



Prayer News Bulletin

OCTOBER 2024

"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens." (Ecclesiastes 3:1)

Dear Friends

September seemed to pass very quickly and it is now less than two months until I leave Japan for my home assignment. A few things to do before that, though.

Family News

Matthew is still waiting to hear from the interview he had at the beginning of September. Last week he had three more. Most law firms have two or three rounds of interviews and assessments, so it can be a long process. Annamaria's seasonal job finishes at the end of this month so it would be good to get something soon. **Daniel** discovered that the processing time for a spouse visa has now halved, so they now plan to submit Yada's application this month. They are also planning their wedding celebration in Bangkok at the end of November. I will go on my way back to Scotland. Matthew and Annamaria are going and we are hoping that Calum and Alistair might be able to make it, depending on their schedules. It is now nearly five years since all five of us have been together.

Andy and Liz Scott with their four daughters are visiting from the **6th-19th**. As well as doing some sightseeing in Tokyo, we plan to visit **Alistair** as we go up into Nagano Prefecture for a few days. Please pray:

- ✚ That the Scott family to have a great time here and also see something of what it is like to serve in Japan. They will come to church with me on the 13th.
- ✚ For the right job for Matthew and patience as he waits for responses.

OMF News

Our field welcome group meets on the **1st** to decide on some more candidates. It is encouraging to see so many applying to serve in Japan, though it does create capacity issues for our language study programme. We are working on a prayer website which will follow the themes of the Beneath the Surface prayer booklet. Sarah Chang from Pioneers and I meet on the **4th** to try to finalise the content. We hope it will all be ready by the end of the year. In the meantime, a Norwegian translation of the booklet has been finalized and 20,000 copies printed.

Last month I visited a church which is a possible placement for my next term. The visit went well and the next stage is for the church deacons to have a discussion on the **13th**. We are still waiting for confirmation of who will take over my current role. In the meantime, I am preparing to pass different responsibilities to various people who have agreed to help out until someone is in place.

The Field Leadership Team meets online on the **18th** to approve next year's budget. In one form or another, I served on the team since 2010 and this will be my last meeting. From **24-30th** I travel to Singapore for Global Vision Council meetings, OMF's highest board of governance. We meet in person once a year, and this time there is a lot to discuss. Please pray for:

- ✚ The ongoing process of appointing my successor and preparations for the interim solution;
- ✚ The Lord's continued leading for my next placement;
- ✚ More teachers for our new missionaries;
- ✚ Preparation of the prayer website – may it be used to raise more prayer for Japan; and
- ✚ Wisdom and the Lord's leading for the FLT and GVC meetings.

Church News

The church has a monthly group which meets on a Wednesday morning – all ladies except the pastor! For my last meeting, 15 people are coming to my house on the **2nd**. We will have our usual study and then eat lunch together. I have also been asked to share a testimony. On the **3rd** I have my last meeting with the pastor's wife. I also do my final weekly devotion this month. Please pray that:

- ✚ The church will be encouraged by the Scott family's visit and to know that people in Scotland are praying for them; and
- ✚ I can be an encouragement to people at all the different "last things".

With love and prayers, Lorna and Alistair