



Prayer News Bulletin

JULY 2021

“Sow righteousness for yourselves, reap the fruit of unfailing love, and break up your unplowed ground; for it is time to seek the Lord, until he comes and showers his righteousness on you.” (Hosea 10:12)

Dear Friends

Hello from Tokyo's rainy season when we enjoy the relative cool before the heat of summer descends.

OMF News

Thank you for praying for the Field Leadership Team meetings and the virtual vision trip. Both seemed to go well. Tokyo's State of Emergency was downgraded to a quasi-SOE, in effect until 11 July. This means that most meetings are still online. However, cases are starting to tick upwards again so we might see more restrictions as we head towards the summer holiday period and the Olympics. The vaccine rollout has sped up, and I should be getting my “vaccine coupon” in the next couple of weeks. The challenge is then to find somewhere to get the jag. I am still on the COVID taskforce which meets regularly to discuss the situation and advise our members and their ministries. This month we have several members coming from the language school to visit ministries in the Tokyo area. I will see people on the 6th, 9th and 12th. Our new members are still waiting to get into the country. Their visa documents have now expired so we are in the middle of applying for new documents. I am taking the second year of an online Member Care Course, and also helping OMF International prepare a course on Crisis Management which will be held at the end of next month. Several members in Japan are also facing difficult or challenging issues at the moment. Please pray:

- ✚ For a helpful time with each of the visiting members as they consider what sort of ministry they think God is leading them towards;
- ✚ That the course I am taking and the course I am helping to prepare will be of practical help;
- ✚ That we can give appropriate help and support to struggling members; and
- ✚ For all the members and their children waiting to come to Japan.

Family News

Calum made it back safely and survived the boredom of quarantine. In the last year he has spent a total of 80 days in quarantine and self-isolation! He hasn't managed to find a University to transfer to yet. Because a whole season was cancelled, graduating students are being given the option of playing for an extra year, meaning that there are not many places. He is also learning the reality of life that it is very challenging to get a place without money or contacts! He will return to the US on the 13th for one last try to find somewhere, and also to get the next stage of his orthodontic treatment. If nothing works out in the US he may go back to Scotland at the beginning of September to explore possibilities there.

Alistair has an informal initial offer from one University, but there are still some steps to go through. He has end-of-term exams starting on the 7th. His team qualified for a national tournament at the end of the month, so I plan to go away for a few days, travel restrictions permitting. Please pray for:

- ✚ Calum to seek God's leading for his future, and for God to open the right door;
- ✚ An enjoyable last national football competition for Alistair and a refreshing break for me.

Church News

I will meet with the youth group on the 18th and the pastor's wife on the 12th. I have also finished my series of devotions based on David's musings so need to start a new series. I am thinking about the book of Jonah. Please pray:

- ✚ That my time with the youth and the pastor's wife can be really helpful for them;
- ✚ For God's help with a new devotion series;
- ✚ That church members would be faithful in reaching out to their friends, family and neighbours at a time when church activities are limited.

With love and prayers
Lorna, Calum and Alistair