



Japan Prayer Fuel

August 2016



August is summer and the time of year when Japanese schools have their longest break and many church programmes have a break. Missionaries take holiday time. Special programmes are run. Short-term teams come.

And, apparently, the surf's up in Hokkaido!

Summer

KGK has a summer camp from Aug. 16-19. The theme is about building a foundation for your faith that will last decades. Pray for all who attend, Christian and not-yet Christian.

The summer BBQ at fmZERO in Sapporo had a great turnout last month. Pray for Fanny and Natch in doing follow-up.

Susan Chong (AU), who works with House Churches, ran a six-week summer Bible class in the Kanto area. Praise God for eight ladies who came. Of those, one has decided to start going to church and two others have expressed a desire to continue Bible study.

Kisarazu Hatazawa church in Chiba takes part in their local annual summer festival on August 7. They run a charity stall and give out New Testaments, often as many as a thousand. Pray that people will connect with the church as a result of this contact.

Sendai Izumi Park Town has a children's summer outreach on August 4. Pray for worthwhile connections.

At Hirosaki Nozomi the Tindales (UK) report that some English class ladies seemed keen to keep reading their New Testaments over the summer, pray they follow through with this.

Continue to pray for our Field Director, David Ferguson, and his wife Lorna and four boys. David's now home, but chemotherapy will continue in 21-day cycles for the rest of the year. As a result, the family can't take summer holidays this year. Pray for healing as well as refreshment as a family, especially for Lorna as she continues in her role as Personnel Sector Leader.

On August 26 the Shinkawakai Children's meeting will begin again after the summer at Noboribetsu Central Gospel church with Tina Filigister leading.

Pray for missionaries taking holidays this summer, for safety in travel and for deep refreshment. Pray, that amidst the irregular schedule of this season, missionaries and Japanese Christians would take time for personal Bible study and prayer.

Serve Asia

At Hiragishi Izumi the Koch family (DE) will host a short-term surfing team with 11 adults and two kids from the 2nd to the 11th of August. There will be tracting, a beach clean-up, a local festival and the main event of the annual Hokkaido surf championships when they will hand out evangelistic DVDs. Pray the surfers would have open hearts.

Pray for follow-up after the Serve Asia team that served at Oomagari, near Sapporo, last month.

Luke and Yuko Elliot are thankful for the renovations at the Aomori Christian Center and now turn their eyes to the future including praying for a team that will include long, medium and short-term missionaries who will help develop and lead future programs.

Serve Asia worker, Heather Cox (UK), will help with mobilisation in media and communications initiatives.

Three one-year Serve Asia workers leave this month and two arrive. A six-month worker will also arrive. Pray for good transition and praise for the work done. Pray God would lead those who are leaving to come back long-term someday.

The Ichikawa guest home manager position has been an urgent need. We now have an Australian couple who are willing and able to serve for nine months from October. Pray for timely visas and praise God for His provision.

2016 prayer vision: for 200 by 2020. May the Lord give us 150 full-time workers and 50 Friends of OMF and short term workers who stay longer than six months.

Students

HBI (Hokkaido Bible Institute) students have served in Cambodia on a mission trip (2nd and 3rd year students) and at Iwate Ippo Ippo (1st year students). Pray for them as they process their experiences.

The missional business the Crittles have been running in Melbourne is looking for more English students, especially Japanese businessmen.

Several students leave JLCC (Japan Language and Culture Center) and new students will be welcomed. Pray for good transitions.