

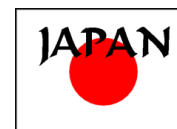


Field Address
3112-5 Nakagomi
Saku Shi, Nagano Ken
385-0051 Japan
maariffel@gmail.com
574-316-0923

Sending Church
Grace Baptist Church
Pastor Matt Elliott
1830 N Michigan St.
Plymouth, IN 46563
(574) 936-3445

Mission Agency
World Wide New Testament
Baptist Missions
P.O. Box 725
Kings Mountain, NC 28086
www.wwntbm.com

Missionaries to



Dear praying friends,

O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together. -Psalm 34:3 We invite you to magnify our Lord for all he is doing in the ministry here in Japan.

Wedding Bells and Preaching

It finally happened. Shoma and Claire Ogihara were married on April 21st. This was very exciting for our church family as it was our first wedding and the first Christian wedding for most of our church to ever see. Everyone was involved. It was a beautiful ceremony and we praise the Lord that Shoma's father came and heard the Word of God preached for the first time. Please continue to pray for Shoma's parents to know the Lord, and for the newlyweds as they adjust to married life and seek God's will for their lives. While we were on furlough, Shoma was able to preach his first full message for one of the Sunday Services. He did a wonderful job. This last Sunday, Michael asked him if he would be interested in song leading once a month like brother Takagi. However, he said he would like to preach again and asked if he could preach for the father's day event (which we are having on June 28th). We can see how God could use them in ministry. Please pray for God's leading in their lives.



Kazumi's Salvation!

In our last letter we asked prayer for both Narumi and Emma's mothers. Thank you so much for praying. They both attended our Mother's Day outreach. Narumi's mother in particular really was listening. Narumi has been witnessing to her mother. On June 6th, Mrs. Sasazawa saw a special re-run program on tv all about the message of the Gospels. She watched the entire series shown without commercial interruptions. After the program, Narumi again shared the gospel with her and she prayed to repent and receive Christ! She has since come to church every Sunday and is reading her Bible and growing. Please pray for her to continue growing and for her husband and son to come to Christ.



These last three Sundays, Narumi's sister, **Misato**, has also been able to attend church. Normally she always has to

work on Sundays, but her shifts were changed for these three weeks. She rightly testified that it was the Lord. Please pray for her work schedule in the future to allow her to attend and for her to grow in the Lord as well.

Prayer for some Men

We were saddened that Sarah had to take an unexpected trip to see her father just before he passed away. We praise the Lord that he had received Christ the year before. Her husband, **Kentaro**, also went to the funeral. Please keep praying for his salvation. The Lord has been working on his heart, but he has been rejecting it and now not wanting to attend church at all. Also, please pray for Emma's father, **Mark**, as his stage 3 cancer has returned. Pray that this will get his attention and he will fully commit his life to Christ. One great blessing was to see our landlord, **Mr. Ishii**, come to church for the first time ever in 15 years of renting the church facility. Preacher Tanii was filling in for us and invited him. Please pray for Mr. Ishii's salvation and for him to come again.

Back in Japan

We arrived back in Japan June 18th and it was great to get back into ministering to the people God has called us. Our short 5 week furlough felt like a whirlwind with sickness, travel, and meetings. We thank all the churches and people that were so gracious to us and many of you who said they are praying for us. We are reminded that we could not be serving here without all the prayer and support. We are also so thankful for many of our church members helping out in the ministry in Japan while we were gone. The church seemed to grow even stronger in our absence. Praise the Lord. Please pray for our camp in August. The preaching this year is centered around Music and standing strong as a Christian.

Abi's Corner

It is hard to believe that Abigail has graduated from high school. She was only 3 years old when we came to Japan. We are so proud of her and thankful for our home church providing streaming classes all these years. She was also able to get her drivers license while we were in the States. Right now she is preparing to take the CLT exam to apply for college and is preparing to publish her book once she turns 18 in a couple weeks. Please pray for her to have direction about a job for this year and for her to be able to get a scholarship to attend Baptist College of Ministry next year.



Thank you so much for your prayers!

Your missionaries to Japan, Michael, April, and Abigail