



Rev. Roger & Amy James,  
serving the Lord at Lutheran Theological Seminary & Training Center, Baguio City  
The Lutheran Church of the Philippines

### PRAYERS

- Good health for faculty, staff, and students.
- Success for our students, especially our six new seminarians.
- Safety from storms during this typhoon season.
- Safe travel and worthwhile meetings for all LCMS Asia Region missionaries as we gather for our annual work-group conference in Chiayi, Taiwan, September 23-27.

Contact us at  
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if you would like us to visit or Skype with your congregation or organization.

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The new term has begun swimmingly, as they say; and I say *swimmingly* because, since we arrived back in Baguio after summer travels in the USA, it has hardly stopped raining. Thankfully, the sun broke through the clouds for a few short appearances, but now again we have had several days of the constant drum of drops on the rooftop. We are not complaining. This *is* the tropics, after all; and this is the rainy season, called monsoon in some places. Here it is called Amihan, the northeast monsoon.

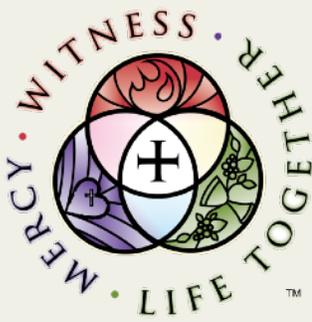
The water seeping into our apartment has been relatively minimal. We keep a small room dehumidifier shifting from my study over night, to a small guest bedroom in the mornings, to our bedroom in the afternoon and evenings. At least some of our stuff dries out somewhat, and we have reduced the mildew significantly.

I am trying to come up with some captivating spiritual slant to all of this—



something about baptism would be most fitting, I suppose; but my mind just can't quite pluck it out of the mist. And I literally mean mist. This is a picture from the window of my





We had the pleasure of Rev. Dr. Naomichi Masaki as a guest in our home, Sept 1-6. Dr. Masaki is a professor at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana. Luther Academy sponsored Dr. Masaki to teach for a week long LCP pastors conference in Manila and then to come here to LTS for another week, speaking on the Office of the Holy Ministry and the Lord's Supper.



study. No rain, but steam—at a cool 65 °F. Green and gorgeous. Instead let me tell you a bit about our students and classes this new term. Here is a picture of our six new first year students, from left to right, first names only: Carlos, Charlemagne, Peter, Jonas, Algovend, and Cesare. They all come from this northernmost island, Luzon. Most are from the Mountain Province. They range from 20 to 50 years old. We only have first and second year students. Unfortunately, we have no students returning from vicarage this year. But with six new incoming students we still have as many as last year, thirteen total. Amy gets to teach everyone in English class. I only teach the second year students.

The second year students are quite a mixed bunch. Two are deaconess students. A third is a woman from a Myanmar Lutheran church. Then there is an Indonesian student. Finally, there are two students from an LCMS mission church in the very southern part of the Philippines. These are the first men formally studying for the ministry from their church. Here is a link to an LCMS website about that church and mission. Some great pictures. If you look around I think there is a picture of me in there too, near the bottom. <https://international.lcms.org/teaching-with-the-tagakaulo-tribe-photo-gallery/>

I am teaching Romans, which I also taught last year; and Comparative Dogmatics I, which looks at Roman Catholicism. I have probably mentioned that the Philippines is the only Christian country in Asia, and it is about 80% Roman Catholic, so it is pretty important for future church workers to have a good grasp of that faith. I spend a lot of time looking at the papal websites, trying to make sure that what I teach is accurate and fair. Really, I am probably the least qualified to teach this course. One of the professors grew up in Roman Catholicism, and another one of the professor's extended family is largely Roman. At any rate, as is always the case, I am learning much.

Continued thanks to you, one and all, for your financial support and for your interest and for your prayers.

Peace in Christ, *Roger B. James*

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

To support the LCMS through the work of Roger James, you may send a tax-deductible gift to:  
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