



Seeds of Grace

Reaching people, Planting churches... in Japan

Edition 21 – November 2009

From the Editor

Autum is well underway here in Japan, the weather is cooling and the leaves have belatedly turned a variety of reds.

The beginning of the month saw a handful of our workers head to the national Church Planting Institute (CPI) conference for a time of teaching and refreshment.

Currently we have a visiting short-termer, Paul, from New Zealand for a month.

News and Prayer Points

Next month one of our missionaries, **Jill Smith returns** from extended time at home. Please pray as she prepares to return to Japan.

The end of year is fast approaching with many events, both Christmas themed and otherwise. Things get underway this month with a **combined Gospel Concert** on the 21st. Please pray for people to attend and the gospel to be sown both to the singers and audience.

Pray also for the organization of the many end of year and **Christmas** outreaches to come. Pray too for **opportunities** to invite people, and that they **will attend**.

Recently a handful of **university students** have begun to attend Megumi church. Pray that they will feel at home in the church, and that others would come.

University students are also showing interest in Rita's "**that chat**" ministry at Shiga Dai [university]. Though having good meetings people are **hesitant** to come. Rita asks for prayer that people would attend.

Pray for the new workers as they continue to **settle into Japan** and for their Japanese language and culture studies.

Two of our missionary couples are expecting their first **child**. Please pray for Jessica [due this month] and EunJeong [due March] during this wonderful time of new life.



Hikone International Service – café style church.

New Term, New Place, New Ministry.

WEC Japan welcomes back one of our workers, SeongJae Yu from five months furlough and into a new stage of multi-team ministry.

Earlier this year as WEC Japan re-focused its vision, multi-team involvement was seen as important. That is, to be a part of multiple ministry teams in different locations. This month's Seeds of Grace will take a look at the ministries SeongJae is involved in.

SOG: *SeongJae, we are aware you are ministering as a part of WEC Japan's multi-team vision. Can you tell us a little bit about what teams you are involved in?*

SJ: I'm involved in three different churches, all different locations for the team ministry. Primarily I'm serving at Rakusai church in Kyoto. I'm involved in three Gospel choirs and worship teams with local workers.

I'm also involved in a worship team and evangelical ministries with local workers and missionaries in Shiga prefecture.

SOG: *Can you tell us what your main strategy is in these situations?*

SJ: Worship team and evangelical ministries. I aim to approach non-believers who open their heart to the Lord through the evangelical ministries. I am also looking to begin a new church plant in the future through this method of ministry.

SOG: *I know you've only recently started, but how do you to balance these teams, and share your time?*

SJ: Yes, I've recently moved on to new ministry teams. I need God's wisdom in how to manage my time for the ministry. I think it's alright at the moment and I really enjoy it. I mainly spend time in Rakusai and attend Sunday services including contemporary services as well. Once per month I also minister at Hikone international evening service and on Fridays I minister in Otsu.

SOG: *You have mentioned being a part of contemporary services, can you tell us a bit about them?*

SJ: We focus on Christians to worship the Lord together with new styled services. We also try various methods during the services. e.g. Japanese and English songs, messages and games for all ages and generations. We're considering attempting a bilingual bible study after the service next year. We hope that it would be interesting and a good chance for non-believers to experience church.

SOG: *Great, thanks for all this. Just to wrap up. How can our readers pray for you and your ministries?*

SJ: Please, pray for wisdom and the building up of each team's communication for God's ministry here.

Pray that the Lord would touch people's hearts to know Jesus and accept Him as their savior through these activities and ministries.

Pray for the new church planting team in Kyoto in the future.