

## MISSION PRAYER

Sept. 2, 2017

**Attribute of God: Our help and our shield**

**Key verse: Ps. 33:20 *We wait in hope for the LORD; He is our help and our shield.***

**This month's focus is on: Patricia K., Makoto and Amy T., Jim and Terui Grace, Michio and Anne Marie Ozaki, Michiya Tanaka with Night de Light, Todd and Jayne Fong, and Paul and Naomi P.**

**Missionary: Patricia K.**

**Internet Ministry to C\_\_\_\_\_**

**Praise and requests:**

1. Thank you for praying for their staff conference. The theme this year was "With"; we need to be with God and be with each other (unity, partner in God's work). They continued to discuss the topic of racial reconciliation, even reconciliation among Cru staff, which was a difficult topic that they focused on at their 2015 staff conference.
2. Another focus was on reaching the many ethnic groups who have immigrated to the U.S., including Muslims. We can all be missionaries without even leaving the U.S. They heard testimonies of churches in the U.S. and England who focused on showing God's love through hospitality and practical help. As a result, they saw multitudes of ethnic people and immigrants becoming believers. There is a vast mission field right in our own neighborhood. Many of these immigrants would not be able to hear the Gospel in their country but now that they are in the U.S., they have the freedom to pursue God's Word. They need friends; their hearts are open to the Good News.  
**Please pray and ask our Lord how you can show His love to the immigrants.**
3. Aside from working on evangelistic content, Patricia also has been working on content for believers. They'll be adding new topics, for example "Is Death Final", "5 Biblical Characters Who Show Failure isn't Final", and "4 Biblical Stories That Show Us Life Isn't Futile". **Would you please pray these articles will help C---- believers grow in their walk with the Lord?**
4. Their evangelistic website was having technical problems so the past 2 months, they haven't had as many visitors, but praise the Lord, in June-July they still had over 115,000 visitors and over 2600 indicated a decision for Jesus! "Don, one of the visitors wrote to Patricia a couple of times. One of his questions was "If you believe in Jesus, you will go to Heaven. If you don't, you will go to hell. Isn't this a way to scare people into believing in Jesus?" How would you help someone understand this? Patricia is encouraged that Don continues to write and ask questions.  
**Would you please pray he will make a decision to receive Jesus?**

**Missionaries: Makoto, Amy, Mia, and Samuel T.**

**Serving in East Asia**

**Praise and prayer requests:**

1. Makoto, Amy, Mia and Samuel had a blessed time in the US these past few months, but were excited to be headed back to C----. The past few months has been a busy time of sharing at various fellowships and spending time with family and friends, but it has been a big blessing.
2. They are also very excited that Makoto will be starting his new teaching job at the university this month. They plan to continue to be involved in different ministry opportunities (discipleship, cross-cultural training, mom's group, marginalized, etc.), but **they ask for your prayers as God opens the door for possibilities with university students. They desire to make an impact and be a light wherever God leads.**
3. Pray for their whole family as they make the transition back to C-----. Drop them an email and let them know how they can be praying for you.
4. It has been a very busy time for Mia and Samuel as well. Mia got the chance to try a summer dance class and really loved learning ballet and jazz. Samuel got the chance to try a gymnastics class and loved it as well. They may have a future Olympic gymnast in the making. **Pray for Mia as she gets ready for 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and Samuel will soon start preschool.**

**Missionaries: Jim and Terui Grace**

**Country: Japan**

**Praise: What they are thankful for:**

1. The Graces had a very good holiday in California back in May. They were able to celebrate their son, John's graduation and they're thankful that as a new grad he found an internship with a company in Palo Alto. They also had the pleasure of meeting both Sarah's and John's significant other person in their lives.
2. The McGinty and Suzuki families who studied at JLCC (Japanese Language and Culture Center) for a few months- **pray for the McGinty's' settling into life and ministry in Yokohama, and for the Suzukis who are searching for housing in Tokyo before starting ministry in mid-August.**
3. Finding housing for a new missionary family- not always easy since they are foreigners and a religious organization. The Ng family from Hong Kong arrived in Sapporo at the end of July from OMF International's 3-week orientation course in Singapore. **Pray for Samuel and Ada with children Maddie, Moses, and Marie- for a smooth transition as they wait to move into their new home and the children begin school in mid-August.**
4. Reconnecting with Hokkaido University students Rikako and Hanako after several months apart; they continue to study the Bible together. **Pray for open and responsive hearts, that they will come to faith in the Lord.**
5. Other opportunities to minister outside of the JLCC- doing the prep and cooking at the July fmZero student outreach BBQ for the more than 50 students who participated, and helping at Tonden Church through children's ministry and occasional preaching.

