

Seeds of Grace

Reaching people, Planting churches... in Japan

Issue 53: January 2013

From the Editor

Happy New Year from Japan! We pray God would show us all lots of new things and reveal more of Himself to us during the year.

This edition we are sharing with you an exciting project for our mission taking place this year! It would be wonderful if Japan would continue to sit heavy on your heart for prayer in 2013! Blessings,

Jessica

News and Prayer

Praise God for the Christmas meetings and the many times the gospel was able to be shared all over Japan.

Pray for safety as a team of missionaries and volunteers are currently in the middle of the demolition of a building WEC Japan has used for over 50 years.

The Lims look forward to the birth of their second baby in February. Pray for safe delivery and a good time adjusting as a family of four.

Pray for many of our churches without pastors. We ask God to rise up a new generation of strong leaders within Japan!

HOP to it!

Sending over 100 Japanese on short term mission teams in 2013

2013 marks WEC's centenary. Last summer, our field team here brainstormed ideas of how to celebrate. Should we hold a big thanksgiving service? Should we ship back in former missionaries? In the end, the idea of seeing over 100 Japanese people hopping overseas on short term mission trips over the course of the year really captured us. And so HOP – the Hundred Overseas Project (or in Japanese, 百人送り出すプロジェクト) – was born.

To make this happen, we are encouraging our missionaries to each lead a team of Japanese people overseas during 2013, for anything from a few



nights to a few weeks, to a country of their choice.

The project has four ABCD aims....for participants to:

- Admire the world, and God at work.
- For most Japanese, overseas trips tend to be one-off experiences: a honeymoon, a student adventure, or a retirement treat. Therefore this is their chance to see another country, and through God's eyes.
- Bring joy and help to people in another country. Volunteer work will bring real benefit to both the givers and receivers.
- Celebrate WEC's anniversary and help Change the Japanese church from being mission receivers to senders. So far we celebrate the growth of our churches and now would like to see them starting to send out short term mission teams themselves.
- Disciple each other. Because people work long hours in Japan, time with Christians is limited to Sundays or shorter periods. Therefore a mission trip will be transformational in people's lives as team leaders especially offer practical Biblical coaching to team members.

We'd love you, as one of our worldwide supporters, to participate. Any donations for HOP we receive will be used solely to enable key leaders to go on teams. You can email is for more info: hop@wec-japan.org

And we also need prayers throughout the year! Regular news will be posted on our new website www.HOP2013.org - as well as a running total of the numbers we've sent! Together with you, we pray HOP will bring glory to God in Japan and throughout the world.

Henrietta Cozens, HOP leader