

Taiwan

A few days ago, a couple came to our door asking to see our boys in their blue sports uniforms, the boys who had radiated so much joy recently. They were referring to members of our new Sports Club, whom they had met while they were out practicing. This couple had asked one of them where they live, and he had answered, "In *Bethesda*, the best place in the world!" It brought joy to my heart to hear that our boys identified themselves so much with our *Bethesda ~ Home for Challenged Children and Adults*.



Sister Monika Gottschild

These young men, though they carry burdens and handicaps, point others to find God's love also.

For one of our boys, **Chuen Long**, everything is possible with God. He attends a church, at which he joined their musical band and with whom he also travels for various ministries. His joy is radiant and he's an

inspiration to so many others in our Home that they are encouraged also. They help one another live happily in spite of their handicaps and challenges, learning to accept what God has allowed.

"If God really loves me, why did He let me come into this world with such a handicap?"

This question is asked by not a few of our resident adults. In individual counseling and group devotional times, we try to help them find these answers. Some of them already have put their trust in Christ and are considering baptism. Please pray for those young believers who are still struggling and ask the Lord to help them make decisions that will confirm their faith, cause growth in their lives and bring glory to our God!



Thank you for keeping *Bethesda* in your prayer, and for your faithful support of our children and resident adults. As a result, *you* are doing God's work in Taiwan!

Sister Monika Gottschild, veteran missionary of 23 years, serves the residents and staff of "*Bethesda*"- Home for Challenged Children and Adults, in Hualien. For more information regarding our sponsorship program of these residents in *Bethesda*, do ask for our "*HeartBeat*" flyer.

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Bridges
Liberty Corner Mission
Building Bridges between God and Man

July ~ August ~ September 2013



Dear prayer-warriors,

"His Last Command, Our First Concern!"

How eagerly we look forward to reflecting on this theme at our mission conference **CROSSroads 2013** on September 27~29! Going into the whole world to preach the Gospel is truly not an option...it is His command! Come to CROSSroads 2013 to network with veteran missionaries, to hear challenging messages, and to discover your place in the building of His Kingdom! Do visit our website at <http://www.deaconry.org>, pull down the Liberty Corner Mission menu, and download a flyer or schedule under CROSSroads Mission Conference. It may be the beginning of a change in *you*, and ultimately the *world!*

What a joy to send out three summer-missionaries this year! Gloria Chen and Vivian Young served with our missionaries in both Taipei and Hualien, Taiwan, and Chris Hefty helped in Tokyo, Japan. We know their service blessed many, and pray that fruit would be found in Eternity because of their efforts.

You may notice that this current issue of BRIDGES, as well as the next, is a trimonthly edition instead of our normal bimonthly schedule. We ask you to read it even more carefully, and fervently pray for those with concerns, issues and praise items. May God bless you as you serve Him through your faithful intercession, through your generous giving, and through your obedience to **His Last Command!**

In Christ and for Christ,

Sister Maria

Sister Maria Baha

Director of Liberty Corner Mission



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



Fran Ueda

(Jeremiah 31:9.) God is so faithful to His children!

Thirty years ago, when we began, we had few people, no facility and no property. But now on our own land that God gave us in 1994 and enlarged in 1999, with over 85 people aging from one month to 92 years old, men and women, believers and some non-believers gathered together for this celebration. One memorable highlight was the commissioning of our member Miss Rie Miura as a church-planter, sending her off to preach the Gospel in Fukui, her hometown.

From the beginning, our church has emphasized two important values:

- 1) Commitment ~ to Jesus, to His Church, and to the world.
- 2) Sending ~ by giving ourselves and our means to reach people for Christ.

We therefore praise God for His beautiful timing in sending another full-time laborer into the harvest, to preach the Word in an unreached area of Japan, just on our 30th Anniversary. Throughout these years, we have sent off nine others as full-time workers, to God's praise, but sending Rie was especially meaningful for us at this time. All glory be to God!

We invited Sister Maria Baha for our Anniversary Celebration and through her, God reminded us of this fundamental philosophy established from our church's inception. God told us that He has a future vision for our church. Our thirtieth anniversary is only the beginning. A great mission lies before us. We recommitted ourselves to Jesus, who died for us on the cross, that we might continue to be His witnesses in the world. Pray with us that partnering with Liberty Corner Mission we may send out more workers and build more churches, in obedience to Christ and for His glory! We thank you for your faithful prayer and support.

