



# Japan Prayer Fuel

OCTOBER 2016

## Japan Field Director

Mike McGinty (Deputy)

Please pray for the FLT and wives as they meet together Oct. 3-5 for prayer and fellowship.

## 2016 Prayer Vision

Japan Field Prayer Goal

For the 200 by 2020 prayer vision. May the Lord to give us the 150 full-time workers and 50 Friends and 6 month+ short-termers we seek, and the strength and resources to support and equip them.

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## FINANCE & ADMIN

### Finance Manager

Simon North, ([Ikina](#) Hitoshi, [Uemizu](#) Fumie)

### Ichikawa Guest Home

Barry & Adele Huntington (Rowena McGinty)

Pray for a smooth handover of all the Guest Home responsibilities to Barry and Adele and for them quickly to learn the ropes.

### Sapporo Guest Home

Reg & Mary Shum

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## HOKKAIDO

### Hokkaido Sector Leader

Chris & Kesia Pain, ([Hiraga](#) Kaori)

1. Pray Hokkaido missionaries will be effective in equipping and training others as we work. 2. Pray for meetings about work in Sorachi and Nayoro, for wisdom in decision making. 3. How can churches in Hokkaido network to encourage and raise up the next generation of gospel workers? Pray for the ongoing discussions with JECA about this.

### fmZERO & KGK

Natch & Anna Ayling (Fanny Yip; SAWs: Sunny Honda)

### Fukuinkan

(Pastor Mitsuhashi) Fanny Yip

## Hiragishi Izumi

JP & Nora Koch, John & Sian Newton Webb, (Alaric Dunsmore-Rouse)

Praise the Lord for a blessed baptism and a new building! Pray for the Kochs as they prepare for HA, and for Newton Webbs as they begin leading Izumi Church. John starts Bible studies this month with Wataru (Psalms), Mr. Shinohara (basic Christianity), Mr. Nanba (post-baptismal studies) and the Sawada Family (hoping to become members of Izumi). On the 1<sup>st</sup> the church moves building, 2<sup>nd</sup> is our induction and dedication of the building, 16<sup>th</sup> is an important church meeting. John preaches 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>; JP 23<sup>rd</sup> and Alaric 30<sup>th</sup>. Pray for peace, unity, love and patience as the church undergoes another transition, for John and Sian to build deep relationships with the church folk and for two non-Christian students who came in September.

## Hokkaido Bible Institute

(Pastor Matsumoto) Michael & Haruhi Widmer

## Hokuei

(Pastor Matsumoto) Miriam Davis, (Natch & Anna Ayling, Chris & Kesia Pain,)

**Miriam:** Praise for Ms Tamami Watanabe's baptism on 25<sup>th</sup> September. Pray for her continued growth as a Christian and for others to decide for baptism at Christmas. Pray for an OMF representative to take my place on the Hokkaido Gospel Broadcast Board by spring 2017.

**Pains:** 1. Praise for HFB Business Seminar last month and those who attended. Pray for follow up. 2. For the Lord to work in the hearts of middle-aged teacher T and grandparent neighbours Mr & Mrs Toyama. 3. Hokuei Church team visits Takikawa Church for worship and tract delivery, pray we'll be an encouragement.

## Kutchan

(Pastor Murata), Richard & Emma Killer

## Nayoro Grace

(Pastor Yoshida), Tim & Miho Walker

Give thanks with us for the 2 Christian students at Nayoro University who come to Nayoro Grace. They've started meeting together for fellowship and study with the support of KGK. Pray a student ministry would grow to the glory of God. We've enjoyed having more contact with the small group of believers in Wakkanai (3 hrs north) and Tim being able to preach for them (next time 6<sup>th</sup> Nov). Pray believers in northern Hokkaido could network and encourage one another. Pray for our weekly Bible studies with Mr & Mrs N. Praise God for growth and ask Him for more!

