

Prayer News Bulletin

OCTOBER 2025

"I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth." (Psalm 121:1-2)

Dear Friends

Living in a town surrounded by mountains on three sides brings this verse to mind most days. It reminds me first to lift my eyes up to the Lord and not just focus on the things I need to do that day, and secondly that it is the Lord that my help comes from. I don't need to, and shouldn't try to, do things in my own strength, but rather rely on his help each day as I get used to living and serving in a new part of Japan.

Sakata News

Last month was mainly filled with moving into my flat and sourcing all the furniture and other bits and pieces that I need, and with completing all the administrative tasks, most of which still happen in person in Japan. As a result I have now been to the city office (x2), the police station (x2), the tax office (x2), the city health centre, the light vehicle registration office (which is actually in a neighbouring town) and the local bank. Each time I pray that I will be the aroma of Christ as I interact with the staff there. This is a small town and I will most likely meet these people again at some point.

After three weeks of attending enthusiastically and buying a Bible and a hymn book, Mrs T and her mother and daughter suddenly stopped coming to church. We think Mrs T may have taken offence at something Pastor Kizu said. He plans to follow up with her soon. In the meantime, the Kizus had their fifth baby on Tuesday night, a fifth girl! Everything went smoothly and he will announce the name at church this Sunday.

On the **25**th, the ladies of the church are holding a wreath-making class, which I will also attend. They then plan to invite those ladies, and others they know, to a cooking class I have been asked to do at church in November (more info next time).

That evening a short-term OMF prayer team are coming to Sakata. On Sunday **26**th they will attend the church service and in the afternoon help arrange a "Kids' Time". The plan is to invite the children who attended the kids' gospel outreach event in the summer. I also give the Sunday school message that day. Please pray for:

- Ongoing relationship-building with church members. I hope to start inviting some of them round once I am back from my holiday (see below);
- Mrs T and her mother and daughter to come back to church and for their follow-up;
- ♣ Children to come to the Kids' Time and begin to feel more of a connection with the church;
- ♣ The Lord's leading as to what he wants me to be involved in, especially in the community; and
- ♣ The Kizus as they all adjust to being a family of 7! I hope to help out where needed.

OMF and Family News

I am going to Singapore for the annual face-to-face meeting of the Global Vision Council from **12-15th**. I need to do some preparation before then. I will then take a few days' holiday. **Daniel** passed his exams and is now studying for part 2 in November. Over the summer **Calum** managed to earn enough to pay for the two courses he is taking this semester so he can stay in the US until the end of the year at least. **Alistair** is enjoying getting experience as a student coach for the University football team. Thanks for praying about my flat. Tenants moved in last month at last. Please pray for:

- ♣ The Lord's work in each of the boys' lives and that I can encourage/challenge them appropriately;
- The Global Vision Council, in particular as we change chairperson and find the best way to work together and with OMF's international leadership team;
- ♣ The Lord to provide leaders in OMF where needed. There are several gaps at the moment, or coming up, including a need for a new leader for East Asia North, the area the Japan Field is in.

Thank you so much. With love and prayers, Lorna