



Glenn D. Watts

The View From JAPAN...

Cumberland Presbyterian Church MISSIONS UPDATE NEWSLETTER

Missionary Newsletter from JAPAN -- Volume 1, Issue 3 -- 14 May 2008

Missions: From A to Z!

The "Bethel English Program" helps our churches reach out

For over three-and-a-half years, our English classes have been a great tool for meeting new people from the community. Here we introduce you to the four Cumberland churches currently involved...

Sagamino CP Church



Serving as a kind of "home base" of operations for our programs, the Sagamino church is the oldest of the four churches, and celebrated their 30th anniversary last year. The church is currently served by **Pastor Satoh**, who is just finishing a year of study in Memphis.

Over the years, we've had classes for kids, for ladies, for college students, and business / working people. Thanks to God, several of our students have even joined us for Easter and Christmas worship events.

Denen CP Church



The second church to join our program was Denen. As of last month, they are without a pastor, and seminary graduate **Timothy Suzuki** is currently helping coordinate the church's work in the community.

In addition to English classes for women and kids, we've also put a lot of effort into our SNF ("Saturday Night Fellowship") where we continue to meet weekly with our middle school and high school students for songs (in English and Japanese), Bible lessons, snacks, and games.

Izumi CP Mission Church



Izumi is the smallest of the churches we work with, and yet from the beginning the response has been remarkable. **Pastor Ushioda** and his wife Hideko are great promoters!

As of this month, one of our classes has switched from our normal English lessons to an English Bible Study. The adult students are not Christians, but they actually ASKED for this, so great is their interest in the Bible. We are excited and thankful for this rare chance to speak freely and frankly about Jesus.

Naruse CP Church



Led by **Pastor Niwa**, Naruse was the last church to join the Bethel English program, in late 2006. Located in a wealthy part of town, and with award-winning architecture, this church is always fun to visit. We currently have two classes, and always do our best to have a good time!



Pray for JAPAN

Each month we list specific ways you can join our work through faithful, focused and earnest prayer:

---Please keep praying for our **Bethel English Language Program**. Merely "teaching English" accomplishes nothing of lasting value. Please pray we can see God do great things through our humble efforts.

---The **General Assembly** will come to Japan in just a few weeks (beginning June 6th). It's almost impossible to express the amount of work the brothers and sisters in Japan have put towards this event. Please pray for continued blessings in the preparations; pray that those coming from abroad would arrive safely, and maintain good health throughout; and most of all, pray that we may see God working in and through us at this historic gathering.

---Pray for **Mrs. Nomura**, who suffered a freak automobile accident on April 15th while parking her car for our weekly English lesson at Sagamino Church. We are thankful she was not injured, but the damage to her car (and the church fence) was considerable. Join us in praying that she will see all the repairs and other issues resolved quickly and economically. She is not a Christian, so we also pray she will not feel shy about this event and stop attending our classes. We want so much to see her know more about Jesus.

---Pray for **Pastor Satoh**, and his family, who will return to Japan this month after a year of study in Memphis. Especially pray that their readjustment to life in Japan will be smooth and energizing.

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