



<https://www.lcms.org/jastram>



JOAN AND DAN JASTRAM



DR JASTRAM'S CALL

Pastor Jastram serves as a manager for theological education in Asia, based in Tokyo, Japan. He assists the regional director in mission planning as well as developing, coordinating, and supporting theological educational activities; makes periodic visits to seminaries in the region; and supervises theological educators throughout Asia.



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Coordinate, Communicate, Teach



The Trio: Askins, Jastram, and Ferry.



Dan swinging into action.

HOP, SKIP AND JUMP: JAPAN

This October I hosted Regional Director Ferry and Communications Manager Askins from our Asia mission headquarters in Chiayi, Taiwan who visited for eight days of travel in Japan. I kept them hopping—from planes, to commuter trains and bullet trains as we traveled between and on two islands. The visit was to coordinate and communicate the accomplishments of chaplaincy work with LCMS missionaries and expats on the islands of Okinawa and Honshu. Also, they were able to explore some future ministry directions with me.

My favorite part? Our visit with a childhood schoolmate from Niigata Lutheran School, Tom Going. He is a long-term LCMS missionary teacher—twenty-two years and counting—serving in Japan with me, both of us second generation missionaries to Japan. He is an inspiration to us all.

AND TAIWAN?

Previous to the Japan travels, at the end of September, duty called for continued theological education on behalf of our twenty-seven LCMS Asia missionaries as they were gathered for their annual regional work group meeting at Chiayi, Taiwan. We received guidance, encouragement, and wisdom in person from our LCMS leaders: Synod President, Chief Mission Officer, OIM Executive Director, and OIM Asia Regional Director.

The four-day event also provided time for three sessions of my "theological exercises" designed for growth in our mission field doctrine and practice. (For more on that, follow the link to Askins article with the subtitle "Taking a Swing" at: <https://international.lcms.org/gathering-and-practicing-asia-missionaries-meet-in-chiayi-taiwan/>.)

Not at a Loss for Words: the Philippines

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- *God's blessing in providing future pastors for our partner church bodies.*
- *Safety and protection in the midst of earthquakes, typhoons, and tsunami.*

GIVE THANKS FOR:

- *Missionary safe travels.*
- *Concord in doctrine and practice as we work with various partner church bodies.*
- *God's blessings of His clear teaching as witnessed in our Catechism.*

PRAISE GOD FOR:

- *You! The many congregations and individuals who pray for us, encourage us and support us. Thank you!*

[NEWSLETTER ARCHIVE](#)



This little piggy went to market...

And ended up at *my* table for the triennial International Lutheran Council—Seminary Conference! Our host was our partner church's Lutheran seminary in Baguio City, Philippines.

Lutheran leaders gathered from around the world. We had: 44 participants for 4 days; 23 countries represented (5 from Asian countries); 17 papers, presentations, and numerous reports delivered; more than 21 Lutheran seminaries, theological schools, or institutions represented; all for mutual strengthening and encouragement in their associated goals for **sound Lutheran theological education**.

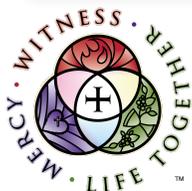
My favorite part? Learning how each seminary tailor-fits its curricular requirements to best suit the needs of its future pastors. Good material for this theological education manager in Asia.

Keeping it ON

With expanded responsibilities comes expanded expenses, close to 30% in fact for this year! Joan and I are scurrying to expand our network of support accordingly, but are a little behind, as you might imagine. You play a vital role in this coordination of church resources and theological education for the sake of preaching and teaching the Gospel in Asia. This is how national pastors are made.

We ask that you prayerfully consider a special year-end gift to keep this work on track and on budget. **Gifts can be given securely online through the LCMS website at www.lcms.org/givenow/jastram** or by check to the address listed at the bottom of this page.

Your timely contributions, especially at this time of the year, allow me as your agent to keep this work ON the mission field. **THANK YOU!**



There are many opportunities to serve as short-term or GEO missionaries. Check out the current list and download an application at lcms.org/service. Click on "Service Opportunities."

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/jastram.