

Missions Update

Chris & Tracy Pousseur

Discipling and Growing
the Kingdom of God in Japan

TEAM - The Evangelical Alliance Mission



Hello friends and fellow disciples of Christ! April, 2024
Greetings from the Shalom House classroom! Many things
have happened since our last letter.

- Shalom House hosted a Christmas and an Easter event.
- We have had several short-term workers visit to help out with ministry and renovations.
- We continue to host our English conversation classes.
- We put on our very first "Introduction to Soul Care Seminar", with another on the way.
- Completed basic construction in our main areas, and finished the DIY coffee bar!
- We started an Open Art Night for all ages.

Best of all has been watching our Shalom House staff grow together and work as a team. It has been a testament to God's faithfulness, the way he brought us all together with a common purpose, and has been making himself known in our community, and in the ones we interact with.

Christmas was a great opportunity to share with our regular class attendees about the reason for the Holiday. In Japan, Christmas is often considered a romantic holiday akin to Valentine's day, so it is quite a switch in people's perception when they hear about Jesus. We shared cookies, did fun crafts, and just hung out with people from the community.

Our Easter event was a Good Friday contemplative walk through scripture leading up to Jesus' death and burial. This event was focused mostly towards Christians from the Tokyo area who didn't have a Good Friday service or event at their churches. We had things for families to engage with, like scenery, art, props, and interactive experiences. We finished off the evening by taking communion together as a group. Many of said it was a chance to think about the events of Good Friday in a way that they hadn't before.

It was a huge blessing to have several short-term workers come in over the last few months and help out with all the odds-and-ends jobs that can take up so much of the day. Their willingness to help out freed the rest of us up to do some of the tasks more specific to our skills.

In preparation for our Intro to Soul Care seminar, we made a huge push to get the building up to our standards. We mudded walls, installed electricity, painted, and manufactured our whole coffee bar cabinet wall out of IKEA dressers and lumber, since Japan does not sell typical kitchen cabinets. Having our class and seminar attendees comment on how cool and comfortable it all turned out is a huge relief, and has us looking forward to how we can continue to improve the space and make it more useable. One task we would love to get some help with is finishing up one of our side rooms as a small counseling room. The more we come across exhausted and hurting people, the more we see the need for a quiet and safe space to talk through things with a listening ear, and a heart towards God.

The highlight of what we've accomplished recently as Shalom House has to be our Intro to Soul Care seminar. We had six attendees total, and almost immediately had to begin planning our second seminar because we had people that wanted to attend, but couldn't due to schedule conflicts. In our first group we had Japanese pastors, church planters, Japanese pastor's wives, missionaries, and Japanese counselors. It was quite the range of people! We held the event in both Japanese and English, thanks to the skills of our Japanese teammate. It was truly an honor to begin walking with them as they slowed down, let go of some unhealthy expectations, and began to practice waiting on God. We are fired up for our next seminar, and eagerly expect God to do some amazing things

Family life is good but chaotic sometimes. We have two daughters who feel things very deeply, which makes for some very passionate dialogue in our house sometimes. One encouraging thing that often comes from this is our recognition of our own shortcomings, is being able to share these moments as growth opportunities for all of us. It's not easy, and it never goes exactly to plan, but it's good to see God growing our girl's understanding of him through our struggles.

We are coming home to NY for a few weeks at the end of July! This will be our first time back in two years. We will have two weeks at our home church, and very limited time.

Thank you for your continued support of us & Shalom House.

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Welcome

April 28, 2024



South Apalachin Baptist Church

KNOW CHRIST | PROCLAIM CHRIST | SERVE CHRIST



Praise & Worship Service

April 28, 2024

Welcome to our Worship Service

We are Glad you are Here!

Prelude..... Carolyn Titus

AnnouncementsDarren Dodge

Praise & WorshipPraise Team

Songs: **All My Ways**

Christ be Magnified

Glorious Day (Living He Loved Me)

Children grades K-4 are dismissed to the Fellowship Hall.

Scripture & Prayer: **Genesis 3:1-21**Ben Luce

Message: **Redeemed Marriages**Dr. Roger DePriest

Closing Song: **Rock of Ages**.....Praise Team

Closing PrayerPastor Cory



Schedule of Events

Today **April 28, 2024**

9:45 am Marriage Conference for All Adults

11:00 am Marriage Conference

5:45 pm The Loft

6:00 pm Piano Concert - Carolyn Titus

This Week **April 29 - May 4, 2024**

Tue 1:00 pm Movers and Shakers Gym

6:00 pm Sneaker Night Gym

7:00 pm Small Group Strope's

Wed 7:00 pm Prayer Meeting Auditorium

Thu 8:00 am Retired Men's Breakfast Blue Dolphin

1:00 pm Movers and Shakers Gym

7:00 pm Discussion Group - Doug Strope Fellowship Hall
"Gender Fluidity & Breaking News"

Fri 4:30 pm Men's Basketball Gym

Sat 11:00 am Mother Daughter Tea Party

Next Sunday **May 5, 2024**

9:45 am Sunday School

11:00 am Morning Worship Service - Communion

5:45 pm The Loft

6:00 pm Missions Prayer Service

Looking Ahead **Save the Date**

Sat, May 11 Church Work Day

Sun, May 12 Mother's Day - No Loft or Fellowship Dinner

Sun, May 19 Evening Service - Andrew & Nancy Crane share about their Recent Missions Trip

June 7-9 The Loft Camping at Rock Mountain Bible Camp

July 15-19 Vacation Bible School - Afternoons

Aug 3-4 Church Family Camping at Rock Mountain

Summer Worship Schedule

- From July 7th - September 1st, there will be no Sunday School and the Worship Service will be from 10 am - 11 am.
- Outside worship will be on July 14th and August 11th followed by the Family Fellowship Dinner.

Vacation Bible School

Breaker Rock Beach

July 15-19, 2024

Afternoons



Instead of traditional VBS this year our church is seeking to hold 5-Day Clubs in our community. We plan to use materials created for VBS and modify them to fit this venue. We are targeting July 15-19 in the afternoon for our clubs.

Volunteers are needed, especially men. See Nancy Crane if interested.

- Pray for our youth to catch the vision to reach our community for Christ and share the love of Jesus.
- Pray for the children that haven't yet heard the gospel to get to hear the good news of salvation.
- Pray that we show God's love to our community.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

Mother Daughter Tea Party

MOTHERS, GRANDMOTHERS, AND AUNTS
WELCOME WITH GIRLS 5 TO 16
\$10 PER PERSON

DRESS UP, WEAR A FANCY PARTY HAT!
ENJOY TEA, LUNCH, A STORY TIME, A PHOTO
BOOTH, AND CRAFTS YOU CAN MAKE AND TAKE.

SATURDAY | 4 | MAY

11 o'clock - 2 o'clock

SOUTH APALACHIN BAPTIST CHURCH
4116 PENNSYLVANIA AVE

RSVP OR QUESTIONS:

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PLEASE SIGN UP ON THE BULLETIN BOARD