



# Prayer News Bulletin

OCTOBER 2020

*Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually! (1 Chron 16:11)*

Dear Friends

I'm sorry to hear about the additional restrictions which many of you are facing now because of the coronavirus. We are grateful that Japan's numbers seem to have stabilized after the second spike over the summer, although many people remain very cautious.

## OMF News

We have just finished our virtual field conference, which went well thanks to the hard work of many people behind the scenes. I am also appreciating the **online child safety training** I am taking. A couple of other participants are also from Japan, so it is helpful to share ideas of how to apply child safety principles here, where there is generally a lot less awareness of the issues. The training continues weekly for the rest of the month.

We are continuing the **review of our mobilization strategy**. How can we best inform people of the needs in Japan so that they can pray, and that we can hopefully see some called to Japan to serve? In these times when people cannot come here for vision or prayer trips, we are trialling an 8-part virtual vision tour called "*Taste of Japan with OMF*" for people in Canada and the US.

We have decided on a cover for the **prayer booklet** "*Beneath the Surface*" and found a printing company in Tokyo. We hope to get a sample printed next week and can then take orders and finalise shipping options. We hope that this booklet will raise prayer for Japan from all over the world and have already received interest in translating it into some different languages.

I will also attend an online **OMF mobilization consultation** from **19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>**. This is a great chance to touch base with those in OMF who are involved in mobilising in different countries. Then from **26<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>** we have **Field Leadership Team** meetings, hopefully in person this time. We are also grateful that Japan is beginning to allow new workers into the country if they have a visa. The process is a little complex but we are hoping to get at least one new person here this month. Please pray:

- ✚ For strength and good focus during a very varied and full month;
- ✚ That we would know the Lord's leading in all the decisions that we need to make; and
- ✚ For the Lord to hear and answer our prayers for many more to come to know Jesus!

## Family News

After a teammate tested positive for COVID, **Calum** had to isolate off campus for a while, but is now back. He is finding it challenging to study brand new subjects this semester with most things online and more self-learning. **Matthew** has started his Diploma and is continuing with online CAB training and English teaching. **Alistair** has official football matches now most weekends, but there is still a ban on spectators. He has mid-term tests this month too. Please pray:

- ✚ For encouragement for each of the boys, especially the older three who now spend a lot of time on their own;
- ✚ For a traineeship for Matthew once he finishes his Diploma next June – not easy at present.

## Church News

I managed to have a **youth meeting** on Zoom but unfortunately only one of the three girls made it. One of the others is a final year student with a lot of pressure right now. The third one seems to be drifting away from church a bit at the moment. Otherwise I continue to write a **weekly devotion**. Having thought Ruth would be a series of 4 or 5 studies, I have now done 7 and am still on Chapter 2! There is so much in this short book. Please pray:

- ✚ For encouragement for the pastor and church members and that we will all have opportunities to share the hope we have in Jesus with people round about us.

*With love and prayers*

*Lorna, Daniel, Matthew, Calum and Alistair*