



Prayer News Bulletin

OCTOBER 2021

“Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth that I desire other than you. My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.” (Psalm 73:25-26)

Dear Friends

Thank you for praying last month. Covid case numbers continued to decline and the whole of Japan was released from State of Emergency measures as of 1 October. Now it is up to local prefectures to have restrictions in place to try to keep numbers low, such as limiting restaurant hours, attendance at large events etc. This shows the cautious approach of the Japanese authorities, since our numbers are much lower than most European countries which have opened up a lot more.

Family News

Daniel finished with the G7 conference on the Sunday, started his new job remotely early Monday morning, and flew to Bangkok on the Friday evening. He is now working from hotel quarantine after which he will look for an apartment to rent. **Calum** continues to get used to life in New Jersey. He has a rather strange roommate so is hoping another room might open up at some point so that he can switch. He continues to learn about how much money talks in college athletics, which can be frustrating at times. **Alistair** is still waiting to hear from the University he is applying to. He also needs a recommendation from his school. The next set of exams are the **18-20th**. Please pray for:

- ✚ Daniel and Calum to find good Christian fellowship in their new cities.
- ✚ Alistair’s University application process to go smoothly, and that parents will again be allowed to watch the football matches. It would be great to catch up with other Mums, also with the school Mums at a planned meeting on the **30th**.

OMF News

We had an encouraging time of online fellowship as the Japan Field last month, but are very much hoping we can hold local in-person conferences next spring which we are starting to plan towards. I have a mobilization committee meeting on the **7th** when we review the ways we seek to raise more prayer and workers for Japan. If you have any ideas, please let me know! The pandemic has accelerated changes in how people relate to their home churches and supporters, since they can do more online from Japan. Some people now only want to go back to their home countries for short periods rather than the more traditional 6-12 months. I am seeking to listen to different viewpoints as we consider a helpful way forward. Our wonderful Third Culture Kids Advisor is stepping down from her role as she prepares for retirement after many years of service. We don’t have a fulltime replacement so are looking to form a team of different people who can help in various ways to support the 65 or so children we have in OMF Japan. Please pray that:

- ✚ In-person meetings can resume and be helpful especially for those struggling with isolation;
- ✚ God will continue to raise more prayer and workers for Japan (and for open borders!); and
- ✚ We can find good ways to support the children and families on the field.

Church News

We had a good youth group meeting in September. I am considering suggesting to S (21) that we study the Bible together. R (23) works for a cooking company which is starting a YouTube channel this month. She is nervous about trolls and the implications for her emotional health. All three struggle with low self-esteem so this is what we look at in our Bible times together. The church is also thinking of beginning to restart some small group meetings. I meet the pastor’s wife again on the **25th**. There are also a couple of other local ladies I hope to meet up with soon. Please pray:

- ✚ That church members would return to in-person services and small groups;
- ✚ For the three girls in the youth group to grow in understanding of their identity in Christ;
- ✚ That S would be willing to study the Bible together and that R would know God’s protection;
- ✚ That I can balance my time well between church, local outreach and OMF ministry.

With love and prayers
Lorna, Calum and Alistair