

THE BENEKES' JAPAN JOURNAL

Connecting College Students in Kyoto to Jesus



Dear Friends,

"I'm moving back to my hometown after I graduate. There aren't many young Christians there. I was sad to leave the Cru community in Kyoto. But then I thought, I can make my own community!" That's what Himawari, a former student, shared at our National Spring Camp back in March. This week, we are going to help make her dream a reality.

From 8/28-9/2, a group of 4 students, 2 staff, and 1 volunteer (above) will join Himawari at her church in rural Ehime. We will join the church's services, lead evangelism training, do outreach in the neighborhood and at a local university, and host a Friday gathering and Saturday BBQ.

Our goal is to encourage Himawari and the members of her church and help them reach out to more young people in their area. In the process, we hope that we and our students will also grow as we take steps of faith. Please pray for safe travels (especially as a large typhoon approaches) and a faithful, fruitful week of ministry.

Speaking of short-term missions, we hosted two more teams from the U.S. and Korea on 7/2-20. Many new students heard about Jesus for the first time through their outreach! After the semester ended and we said goodbye to our last intern, we took a couple weeks off for vacation (right) and church camp. Then it was back to work, preparing for our next group of 6 Asian-American interns (4 new, 2 returning) and a Korean staff family of 5 to arrive on September 4 and 24, respectively.

Although it turned out to be a much shorter, busier summer break than expected, we're grateful for the opportunities God has given us to serve. Thanks for making it all possible through your prayers and partnership! We appreciate you more than we can express. We'll try to write you again next month before the new semester begins.

Praises & Prayer Requests

- Praise God for ministry of U.S. and Korean short-term mission teams last month!
- Pray we could follow up well this fall with students they met
- Praise God for upcoming Ehime Mission (8/28-9/2)!
- Pray for safe travels and a faithful, fruitful ministry
- Praise God for new members joining our team in Kyoto!
- Pray for 6 new interns from U.S. and staff family of 5 from Korea as they prepare to come to Kyoto on 9/4 and 24



Yours in Christ,

Ryan, Jungshin, Lela, Micah, & Hannah