



# THE CALLAHANS TO JAPAN

CHUCK, SUSAN, AND JONATHAN  
SERVING THE US MILITARY AND THEIR FAMILIES SINCE 2002

April-June 2021

*For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry,  
ye are God's building. 1Corinthians 3:9*



**Shu ni Eiko!** “Glory to The Lord!” Military Missions and military churches are like no other ministry.



The constant rotation of members and faithful attenders keep you in a perpetual building program. Starting over is nothing new. The picture on the left was taken in March of this year. Since we have been in Okinawa, we have averaged over 80 on Sunday morning and we have averaged 7. Now the blessing to all this is when people step up. We have had many people who did not think they could do a ministry, but when a need arises, they step up. A recent blessing came when Jonathan left. Jonathan has been our only pianist since Seth and Katherine left for

college. We did have a young lady who played a little and she has sung a couple specials for us. What a huge blessing it was when she came up to me, very shy and with apprehension in her voice said, “When Jonathan leaves, if you want me to, I will play the piano.” How exciting to see her step up and have a desire to serve. I will be honest; I am not particularly good at song leading. The first Sunday was a disaster. I lost my place, she lost her place, and we ended the song service very abruptly. Praise the Lord she did not give up. She arrived early the next Sunday and we spent time practicing. Every week, she has improved, and we both have learned to ignore the mistakes and sing praises to His name.

In the past, people stepping up happened more times than I can count. There have been many people that sat in the back row and only came Sunday morning that I would have never thought would step up. Then a need arose, and they stepped up and amazed me. I can remember the first time it happened, His name was Chris, he only attended Sunday Morning services. I had only been in country about a month when the need for a soundman arose. Chris loved to play golf. One day while we were playing golf, the subject came up about some new sound equipment we had just received. He said that sounded fun and asked if he could operate it. I told him I was looking for someone who would be faithful to all the services, arrive early to setup, and make sure everything was put away afterwards. He told me he normally played golf on Sundays after church. What a blessing it was to see Chris come to me and say he would like to give it a try. From that day until he rotated back to the states, except for duty, he did not miss a service. Between then and now, I am always blessed and excited when someone says, “I will step up and try.”

**Update on the lockdown.** We have weathered the pandemic and now we are looking towards the future. There was a lot of talk of things getting back to normal, but it was all talk. As we all know, things did not get back to normal. Okinawa is still seeing a high COVID infection rate. Mainland Japan is starting to lift some restrictions a little at a time. Okinawa has extended the COVID restrictions until July 11<sup>th</sup>. On base restrictions now depend on your vaccination status. They issue two restriction lists, vaccinated/unvaccinated. Many Marines are still opting out of the shot, and this has begun a different type of stress. The military is using peer pressure to get people to take the vaccine. Commercials on Armed Forces Network, (AFN), is a constant, “get the vaccine for your neighbors and families.” If you do not get the vaccine, then you are not doing your part. Off base, the daily count of new cases dropped below 100 but are still averaging in the 60’s.

**Update on family.** Jonathan left in May. He was able to go back for Seth’s wedding and from there, headed to Pensacola, Fl, where he will be working at Pensacola Christian College during the summer. He will start classes in the fall. Heather and Aaron welcomed Josiah Neil Day on June 7<sup>th</sup>, baby and Mom are doing great.

**Ministry Praises:** People stepping up and taking charge of ministries and helping around the church.

**Personal Prayer requests:** Upcoming ministry opportunities.

**Family Praises and Prayer requests:** Jonathan was able to attend Seth’s wedding. New Grandbaby, Josiah Neil Day.

Your missionary, *Chuck Callahan*, Acts 26:18

Received: April \_\_\_\_\_ May \_\_\_\_\_ June \_\_\_\_\_ 2021

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