

The Wards . . . Church Planting in Japan



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Church Plant: Kato Baptist Church
Yashiro 1075-1, Kato Shi, Hyogo Ken JAPAN 673-1431



October 2, 2025

Thank you for all your prayers and support.

Tract and flyer distribution

We have almost finished distributing the 15,000 tracts titled "Are You Ready?" We will begin distributing another tract citywide soon.

Summer Chalk Art

Our oldest daughter, Teresa, came to help us this summer from July 1 through August 12. She did chalk art at Senboku Newtown BC Sunday AM, Inochi no Pan BC Sunday kids' festival, Sannomiya BC kids' festival and later a ladies' meeting, Senri Newtown BC kids' festival, Nishi Maiko BC Sunday AM, Aomori Grace BC kids' festival and Sunday AM, and finally, our church retreat in the Monday night service. She also did chalk art at our church, Kato BC, on July 28. At each event, I preached a message in Japanese as she was drawing. There were many in attendance.

Wedding

On July 21, our younger daughter, Sara, married Yuki Fukumoto, at his home church, Senri Newtown BC. He is the Bible School graduate who has been helping me start Kato Baptist Church from the beginning. Three of our sons, Stephen, Matthew, and Peter and our daughter Teresa, as well as one of my nieces, Kate Feldman, came from America to attend the wedding. Many friends of Yuki and Sara were there. It was an emotional time.

Pray for them as they must travel to the US for three weeks to get paperwork done for her visa. Also pray that she would pass her Japanese driver's license test as soon as possible.

Property and Building for the Church

In my last letter, I mentioned that we were looking at property for the church. We have not found exactly what we are looking for yet. Please pray that we would know and follow God's leading, and that we would be able to obtain it and build the necessary structure.

Discipleship

Mr. Hirose has been meeting with me after church on Sunday to study the Bible and make sure he understands the Bible, Salvation, and the Christian life. He seems to be coming along well. Pray that he will be baptized soon.

Repeat visitors

Mr. and Mrs. Kamo are a young couple that has attended several times. They have some difficulties in their lives. I am scheduled to talk with them Saturday, October 4. They need to attend on a regular basis and learn to put church first.

Mr. Shuuzou Fujiwara has attended once more and said He would come to our anniversary service, but he did not show up. Pray for his salvation and health. He seems to have Parkinson's Disease.

Our 6th Anniversary

We passed out 6,000 fliers with a gospel message for our Anniversary Service on September 21. We had a guest family present music; Brad and

Gretta Gardner and their four children. They sang sacred music in Japanese and Brad and Gretta gave their testimonies in Japanese. It was a heart-touching performance. We had six people attend besides our staff and the Gardner family, but there were no newcomers, unfortunately. However, we had a great time of fellowship with the Gardners.

Missions Conference

From September 24-28, I preached in the Faith Promise Missions Conference of Yokota Baptist Church in Fussa City in Tokyo. It is a military church just outside the Air Force base there. Pastor Daniel McKittrick and his wife Haruna serve there with their four children. Their teenage boys are all involved in the ministry and speak great Japanese. They had a good attendance each night and on Sunday. They took up the Faith Promise cards on Sunday. Their missions giving for the coming year will be about 12,000 dollars more than last year.

Special events coming up

On October 19, I will be speaking at Sasebo Baptist Church, a military church in Kyushuu, about 9 hours away by car. They are having a "Japanese Day." I will preach in Japanese. They hope to have several Japanese people there on that day.

Pray for special services coming up on October 26, Sunday. Pastor Horoyuki Omote, pastor of Nishi Maiko Baptist Church about one hour away, will preach. The theme is basically, "Are All Religions the Same?"

Mr. Yohei Wakimasu, director of a camp in Fukushima Prefecture, is coming on November 30 to speak for us. He is the son of Pastor Kazuki Wakimasu, who worked with us a few years at our previous church. He has been pastoring Shirakawa Baptist Church in Fukushima Prefecture. Brother Yohei has an inspiring story of stepping out in faith to do the Lord's will.

Praises

- ☑Mr. Fujiwara Shuuzou attending for the third time.
- ☑Beautiful Wedding accomplished.
- ☑Chalk Art Evangelism successes.

Prayer requests for salvation

- ☐Mrs. Yagi
- ☐Mr. Shuuzoh Fujiwara
- ☐Mr. Hiromu Fujii's wife and family.
- ☐Mr. Yoshikawa, who sold us our car.
- ☐Mr. and Mrs. Kuramae, our church landlords: and health
- ☐Mr. and Mrs. Kageyama, our house landlords
- ☐Mr. and Mrs. Tokimoto, our real estate agent
- ☐Mrs. Tsunemine and Mr. Morimoto
- ☐Mrs. Tanaka and Mrs. Fujimoto and families
- ☐Mr. Manabu Matsumoto
- ☐Mrs. Fujiwara, the grandmother of Mr. Komi
- ☐Mr. Tokuhara, owner of the bike shop where I bought a scooter.
- ☐Mr. Taro Kuramae, the man who did our plumbing
- ☐Mr. Taitano's wife and his sons, Owen and Eric.
- ☐Mrs. Yamada to come to church again and be saved

Other prayer requests

- ☐Baptism and spiritual growth of Mr. Hirose. (Hee-ro-seh)
- ☐Spiritual growth of Mr. Hiromu Fujii. (Foo-jee-ee)
- ☐Mr. Tomisako to attend church here
- ☐Mr. Akita and Mr. Kasahara to come back to church
- ☐Property and/or building for the future of Kato BC
- ☐God's blessing on Mr. Yuki Fukumoto and Sara.
- ☐Evangelism of Kato, Ono, Kasai, and Nishiwaki City.



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