

After devotions one day a little boy asked me, "Do you think, God can perform miracles even today?" "Yes, I believe that with all my heart," I answered. I also told him, that he himself is a miracle of God, a diamond God has given to us in Bethesda. That really made his day! He told everyone, "You know what? I am a miracle of God!"



Sister Monika Gottschild

In Bethesda right now we are waiting on the Lord to perform the miracle of calling new co-workers to serve with us as teachers and medical personnel. It is hard to find dedicated Christians who are willing to share God's love with challenged children and adults. So far, not one person has responded to letters we wrote to all the churches in Hualien, but we know that God can answer our prayers in unimaginable, miraculous ways.

Recently, I attended the funeral of a twenty year-old woman. Her mother had been our co-worker when her child was born as a healthy, beautiful little girl. At the age of five, she became seriously ill with meningitis. It was hard for the parents to accept that their child was suddenly severely handicapped. For ten years we took care of the girl in Bethesda, and the last years of her life, her mother did at home. I was worried how she would deal with the death of her daughter. At the funeral she took me aside and said, "All of these special needs kids



are miracles. They are challenged themselves, but my own daughter's life was a challenge to my faith and trust in God. Now I would like to come back to Bethesda and help take care of these special children." I am

convinced this mother will be a blessing to our residents because she understands their needs and their hearts.

Dear friends, thank you for giving Bethesda a place in your heart, for your continued prayer and support, and for your partnership in the Gospel. May God open our eyes so we can see how He steps in and miracles happen - in your life, in Bethesda, and in the prison ministry. Through all of this, may the Lord be praised and glorified!

Sister Monika Gottschild, senior missionary of 33 years, serves the residents and Staff of Bethesda – Home for Challenged Children and Adults, in Hualien, Taiwan. Sister Monika's heart beats for those who have no voice in society.

Bridges
 Quarterly newsletter of
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Bridges
 Liberty Corner Mission
 Building Bridges between God and Man



**We must carry out the works of Him
 who sent Me as long as it is day;
 night is coming, when no one can work.**
 John 9:4 NASB

Friends and Partners of LCM,

We stand on the threshold of our annual mission conference, **CROSSroads 2021**, September 17-19! If you have not already made plans to attend, do ask the Lord if this would be in **HIS** plan for **YOU!** Our keynote speaker, **David Flynn**, of *Global Perspectives and Center for Mission Mobilization* will be speaking on the theme:

The Task Remaining

Even though these days are laden with national, political and global issues, our Christ-given task of building His Kingdom until "the night comes" remains. For more information, go to our website www.LCMissionUSA.com under CROSSroads. Hope to fellowship with you there!

Many are our **LCM PRAYER REQUESTS** these days! Please take these to heart and pray with us:

- 🕊️ **Earthquake and storm predictions of great magnitude for Hualien, Taiwan**
 Pray for the safety of Bethesda Home and our missionaries.
- 🕊️ **Increased government mandates for Covid-19 in both Japan and Taiwan**
 Pray that the restrictions on travel and gatherings will not hinder our ministries.
- 🕊️ **Building Project of LCMJapan HQ and Kotake Mukaiyama Church in Tokyo**
 Pray for wisdom, discernment, safety and for the funds still lacking.
- 🕊️ **Our missionaries are engaged in spiritual warfare on a daily basis**
 Pray for their spiritual, emotional, and physical renewal to overcome "battle fatigue."

Praise the Lord with us that even a pandemic cannot thwart the carrying out the works to which Christ calls us! As you will read in this issue of *BRIDGES*, people in Japan and Taiwan are committing their lives to Him. Thank you for your continued partnership in furthering the spread of the glorious Gospel.



In Christ and for Christ,

Sister Maria

Sister Maria Baha, Director, LCM USA www.LCMissionUSA.com

Liberty Corner Mission, established in 1935, is the foreign mission arm of Fellowship Deaconry Ministries, Liberty Corner, New Jersey. Serving in Taiwan and Japan since 1951, we preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ, hold high the Cross, make disciples and plant churches, that God might be worshipped and glorified.

Please make tax-deductible donations payable to **LIBERTY CORNER MISSION**.
 All receipts for 2021 will be sent out in early 2022. See website for Online Giving.

Japan



Fran Ueda

The Lord is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made. All your works praise you, Lord.

Psalm 145:9~10

Miss O was baptized in August 2019, when she was 16 years old. Since she was five, she has loved coming to Sunday School and Vacation Bible School. Initially, her parents were not opposed to her church attendance

because they thought it was a fad she would outgrow. Yet she continued to grow in her faith. She and I began to meet every week for Bible study. The Gospel became ever clearer to her, and she put her faith in Jesus as her Savior. Her parents objected strongly when she told them she wanted to be baptized. They talked to me about it and said that she could only take this step when she had become an adult herself. Despite all their attempts to dissuade her, Miss O's conviction to obey Jesus wasn't shaken. We prayed fervently that the Lord would work in her parents' hearts.

