

I trust many of you remember Yang Wan-Yueh, now 18-years old, who was baptized in the hospital almost three years ago. At that time, her condition was so critical we thought the Lord was about to call her Home. For the last two years she has again been hospitalized, needing a resuscitator to breath and tube feedings for nutrition. She is the youngest in a ward of 22 other patients, all of whom are comatose or geriatric.



**Sister Monika Gottschild**

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Dear friends, can you imagine how it is just lying there day after day, totally dependent on the help of others, waiting for someone to come to visit, to bring some joy into your drab existence? I am always amazed when Wan-Yueh welcomes us with a bright smile, raising her arms to greet us, and being so thankful for everything. It is evident that she truly knows she is not alone there, that her



heavenly Father is with her, loving her, understanding her and encouraging her. Nevertheless she has many questions in her heart.

Recently she wrote she sometimes fails to understand why God doesn't restore her ability to breathe, so that she might come home and live with us in Bethesda.

When I shared with her that sometimes there are no explanations, because only God knows the answer, she asked, "One day when I get to heaven, may I ask God why this all happened to me?" Yes, then she will probably get her answer. Right now, however, God is using Wan-Yueh to be a blessing to the medical staff, visitors and her own family also.



A nurse stopped me lately as I was leaving and said, "We are actually so thankful and blessed to have Wan-Yueh here with us; we learn so much from her. She never complains, is always thankful for even a smile, and seems to have deep peace in her heart. When we ask her 'Why?' she always points to heaven and folds her hands to show us that many people pray for her."

May Wan-Yueh's faith continue to challenge those around her to consider their own relationship with God, and be encouraged to believe and trust in Him also.

**Sister Monika Gottschild**, veteran missionary of 27 years, serves the residents and staff of "Bethesda" ~ Home for Challenged Children and Adults, in Hualien, Taiwan. Also reaching out to inmates at a local prison, she has a heart for those who have no voice in society.



Dear faithful prayer warriors,

With overflowing thanks for your prayers and gifts to LCM I greet you today! May the Lord continually encourage and bless you as you have blessed and encouraged our missionaries on the field!

In this issue of BRIDGES, do read the testimony of Kazue Tanaka. Kazue is a Japanese missionary

God is using in LCM's newest church plant in Fukui Prefecture, Japan. Because she has so wonderfully experienced Jesus, she is now faithfully proclaiming the Gospel that led her to Christ. We are seeking sponsors for our missionaries, and ask you to prayerfully consider helping Kazue share Christ's plan of salvation by giving regularly toward her support. **"How will they preach unless they are sent?"** (Romans 10:15) rings in my heart! Thank you for helping to send Kazue to the lost!

Sister Monika Gottschild from Bethesda, Hualien, Taiwan has also written an inspiring article about the bravery and strength of young Wan-Yueh, who day after day lies in a hospital connected to a resuscitator. Wan-Yueh is true believer, who found Jesus while living in Bethesda. Introducing our challenged residents to Jesus is the main goal of our ministry. In April, Bethesda will be looking back on 60 years of service since the Sisters first opened their hearts and home to two girls with disabilities in 1955. Rejoice with us over the many children who have made Bethesda their home for a time and there have come to know God's love first-hand.

Today I must share some sad news with you. Our friend and LCM missionary, Ruth Estell, returned home from Hualien, Taiwan in February, ending her service there. She wrote, "...it is a decision that has been made after much prayer and consideration...after serving here for one and a half years, I have a better understanding of what this job entails. It has slowly become clear to me that I will not be able to serve in this way." We, and Ruth as well, are not yet able to understand the Lord's thoughts and ways in this situation, but ask you to pray for His plan to unfold for her and for us. Thank you.

In Christ and for Christ,

*Sister Maria*

Sister Maria Baha  
Director of Liberty Corner Mission



Liberty Corner Mission USA / Liberty Corner Mission Canada serve in Taiwan and Japan, preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ, holding high the Cross, making disciples and planting churches, that God might be glorified among the nations.

All gifts are income tax deductible. We regret that we cannot accept online donations.

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**Bridges**

Liberty Corner Mission

Building Bridges between God and Man

## Japan



**Andy and Shoko Pfeiffer**

*Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.*

Matthew 5:16

### Yoko and Yurika

A local Social Welfare Agency provides monitoring and support to many young, challenged adults in our neighborhood. Yoko (left), who was baptized last

year, attends this facility, though she is able to return home to her family each evening. Yurika (right), on the other hand, permanently lives at the home. She had been abandoned by her parents as a child, as they could not accept her disability.

Mrs. Natsuyama, the mother of four healthy boys who together attend our church, started working at this facility last year. During nightshifts, Mrs. Natsuyama began telling Bible stories to Yurika, who greatly enjoyed listening. Yurika is a very energetic young woman with many interests and talents. She asked Mrs. Natsuyama if she might come to church with her. Since the work contract restricts her promotion of religious activities outside the facility, we suggested she wait for God to open the door. With great compassion and love, Mrs. Natsuyama patiently prayed for this opportunity for Yurika.



