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It's cherry blossom season again in Japan, and I am reminded of how different things are this year compared to last year. Last year I enjoyed the cherry blossoms on a day pass from the hospital, with a scarf on my bald head, and was still recovering from my chemo burns. This year I'm able to enjoy them with new hair growing on my head, no hospitalization, no more chemo, and best of all, another "no sign of cancer" report from my doctor. Praise the Lord for all He has done! I am so very thankful that the Lord has granted me more time to continue to serve Him here in Japan.



Updates



Travel—I enjoyed being able to spend about three weeks back in the U.S., primarily to celebrate my brother's 50th birthday and take him on a little trip. In spite of snow delays, we were able to enjoy several days visiting my home church and the D.C. area as well as visiting my "Japanese daughter" in Pensacola, Florida. Before returning to Japan, I was able to visit several friends who have transferred to the San Diego area from our church here in Yokosuka (Aquino, Balares, and Kadoya families at left), visit West Coast Baptist College and try to be a blessing to several young people there, and see two dear Christian friends.

Missions Revival—It was a blessing to have Dr. David Snyder, General Director of BIMl, as our main speaker. His messages were a challenge and a blessing to my own heart as well as to our church family. Three people prayed to trust Christ as Savior. Three of our children (plus one of the newly-saved adults) surrendered for baptism, and four individuals surrendered for full-time service. Please pray for all of these as they continue to follow the Lord.

BIMl Field Conference—It was also a blessing to be able to attend our BIMl Field Conference, which included the missionaries to the military as well as missionaries to the Japanese this year. Our conference was held in conjunction with the Kansai Independent Baptist Bible School Bible Conference. What a blessing to sing hymns and hear messages in Japanese as well as English, to see so many faithful Japanese servants of God, and to fellowship with other missionaries!

On the way home, I was able to visit the church in Anjo (in Central Japan) where I assisted when I first came to the field. I was able to share a testimony of how the Lord has sustained me through my cancer battle. What a blessing to see the work that the Lord is doing there and to see how it has grown!

New Members—While it has been sad to say goodbye to several members being transferred, the Lord has already brought some new families and singles our way, including one family who were members here previously. We have several other families and singles who will be transferred in the next few months. *Please continue to pray that the Lord will allow us to reach many new incoming families and singles.*

Thank you

As always, I want to thank you for partnering with me in seeking to reach souls for Christ here in Japan. Your prayers and your continued financial support allow me to continue to serve here. Please pray that the Lord will give "fruit that may abound to your account." (Phil 4:17)

By His Grace,

Ethel

Prayer Requests

1. For our Easter Cantata—for many visitors to come and for God to speak to many hearts.
2. For continued good health and strength to serve the Lord
3. For salvation of souls, growth of Christians, changes in lives, and new members to join us
4. For the re-building of our Japanese ministry
5. For continued adequate support