A while later, her father came again to tell me his objections. While we were conversing, his attitude gradually changed as he attempted to understand his daughter. God was working in his heart! Shortly after he returned home, Miss O called me with wonderful news. She had gotten permission from her parents to be baptized!

With extreme hesitancy, her parents attended our worship service on the day of their daughter's baptism. After the service during the luncheon reception, her parents witnessed the love, gifts, flowers and homemade

cake received from other young people in church. Then after hearing their words of encouragement and blessing to her, they seemed to relax. Miss O's father later told me, "Now I know how much my daughter is loved by these other church members. She has found her place. Thank you." Please pray for the salvation of these parents.

This year Miss O graduated from High School. She asked if she could be a Sunday School teacher for high school kids, and help them to come to faith in Jesus and follow Him.

Thank you also for your faithful prayers and support for Japan! May God bless each of you. 🙏

Fran Ueda has faithfully served under LCM for forty years in various leadership roles. She is the senior pastor of Kotake Mukaihara Christian Church in Tokyo. In her capacity as Director of LCMJapan, she oversees our indigenous church planters and to helps recruit and train new Kingdom servants.



Taiwan

Dear friends,

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ...who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction.

2 Corinthians 1:3 & 4

Although we don't always know why bad things happen, we do know that when they do, our Father God is there to comfort us. The comfort He offers us is so deep that it enables us to reach out to others who are also in pain. The past several months have been very difficult for a woman in our church and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. G, whose adult son had been suffering from mental illness for many years. In February, this elderly couple returned home to discover their son dead by his own doing in his room, the place that he had rarely left for at least the past three years. I was with them when the police conducted their preliminary investigation, and accompanied them to the morgue.

The mother has been a member of our church for years. Her son made a profession of faith and was baptized more than ten years ago, but that was a short time of normalcy in a troubled life. He stopped speaking to me and coming to church.

Since the death of this man, some of our church members have been able to reach out and attempt to comfort not only the mother, but also her husband.

Mr. G had never attended our regular church meetings. Since that horrible day, he has accompanied his wife to church on Sunday mornings on several occasions and also attended a small group meeting. Now, for the very first time, we can talk about spiritual things. Please pray with us that something of eternal value will take hold inside of him and lead him to be truly born again. Since May, Taiwan has been strictly locked down and they cannot come to indoor meetings. Nonetheless, Mr. and Mrs. G pray together every evening! May the Spirit comfort and heal them both.

Thank you for encouraging us through your prayer and interest in our life and ministries. Out of the abundance of the grace we have received, we want to continue to encourage others to love, follow and serve Jesus Christ. 🙏

Karl and Kathy Schulz, in Taiwan since 1993, serve in Taoyuan, near Taipei. Karl is a church planter and Field Leader of LCMTaiwan. Karl and Kathy have three children, Aurora, David, and Ben (married to Yvonne).



Kathy & Karl Schultz

Japan

The whole land of Canaan, where you now reside as a foreigner, I will give as an everlasting possession to you and your descendants after you; and I will be their God.

Genesis 17:8

Thank you for your prayer and financial support for our missionary work in this city of Sendai in Miyagi Prefecture. As the COVID-19 pandemic rages in the cities of Japan, our church worship and evangelistic services here in Sendai have had to be temporarily suspended. Yet throughout these two years of adversity, the Lord gave us three baptisms last year. And this year He sent us a new seeker of His truth, who has put her trust in Jesus!

Mrs. K is an eighty-year-old woman whose home was severely damaged by the devastating tsunami ten years ago. She lives near Ms. I, also a victim of the tsunami, and a baptized believer in our church. Mrs. K's husband is in a nursing home and she lives alone. Ms. I helps her with her housework.

One day, Ms. I phoned Mrs. K's daughter in Tokyo to see how she was doing. Mrs. K's daughter said she had become a Christian! She begged Ms. I to take her mother to church!



Until recently, Mrs. K was a sun god worshiper. But her daughter convinced her to attend worship services with Ms. I. The strong convicting and comforting presence of the Holy Spirit was so evident in Mrs. K's face as she earnestly listened to the Sunday sermons, occasionally shedding tears as truth touched her heart. In February of this year, she confessed her faith in Jesus as

Savior. After receiving baptism instruction, she was baptized in July.

On March 11, 2021 we remembered the 10th anniversary of the great Northeast Japan earthquake and tsunami, as well as the 3rd anniversary of our church's ministry in Sendai. We still experience aftershocks of that earthquake, but in God's mercy we also experience great surges of His grace in the lives of these victims. Continue to pray, please, for souls to be saved! 🙏

Michiyo Fujita, with her husband Shinya, left the comforts of their Tokyo home to live among the tsunami survivors of Sendai. As a tent-maker, Shinya not only supports his wife's ministry, but has made it his own. The Fujitas have two adult daughters.



Michiyo & Shinya Fujita