**Please pray for:**

1. The short-term workers who are studying at JLCC for a few weeks: Ka Po and Alice (assisting a church program), Claudia (fmZero student outreach for next year), and Meg (currently helping with various media tasks).
2. Their new colleagues, that they will make (and feel like they are making) progress in language learning: Selina, Jessy, Simon and Kaori, Christina, and Samuel and Ada.
3. Terui and Jim's ongoing preparation and presentation for new missionaries.
4. Terui's visit with her mother, August 19-25, while Terui's brother's family is away for a short holiday Terui hasn't been home to visit in over 2 years. Pray that the conversations with her mother who is not a believer, will be remembered and used by the Lord to bring her to Himself.

**Missionaries: Michio and Anne Marie Ozaki**

**Ministry: Reach Beyond**

**Praise and request:**

1. In June, Michio traveled to Japan with his father, Rev. Ozaki who goes every year to visit churches and meet with listeners. Michio also visited his home church in Tokyo.
2. Michio joined Reach Beyond the summer he graduated from college in 1985. Yodobashi Church became his home church and has faithfully supported him ever since.
3. Anne-Marie and Michio have been invited to the AbR Media Convention in Ghana this September. AbR is a network of Christian media organizations across Sub Sahara Africa. They are excited to meet station managers and radio producers. They hope to find new partners who will broadcast Spotlight English.
4. Linda finished her first year in college. Please pray that she will be accepted into the nursing program in October.
5. Melody will be starting her junior year at The Woodlands High School. Melody is also learning to drive.

**Missionary: Michiya Tanaka for Night de Light**

**Country: Japan**

**Praise:**

***Dear Family of God.***

*Thank you so much for praying for their concert on 7/30.*

*They gave a concert at the biggest live house in Japan.*

*They saw His glory on that day and strongly believe Japan is being changed by God.*

*Be glad with them in what He has done for Japan!!!*

*And **thank you so much** for your heart, prayer and support for them!!!*

**Missionaries: Todd, Jayne, Jeremy, and Ayumi Fong**

**Country: Japan**

**Praise:**

1. The Fongs are at full support, thanks to the Lord through your generous and consistent giving to their ministry. Praise the Lord for all of you!
2. Praises for another successful Redwood English Summer Camp. Over 200 children attended and over 60 local volunteers helped (plus another 30 on their Redwood and church team). Feedback on the event was once again overwhelmingly positive.
3. Praises for a new school year at CAJ. This will be Jeremy's Senior year (12<sup>th</sup> grade) and Ayumi's Freshman year (9<sup>th</sup> grade). This is the first time in their lives that they are in the same school division at the same time!
4. Praise for a great visit to California over the summer and letting them get all the things done they needed to do. Praises for being blessed by so many friends and family members during their stay.

**Requests: Please pray for:**

1. follow-up to the English Summer Camp in terms of relationship building and new events they can include kids and families in. Pray as they consider how to build on the interest and excitement generated by RESC and how they can continue to build relationships and support families who have participated in this ministry.
2. Jayne's new job responsibilities at CAJ (Middle School Head Teacher) and for a balance of her workload with her existing job responsibilities so she is not overwhelmed.
3. the Keiyu Gakuen free school. Moto Kimura (JEMS affiliates) and his family. Pray for more opportunities for the church to serve children like the ones who attend his free school.
4. their family: communication, patience, grace and love within their relationships. Pray for special protection against spiritual attacks that commonly occur to missionary families.
5. for their language acquisition and being able to build deeper relationships with people through better language and culture skills.
6. for good health for Jeremy and his teammates and a fun time in his final year participating on the Cross Country team.
7. for a peaceful resolution to come about for the escalating situation with an unstable neighbor over the region.

**Prayer for upcoming events:**

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| Sept. 6  | RESC debrief.                                      |
| Sept. 16 | Sunday School Class Outing                         |
| TBD      | Photography Club event                             |
| Sept. 27 | Keiyu Gakuen Chapel Message and Photography Lesson |
| TBD      | English Club Fall kickoff                          |

**Missionaries: Paul and Naomi P.**

**Serving East Asia**

**Praise:**

1. Last weekend they served in two C----- churches' joint missions conference plus a C----- missions fellowship meeting in the tri-State area (Maryland, D.C. and Virginia\_ which were both held in Maryland. Pastor L. was able to join them and was the keynote speaker. He spoke four times and Naomi and Paul each spoke three times.
2. It was very encouraging and fruitful. Many, many people commented on how encouraged they are at what God is doing in and through C---- missions movement and how challenged they were to invest in what God is doing around the world.

**Requests: Please pray:**

Naomi and Paul leave next Thursday, Sept. 7, for another trip to East and Central Asia until Nov. 11. Please keep them in your prayers for final preparations, for health and stamina throughout and very fruitful ministry (member care, counseling, training, planning and strategy meetings).