## Sapporo International

(Pastor Yahiro), Estelle Lee

Please persist in prayer for my language class students and members of Shakaijin Club to be more

spiritually open. Preaching at the monthly English Service on 30<sup>th</sup> which will be followed by the bi-annual International Welcome Party. Pray for international newcomers to Sapporo to attend SIC.

### **Sapporo Chuo**

(Pastor Ozawa), Dale & Karen Viljoen  
(Michael & Haruhi Widmer)

Pray for Pastor Ozawa who is leading 6 different Bible studies for some new believers and seekers! This is on top of his responsibilities for preaching and HBI. The Holy Spirit is working to soften Mrs. S's heart – pray for her salvation, and for Karen as she seeks to begin one-on-one Bible study with her. Michael preaches on 23<sup>rd</sup> at Chuo, as pastor takes an HBI Sunday at Noboribetsu Chuo. Dale has many weddings this month, and takes one for the daughter of Christian friends. Pray that this young couple would be drawn into the Kingdom by God's love and grace.

### **Sorachi Area Evangelism**

Steve & Saeko Manders, (Ricky & Winny Leung)

1) Give thanks for the 18 youth who turned up to Youth Café on September 25. Pray for wisdom as to the way forward for this ministry with lots of youth but a small building. Pray also for appropriate Biblical input. 2) Pray for Furusato Café (Mikasa) on October 6 with a simple cooking class. 3) Pray for the first Sorachi Churches Women's Gathering on October 30. Pray for a good time of fellowship.

### **Wakaba**

(Pastor Takahashi), Keith & Celia Olson, (Aaron Ghent)

1. We are starting ministry at Wakaba again this month. Please pray for us to get involved in the things God wants us to be involved in, and for us to find an appropriate balance between Wakaba ministry, music ministry, Keith's preparations to teach at HBI, and other obligations. Please pray that we find joy and thankfulness while doing our work. 2. Wakaba's annual bazaar is October 15. Please pray for people in our neighborhood to make good connections with church people through this event.

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## **KANTO**

### **Kanto Sector Leader**

Armin & Heike Messer

### **Chapel of Adoration**

(Pastor Ikeda), Ralph & Miho Clatworthy  
(David & Lorna Ferguson)

Pray for the Chapel for wisdom and unity in the pastor call process. Two men at the Chapel are hearing God's call to full-time ministry - one a young man, the other nearing retirement. Pray for discernment for the two of them as to how to proceed; pray that they and their families will have

unity. Pray for good follow-up and networking in sports ministry after the big evangelism conference in Kobe. Pray for Ralph's busy fall wedding ministry - for a good witness and for stamina.

### **Church Planting Facilitator**

Louis Lau

Praise God for graduation of ACTI trainees on 7 Oct. Good number of missionaries and overwhelming numbers of TCK teens attending the Re-Entry Retreat in SGP on 15-16 Oct. Jonathan Training/ACTI training of new workers at Myanmar Baptist Convention (17-22). Meeting with mission agency leaders and missionary (25 & 26) for possible new training and CP respectively.

### **Connect International (Yokohama)**

Armin & Heike Messer, Bel Sunstrom (Levi Booth, Alex & Naomi Hyou; SAW, Wendy Law)

We are trying out new ways of reaching men, including early morning coffee times and 'Dinner, Bible, Onsen' meetings. Please pray for us to have wisdom and boldness to explain the hope of Christ in an appropriately manly way. The ladies likewise have just started a new outreach group. Pray that God would bless these endeavors and lead people with hearts open to the gospel. We have a team from Australia joining us from 22<sup>nd</sup> October till 8<sup>th</sup> November. Please pray for God to use these two weeks to bring about growth of His Kingdom in Yokohama. May Christ be honored in all we do.

### **Connect - Green Line Community**

Jee Moon & Eun Ock Chung.

