

“How am I ever going to learn their names?”

The long list of Chinese names was daunting - 122 residents and 80 co-workers! “How am I ever going to learn their names?” I thought to myself after arriving at *Bethesda ~ Home for Challenged Children and Adults*. The solution? Spend time getting to know them as unique individuals and not just a name on a list. It has been a struggle to remember each one and your prayers are greatly appreciated in that respect. It has been an absolute joy and privilege, however, getting to know the unique individuals here at *Bethesda*.



Ruth Estell

They have unique talents and interests. **Wen Guo** does wonderfully on the drums. When we meet for devotions, he slides himself off his wheelchair and onto the drum set stool, ready to accompany the time of praise and worship. **Cai Xiu** loves to study English and does well enough to carry on a conversation. She patiently and happily helps the other children when they have questions with their English homework.



They have unique ways of offering friendship and love. **Qiu Ting** is always writing notes. I've lost track of how many little notes have been slipped into my hand. On almost every note, she adds the English words, “I love you too.” **Ying Ying** was concerned that I might be lonely. She suggested that I come live with her family group on the 3rd floor. **Lin Chen** doesn't say much, but she always comes over to hold my hand.

They have unique relationships with God. **Jia Qi** nodded in agreement when her teacher suggested praying when the children felt afraid during an earthquake. Using sign language, she added that she didn't need to feel afraid because if she were to die, she would go to heaven to be with Jesus.



Thank you for partnering in this ministry at *Bethesda*. Your prayers and gifts are making a difference in the lives of many unique individuals who are precious in God's sight.

Ruth Estell, an American MK, has returned to her hometown in Hualien, Taiwan to nurture, lead and spiritually teach the special needs children in *Bethesda ~ Home for Challenged Children and Adults*.

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Bridges

Quarterly newsletter of
Liberty Corner Mission

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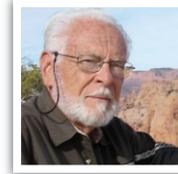
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Bridges

Liberty Corner Mission

Building Bridges between God and Man



I am a man of the city. I never raised crops. I never went out to sea. Yet farmers and fishermen hold a fascination for me. A farmer depends on things totally out of his control – rain, hailstorms, sunshine, heat waves, frost. Fishermen are at the mercy of their fickle partner, the sea.

Our Lord said that evangelism is like farming, and like fishing. People are like soil, the seed is the Word of God. The farmer-evangelist has little control over the thorns, the stones, or birds that torment the seed. People are like fish. The net is the proclamation of the Gospel message. The fisherman-evangelist has no command over life's seas, its storms or its calms. Into this hostile sea the net is cast.

But people are not soil and they are not fish. The heart of man is wicked and rebellious sod, a self-seeking and sin blinded shark. Men and women of God sow in tears as they bear the precious seed. A fish has no consciousness of a fisherman's stand before God. Not so with the fishers of men. Love is the key.

Christ's love has gripped the hearts of our Japanese evangelists and has transformed them. Our Taiwanese co-workers patiently sow precious seed into the lives of children and adults. The joy of harvest in Japan and Taiwan is brief as our missionaries look back on the harvest field, on the sea of life. So many have not yet heard the message of grace.

Relatively few are involved in the sowing, in casting the net, in bringing people in Japan and Taiwan to the knowledge of Christ. And this is where you and I come in. Pray the Lord of the harvest to send more harvesters of souls into life's field. As you read the reports, consider how you can support these fisher-evangelists in prayer, in loving concern, and with your resources.

For His Kingdom,
Roy Anderson

Dr. Roy Anderson, a member of Liberty Corner Mission Council since 2009, is the former Director of Pocket Testament League. Together with his wife, Delthea, he was a missionary in Puerto Rico, Spain, and southern Europe and presently serves as secretary of the Board of Directors of Indian Bible College in Flagstaff, AZ.



Liberty Corner Mission is the foreign mission arm of Fellowship Deaconry Ministries, Liberty Corner, New Jersey. Serving in cooperation with Marburger Mission of Germany, we preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ, hold high the Cross, make disciples and plant churches, that God might be glorified among the nations. Presently Liberty Corner Mission serves in Taiwan and Japan.

Japan



**Dirk & Erika Grabowski,
with Julia and Sophia**

ministry. During this summer (2013) we enjoyed a blessed home furlough and had the opportunity to share what God is doing as He prepares us for what lies ahead.

Our second term for the next four years is about to begin. God is calling us to step into two churches, each with a Sister due for retirement within our next term. Every change of leadership within a church is a critical phase, especially when the transition is from the founder to the following minister. We will need the vision and leadership of the Holy Spirit every single day.

Mastering both the language and culture is an enormous challenge that we must meet if we are to effectively communicate God's message of redemption to the Japanese people. We started this task during our first term but have a long way to go before we are adequately prepared. Pray that God would grant us the necessary skills and understanding to overcome the communications barrier we face.

