

## Greetings again from Japan!

Yep, Uncle Fred is doing quite well with the replaced hipbone...as you can see, he was even able to plant a vegetable garden and harvest many of its fruits, among which were spinach, garland chrysanthemum (edible greens), and here potatoes! As a matter of fact, there was much potatoes that he has given away a lot! Would you care for some, too? (Keep balanced, Fred, so you wouldn't hurt your hip again!)



Kaitie Merker, our Summer Missionary, appeared at the Narita Airport passengers' exit just as we reached there...perfect timing...on Sunday at around 7 p.m. at Narita Airport. Here she is...and with Jane!



While Kaitie is still a bit "jet-laggy," she has been, among other things, helping to prepare the handcraft and games for our Good News Day Camp (7/26-27), taught a song at a GNC in Tokyo on Tuesday and here in Omitama today (Thursday) and

the central verse for the Tea Time at the church! (She's a funny American, we found out, because she likes rice better than bread...or is that normal now? ☺)

As a "Welcome to Japan" for Kaitie, Japan CEF Staff will be taking her out for a time of fun and feasting on Friday. On Sunday, she will be giving her testimony to the Sunday school children and participating in the "English Worship Service Time," during which time a missionary will be giving the message (in English), and Jane will be interpreting. **Please pray for Kaitie...and for Jane as she interprets for both, but is finding it difficult to recall many Japanese and English words!!!** ☹

On Monday, Kaitie will be, Lord willing, learning how to give massages (this is a big thing for the Japanese, victims of the Big Earthquake, having been in quite closed quarters), so she will be doing her practicum in N.E Japan through Thursday! **Pray that the sweetness of the Lord will be evident in her life.** Oh, yes, **please pray for perseverance in pursuing one of the most difficult languages of the world... Japanese!**

She will be returning to help teach a few Good News Clubs®, continue helping in preparing for the Good News Day Camp, perhaps even be able to help during the GN Day Camp Preparation/Prayer Meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup>. **Pray that many would attend this vital meeting.** GN Day Camp will be 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. There, she will be teaching the memory verse on the 27<sup>th</sup> in English, with Jane doing it in Jp. **Please pray that many children who have been attending GNC would be able to attend both days, especially for sisters, Mina & Megumi, camporees last year; many be saved, receive assurance of salva-**

tion, dedicate their lives to the Lord and be able to live The Victorious Life (theme of camp). Please pray also that Kaitie's remaining days would be full of blessings and growth in the Lord.

What has Fred been doing besides digging up potatoes? ☺ Praise the Lord for He has given him some excellent ideas for the handcraft and for the outdoor and indoor games to go in line with the theme. **Please pray for: 1) good weather, especially during this hot and humid season and some typhoons! 2) upholding of each staff's health**

Fred is also preparing the worship service message for July 29. **Please pray that it would be exactly what is needed for each one who listens!**

Jane has been preparing the GNC memory verse tokens in Japanese (and one teacher's memory verse) for the "Esther" series. **Please pray for perseverance and good ideas.**

In closing is this thought: Philippians 1:9-11 "And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ...to the glory and praise of God." (NIV)

Sometimes the emphasis is on love without the thought of "knowledge and depth of insight;" while at other times it is "knowledge and depth of insight" without love. The need is a balance of both so "we may be pure and blameless...to the glory and praise of God." **Please pray that we would be able to maintain that balance to the glory and praise of God!**

**God bless you for your continued prayers and support in many ways!**

**We can see Him working, not only in our own lives, but also in the lives of others around us...and even in the lives of our loved ones!! Praise God!**

By the way, Miwa, Fred's sister, and a friend, Sumi – a nurse -- who had been thinking of visiting Japan earlier, will not be able to until towards the end of August and through mid-September. **Therefore, please pray for 1) Miwa, who has had heart surgery and a few other medical problems (received dr's okay), for both physical and spiritual strength 2) wisdom in planning their visits within Japan 3) our preparations, too!**

Almost forgot! IOT (Instructors of Teachers) 1 Course begins at the end of September through the first part of October. Jan Johnson, our AP Regional Director of Education, will be with us and in charge of supervising the students with their practicums, etc., and teaching many of the subjects. At present, she is in Fiji helping with the CMI (Children's Ministries Institute), which is actually being held by CEF of Tonga! **Please pray for: 1) her safety in travels, preparation for teaching, and ministry here in Japan 2) many of those who have been invited to take the course, would have all their needs met and be able to come.**

Whew! There I went again...meaning to have been short, but loooong again. Trust you were able to wade through the maze and to pick up the prayer requests along the way!

By His grace alone,

Jane, for Fred, too!  
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