At the beginning of the year, Kobe Evening News aired a two-minute segment on Yoko and her mother, who is also a Christian, showing clips of our church service. After that airing, Yurika was introduced to our church by some of her staff, who asked if we could provide her with spiritual care. Yurika now regularly attends church, often being accompanied by different caregivers. Though they come with Yurika, they want to see and hear for themselves “what Christian do on Sunday mornings.” Through their positive feedback, Yurika is now able to join us every Sunday. She and Yoko have become close friends and they study the Bible together in Sunday School. One of their teachers is Mrs. Natsuyama, who rejoices that she can now worship the Lord together with both girls in church, and study the Bible together without restriction.

Please pray with us for Yurika and Yoko, as well as the staff. May the Lord use this open door to bring many to faith. We appreciate your prayer support and financial gifts. Thank you! 🙏

**Andy and Shoko Pfeiffer** serve at Yamanomachi Christian Church in northern Kobe since April 2009. What a joy to grow Christians in the congregation whose light is shining brightly through the darkness of Japan!

## Taiwan

A church is made of many members, and each has their unique story. Over the past several months, the Lord has led me to have one-on-one sessions with Lee Chiray, a married man in his early 30s, whose wife was saved and baptized at our church nearly 4 years ago. He had accompanied her to church from the beginning, but as I visited his home last summer, he showed great interest in seriously studying the Bible. He was quick to admit that the pressures of work and life sometimes made him upset, but coming to church usually gave him great peace. That peace, however, was always short-lived. So in September 2014 we began weekly sessions together. These included not just Bible studies, but also the exchange of ideas covering a wide range of subjects and how they relate to faith in Jesus.

In January of this year, Chiray announced his desire to trust in Christ, though he feared breaking the traditions of his father. Being the only son of his parents, he holds the great responsibility in Buddhist tradition to care for ancestor worship in their household. This task is designated to the oldest son of the family. Both Chiray, as well as his father, hold this position and are considered leaders in the worship of the family ancestry. Daughters have a lesser burden, and Chiray's two sisters do not feel the weight of these Buddhist traditions. Both Chiray and his father, however, do.

Chiray did say that his goal is to make a clear break with these old customs sometime this year. We considered how he could discuss this with his father, still showing respect to his ancestors without disobeying the God of the Bible. How we hope and pray that Chiray will know the leading of God's Spirit! May he experience the conviction of sin, show sincere repentance, truly be born again, and then be baptized! To courageously face the religious challenges before him, this regeneration experience is a prerequisite.

Dear praying friends, please stand with us in this spiritual battle as intercessors! We need your support and faith, coupled with ours, to see a mighty transforming work in Chiray's life. Thank you for your partnership! And thank you, too, for all your financial support! 🙏

**Karl and Kathy Schulz**, in Taiwan since 1993, serve in Taoyuan, near Taipei. Karl is a church planter and Field Leader of LCM Taiwan. Karl and Kathy have three children, Aurora and Ben in Taiwan, and David studying in the USA.



**Karl & Kathy Schulz**



## Japan

**“Whoever will call on the name of the Lord will be saved.”**

**How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed?**

**How will they believe in Him whom they have not heard?**

**And how will they hear without a preacher?**

Romans 10:13~14



**Kazue Tanaka**

My name is Kazue Tanaka. In January 2014 I began ministering together with Rie Miura at the new church plant in Awara, Fukui, in northwestern Japan. Raised in a non-Christian home, I knew nothing of Christ or the Bible. Having only myself to rely on left me feeling exhausted, lonely, and filled with anxiety over the future. I asked myself, “What is the purpose of life?” In my search for answers I began reading the Bible and going to church.



As I studied the Word I recognized that I was a sinner and that Jesus had died for me on the cross. In 2005, I received Christ into my life and was baptized. He filled my heart with joy and the desire to live according to the purpose for which God had created me. When I read, “**How will they hear without a preacher?**” it became clear to me that I should be sharing His Word with others. In response to this call, I began my studies at a theological seminary in 2007. God placed in my heart a burden for people in the rural

areas of Japan where there are few churches and access to the Gospel message and even to a Bible is very limited.

Rie Miura attended the same school as I, and had graduated one year earlier. After an internship in Tokyo, she started planting a church in Awara. During a visit with her in Awara, Fukui, God confirmed in both of us that it was His will that I come and be her co-worker. After graduation from seminary I served a nine-month internship under Pastor Fran Ueda at Kotake Mukaihara Christian Church in Tokyo. Now, as Rie and I minister in Awara, our prayerful desire is that God might increase the number of people who call on His name because they have been hearing His Word!

Thank you very much for your prayer and support for me and the **Awara Church in Fukui.** 🙏

*The countryside of Japan teems with culture and traditional religious customs, all making the Christian witness most unwelcome. Do pray for Kazue and Rie as they faithfully proclaim God's Word and His love!*