



Prayer News Bulletin

JUNE 2024

“And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.” (Phil 4:19)

Dear Friends

I so appreciate your prayers for the different situations I have been mentioning in my recent prayer letters. I can certainly say that I have experienced God's help in each one.

Family News

First, the big news – **Matthew** got married on 1 June! The plan had been to get married in Slovakia in the summer (Annamaria is from Kosice) and I booked a flight to go over there. This would be a small family affair, with the bigger celebration next year in Scotland. However, it turned out to be much easier and cheaper to do the official wedding in Scotland, so they opted for that. My parents, David's Mum and Calum, as well as Annamaria's parents and sister, were all able to be there and I will still go to Slovakia in August for a celebration with Annamaria's family there. **Calum** has been accepted for an Masters in Business Analytics at Palm Beach Atlantic University in Florida (a Christian University). He will stay with his girlfriend's parents while she is in Europe playing football. He is still trying to line up some financial aid to help with the costs. Please pray for:

- ✚ Matthew and Annamaria as they start married life together; and
- ✚ Calum as he applies for his student visa and enquires about financial aid.

OMF News

Please continue to pray for the tricky situation. We have made some helpful progress but there are still some pieces to fall into place. I have been working on this with the Field Director, but he is taking a 4-month home assignment (HA) from this month, so I am hoping that we can continue to make work things out without additional hurdles.

Our **field welcome group** considers 6 new candidates on the 5th and I meet some other potential candidates this week too. As well as continuing to think about how to increase our capacity, we are also needing to consider ways to help candidates from lower income countries come to serve in Japan. We have one couple in particular for whom this is a pressing issue.

We are grateful that someone will be coming in July to be our TCK (third culture kid) Advisor but need wisdom in how to train her in the role and in deciding how much we can pass on initially. We have around 80 TCKs under the age of 18 so it is a big role to learn. The current TCK support team meets on the 5th when we will start to think how to do handover well.

At the field leadership team meeting last month, they discussed some possible churches where I might serve from next summer after my HA. I will probably try to visit some of them in the next couple of months. Please pray for:

- ✚ Discernment as to which candidates we should accept and how to prioritise the space we have in our language facilities; and that we can work well with sending sides on this;
- ✚ The Field Director to have a good HA and that I can work well with the Deputy FD on various matters, especially the more challenging ones;
- ✚ Wisdom for the TCK team in thinking how to hand over to the new TCK Advisor;
- ✚ All those on HA to get their clearances to return to Japan in good time.

Church News

It was great to celebrate together with Mrs K at her baptism. A new family with four young children (two with some form of special needs) has decided to join our church. This is encouraging but also brings its own challenges since our Sunday school has jumped from 4 to 8 members with a greatly increased age range. Our next Mums and babies outreach is on the 18th and I meet the pastor's wife on the 27th. Please pray for:

- ✚ Mrs K to grow as a disciple of Jesus;
- ✚ More staff to help with the children in the church;
- ✚ God to be at work in the hearts of the Mums who come each month with their babies.

With love and prayers, Lorna and Alistair