to resuming work as a clinical psychologist here in Japan.



On our way to Birchwood, Wisconsin; you'd be stiff, too, if you were outside that day!

We share St. Paul's words—and our prayer—for the church at home, the church abroad, and the Church Universal: "What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus" (2 Timothy 1:13).

~Daniel and Joan



Thank you for your prayers & support

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 or LCMS. Include "Jastram—Asia Support" in the memo line.

Gifts can also be given securely online through the LCMS website at www.lcms.org/givenow/jastram.

