



## From the Editor

A ladies Valentines event held by Kusatsu church is the topic of this month's article. 18 people including 11 non-Christians attended. The ladies made muffins, chatted, and listened to a talk by WEC missionary Sewon Kang (Korea) on 'Real Love'. I asked Gisela Gaub (Germany), who pastors Kusatsu church with her husband Juergen, a few questions.

*Henrietta*

## News and Prayer Points

Thank God for the safe arrival of Shion on February 12, a second daughter for Jaenbaeg and Eunjeong Lim (Korean missionaries with us). Pray for strength for them as they also prepare to move to Uzumusa church's house in Kyoto in April.

Edna Owens passed away on February 10<sup>th</sup> 2013 in the UK. Edna was a missionary here for many years and field leader with her husband Richard from 1984 to 1994. With her family, (including our co-worker Edi Wilson, Edna's daughter) we rejoice in Edna's life and firm hope of heaven.

Pray for Eonmee Lee who while on a short furlough in Korea this month was discovered to have thyroid cancer. (It has since been operated on.) Please uplift her and her family to God and pray for full recovery.

Peter Chu returns to Hong Kong on March 26 for theological training and the WEC Candidates Orientation, before returning to Japan. Pray for God to favour him in his studies.



How did your valentines event go, from your point of view?

Because of a busy weekend and lack of sleep, I could hardly manage to get myself organized! So things took much longer than expected, but everyone seemed to enjoy the event.

What were the highlights?

One highlight was the preparation. We invited people by visiting, writing letters, and talking. So it was a joy to see people coming who mostly didn't know each other but related well during the event and enjoyed the exchange, baking, talking and eating. I guess the youngest lady was in her early 30ies and the oldest around 80!

The church member who we asked to lead lacked confidence in advance, but we assured her we would pray for her and help. After the event, she was really glad that she had dared to take that step of faith. Usually she rather stays in the background. The other ladies were overjoyed that some people appeared because they had invited them.

Did any of the guests give any feedback?

It was obvious that people enjoyed themselves because nobody was in a hurry to leave. Sewon felt that the Spirit led her message and some ladies were crying when she was talking about her mother's love. From the conversations going on there were reflections about love in general but also about God's love. One lady was wondering why there were no visible altars or shelves were people worship. So we could explain to her more clearly about the God of the Bible. Another lady who knows me from the English classes and other events mentioned that she didn't know I could be that funny. (Things happened which I didn't exactly plan because I was so over-tired!)

How can we pray now?

You could pray that the ladies who came join our weekly ladies meetings, (right now we are reading through Genesis); that God continues to work in their hearts and gives them a real thirst for spiritual truth. And that we as church have good ideas for other special events we can invite people to.

*- Interview with Gisela Gaub*