### **Counselling & Care Team**

Yeo Hwee Joo, Kaori Chua

Pray for recovery for Kaori's mum who suffered intracerebral hemorrhage, and for strength and good health for Kaori as she cares for her parents and Airi. Although the commemorative seminar for the publishing of her book has been cancelled due to this crisis, continue to pray that her book will be used to bless many. Hwee Joo gives thanks for a good break and rest last month.

### **House Churches Ministry**

Yeo Hwee Joo, Susan Chong, (Kelly Chang)

Pray for healing of husband of house church member in critical condition and strength for his wife to take care of him. Both are Christians. Pray for peace for another member who is in long term elderly care. House church gathering at Waseda YMCA premise off to a good start. Pray for new people to join this group.

### **Kisarazu Hatazawa**

Peter & Renate Yonge, Gary & Ruth Weston

Praise for the weekend retreat attended by about half the membership in late August—good sharing, worship, and fun times together. At the local festival large numbers of New Testaments were handed out; may the Word bear fruit. Praise for Isa,

and one other young woman, preparing for baptism. “English Café” is held on the last Friday each month: English free conversation with suggested topics and some bible input, plus drinks and snacks. Recent months have seen good numbers (15-20) with some non-Christians very regular; some church members provide support. Pray for harvest. Mr M (31, single, bible school graduate) will come and speak in Hatazawa for the second time in September. He’s indicated an interest in serving the church as pastor—it’s vital that we get a clear sense of whether he’s the right man for us.

### **Kofu**

(Pastor Matsumura) Lee Chai Hwa

### **LINK**

Max & Reiko Oehninger, JP de Carvalho Neto.

It was a privilege for Reiko and Max to visit many churches over the last few months in Tokyo. It was helpful to learn more about the situation in the church concerning the next generation, and we hope that these new contacts and experiences will help us in the future and our ministry. From September we started to attend the Hikari no Ko Seisho Church (JECA), pastored by Kiyono-sensei, who might be well known in Hokkaido. Our prayer is to be able to make an impacting contribution to the church and get to know the pastor, his wife, and the church members. There are about three to four young adults we would like to get to know and help to connect with other young people in other churches and non-Christians as well. We are thankful that the church leadership will back us up with their support and prayers.

### **Nerima Grace Chapel**

(Pastor Yokota), (Simon &) Alison North

### **New Hope Yokohama**

(Pastor Majima), Matthias & Yoko Buerki

### **Returnee Ministries**

Mike & Liz Jeggo

### **Saitama International**

Tim & Susan Driscoll

Pray for God's leading as we look at possible candidates for a pastor. Pray for our outreach picnic on Oct. 10. Pray for those from English Cafe outreach who seem to be interested and seeking; pray they will bridge over to studying the Bible.

### **Senkyo Church**

(Pastor Irizuki) Wan Jee Bay

Thank God for good turn up at JP's dance program. Pray for Sunday School staff's follow up with attendees. Ms K has been attending church and seekers' class; pray she will understand and confess her faith. Pray for clarity in expression for sermon (27 Nov) and responsive hearts.

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## **PERSONNEL**

### **Personnel Sector Leader**

Lorna Ferguson (Megumi Katoh)

Pray that David and I will both be able to attend the FLT retreat. Next chemo is 11-12th October. On the 14th we are having a mobilisation brainstorming meeting. Pray for creative ideas and the Spirit's leading. Pray too for more long term applicants to come to Japan.

### **Education**

David Marshall

We are grateful for all who are part of our community this school year. Please pray for (1) finding a new head of school, (2) safety for high school students on leadership training Oct 3-7, (3) the name of Jesus to be honoured in all our interactions, (4) salvation of non-Christian students and families, (5) stamina and wisdom for the Marshall family with our growing boys.

### **Member Care & Counselling**

Chris Lau

Pray for follow-up with members after Soul Care seminar at JLCC. Appreciate prayers for strength and empowering of the Spirit in counselling ministry and conducting seminars at ACTI, Re-entry Retreat (Singapore) and Myanmar Baptist Convention.

