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Missionaries to



The summer is just flying by here in Japan. We are in the rainy season and it has been raining every day for about a month and a half now. Although the weather might be gloomy, we pray God's light will shine in us as we seek to reach the Japanese people. We certainly have a lot to rejoice over these last months.

Saved!

It has finally happened. The Rich's started teaching Mrs. Ikegame English and Bible 6 years ago. Even though she was Shinto, she listened each week during the Bible time. We prayed and prayed for her, but it wasn't until some difficult situation in her family that she chose to believe in Christ. We are so thankful for her faithfulness to church weekly and her growth in the Lord.



Big Events

The Lord truly blessed the community center event that we were invited to. Pastor Rich shared about the true meaning of Easter and we led the games. We were invited to come again for more activities like this in the future. We are also thankful Miss Hikaru is back for the summer. We loved seeing her on Mother's Day and were so excited when her parents both came to church on Father's Day. Please continue to pray for Miss Hikaru as she takes a correspondence course this summer, and as she is planning on heading back to PCC this fall. She is such a

special girl, and we pray God will lead her in a special way as she returns to college in the U.S.



Miss Hikaru and her parents, Mrs. Ikegame, Mr. Takagi

Upcoming Event

The next big Outreach Event is on August 15th. Every year Saku has a huge Firework display that can be seen right from Pastor and Mrs. Rich's backyard. We will be having a Barbecue, enjoying the fireworks, and Pastor Rich will be giving a devotional. Many people have said they will be coming and we pray they truly will. Please pray also that through this someone will start coming to church and get saved.

Continued Prayer

Please continue to pray for our Landlord Mr. Ishii and his son for their salvation. They have been such a blessing to us in so many ways, and we are truly burdened for them. Also please continue to pray for our Saturday Kindergarten and our outreach on Saturday afternoons. Many books of John have been given to the Saku people as we pass them out on Saturdays. Also please pray for the Japanese Christians to be strong for the Lord as we enter August. In Japan August is a month where many Buddhist holidays occur, and there is much idol worshipping. There is often a Spiritual battle on Christians at this time of the year.

Abigail's Corner

Abigail turned 6 years old this July. We were able to have a birthday party for her, and she enjoyed spending extra time with our Saturday Kindergarten kids. She also has been enjoying getting to know her violin teacher's daughters, and has been able to meet some other children who are homeschooled. We have been on a couple of homeschool field trips, and we are so thankful for Abigail getting to make new friends. This is such a big answer to prayer, as there are no children in our neighborhood.

We are very happy to report that Abigail has decided she wants to follow the Lord in baptism. She is in Baptismal classes now, and once she is done will be getting baptized.



Furlough

Yes, we can hardly believe it, but we are making plans for our furlough for next year from April 14th-July 22nd. Please pray for all the preparations and for a good furlough. The Riches will also be taking a short furlough in January. Please pray for Michael as he will be preaching while they are gone. He has preached twice now in Japanese and will be again on August 31st. Right now he is basically reading his messages, but the language is coming slowly but surely. Abigail still has a long way to go with the language and has not picked it up as quickly as we had hoped so please keep that in your prayers.

Once again we want to thank all of our supporters who make it possible for us to be here on the field. We appreciate you so much. Thank you for keeping us in your prayers.

For His Glory,
Michael, April, and Abigail Riffel