



# Prayer News Bulletin

FEBRUARY 2025

*“and whenever you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear this command behind you:  
“This is the way. Walk in it.” (Isaiah 30:21)*

Dear Friends

Greetings from sunny Scotland. The weather has been relatively good so far and I am enjoying walking in the hills behind my parents' house, which is refreshing as well as good exercise.

## Japan/OMF News

Thank you for praying for the church AGM. My placement is now confirmed to Sakata Lutheran Brethren Church in the town of Sakata on the west coast of Yamagata Prefecture. The church is led by Pastor Kizu (Kee-zoo), who is from the Greater Tokyo Area but felt a burden to serve in rural Japan. David and I attended the same church as him and his wife, Tamae (Ta-ma-e), in Ichikawa from 2013-16 before he went to Bible college. They have four young daughters.

Sakata has a population of about 96,000 people but according to Pastor Kizu, only 6 small churches with a total of about 180 members. His church has around 50 people, with most being in their late 60s, 70s and 80s. Pastor Kizu has a real desire to reach out to the community in Sakata and the surrounding areas and asked OMF for help. I have a call with him in February to talk through some more details but for now am looking forward to all that the Lord has planned for me there.

I was able to finish most of my work on the international project I was helping with, though I have now been asked to consider another thing to help with at the international level. Please pray for:

- ✚ God to go before all the arrangements to serve with Sakata Church and a helpful call with Pastor Kizu on the 18<sup>th</sup>.
- ✚ Wisdom as to what things to say “yes” to when I get different requests.

## Home Assignment

January was a bit of a crazy month, with a lot of meetings and preparation to be done, but I was really encouraged by the people I met at each, and especially to hear folks praying for Japan. February is a little quieter, so I would like to get started on a couple of projects I would like to do during my Home Assignment, including starting to learn Biblical Greek, which I hope will help me in explaining the Bible in Japanese. From the 3-7<sup>th</sup> I am attending OMF UK's Home Assignment Workshop in Borough Green. I head to London today (31<sup>st</sup> January) and will spend the weekend with friends, and seeing Matthew and Annamaria. Please pray for:

- ✚ The Lord's help in preparation and for his blessing at each service/meeting and for setting up the rest of my schedule for my time back in Scotland;
- ✚ A helpful time of fellowship and sharing at the HA workshop and that I can understand the changes in OMF UK better; and
- ✚ Preparation for the seminar on church planting for the Swanwick Conference. The co-leader and I had a good brainstorming session but need to get everything nailed down this month.

Dates for February:

3-7<sup>th</sup>: Home Assignment Workshop  
17<sup>th</sup>: Peebles Prayer Group (zoom)  
28<sup>th</sup>: Oasis Ladies' Group (Portmoak)

15<sup>th</sup>: Holyrood Ladies' Breakfast  
23<sup>rd</sup>: Torrance Parish Church

## Family News

Thanks for praying for the family. **Matthew** and Annamaria found a flat quickly. Matthew is getting settled in his new job and Annamaria has submitted various job applications. **Daniel** and Yada move to London on the 25<sup>th</sup> and have about a week to find a flat before Daniel starts his law course. Please pray for:

- ✚ The Lord's leading for a church for Matthew and Annamaria. Their backgrounds are very different so finding somewhere that suits them both can be challenging.
- ✚ Daniel and Yada's move and finding an apartment and, similarly, a church.

*With love and prayers, Lorna*