

# Singing the Church's Song in Asia

NEWS FROM BECKY BARTELT  
...Serving the Lord in Taiwan/Asia

October 2022

## Hospitality



*Galatians 6:10 "So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith."*

*1 Peter 4:8-9a "Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. Show hospitality to one another."*

My first experience with overseas hospitality was in Kazakhstan. The very first Sunday I was in Kazakhstan the youth went sledding in the mountains. Afterwards a few of the girls needed a place to go until their bus came, so they came over to my apartment. I had nothing to offer but bread, jam and tea--and I didn't even know how to make tea. So, my new friends with whom I could barely communicate showed me how to make tea and how to show hospitality.

In India I experienced the extreme hospitality of my Indian friends and of strangers. You can never stay long enough at someone's home in India. If you are there for a day, you should have stayed a week. If you are there for a week, you should have stayed a month. Even strangers would invite me to their homes for tea if you struck up a conversation on the train.

This month I am experiencing Texas hospitality. I am in Texas from October 4th to the 24th. I lived in San Antonio and taught at Lutheran High School for 14 years, so I have many friends, but am still grateful for everyone's hospitality and welcome into their homes and churches and schools. I stayed for a week with Alison and Russ Ingram, friends and members of my church in San Antonio. Now I am with Pastor and Connie Barz for a couple weeks. All of these people are amazing servants of God doing good and showing love to so many. I am grateful for all of their love and care. Thanks y'all! I also have to give a shout out to my parents and my sister and her family for letting me stay with them in Nebraska after my house sold (and closed on October 7th!)

## **Presentations:**



God has blessed me with a full schedule this month. I got to share with the students of Lutheran High School Northeast in Norfolk, NE and was blessed to have the seniors pray for me at the end as we considered what is the Church's Song, what might it sound like, what is its message and why we sing it. Thanks for the warm welcome and participation!

My mom's Women's Bible Study group at Zion Lutheran Church in Omaha, NE as well as the Sunday morning Bible study and the Lydia Circle welcomed me to their studies and gave me time to share about the musical ministry God is planning in Taiwan and Asia.

I've been blessed to present at two LWML zone rallies. The first was at Mission Central in Mapleton, IA. If you've never been there, you should visit if you're ever in Iowa. It is an amazing place with an

amazing leader (Gary Thies) whom God uses to share the stories of missionaries and connect missionaries with people who would like to contribute to God's mission around the world. Recently I shared at the North Alamo Zone Rally at Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church in San Antonio, TX. It was wonderful to share the story with new and old friends in San Antonio. Churches in Warda, Serbin and Smithville have been very gracious and generous in welcoming me into their congregations and listening to the story of God's work in Asia. Soon I will be sharing with my home congregation in Texas, Crown of Life Lutheran Church as well as the school I taught at for 14 years--the Lutheran High School of San Antonio. I am so grateful to God for all these opportunities and to my friends (really my Texas family) for welcoming me back to Texas!

## Asia Music Ministry and a Birthday Party



On September 18th Deaconess Sandra Rhein, Dr. Martin Dicke and I met in Council Bluffs, IA. We are all music missionaries. We met to celebrate the 80th birthday and over 60 years of music ministry of Dr. Christiansen (Dr. C.) in Iowa with a recital as well as to spread the news about music missionary work in Asia. I was able to share my presentation during the Bible class on Sunday morning. On Monday the three of us met with Pastor Sherrill and Pastor Frank to find out more about the parish-based music conservatory model at St. Paul's and to find out more about David's Harp, which is an umbrella organization that encourages this model all over the United States and is beginning to share their resources overseas as well. (It is also an LCMS RSO!) They have published books of hymns written for students at different levels of playing from just the melody to four-part harmony, so all students can learn, play and share the hymnody of the Church. We brainstormed about how we might apply some of the aspects of this model in Taiwan as an outreach program to children and families. In the picture are all the performers (Pastor Frank, Kantor Zieschang, Dr. Martin Dicke, Dr. C. himself in the bowtie, Deaconess Sandra Rhein and me!) What a gracious and amazing man of God Dr. Christiansen is!

PLEASE GIVE THANKS FOR...

a full speaking schedule in Texas, Nebraska, Iowa and North Dakota

- my house closing on October 7th
- the amazing hospitality of family, old friends and new friends

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

- safe travel
- my visa application process

PLEASE feel free to email me ([Rebecca.Bartelt@lcms.org](mailto:Rebecca.Bartelt@lcms.org)) with any prayer requests I can bring to God in my prayers.

**\*\*\*BTW....If you're on Facebook and would like to join my Facebook group, please friend me and I will gladly add you to the group!**

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