### **Mobilisation**

Andrea Roldan

### **Publishing**

Wendy Marshall

### **Serve Japan**

Wera Laschenko (Wendy Law), Karen Viljoen (Hokkaido Rep)

Pray that our current workers (Heather Cox; Reg and Mary Shum; Wendy Law; Petra Sheane; Denise Haess; Sunny Honda) would thrive in their walk with Jesus and in their respective ministries. Please pray for our arrivals: Christian Jankowski (DE) starts his 3 month stay with 7Media in Yokohama, Elvira Tan (SG) serving for 1 year with fmZERO, Cassie and Florence (HK) doing outreach with New Hope Yokohama for one week, and Barry and Adele Huntington (AU QLD) serving as deputy Ichikawa Guest Home managers. There are many enquiries for the coming year. Please pray that suitable hosts will be found.

### **TCK Advisor**

Helen Lyttle

I would value prayer as I set a realistic schedule for visiting families, catching up with news and needs of our TCKs, and how I can be most helpful to them. As this is due to be the final month for the Gelsthorpe family in Sapporo, pray for good

finishes at school and kindergarten for the three children.

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## TOHOKU

### Tohoku Sector Leader

Martin & Ruth Ghent

### Aomori Fukuin Church

(Pastor Kanno) Brittney Carlson

Pray for: 1) my adjustment to a new home, church and role; 2) good relations and conversations from the start with the pastor and church members; 3) the planning from October-November, that the vision, strategies and resources needed will be jointly developed, and that the new ministry kick-off will be a success.

### Hanamaki Megumi

Wolfgang & Dorothea Langhans, (Minnie Li)

The Gelsthorpe family with their three children is planning to move to Hanamaki in November. We are urgently looking for a place for them to live, but there are no houses or bigger apartments available at the moment. We thank God for the children and adults coming to our classes and kids' clubs and pray that God will draw them to himself. Mrs. K., one of Margaret's contacts, has joined the weekly ladies bible study with Dorothea and comes on Sundays too. Another seeker, Madoka, being busy, stopped coming to worship and bible study. We long to see her come back.

### Hirosaki Nozomi

Martin & Ruth Ghent, Shirley Jim, (Matt & Jude Tindale; SAW, Petra Sheane)

### Kanagi

(Micah Ghent) John & Emiri Orme

We are thankful that we are settling well in to the church, but rural towns take time, please pray for friendships and connections. Please pray for Mr H, Ms A and Mrs S in adult English classes all interested in the Lord, but at different stages in their journeys. Please pray for monthly men's breakfast and kids' outreach events, starting on the 15<sup>th</sup>. John is also preaching at a combined service on the 9<sup>th</sup>.

### Sendai Evangelical Christian

Rod & Glenda Thomas, (Andrew & Jo Wong) (Tadamitsu Nishimura)

Creation Science Seminar on "Did man evolve from monkeys?" on 8 Oct by Rod for Sendai churches, 40th Anniversary on 9<sup>th</sup> followed by picnic. Hallelujah service at Yamamoto on 20<sup>th</sup>. Pray for larger premises, for conversion of families of church members, for the long-term sick to be healed, for inquirers to be converted, for tracts being distributed to be effective and for evangelism at Gamo and around the church. Praise for restoration of backslider. No baptismal candidates

in the pipeline at the moment - pray! (Nishimura baby due on 7<sup>th</sup>!).

### Sendai Izumi Park Town

Joel & Seiko Lovestrang

Praise God for helping various individuals in our church to grow. Mr. and Mrs. S. are struggling to rebuild their relationship after years of separation. Some continue to face job pressures and financial uncertainty but are experiencing God's provision. Pray for continued strengthening in their faith. One woman in an illicit relationship died rather suddenly. Pray for real repentance and hope for the other party. Pray for preparation for evangelistic meeting in November.