All this is against the backdrop of a country that has a shortage of ministers and those who are ministering are mostly over 50 years old. Many churches are failing to reach the younger generation and are stagnating. It is our desire to be the right agents for change at this time. We pray that God will honor the labor of many years of our Sisters by providing for the continuation of His work. Please pray with us that we will be able to build up the church as He promised in Ephesians 2:10. We are so very thankful for your intercession and support! 🙏

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them. Ephesians 2:10 NASB

Dirk and Erika Grabowski, with Julia and Sophia, arrived in Japan in May 2010. Dirk is now finishing an internship at an established Japanese church near Osaka, while at the same time he assists with pastoring two church plants.

Called to Be Agents of Change

Throughout history, God has prepared people to carry on His work and to step into the gap at just the right time (Ezekiel 22:30). Erika and I are now standing on just such a doorstep. As you *BRIDGES* readers know, we just completed our first missionary term, packed with language study and internship

Taiwan

Planning the Next Step

Our church facilities are not huge. There are times when our Sunday morning worship service is crowded, especially during special celebrations or baptisms. Over the past several months some church members have suggested that we prepare for the eventual purchase of a larger facility. This is a huge task, an extremely expensive undertaking, and a potentially divisive issue, so we put this to prayer. Of late we have also been considering the spiritual health of our church, as well as the financial and logistical aspects of having our own facility, instead of renting. He is answering us by leading in the direction of acquiring our own larger facility. Thus during our deacon's meeting last June we decided the time was right to announce the beginning of our Building Fund Campaign.

We don't know God's timetable, but we see Him working in our church and believe that He will lead in His time. Perhaps it will be a number of years before we are ready to make a purchase, but we will wait until we are



financially able to make the move. In the interim, we have already decided that if the Lord adds 10 to 15 more people to our church, we would then have to rent a larger facility, while still saving for our own place. If we have more people, then we will have the financial resources to afford a significant rental increase, while still contributing to the building fund. He is stretching our faith!

Looking back we remember the faithfulness of God as He enabled our church to expand our facility from one unit to two, as the need arose. It came about as a neighboring tenant in our same complex relocated, leaving that unit vacant. Our landlord immediately offered it to us, as we were his first choice for occupancy. We were even permitted to add a door connecting these two units, thus solving our space problems. How able our Lord is to work out the logistics of His church! We trust Him now for even greater things in the future, knowing, **“Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain...”** (Psalm 127:1). Thank you all for praying for and with us, and for your continuous support. 🙏

Karl and Kathy Schulz, with Benjamin, David and Aurora serve in Taoyuan, Taiwan, near Taipei. Karl is a church planter, serving in Taiwan since 1993.



**Karl & Kathy Schulz
with Benjamin,
David & Aurora**

Japan

It's all God's grace!

Do you remember Mrs. Suzuki, the “Anime” cartoonist about whom I wrote in *BRIDGES* last year? Right after accepting Jesus as her Savior, she started praying for her husband's salvation. How we praise the Lord that Mr. Suzuki will be baptized at Christmas! Allow me now to tell you how this miracle of grace came about.



Fran Ueda

It was not because he was interested in the Bible, but just to please his family that Mr. Suzuki attended our summer camp this year. There the Lord began a work of grace in his heart. In the fall, he occasionally attended Sunday services and very often asked his wife about God.



When Mrs. Suzuki traveled to the tsunami-stricken area some months ago to gather information for a new “Anime” she was writing, her husband accompanied her. There they met a pastor who had lost everything in the devastation. Mr. Suzuki was amazed that this pastor exuded such deep peace and joy in the Lord.

The pastor asked him, “Do you have any reason NOT to believe in God?” Mr. Suzuki could find no reason. After returning to Tokyo, he asked me to begin Bible studies with him. In a remarkably short time, he believed that because he was a sinner, Jesus had died on the cross for him. He confessed, “My way of my life must change now.”

Recently when we were talking about prayer, Mr. Suzuki said, “When something good happens, I used to think it was luck, so I'd say in my heart, ‘Lucky me!’ Now I think there is no such thing as luck. **It's all God's grace!** And if there is no *good* luck, then there's also no *bad* luck. Even if we feel like something has been bad luck, God will turn it into a blessing! He knows what we need.” Praise the Lord for teaching Mr. Suzuki this deep spiritual truth!



**“Yet the Lord longs to be gracious to you;
he rises to show you compassion.”**

Isaiah 30:18 a

Because you pray and support our ministries here, God is touching lives. Mr. Suzuki's faith is one of the results of your fervent prayer and faithful support. Thank you! 🙏

Fran Ueda served under LCM in Tokyo since 1981, becoming a missionary of LCM in April 2010. She remains senior pastor of Kotake Mukaihara Christian Church in Tokyo, and also leads the development of a new strategic cooperation between LCM and indigenous church planters.