



SHAN **REED** - Missionary in Japan

February 2017

Dear Family and Friends,

Greetings from Japan. Although the cold days of winter continue, day by day the promise of spring draws closer reminding us of the hope of salvation.

#### **Komyo Christian Church**

God continues to build and strengthen His church here in southern Osaka. Through our weekly worship services and Bible studies, God's word is being proclaimed and taught, burrowing deep in our hearts, strengthening our faith. It is a joy to see the Holy Spirit at work in the hearts of His people.

We also enjoy the opportunities to grow through special events held at Komyo Church. Pastor Daisuke Okada has come twice to share an indepth seminar on understanding the Bible which has encouraged and challenged us to handle the Word of God faithfully. We look forward to another seminar in the spring.



Christmas provided us with many opportunites to reach out to our community and share the true meaning of Christmas. We went caroling at the nursing home, hosted a Live Gospel Café, watched a movie together, and held our annual Candle Service on Christmas Eve. It is exciting to see our members help plan these events as well as interact with first time attendees.



Every week we have two English classes at church, and once a month I teach an English and Baking class. Each of these classes continues to grow and enjoy learning together. I love my baking ladies and the fun conversations we have as we bake and eat together.

#### Japan Baptist Conference (JBC) Youth

It is my pleasure to be part of the youth committee for the JBC. In January we had our winter gathering in Ise. Ise is the home of our first JBC missionary work as well as the main Shinto shrine for Japan. At our winter gathering we studied about the greatness of our true



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#### **PRAISES**

- Praise God for the many opportunities to share the true meaning of Christmas.
- Praise the Lord for the deepening faith of church members.
- Praise God for the youth of JBC and the way they are growing in faith and fellowship.
- Praise God for the Johnson family and their desire to serve God at Komyo Church.

#### PRAYER REQUESTS

- Please pray for Komyo Christian Church to deepen our desire for loving Jesus, His Word, and others.
- Pray for the JBC youth committee as we plan and lead youth events.
- Pray that our English students will be drawn to Jesus.
- Please pray for me to remain healthy in body and spirit as I serve Jesus and His church.

This is love; not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

1 John 4:10-11



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God and then visited part of the Shinto shrine to learn about the worship of false gods. We pray the young people were encouraged to hold fast to their faith in Jesus as the true Savior.

## **Developing a Discerning Heart**



Two or three times a year at Komyo Christian Church we have been hosting seminars for the ladies of the JBC and area churches. Last summer we began a series, "Developing a Discerning Heart," based on a class which Yuri Nakano and I attended. It has been exciting to see the ladies inviiting their friends, studying God's Word together, and deepening their faith. We pray that we can continue to study together and maybe even expand to other JBC churches.

Thank you for your prayers for the ministry in Japan. We feel the Holy Spirit leading and guiding us, sustaining and challenging us through the prayers you offer. Thank you, also, for praying for me and my family as we grieve the loss of my father. We feel those prayers sustaining us daily.

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. 2Corinthians 13:14

Soli Deo Gloria,

Shan in Japan