



Prayer News Bulletin

MARCH 2025

“And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.” (2 Corinthians 9:8)

Dear Friends

The snowdrops and crocuses are out and I can even see the start of some daffodils blooming. Scottish spring is on its way. We don't have these sorts of spring flowers in Tokyo.

OMF News

Last month I mentioned something I had been asked to help on at the international level. I decided to say “yes” to becoming OMF's International Facilitator for Personnel Management (IFPM) for the rest of my Home Assignment. This is part of a pilot project as OMF considers how to lead and give support to those who are involved in a personnel role in all the different centers. OMF is also updating its personnel system but the rollout has now been delayed a few times for various reasons. We hope it will be functional by the end of the month.

OMF UK is holding their national conference from the 7-9th in Swanwick. I am leading a seminar on church planting with a colleague who is involved in church planting in a very different context. We will run the seminar three times over the weekend and hope it will be helpful for people to understand more about what church planting is and also help them to think about their own local contexts. It has been good to take this opportunity to read up on some of the research on church planting in Japan which will also be useful for my next term. Please pray for:

- ✚ My role as IFPM and that I can give good support to those in personnel roles in different centers;
- ✚ The new personnel system to be rolled out smoothly and in good time;
- ✚ The national conference to be a real blessing to all who attend and for our seminar to be helpful;
- ✚ Japan Field Leadership as they face various challenges at the moment.

Home Assignment

I had a helpful time at the Home Assignment Workshop, including getting some advice on pensions. It is more complex when you don't usually live in the UK. It has also been lovely to have time to catch up with friends and supporters. I had a good call with Pastor Kizu at Sakata Church. I have now booked my return flight for 9 August in the hope that I can find somewhere to live to be able to start at the church in September. Pastor Kizu has now finished his period of training and will have his ordination service this month. He is also slowly starting to introduce some changes, especially to the children's work at the church. Please pray for:

- ✚ The Lord's ongoing help for each meeting/service I am taking part in;
- ✚ Wisdom for Pastor Kizu and the church deacons as they consider the needs of the church and also how to reach out to the local community;
- ✚ Medical and financial clearance to return to Japan in August (to be confirmed by June)

Dates for March:

2nd: Baljaffray Parish Church

4th: OMF Scotland prayer meeting (with the general director and his wife)

7-9th: National Conference

10th: Newington Prayer Group

23rd: Freeland Church, Bridge of Weir

25th: St. Andrews Prayer Group

30th: Chryston Parish Church

31st: St Paul's Church, Milngavie, prayer meeting

Family News

Daniel and Yada have now arrived in London and are flat hunting. Daniel's law course starts on the 3rd and he is also continuing to work part-time remotely for the law firm in Thailand. **Calum** is enjoying his MBA course and is looking for sponsorship options to help fund his second year. **Matthew** is up in Scotland from 20-24th so it will be nice to catch up with him. Please pray that:

- ✚ Daniel and Yada will find a suitable apartment and also a church;
- ✚ The Lord will provide for each of the boys' needs and that they will trust him in the process.

With love and prayers,

Lorna