

THE Gardner Family

MINISTERING IN OKINAWA



“The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few” Matthew 9:37

Faithfully delivering the message of NEW LIFE in Christ to the nationals of Okinawa, Japan.

Dear Pastor and Friends,

Nov/Dec

I can't believe that Christmas is almost here!!! While it is always a busy time of year, it is exciting to have events to share the REAL meaning of Christmas. BUT!!! Before we get there, in March, the teen boys will be going to a Youth Camp in mainland, Japan. In November, we decided to have 3 bake sales to raise money for the boy's flights to Youth Camp. Heidi got busy doing what she loves, baking! The boys came over a couple of times after school & basketball to help with the preparations. We are thankful that we were able to raise most of the funds for ALL of the boy's tickets!!! Lord willing, we will be able to have 1 more sale to cover the rest of the tickets and rental car.



The end of November we were sad to hear of the sudden Home going of our friend and fellow servant of Christ. Pastor Satoshi (saw toe she) Murakami (moo da kaw me), for many years, suffered with a rare auto immune disease. On November 28, the Lord called him home. Pastor Murakami was a husband, father, pastor and president of the Bible College here in Japan. I have had the privilege of being on the board of the college and been able to get to know him. Please pray for his wife and two grown children. Also for the college as we make decisions for a new President and other decisions that need to be made.



This year for the teen Christmas party, we joined Shinko Baptist. It was fun to see some of the boys that we have seen grow up still in church and some new faces as well. It is always fun to get a bunch of young people together. We are thankful for these young men that are continuing to be faithful and learn more about the Lord and how He can change their lives.



Our Christmas and candle services are always a fun time of challenge from the Bible, fun, food and fellowship. We got to meet a family from Hawaii that was traveling to our beautiful island for Christmas. It was fun to see the church so full with about 30 people in attendance!!!

Recently, we have seen another Filipino coming to our services. Nelmar came to us last year looking for a local church to grow in. He rides his bike 1 hour (1 way) to be in church! Rose, lives close by and walks to church. Heidi was able to take her to meet some other Filipina Christian ladies at another church for fellowship. Heidi decided to research a Filipino dish that they missed and gather the ingredients to make it for our Christmas dinner at church. They were sooo excited to have a taste of home!!!

Please continue to pray for the church family here and for their growth in Christ. Pray for more people to see their need for Christ and come to Him.

Thank you for your faithful prayers and support. The Lord is continuing to do His will here in Okinawa, Japan!!

In His Service,
Dan and Heidi Gardner

Mission Board: Baptist International Missions, Inc. • PO Box 9 • Harrison, TN 37341
Sending Church: Lancaster Baptist Church • 4020 E. Lancaster Blvd. • Lancaster, CA 93535