



Japan Update

July ~ August, 2007

"I learned as never before that persistent calling upon the Lord breaks through every stronghold of the devil, for nothing is impossible with God." -- Jim Cymbala

REPORTED FROM THE NATIONAL CHURCH

Praises

1. The Annual Council of the JAC (Japan Alliance Church) was blessed by the Lord.
2. Five pastors were elected to the Board of Directors: Rev. Ryozo Ito, (President), Rev. Masao Yamanaka, (V. President), Rev. Kozo Tamura (General Director), Rev. Yuji Hamazaki (Financial Director), and Rev. Akinori Izumi (Missions Director).
3. Yayoi Okamoto was ordained and became the official pastor of the Iyo Church.

Prayer Requests

1. Please pray for the Board of Directors' meeting of the JAC to be held in Hiroshima June 21-22. Members of various committees will be chosen.
2. Please pray for the following three pastors who just graduated from Japan Alliance School of Theology in April: Ryuji Doi (Iwakuni Church), Yoko Sasagawa (Minara Church), Hitoshi Koyanagi (Osaka Church).
3. Pray for the Deeper Life Conference August 21-23.

REPORTED FROM THE MISSION CHURCHES

Aki & Chieko Minamitani (Yachiyo) ***Praise God that Miss Otsuka is now a believer and sincerely following Christ. **Please pray** for her recovery from depression, her baptism, and adjustments to work she has restarted. ***Praise God that Sachiyo is closer to getting saved. ***Praise God Aki's mother is not as bad in health as thought. **Thank you for your prayers!** ***Please pray for Mrs. Fukushima, Mrs. Mitsui, Mr. Miyamoto and especially for Mrs. Obiki and Mr. Takimoto who need a physical touch from the Lord. ***Please pray for Gunilla and family as her father-in-law has passed away. ***Please pray for the salvation of Mr. Kikkawa, Junko, and Yoko. **Please pray for healing for Aki's mother (pancreatic cancer) and the health of his father. ***Please pray for Chieko's recovery from recently diagnosed chronic fatigue syndrome, and God's blessings in Aki and Chieko's marriage. **Pray** for God's vision, strength and wisdom for Aki as he shepherds the church.

Hideaki & Kyon Suk Aomatsu (Narita) ***Praise God for our Sunday School Kids' camp July 15-16. **Please pray** for neighborhood kids who also attend. **Praise God** for the Young Adult camp in August as the Narita Youth will lead the praise and worship time. **Pray** that God will work in hearts. ***Please pray for 2 Short Term evangelism teams from Korea coming in August. ***Please pray for the many children in the Hallelujah Nursery School as they learn about Jesus daily, and for parents who are responding to the Lord. **Please pray for the church Men's Group to be strengthened. ***Praise God for Pastor and Mrs. Aomatsu's ministry trip in the States, and God's blessings.

Ken & Kathy Young (Home Assignment) ***Please pray for a smooth transition to home assignment in the States. **Pray** for health and safety as we travel. **Please pray** as we prepare our presentations for tour and other speaking engagements in various churches.

KiDoo & Haeng Hwa Kang (Tama) ***Please pray that the Kitamoto and Kaneya families who have returned to church will experience God's grace. **Pray** for Mrs. Kitamoto's mother and Miss Mori to be saved. **Please pray** for Mr. Morohoshi and Miss Harima's faith to be strengthened. **Please pray** for a tract distribution to bring in new people. ***Pray for God's wisdom in the Kang family ministries, Rev. Kang's continuing education, and for their daughter studying in the Philippines.

Don & Hazel Schaeffer (Kawaguchi) ***Thank you for praying for the May 13 concert. Over 90 attended, including unsaved family and friends. **Please pray** for these seekers. **Praise God for His blessing on Don's teaching ministry in Korea, and on the dedication of 2 babies at Kawaguchi Church. **Please pray** for these young families. ***Please pray for the June 30 outreach to kids and pray that Sunday School kids attending the July 15-16 camp will have tender hearts toward spiritual things. ***Please pray for the July 27-28 youth events and outreaches with the Hawaiian Short Term team. ***Praise God for the marriage of our daughter, Katie, to Will Plunkett on June 23.

David & Vangi Kindervater (Sengendai) ***Please pray for a young lady, Yukari, and her mother. They began coming around Easter very seriously seeking help, but the enemy has attacked Yukari's health and she is no longer able to come. We've lost contact with her and her mother. **Please pray** that God would heal her and that she and her family would be saved. After many years of waiting, it looks like Sengendai Church might get a Japanese pastor! This is a great answer to prayer. ***Please pray that God would supply for the church in this transition period.

Doug & Carol Woon (Harumi Tokyo) ***Thank you for your prayers for us as we moved from Higashi Tokorozawa to Harumi in downtown Tokyo. We are still surrounded by boxes, but it was a joy to teach classes at the local community center all day today and then walk through our neighborhood this evening and be greeted by many contacts. **Please pray** that God will work in people's hearts drawing them to study the Bible with us and that we will be faithful in demonstrating God's love here daily. ***Please pray that God would strengthen the Christians who we are working with. ***Please pray for an outreach to elementary school students on July 21st. We are

enjoying having our oldest daughter, Heather home with us this summer. *****Please pray** for her as she prepares to go to Pakistan in September as part of her Onsite program at Alliance University College.

