



From the Editors

A hidden age group. A camp not held for over 10 years. For a taste of the trials and joys of missionary life, hear the story of the Junior/Senior High Camp, in this month's article!

Matt Cummings
& Henrietta Cozens

News and Prayer Points

Izumi Christian House will start a cell style service from this month, so we pray God will pour out his Spirit in the meeting.

Three new girls started to come to Kusatsu children's service during the summer but have not shown up recently. Please pray for them and the other children to know God's love.

The His Story team will celebrate three baptisms this weekend in a local river. Praise His name.

The Cummings family (with 5 children) would love a nanny. They have a good possibility for October; do pray for the details to work out.

Kaki, a new worker from Hong Kong, has just arrived. Pray God may help her to settle down well.

Our field committee will have a retreat, Sept. 22nd - 23rd. Pray God may unite them in hearing His voice and empower them to serve the field.

Simon & Henrietta Cozens started 'Oyako Church' in April, for parents and children. Now they would like to move to the next phase; gather a team from the Japanese parents that take part, to help lead it. Pray for God's guiding presence in this.

High School Camp time!

Things started off easily enough. Since staff recruitment often forms the hardest part of camp organization in my country (USA), I expected let-down, but plenty of adults were willing to help.

Then, the trouble began. A phone call to confirm the attendance of a group of five revealed that, since two could not attend due to sports practice, all five were bailing out. Two others also pleaded busyness. I was down to one camper, with five staff. This would not do, even for me who was game with small numbers. So I fasted and prayed and asked my supporters to do the same. Three days of prayer did yield a breakthrough: a high school English student decided he wanted to take a day off of track practice to come!

But then the next wave hit. Our promise of canoeing struck a sensitive spot with one man very concerned with safety. So after some discussion, we decided to not use the campsite. Well, we had two campers and a staff, but no-where to go. What to do? We shortened the camp from two days to one, and things started to look up again.

The morning of the camp, we set out in good spirits for a WEC church just down the road. They graciously allowed us to use their spacious facilities for an icebreaker and Ping-Pong, and knocking on the door came three young people from a church further north who loved table



tennis. God sent more participants after all!

After lunch fellow WECer Kin Fai (see photo above) gave a fantastic message on "the bad news of the gospel" from Romans 6:23, and we had good discussion afterwards. Then we went to Lake Biwa for some swimming followed by a BBQ. After dinner I completed Romans 6:23 with a talk on the good news. The students listened attentively amidst the firelight and lanterns.

The highlight of the day came when the high school camper wanted to confirm something. "So the bad news is that Jesus died on the cross, right?" he asked. "Not exactly," I explained. "The bad news is that we deserved to die, but the good news is that Jesus died in our place." He whistled, clearly impressed. "Man, Jesus is strong!" he exclaimed. "I would never give my life for another person! Jesus is stronger than me!"

Though my grey hairs have multiplied, it was worth it. Please pray these seeds will bear fruit in the years to come. *Matt Cummings*