

## Happy Summer Everyone!

Local farmers finally finished planting the rice fields a couple of weeks ago, and the crop is now growing green all around us. My rooftop garden is starting to sprout from the seedlings I (Candace) bought at a local market here. I hope to make some salsa and dill pickles with the tomatoes and cucumbers. Joshie loves "helping me" water and tend the garden. The boys are constantly outside because the weather is beautiful, and the air quality has greatly improved. Last time I went onto the roof to water my garden, I couldn't believe how clean the air was! This was something I took for granted back home. Each day we are here, I check our air quality app and then tell the boys if it is safe to go outside. It's been a while since we've had so many clean days in a row! It's such a luxury to go outside and take a deep breath of fresh air without worrying if it is unsafe.

I'm not going to lie: at times, I still get terribly homesick. I was journaling about it one night when we had our windows open, and I could hear the little frogs in the rice paddies croaking and singing. They sound exactly like the frogs I used to hear in North Carolina as a child. The moment I recognized the similarity, I felt so much comfort from God. He is good and knows our deepest and smallest needs. He knew that having a home where I could hear the frogs sing would bring me immense comfort and joy on the days I miss our prior home so much.

We are incredibly busy with ministry right now! Our house is busting at the seams, with an average of twenty adults and eighteen children attending on any given Friday night. It's been a joy to see the members bond with each other, bear each other's burdens, and lift one another up. Every Friday night, I look at the pounds of food I have made and worry that it might not be enough. Jeff is grateful I have a lot of Italian in me—it would be a crime for anyone to leave my house hungry. He is still teaching through the gospel of Luke and training other men in the group to lead the Bible Study some nights. Jeff takes a lot of one-on-one time with these men before and after they teach. It's been a great way to disciple and raise up godly leaders in our group. He has also been meeting every Tuesday to pray with men in the main Post Exchange (military mall), and that group has grown!











In April, we had a bit of a break from our regular routine as we attended our annual Asia Field Conference. We traveled to Japan and had a mini vacation near Mount Fuji before attending the conference near Tokyo. We had a refreshing time of training, encouragement, and dedicated time spent with other Cadence missionary families! A couple of weeks after the conference, we took five days to travel to Jeju Island (part of Korea) for our annual "Selah." All Cadence Staff around the world are encouraged to take these few days as a Sabbath rest to spend time with God and family. While travel with young kids is always stressful, it was great to see new parts of Asia and take time away from the regular busyness of weekly ministry.

I have been planning a gospel-centered homeschool group for the 2024–2025 school year. God gave me a vision to help the women in our community learn how to teach the Bible to their children. We will go through Genesis and Exodus with our kids, and I will also minister to and disciple the women in our group. I feel burdened to help them know how to be their children's spiritual and educational teacher. God is so good, as He led me to another woman who feels called in the same way. She and her husband are full-time military and also part-time staff with the Navigators (a discipleship ministry). She will be co-leading the homeschool group with me! When I started talking about the possibility of this group, I was swarmed with women all asking to be a part of it! I was floored at how many women are pulling their children out of the on-post schools to homeschool them. I have heard difficult stories of what children face during a regular school day. These stories include bullying, gender issues, identity issues, mental health problems, behavior problems, and a whole host of other things. Seeing the needs of these moms and kids here has been overwhelming. Please pray for these families. My group filled up right away, and I plan to host a future seminar to help other moms start their own groups. Pray for me to have guidance and discernment; knowing what to do can be overwhelming when the need is great.







The rest of this summer will be filled with pool days, picnics, Korean baseball games, a summer women's Bible study, and lots of barbecues. We have also contacted a Korean realtor and are beginning to look at the houses surrounding Camp Humphreys. We would like to buy a permanent Cadence house here! Please pray for us as we start researching potential homes. We will keep you posted when we are further along and have a more concrete idea of our next steps.



## **Kidz Korner:**

The boys are excited that school is done! We took them shopping to pick out celebratory Lego sets because they worked so hard this past year. Eli, only ten years old, is nearly as tall as Candace, and Kirk is not too far behind! They both love riding their bikes on these sunny days and eating the juicy red watermelons from the market. They are already talking about having their birthday party at the local laser tag place. Joshie is in his dinosaur stage now, roaring and pretending to eat his brothers. Overall, they keep us grounded, busy, and happy. We love seeing the young men they are becoming. Thank you all so much for your love and care for us. It blesses us every day. Our members love to see your smiling faces on our wall. God is using you to bless this community halfway across the world.

With love, The Waltons

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