Jill Landaw (Home Assignment) *****I praise God** for His help, and the help of many others as I packed, moved, and have returned to the US for a year of Home Assignment. I am borrowing a car this year through the wonderful Alliance Men's Missionary Wheels program of the Mid-Atlantic District. Thanks guys! I also have a great place to live in Belle Plaine, MN, through my sister. *****I praise God** for opportunities to share about the great things He is doing in Japan and to thank people for praying, 1.)at Council for a few minutes right at the start of an evening meeting, and 2.)in two of the children's services. The response was great and many people continue to pray for Japan! *****Please pray** for me as I continue my travels to visit relatives, and for ministry purposes, & prepare for fall tour (Northwestern District, Minnesota).

Dale & Heidi Lemke (Youth Work) *****Praise God** for a good time of ministry with a short term team from our home church in Nebraska. Through an English conversation camp, etc. we had several opportunities to connect with non-Christian university students. We are also looking forward to ministering with a team of high school students from Hawaii toward the end of July. *****Please pray** for scheduling, ministry preparation, and personal preparation. We're praying that God will use this team to help build up youth ministries in 3 areas where the Alliance has missionaries. Finally, we continue to appreciate your **prayers for a court decision** regarding Mia's adoption. We're praying that the judge will hear her case soon and finalize the adoption.

Don & Carol Love (Home Assignment) *****Praise God** for the teaching and mentoring opportunities we had at Alliance University College this year, as well as ministry opportunities in many churches. **Please pray** that the Lord will work in the hearts of many for a deeper involvement in his harvest. *****Please pray** for our family as we prepare to return to Japan in mid-August, *****that** our children will be strong in faith and enjoy the challenges of this transition, *****that** we will quickly find suitable housing in Japan. **Please pray** for us as we begin to prepare our hearts and minds for the ministries the Lord will lead us to in Japan. Pray that we will have wisdom to plan and use our time and energy well. *****Pray** for Pastor Ichimori and the people of Sayama Church, ~financial needs of the church as they look into the possibility of buying land and/or a building for the church, ~seekers to be led to the church, ~the church will be united and continue to develop its own direction under JAC leadership. ****Pray** for the work in Harumi, (Tokyo), ~that believers will grow in their efforts at outreach, ~that seekers who have been touched by the group would be led to faith, and, ~formation of new evangelistic and discipleship Bible studies .

David & Deborah Kim (Shibuya) *****We praise God** for his wonderful blessings on Family Camp May 3-5. Many participated and we were blessed in many ways. **Please continue to pray** that the momentum of camp will continue in small group gatherings at church. Rev. Daniel Chae, director of M/V Doulos challenged our

church about world missions on June 3rd. We were greatly encouraged and several members visited M/V Doulos in Niigata. *****Please pray** for the many short term mission teams that will visit us July- Aug. Pray that their ministry will impact many Japanese people and churches. *****Pray** for a short-term team from our church ministering in the Philippines in Aug. Pray for health, safety and spiritual blessings to the people there. *****Pray** that problems we've had related to our church building would be resolved. Rather than return to Los Angeles in Sept., God led our daughter, Esther to remain in Japan and minister at our church. She has been a wonderful servant at church serving in translation, leading small groups, teaching English and ushering at evening meetings *****Pray** for our son in LA. He is working and plans to go to graduate school next year. *****Please pray** for David's mother in Anchorage. She is 80, struggling with loss of memory.

Darren & Minako Polischuk (Missionary Partners) *****Praise God** for another successful year at Christian Academy in Japan and God's sustaining faithfulness, *****for** the growing interest in Greatest Gift Ministries (GGM) from 4 new, previously uncontacted Universities, *****for** bringing a group of Japanese Pastors together to form the Board of Directors for GGM *****Please pray** for travel mercies as we journey back to Canada for 6 weeks to visit family and friends *****for** the start-up of new PRAXIS Centres (Christian Service Learning Centres) for University Students and mothers groups, and ****for** the Gift Box Representative Training Program, that the reps will view this opportunity to step out in faith and bridge the gap into the non-Christian community as they share the message of God's love for us and others.

Joel & Pauline Black (Tokorozawa) *****Please pray** for Pauline's moms and tots group that meets Thursday mornings. **Pray** that despite the rain during July, moms would come. **Pray** that Pauline can continue to build relationships with these moms. **Pray** for opportunities each time I am walking with the kids, going grocery shopping etc, to talk to neighbors etc. Pray that the way we interact with our children and each other would be an example of the gentleness and kindness of Christ. *****Pray** for Joel to be able to make trusting relationships with people in his Thursday night English Class. **Pray** that the students see something in Joel they would like for themselves - Jesus. **Please pray** for guidance and wisdom as we raise our 4 little children to know Christ, continued guidance as we search to understand how house churches could be planted in this area and guidance for future job opportunities.

Harry & Jane Landaw (Mission Office) *****Praise God** for a miracle of healing for our neighbor, Mr. Kon through Harry's Sports Evangelism Outreach. He was bedridden, unable to leave home as a result of personal difficulties. He received a flyer we put in mail-boxes and called. Studying the Bible & playing ping pong, God has touched him inside & out. He has returned to church. *****Pray** for the Shishikuras who are seeking God. *****Please pray** for the cell group ministry and an outreach to Young Moms. *****Please pray** for Harry's teaching at the Japan Alliance Seminary and continuing education with young pastors. Check us out on the web: WWWJapanma.org Japan Update is also available via email. Contact: FD@Japanma.org