



# Prayer News Bulletin

NOVEMBER 2024

*"Better is the end of a thing than its beginning..." (Ecclesiastes 7:8a)*

Dear Friends

I write this prayer letter surrounded by various piles of things I have started to sort out. Things to keep, things to give away, things to bin. It is now three weeks until I move out of the house and 3.5 weeks until I leave Japan for my Home Assignment. At times I feel I am reasonably organised and at times I panic that there is no way I can get it all done in time!

## OMF News

I had a really good time with the rest of the Global Vision Council. It was the first time this current group has properly met in person so was a good time to get to know each other. I think our discussions were fruitful and I now have a few action points to follow up on.

I will help facilitate an online Crisis Management Course from 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>, this time with simultaneous translation into Chinese. This is the first time I have been involved in a bilingual course.

The appointment of Audrey Eusey from the US as my successor has now been confirmed but she cannot start taking on the role until next spring. So I have divided my role up into sections and am handing over different parts to various colleagues in the meantime. I have a few meetings over the next ten days or so to finalise it all and will then focus on the sorting, packing and admin tasks.

The deacons of the church where I hope to serve next term have agreed to welcome me there. I need to prepare a video this month for the wider church membership as they prepare for their AGM at the end of January when the final decision will be made. Please pray:

- ✚ That I can handover the various parts of my role in a helpful way and for the colleagues who will have extra on their plates over the next few months;
- ✚ For the Lord's continued leading for my next placement; and
- ✚ That the Crisis Management Training will go smoothly and be helpful to the participants. Some of them are currently involved in managing crises in different places.

## Family News

**Matthew** has a banking law job – in London, starting at the beginning of January. Thank you so much for praying. **Daniel** now has everything he needs to apply for Yada's visa. They hope to move to London mid-February. Their wedding celebration is in Bangkok on the 30<sup>th</sup> so I will go there on my way to Scotland. It looks like Alistair might be able to be attend too, but Calum is less likely.

In the meantime, on top of packing up the house, I also need to do various bureaucratic tasks: renewing my driving licence, closing bank accounts, getting a re-entry permit, taking things to the dump, forwarding mail, checking my taxes are up to date, deregistering from my local ward office, sorting out finances etc. Hopefully I won't forget anything.

The plan is to move into the Guest Home in Ichikawa on the 21<sup>st</sup>, and hire a truck on the 23<sup>rd</sup> to move everything to a storage facility. After giving the house a final clean I hand the keys to the owner on the 25<sup>th</sup> and head to the airport since my flight leaving Japan is early on the 26<sup>th</sup>. Please pray:

- ✚ For Daniel's wedding to be a joyful celebration of his and Yada's marriage and for a good time with family and friends;
- ✚ For Yada's visa application to be properly dealt with and granted in good time;
- ✚ That I would indeed get everything done in good time, with no panic needed ☺

## Church News

My last service will be on the 17<sup>th</sup> when the church is organising a farewell lunch. No doubt there will be several speeches as well. The church has said that they are sending me off to my next placement, which is very encouraging. Please pray for:

- ✚ God's blessing on the final weeks with the church. May God continue to bless Pastor K, his family, and the church members.

*With love and prayers, Lorna and Alistair*