### Sendai Student Focus

Wat Ho & Laura-Jane Meas (SAW, Denise Haess)

Several people from Grace Center Church (including LJ) are participating in Sendai Gospel Festival (5<sup>th</sup> Nov). Praise God for opportunity to sing and testify in city centre. May our witness draw people to Christ. Pray for Denise (SAW) starting assisting Shokei Uni Chaplain on Mondays. Pray for gospel / Bible study opportunities for her and for Ho there and in Shirayuri Uni. We're still praying about accommodation - either a new place to be available or for grace in our current context. Pray for a place that facilitates guests and meetings. Ho's preaching 9<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>.

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## TRAINING

### Training Sector Leader

Rosanne Jones

Remember Rosanne as she resumes her responsibilities as the SL-Tr from Oct. 11. Jim and Alaric are attending a Daniel Training Seminar in Singapore this month. The JLCC Review Task Force will be sending out a survey to a number of our members this month as part of the evaluation process. The Training SLT meets on Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> in Sapporo.

### Japanese Language & Culture Center

Jim & Terui Grace, Alaric Dunsmore-Rouse, Mat-suhara Shio, Mark & Sarah Gelsthorpe, Simon (& Kaori) Huser, Paul (& Mel) Jessop, Selina Lin, Chelsia Toon, Jessy Vogt, Christina Winrich

Praise the Lord for the safe arrival of Christina. Pray for her as she settles into Japanese life before heading off to OC on Oct 24<sup>th</sup>. Brittney moves to Aomori on 1<sup>st</sup> Oct – pray for her new ministry and relationships. Alaric and Jim are in Singapore for Daniel Training meetings (7-10<sup>th</sup> & 12-15<sup>th</sup>). The JLCC review process – pray that people complete the survey and that we can analyse the comments well. As numbers fall, pray for the student-teacher balance. Pray for the Gelsthorpes in their busyness as they come to their graduation on the 28<sup>th</sup> and preparations to move thereafter.

**Levi Booth** (Connect)

**Kelly Chang** (House Churches Ministry)

As university starts a new semester, pray for a fruitful time of ministry.

**Luke & Yuko Elliot** (Aomori Christian Center)

Praise that our steering committee unanimously decided to ask Noble Mission to construct the multi-purpose refectory which is phase one of our building project to replace the Center's old main building that was damaged in a fire and does not meet building or fire regulations. We ask you to join us in prayer that the Lord will provide the means to begin construction in summer/autumn of 2018. Please pray for preparations for Winter Living English Camp (the first since the fire in January 2014) and for snow camps—both those run by us and by other Christian groups.

**Samuel & Tina Figilister** (Noboribetsu)

We give thanks for three mothers and their children who came for the first time to the monthly church "Lamb Garden" toddlers and seniors play group. We pray that they may come again on Oct 21. On Oct 2, the youth group will have an open house event with Samuel giving a short message. Furthermore, please pray for our German classes and the children's meeting at our place. Attendance is lower than before summer break, but eager to attend. Furthermore, we seek God's guidance for our future place of ministry after HA next year.

**Aaron Ghent** (Wakaba)

**Linda Han** (Asagao)

Praise God that the 30+ students are coming regularly to the 3 English classes at Asagao Church. 50% are pre-believers. They are starting to ask apologetic questions. Please pray that the Holy Spirit will guide me in my lesson planning/delivery and that God will draw them to Himself.

**Iryaku (Alex) & Naomi Hyou** (Connect)

Praise God that we had opportunity to meet a lot of people who came to our photography and film events. Pray we can build on some of these relationships and have further opportunity to share the hope we have in Christ. Pray for people we've both been meeting with one-to-one and for the extra groups we've started along with other team members to have a meal and read the Bible together with people. Pray for new Christian Y-san, who has had many family problems lately and is really seeking God's strength to persevere through weakness and struggle.

