



# Prayer News Bulletin

SEPTEMBER 2025

*“The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.” (Deuteronomy 31:8)*

Dear Friends

Greetings from Sakata! Thank you so much for all your prayers. As I drove up here on Saturday, I was meditating on this verse from Deuteronomy, on how God goes before us and is also with us – two amazing promises that we can all hold on to.

## Sakata News

I have really sensed that God has gone before me here. I was able to find an apartment fairly easily. It is a third floor flat in a small block about a 20-minute walk from the church. The best part is that I will have a view of the mountains, at least on the days when it's not cloudy, raining or snowing. I will move in on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> and I have arranged for a removal company to bring my belongings on the 7<sup>th</sup>. I had got rid of quite a few things from my old house since they wouldn't fit in an apartment, so I am also now scouring local recycle shops for the various things I need.

When I arrived last Saturday night, the pastor told me about a lady (Mrs T) and her mother and 5-year-old daughter who had come to the church two days before. Mrs T and her mother lived in the US for two years when Mrs T was 11. They had both been baptised, but hadn't really understood what they were doing. Some things have happened in their lives recently which made them think about returning to church. Mrs T was excited when she heard I would be there because she would also like to practise her English. We were able to talk for a bit before and after the service and they say they would like to start coming regularly.

This month I am mainly just attending church meetings as I start to learn about the church and the different things they do. They have a weekly Bible study and prayer meeting, and then Sunday school and the worship service on a Sunday morning. After the service there are usually various meetings and people tend to bring their lunch and eat together.

Pastor Kizu and I plan to meet next week to start to discuss the sorts of things I will be involved in. The church will also hold an OMF day and a welcome lunch for me on the 21<sup>st</sup> when I will give my testimony and the Tohoku leaders, John and Emily Orme, will come over from Morioka where they live (about a 3.5 hour drive each way). Please pray:

- ✚ That I can get to know church members well and build a good relationship with them;
- ✚ For Mrs T and her mother and daughter to continue to come to church and have a good understanding of the gospel; and
- ✚ For the Lord's leading as to what I should be involved in in the church, and also for opportunities to get involved in things in the local community;

## Family News

**Daniel** gets his exam results on the 10<sup>th</sup> and then needs to apply for part 2 of his exams in October. He and Yada have been away a lot and still need to find a church. Annamaria has found a job and she and **Matthew** have decided to settle in St Helen's Church, Bishopsgate. I hope she can soon get used to and start to enjoy the different form of service from what she is used to. **Calum** is managing to stay in the US for now but still needs to find a plan from October onwards. He is busy with his job at the University and his internship. **Alistair** has a job offer to be a football coach at the University he is currently studying at in Kofu in Yamanashi Prefecture. Since one keeper coach left recently, he has now stopped playing with the team and is instead being a volunteer coach. This should give him good experience as he prepares to start work there next spring. Please pray:

- ✚ For Daniel to prioritise finding a church in London and for all four to put God first in their lives;
- ✚ That I can parent them all well from afar. Alistair is the closest but even he is a 7-hour drive away;
- ✚ For my flat in Edinburgh to be leased out. Matthew had been staying in it. I then needed to do quite a lot of works to get it ready to let out. There have been a couple of times where a lease has fallen through at the last minute. It would be great to have it rented out again.

Thank you so much. With love and prayers, Lorna