

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 Praying friends,

Jan/Feb 2024



January Cody and I kicked off the new year by attending a retreat for pastors and missionary kids in Aomori, Japan. The kids had a great time snowboarding and fellowship and encouraging each other in the Lord during the retreat.

On our way back to Okinawa Cody and I stopped off in the Kobe, Japan area to fill-in for a missionary friend while he and his wife were on a short furlough. Pray for the Kato Baptist Church.

When we returned, my Dad and I installed a handrail next to the handicap ramp. This was a much needed improvement to the property. We are thankful the Lord provided funds for this need.

January is our month to get things on track for the coming year, by focusing on God and keeping him first in our goals for the next year. Our current theme is “Trust in God”. We are trusting Him to work in the hearts of the people and that through our witness, souls will be saved.

February was a busy month and started out with “Friend Day”. Although our attendance was down due to sickness, we enjoyed our time with our church family that attended. Next, my sister came in from Minnesota to be with my parents during my dad’s heart procedure. We are thankful to report that it went well and he is doing great. The following weekend we had our monthly curry lunch and then Children’s Church, we had 26 in attendance!!!! This is our highest attendance yet!! We had 3 young ladies that we have known for many years, come to Okinawa for a visit. It was so exciting to have such a wonderful time and see the Lord work and have some help with the events of the weekend. We are so excited that Tomoka (tow-mo-kaw) san came to church with her 6 kids on Sunday!! We have also had a single mom, Shino (she-no) san that has been coming lately. She is not saved, but continues to come to church and has asked Heidi many times to watch her little 2yr old son, Soichiro (sew-ichy-do). We are praying that through this time with her, she will trust Christ as her Savior.

We are excited for the business of the last two months, and it is getting busier from here. This coming Sunday, we have a ladies craft and fellowship time. I have several

different preaching opportunities coming up. Some include a missions emphasis Sunday (March 10th), Bible Conference at the Bible College in Mainland (March 14th), Japan and at our annual Youth Camp in Kobe, Japan (March 25-27th) and we will be having a special service for Easter Sunday. We are so excited to be celebrating our 5th anniversary at Seaside Baptist Church coming up on April 7th!!!!

Please pray for Tomoka (toe-mo-kaw) and Shino (she-no) to see their need for Christ. Besides Cody and I, we are taking two 7th grade boys with us to Youth Camp. Please pray they will see the need for the Lord in their lives. Their names are Kiyon (key-yawn) and Keishi (kay-she).

Thank you for your faithful prayers and support.

In His Service,
Dan & Heidi Gardner

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