**Edwin & Karen Kwok** (Oomagari)

**Ricky & Winny Leung** (Sorachi Area)

Thank God for His wonderful provision of accomodation. Moving was smooth. Pray that we

can settle well soon. May God bless our relations with the neighbors and church members.

**Minnie Li** (Hanamaki Megumi)

Praise that I have served at Hanamaki and helped at Ippo Ippo Iwate for more than 2 years. Pray that the ministry I have been doing will be handed over to other workers well and my contacts will connect with the churches after I leave for HA in January.

**Matt & Jude Tindale** (Hirosaki Nozomi)

**Andrew & Jo Wong** (Sendai Evangelical)

Praise God one person has signed up for Andrew's English class. Pray: 1) that more will sign up and that they will be interested in knowing about Jesus. The course starts on the 17<sup>th</sup> of October; 2) for Andrew who may have to preach on the 8<sup>th</sup> at a temporary housing event; 3) for Tomoko and for conversations about Jesus; 4) for Emily, that she would be able to make good friends at school; 5) that we can walk closely with God.

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## JAPAN HOME COUNCIL and OVERSEAS MINISTRIES

### Japan Home Council

Shoichiro & Yoko Sugaya (Japan ED), Yoshie Yokoyama (DM), Daniel & Tamami Arisawa (HA), Yuzo & Hitomi Imamura (KH), Nobue Nishimura (HA), Tomoko Sakamoto (TH), Koyuki Sami (HA), 2 (C3M), 2 (MM), (Emiko Kurosawa, Junko Sasaki), 3 HA

**Sho & Yoko Sugaya:** Pray for Japan Home Council meeting on 13/14<sup>th</sup> as we discuss some important issues. Pray that God will guide us to find his will for each issue. Pray that God will send new workers through Japan Home.

**Yoshie Yokoyama:** Please pray for DRM Leadership Meeting 11-15 Oct. and Training for members in Australia and New Zealand 17-21 Oct, both taking place in Sydney.

**Nobue Nishimura:** Please pray for Nobue's deputation in Kansai, Hokuriku, Nagoya areas.

### Australia - Melbourne

Simon & Meg Crittle

### Canada – Vancouver

Tony & Pat Schmidt

Praise the Lord for an excellent Gospel Nite concert on the 17<sup>th</sup> Sept. Please pray for effective follow-up. New outreach English Class starts on 6<sup>th</sup> October - pray for students to sign up. Busy months ahead with many messages to prepare. Pray for the Lord's enabling.

### Germany – Frankfurt

Markus & Conny Neitzel

## **UK – Cambridge**

Roger & J Nam Stevens

## **UK – Northern Ireland**

Graham & Alison Orr

1. Pray that all newcomers will become regular members of our JCF group meeting, including a recently arrived Japanese family. 2. We are planning a new Christianity Explored course beginning 15<sup>th</sup>. Pray all will gain a greater understanding of Christianity as we read and study Mark's gospel together.

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## **OMF PERSONNEL & FRIENDS OF OMF**

### **Home Assignees:**

Christian & Therese Baumgartner, Peter & Janet Dallman, Ruth Dueck, Richard & Catherine East, Evan & Audrey Eusey,, Sarah MiHyun Kim, Daniel & Joylyn Lau, Sharon Law, Bea Neblung, Margaret Rugira, Dieter & Shelley Schmidt, Greg & Shireen Seymour, Hoi-Yan Shea

### **Leave of Absence:**

Oh Shuan & Kinten, Martin & Sam Seccombe

### **Friends of OMF:**

Kanto Area: Brian Birtles, Paul & Ruth Cooper, Kazuaki & Stella Okudaira, Roger Williams  
Sapporo Area: Geoff & Elizabeth Hughes, John Landon, Michelle Lee, Ingrid Matsumoto, Tre & Tomoko McKee, Hannah Schmidt