

Together Forever

July 3, 2019

It gives us joy to help people meet Jesus so that we can be together forever with Him. We appreciate your love, encouragement, and prayers as we seek to introduce people to him.

It is exciting to see those who have come to serve as short term workers share Jesus with the people they meet. Last Sunday Lilia from Mexico helped us host a Mexican night. We were surprised that several neighbors entered the church for the first time ever when they came to this event. For 10 years they have been watching us clean up this derelict property, chat with us at the corner store and finally now have had enough courage to come.



Last week the “short termers” went door-to-door passing out 3,000 church flyers. Out of the blue, an older lady and her grand daughter came for the first time to worship service. She had wanted to attend when she first received an invitation in her mailbox three years ago. Last year she was reminded of the church with another flyer. At last this year she made the decision to come. We are always amazed to discover that sometimes people hang on to these invitations for years.

Yesterday Saori finished the parenting class. Through it she discovered the Bible and prayer and claims it has changed her family life. She is excited to start a Bible study on the basics of the faith. This journey started when she brought her three-year-old daughter to English class. Now her daughter is in fifth grade. Some people might say that Japanese don't respond to the gospel but that is not what we find. It just takes time.



On Monday Rio, who clearly says she believes in Jesus, didn't come to the weekly Bible study she attends with her mom. However, her mother came by herself!! Rio's mother was raised to worship the ancestors and fulfill social obligations and therefore finds it difficult to become a Christian, but it is easy to see her longing for Jesus. We

started her own study of the basics and she asked me if she could pray even though she is not a Christian. She said, “my aunt was catholic. I don't understand much about churches, but I know it was different than what is here. You really love Jesus! I am so privileged to be able to have this time to study the Bible here.” At home she is now also diligently reading a book I gave her.

Every one of these people is so precious!! We are praying that they too will be able to spend time **together forever** with us and with you who pray along with us for them.

GIVING THANKS TO GOD:

- ♥ that Ikue and Saori have both begun to seek at a deeper level
- ♥ that Rio and Hanaha clearly express their belief in and love for Jesus
- ♥ that several others are continuing to regularly study the Bible
- ♥ that in the past two weeks 12 new people have come to events and a few people who haven't come for a couple years have come again
- ♥ that the parking lot was done well and fulfilling its purpose beyond expectation! It is a great play area and attracts people, directs the rainwater to street drain instead of under the church building, makes parking so much easier, and makes ground care so much easier!!!!
- ♥ that the play area continues to bless the children who come here and gives us chances to talk with parents while kids happily play
- ♥ for working in and through the lives of our short-term workers. (Including the successful appendix operation on a gal from New Zealand by a surgeon who is a seeker in our church!)
- ♥ for a great Mexican night. Many people came including four neighbors



ASKING GOD:

- to protect the hearts of all those in seeking in Bible studies and work through how to follow through in faith when family members are not believers
- to give wisdom, clarity of thought and energy to direct people.
- to help us prepare for camp for English class kids 23/24 and 24/25.
- to use the fliers that short term workers passed out to close to 3,000 homes nearby to bring awareness of the church and bring those with seeking hearts
- that the ramp to toilets and dining level got done just in time for Mr. Narita to use. For the first time since his stroke he was able to come out for an event. The entryway also makes it easier for those who come!

Contact Information

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