

Dear Friend,

By the time you read this, Christmas will only be a month or so away and you, like we, will no doubt be feeling busier than ever! There is a primary school musical entitled "Don't be Too Busy for Christmas!" Would that none of us grow too preoccupied to take good time with our heavenly Father - in devotion and in intercession - whose Son's coming we especially remember during this season. The Son's own example springs to mind: *"Yet the news about him spread all the more, so that crowds of people came to hear him and to be healed of their sicknesses. But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed."* (Luke 5:15-16). He so often took time alone with his Father, even in the midst of overwhelming ministry opportunities that clamoured for his attention. Shall we pray for each other, that we would imitate him, this Christmas and through the coming year?

### **Mondays**

Network Partners Richard and Yuko Brash are thankful for the safe arrival of a daughter – Isla – in October. Since September, they've been serving at East Ome Mission Christ Church, (<http://senkyou.o-bc.net/>), taking the chance to watch and learn at a church plant that is at an earlier "stage" than their home church in Oppama. Please pray that this experience would be useful for the future work they plan to do of church-planting. Richard continues his studies at Japan Bible Seminary, from where he will graduate in 2012, and involvement in street evangelism outside the local station. He will be preaching there on 19 November, and leading the outreach team again on 10 December. In September, two men contacted the church for the first time thanks to this street evangelism. Please pray on for more fruit.



### **Tuesdays**

Akio and Noriko Kawamura, JCL Network Partners, who have been leading a small church in Fujisawa, Kanagawa prefecture, have realised their vision to plant a new church in a rapidly growing area of the city. They moved there with the small congregation from their existing church on 31 October and celebrate the new church's Dedication Service on 28 November. Please pray for them as they seek to get to know people in this area of young families, that they will know how best to respond to the area's needs and will connect well with locals.

### **Wednesdays**

Mission Partner Dawn Bolton is back in the UK for a few months' sabbatical break over the autumn and winter. Give thanks for an event she took part in in London on 8 November to alert people working in the City of the opportunity to reach Japanese there. Pray too for a similar event for Christians in Edinburgh on 27 November which is being organised with Mission Partner Yuki Williams, and a third in Finchley on 22 January with Mission Partner Rebekah Hwang.

## Thursdays

Network Partner Tiffany Liang continues to enjoy a busy life with many Japanese contacts in Nobeoka, Miyazaki prefecture. Praise God for all of the opportunities that she is getting through the contacts that



she makes through work. Also praise him for the church that she has been able to settle in to and especially for the pastor, who has recently been asked to talk about the Bible and the Christian faith in local community groups. Prayer for wisdom for Tiffany on deciding whether she should opt to stay on in her job as Coordinator for International Relations for another year would be appreciated. She needs to make a decision by 4 February.

Work has been very busy, especially now that she is in her second year, taking on more responsibilities, so pray that she would be sensible as to how much to take on, and not get too tired. Please pray also for the lady who came to faith and was baptised in her church earlier this year, that she would continue to grow in her love for and faith in the Lord.

## Fridays

Mission Partners Thierry and Antonia Richards leave for Tokyo on 6 December. Whilst preparing for the move they have been involved in outreach to Japanese men working in the City of London. A few of these have been studying the Bible with Thierry, or have expressed interest in doing so, so please pray that this will continue once they leave, and for those in London who will be seeking to build relationships with these men and lead them to faith in Jesus. Pray too for the Richards as they settle into a new life in Tokyo, for all the practical arrangements, language study and that they will find effective ways to use their various gifts in outreach to working people in central Tokyo.

## Weekends

Give thanks for Kazuko, a new believer who was recently baptised at Network Partners Jim and Kayo Davies' small church in Kobe (as mentioned in the last Praise & Prayer letter) and please pray for Mieko who has recently started attending after receiving one of the postcards the Davies put through letter boxes in the neighbourhood to invite people to church. Jim already knows her a little from when he used to commute to work. She is now keen to learn about the Bible so praise God for this, and please pray for her salvation as she does so, and also for the challenges associated with this for Jim and Kayo as she has been nearly completely deaf since infancy.



**Thank you for praying!**