

Japan

Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise. He fulfills the desires of those who fear Him.

Psalm 145:3,19

Thank you, dear mission friends and prayer partners, for your sacrificial help which made it possible to complete our beautiful new church building in Kibogaoka, Japan! On March 10th we could move in, and just ten days later, 87 guests from far and near came to dedicate this house of God and celebrate with us. Pastor Fran Ueda was our guest speaker for that event. Our choir, orchestra, and hand bell group added to the festive atmosphere as we worshiped God. It was a happy day with good fellowship. On April 15th we held an Open House to introduce our ministries to people in the area who do not yet know Jesus. There is still much to be done, both in the hearts of the people and on our building. We are trusting God to supply all our needs. He truly is great and worthy of praise! Thank you again for your prayerful and sacrificial support. May He Himself bless and reward you richly!



Sister Gerlinde Fuchs

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Sister Gerlinde Fuchs has served in Japan since 1981 and is a church planter in Kibogaoka, just north of Osaka. We rejoice that this congregation now has a facility in which to meet.



12-5-6

Bi-monthly newsletter of
Liberty Corner Mission
P.O. Box 204
Liberty Corner, NJ 07938-0204

Return Service Requested

Bridges
Liberty Corner Mission
Building Bridges between God and Man

May ~ June 2012



Dear prayer-partners,

Many years ago there was a disastrous train crash in Syria. Though many were injured severely or lost their lives, some walked away from the crash unharmed. Travelling on this train at the time of the accident was a British surgeon. Finding

himself uninjured, he immediately went from one wounded passenger to another, trying to apply first aid and alleviate their suffering. He approached the gravely injured locomotive engineer, and bending down beside him, tried to assuage his pain. As he walked away from the dying engineer, the surgeon murmured over and over as he slowly shook his head from side to side: *"I could save him, if only I had my instruments!"*

I often wonder if God is looking down from His dwelling place, slowly shaking His head, and also saying, *"I could save him, if only I had My instruments!"*

It is you and I He is looking for. Yes, you and I can make all the difference in the world to those who are dying in their sin today! As His instruments, He desires to use us to bring the truth to those still living in ignorance. But just as the scalpel of a surgeon must be sterile, sharp and available, God too looks for *clean* instruments, *competent* instruments, and *willing* instruments to accomplish His purposes.

LIBERTY CORNER MISSION strives to bring God's Word to the people of Japan and Taiwan, to those dying in their sin, who know neither the love of God nor of the sacrifice of His Son for our redemption. We know God can save them, but He does use His instruments...instruments to go, to give and to intercede. Won't you answer His call today to become an instrument He can use, one that is *clean, competent, and willing*?

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



Andy and Shoko Pfeiffer

Our new preteen program called **JoyClub** is held once a month in our church. We have seen a steady growth in attendance. More than 60 children in grades four to six have participated in this program during the past six months. When the children arrive they get a nametag and an attendance sticker. Newcomers and those who bring a friend to **JoyClub** for the first time also receive a "friendship coin" that they can redeem for a gift at the end of the program. Since introducing this system, the children have been inviting their friends with greater enthusiasm!

JoyClub's two-hour program includes individual and group games, played either inside or outside the church building. Four staff members ensure that our children really enjoy their playtime. After singing and listening to the message, we then gather for a delicious supper that has been prepared by a professional cook who is a member of our church. You can imagine how the children enjoy these Friday evenings with us. Just think, no stress, no homework - **just a good time of fun, food, and spiritual guidance.**



And parents have realized this too. Often after the program is finished, parents personally thank us for our efforts. Our prayerful desire is to build a bridge to them and that they will come to our Sunday worship services. One mother has already attended our services twice. Looking ahead to the summer, we are now preparing our church for a summer street festival. It's true, children love to play! Please pray with us as we reach out to them with joy and the good news of the Gospel. And thank you for all your support and prayer for our church!

Andy and Shoko Pfeiffer serve at Yamanomachi Christian Church in Kobe, Japan since April 2009. Andy has completed his formal language study this Spring and needs our prayer as he continues with fulltime ministry.

A Time to Play...

Every child likes to play, but not every child is given time to play, especially in Japan. Many parents in our neighborhood hope to boost their children's academic and athletic skills by enrolling them in evening schools and sports clubs. The exhausted children are brought home at night in private school buses.



Taiwan

Praise the Lord! God opened the doors to six prison and detention centers to share the Gospel message with more than a thousand foreign women inmates. After many months of vain attempts, the Lord also opened the door to the prisoners with very long sentences. The Lord knows the desperate need of the foreign inmates to hear the Gospel in their mother tongue and brought Erika, who speaks Thai, to meet that need. The first day Erika was allowed into this prison, she met a senior officer who encouraged Erika to quickly obtain a license enabling her to serve as a prison counselor.

That first day, Erika was not allowed to speak with the Thai women, but she gave the officers some Thai Gospels to pass along to them. One of the Thai women was serving a life sentence for a murder she did not commit. Her heart was full of hatred and bitterness against her accuser. She received the Gospel of Mark in her language and read though it. She was both touched and very interested. The next night Jesus appeared to her and offered her a new life. Jesus said she must forgive the accuser who caused her to be in prison. She forgave the person that very night and received deep peace. Then the Holy Spirit revealed that someone would visit her the following week and explain more to her. The following week Erika met with her. It had been five years since she had had a visitor who spoke Thai. She is eager to learn more and now Erika visits her regularly.

She is now praying that she will be paroled. She has already served the minimum time to ask for parole, since her conduct has been good but her request has been rejected seven times. The current minister of justice is extremely strict, especially in regard to foreigners. Please pray that her eighth request will be approved.

We thank you so much for prayer for our prison ministry. Next month we will hold four large evangelistic rallies, including one at the men's prison for inmates with life sentences. We do so appreciate your intercession.

Imo and Erika Scharrer, serving in Taipei, Taiwan since 2000, were formerly missionaries to Thailand for almost 20 years. In addition to visiting foreign inmates in prisons, the minister to Thai migrant workers in Taipei, and Imo teaches at the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Hsinchu.



Imo and Erika Scharrer



Japan

"...he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened."

Matthew 7:8b

For a number of years now, we have been searching for a larger building or property on which to build our church. I began our missionary work here eighteen years ago and rented a house in which to live – initially for three years – with a living room just large enough for home Bible studies. Soon our ministry included church services, English and German Bible classes, cooking classes, children's meetings and camps. With a growing congregation, we desperately needed larger facilities. But until now we have still been managing in our first house, due to a number of problems.



The first problem was the lack of finances. Our savings slowly grew over the years but the town's zoning laws made it very hard to find anything reasonable. The areas where churches are permitted are more expensive.

Last year a pastor from Sanda showed me an available building, which seemed suitable, and even affordable, located in a different section of our town. It had been formerly used as a tavern but was conveniently located, with unique and beautiful Japanese architecture. It will need much work to be made into a real church. We do not have the finances for the renovations just yet, but we continue to knock on God's door, trusting Him to provide all our needs.

Please pray for our church members, for discernment and unity in making correct choices regarding this building. We, as the Body of Christ, desire nothing more than to glorify Him in all that we do. Thank you very much, dear friends, for your help!

Sister Gisela Paluch, serving in Japan since 1981, is active in planting a church in Sanda, just north of Kobe. One of their great needs is for a larger facility for worship and meetings. NOW seems to be God's time!



Sister Gisela Paluch