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. Presently she leads the development of a new strategic cooperation between LCM and indigenous church planters.



Taiwan

Mr. Wang is an 83-year-old retired professor and military general, who has accompanied his wife to church for three years now. Mrs. Wang became a Christian when she was young, but married this man who had never made a commitment to Christ. He is an interesting man to talk to, but had intellectual problems with Christianity. Initially he wasn't even able to confess a belief in the God of the Bible. Later, he trusted in Christ, but still lacked conviction of the need to be baptized. The hunger of his heart, however, was not satisfied. Some months ago he confessed that when he comes to church he prays that the Holy Spirit would clearly speak to him. How thrilled we were to know that the Holy Spirit was knocking on the door of his heart!

Then one day in late Spring it happened. Our church went on a weekend retreat and Mr. Wang stayed home. Watching a Christian TV program, he felt motivated to write down the theme of the sermon: **Start up your faith! Get rid of your fear!** Seven days later he began with symptoms, which after extensive testing, proved to be a malignant tumor in his kidney.

It was then he called me to his home to share the sermon he had heard on TV, recognizing it was indeed the Lord speaking to him in preparation for this sickness. His family was quite concerned, but he was at peace because he had given his life to God. He also promised that if he survived, he would get baptized and entrust his remaining days to the Lord.

Mr. Wang survived the surgery, is now recovering, and will be baptized on October 20th, one day before his 83rd birthday. He knows baptism symbolizes new life in Christ, and therefore wanted this special event to coincide with his birthday. He acknowledges that there are a lot of things in the Bible that he doesn't understand, but God wants man to simply believe.

Start up your faith! Get rid of your fear!

Mr. Wang is ready. Thank you for making this victory possible through your gifts and prayer! On April 21st our church had the great joy of witnessing the baptism of Mrs. Yo Jiahui. Her strong testimony spoke to those present and is a great example of how God himself heals us, gives us reason to live, and especially gives us reason to live for Him. Thanks for praying with us! And thank you for all the gifts you send through Liberty Corner Mission, to make our ministry to people like Yo possible.

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. Their church is growing, praise the Lord!



Karl & Kathy Schulz with Benjamin, David & Aurora

Japan

Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. ~ Luke 18:16



Andy & Shoko Pfeiffer

After four years of regular midweek children's programs, many children suddenly started attending our Sunday worship services. Over the last few months, five neighborhood boys knocked on our church door Sunday mornings, often an hour early. Last Sunday, at the baptism of Mrs. Kido, ten children and one baby joined twenty-seven adults for a beautiful service. The testimony of our newest member was powerful and inspiring. Both adults and children listened with rapt attention.

To provide these seeking children with a good Sunday School education, we have recently renovated a former office and turned it into a more spacious class room. During worship service, we now open both wings of our sanctuary, with the children and their teachers sitting on one side. This has been our prayer for a long time.

Why do the children suddenly come? There's only one plausible explanation: Jesus loves these children so much and He wants them to hear His Word! He brought them! And we certainly won't hinder them. Pray with us for our teachers to meet the spiritual needs of these kids. Most of these children have never heard the Gospel, nor have attended church. One boy never even came to one of our kids' meetings. For us it is clearly a miracle of His grace. The joy of receiving these children is a tremendous encouragement for our congregation.



With this in mind, we prepared for our Summer Street Festival. Our theme was "Water." During devotions, Shoko spoke about Jesus and water. We served watermelon and played lots of water games outside. Forty-four children came, with sixteen helpers. We praise God for these children and the Word proclaimed, though a number of boys known as "bullies" also came. These boys especially need the love of Jesus, and we seek for ways to bring them under the Lord's control.

"The kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Thank you for faithful donations and prayer on our behalf and for these children!

Andy and Shoko Pfeiffer serve at Yamanomachi Christian Church in northern Kobe since April 2009. Their church-planting ministry includes the training of core members. Presently Andy and Shoko are in the USA and Canada, visiting churches and building a stronger support base.