

3.30.25 Heritage Updates

Mat Ministry, 4.1

Each Tuesday from 10:30 - noon. All women are always welcome to help with cutting, tying, or crocheting grocery bags for sleeping mats. (Or you're welcome to bring in whatever project you're currently working on and just enjoy the time together). Grocery bags may be dropped off in the narthex any time.

Ladies' Thursday Morning Study, 4.3

We'll continue our Gratitude study with Lesson 5 on 4.3 from 10:00 - 11:00 am here at the church.

April Women's Ministry 'First FriYAY', 4.4

Ladies, join us for One Garden, Many Blooms on Friday, 4.4 from 7:00 - 8:30 pm here at the church. Bring a friend!



April 'First Supper Sunday' Easter Dinner, 4.6

We hope you plan to stay for Easter dinner following Sunday School on 4.6. Please use SignUp Genius or sign up in the hall to bring ham, a side dish, dessert or drink to share.

Lunch Ladies, 4.9

All ladies are invited to meet for lunch at Smiley's Diner on 273 on Wednesday, 4.9 at 1:00 pm. Contact Virginia Palmer at 302-454-8889 by 10:00 am if you're planning to attend.

Heritage Kids

Nursery is available for infants-PreK during worship (if staffing allows). Feel free to use it for however much of the service you desire.

Junior Church is available (if staffing allows) during the 2nd half of the service for ages kindergarten-4th grade. Children will leave during the songs before the sermon and return during the final song. The classroom is in the back of Fellowship Hall - straight out the back of the sanctuary.

Red Folder activity pages are also available at the table by the sanctuary door for anyone who wishes to use them.

God's Kingdom Building:

Craig & Ree Coulbourn,
serving with MTW in Tokyo, Japan



- Two women have expressed a desire to be baptized, and are in the course of preparations. In addition, another man is meeting one-on-one with Craig to address some areas of doubts which are obstacles for him. And some women attending Ree's Bible studies have begun asking some probing questions. **Please pray that God would work in the hearts of each of these, prompting them by His Spirit to greater openness and stronger conviction.**
- When I (Craig) initially took the position of MTW Japan Director in April 2022, it was with the thought that I would do so for a period of about 3 years, anticipating that after that time, a new leader would assume the position, inaugurating a generational transition in the leadership of MTW Japan. (MTW Japan is blessed with a good group of leaders.)

However, I was asked to continue in the position for a little longer, with the condition: that the MTW Japan Director should not hold any other leadership position. Having served in this role for three years, and constantly finding that I have not been able to do all that I am supposed to do in the role, I know that there is wisdom in this condition. But it means that I will have to do something that saddens me – **I will have to step down from my role as pastor at Shin Urayasu Grace Church. The pastoral role is one that I have loved, and it was not easy to reach this conclusion.** But I do feel that it is God's will for me to continue serving as MTW Japan Director, and I know that to carry out this role as it should be done, it is necessary for me to step down from the church. So I will do so sometime between the end of June and the end of September, the optimal timing still to be determined.
- We will be required by an international tax treaty to be out of Japan for at least 6 months starting in late October. So we will plan to begin our next home assignment (about 6 months) at that time. It seems that God has provided a housing option in the Baltimore area, and a friend is helping us in a search for a car. **Please pray for a smooth transition from Japan to the U.S., for the making of our schedule of visits to churches and supporters, and for Craig as he carries out his role as MTW Japan director, first from the U.S., then full-time from Japan after the home assignment.**