Houlette Happenings August 2017



# John and Eriko Houlette

Leader Care and Church Development in Japan and Greater Asia

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Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. Isaiah 43:19.

#### TSM at a Glance

- Spoke at the Chaplain's Cafe on April 19th.
- Completed Sendai Baptist Seminary classes on Self-Care, Spiritual Formation and Leadership at both the Sendai and Fukushima Campuses. In all, 22 students attended.
- Facilitated a Burnout Seminar for 30 pastors on June 6th in Ohio Town.
- Taught two sessions for the Global Leader Intern program on June 15 and 20.
- Debriefed the Kyushu Christ Disaster Relief Center Staff, June 26-30.
- Facilitated workshops on self-care and mentoring for the Salvation Army in Tokyo, July 4.

## God Will Make a Way



Greetings from Oakland, California! We are just beginning a two-month Home Assignment in the US through September 19th.

Two years ago, I began partnering with pastor Masanori Kuba of Hokushin Calvary Church to assist him in his vision to plant a church in the town of Ryozen. In March of 2016, he experienced burnout, and my role changed to preacher, counselor and elder board coach.

It appeared that his dream was shattered. In September I began teaching a seminary extension class at the church on Soul Care, Spiritual Formation and Leadership. On the the last Sunday to register for the class, Mr. and Mrs. Nowada visited the church. They were tent making church planters looking for a partnering church. They

were impressed with the church's commitment to training. Now ten months later, Pastor Kuba has returned to the ministry, preaching once a month. On July 2nd, we held our first church planting team meeting (see photo above). It is no longer just the vision of the pastor, but a gifted team who can share their gifts in this strategic outreach.

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#### PRAYER REQUESTS

- For ministry balance in preaching, seminars, retreats, teaching and individual mentoring and counseling responsibilities.
- Praise that we have a vehicle and housing for home assignment!
- Pray for safety on the road.
- For resiliency for Pastor Masanori Kuba at Hokushin Calvary Church.
- For the Hokushin church planting team.



Eriko and I attended the 50th anniversary of Asian Access in late April. The festivities were held in Jakarta, Indonesia. It was a blessed time to learn more about the history of A2, and connect with leaders throughout Greater Asia.

#### Church visit schedule:

- Church on the Hill, San Jose, August 6th and 11th.
- Morgan Hill Bible Church, August 12th and 13th.
- First Baptist Church, Monterey, August 20th.
- First Baptist Church, Tracy, August 27th.
- Valley Baptist Church, Merced, September 3rd.
- Tenth Church, Vancouver, BC September 9th-10th.
- Bridges Community Church, Los Altos, September 12th.
- Sunrise Church, Rialto, CA September 13th.
- First Baptist Church, Turlock, September 17th.



Blessings,

### John and Eriko

Would you like to receive our monthly Houlette Happenings via email? Would you like to stop receiving our prayer letters? For either request, please send us an email at: <a href="mailto:ihoulette@asianaccess.org">ihoulette@asianaccess.org</a> Thank you!

Support Needed: \$400/month

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