



SERVING THE LORD IN

# JAPAN

NEWS FROM THE JASTRAMS

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House of worship (Chapel of the Good Shepherd), Atsugi Navy Air Facility

## DIVINE WIND

Where “kamikaze” (divine wind) pilots had once recited final prayers before heading to their death, now Dan and I, with fellow believers, receive the life-giving Word and Sacrament of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Last Sunday Dan and I were warmly greeted by the new LCMS Command Chaplain David Schleusener to Japan. He led us in worship in this former “dojo” (martial arts building). What a privilege to join with others, and then depart, not to death, but newness of life with the Divine Wind —Holy Spirit—as our Comforter.



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## Sensei (Teacher) to Sensei



Jastram-sensei teaching Greek and theology; Sato-sensei teaching Japanese. (Tokyo Lutheran Center)

There’s a new twist to Dan’s language learning these days. He is relishing his new role as “Jastram-sensei” (teacher) to his two tutors. Dan lectures on material he is developing for teaching the proper distinction of the Law and Gospel (explaining the distinctive teachings of the orthodox Lutheran Church from the time of the Reformation) to Sato-sensei (pictured above). During these lectures, Sato-sensei assists him in the use of appropriate “instructional Japanese vocabulary” because, of course, the

level of politeness and subsequent word usage selected is important.

His other tutor, Wakuri-sensei, has had an interest in learning the Greek of the New Testament for more than 65 years. Her wish is finally coming true. Dan teaches her the Greek language while she teaches him the Japanese grammatical vocabulary. Their textbook? A Japanese translation of Machen’s Greek Grammar. (Sound familiar to some of you pastors?)

**Sensei tachi, ganbare!**

**(Go, teachers!)**



## Meetings in Manila

### PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- Dan and his Japanese language studies as well as his work as theological education facilitator.
- energetic financial support for LCMS mission work world-wide.

### GIVE THANKS FOR:

- our church partners in Asia.
- leaders and staff in St Louis and Asia who guide and support your missionaries.

### PRAISE GOD FOR:

- YOU!—the many congregations and individuals who pray for us, encourage and support us.



From the left: A. Colver (LCMS representative), T. Taran, Jr. (LCP seminary professor), A. Reyes (LCP president), and emcee. (Manila, Philippines)

### LUTHERAN CHURCH IN THE PHILIPPINES (LCP) HOSTS SYMPOSIUM

The LCMS Asia Leadership Team (ALT) eagerly accepted The LCP's invitation to their two-day symposium. The timing was perfect: ALT had already planned to meet later that week in Manila. Dan appreciated the Philippines seminary professor's solid theological lecture as well as Dr. Colver's presentation on World Lutheranism.

### FINE-TUNING BUDGETS

Next came the hard work. A multi-year project of translating Luther's works into Chinese...plans for a conference

next year...where? These were just two of many line items in the Asia Missions budget that were pored over this week. "Where are we on each of these projects?" "That's the way things looked a year ago, what does it look like now?" Many questions and decisions were made. Expertise and cooperation between the business manager, regional director and missionaries on the ground was crucial. The ALT considered the church's work in Asia, and anticipated requests for budget reductions.

Fine-tuning our church's footsteps had one over-arching goal: proclaiming the Gospel throughout the world.

*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



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](http://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  
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