

From David and Lorna Ferguson

September 2008

Dear Friends

Summer has come and gone. We enjoyed great family holidays and time to rest and relax as well as catch up with people we hadn't seen for some time. Now we're getting back into work mode again, although life when you're back for a year does not lend itself to much in way of a routine.

School Corner

Daniel returned safely to India last month and has settled back well to life at Hebron. He has new dorm parents, the Ellwoods from New Zealand, and has started his GSCE course work. There are always lots of sports at this time of year in Hebron so he's happy about that! Matthew has begun home schooling here till the end of the year – the school has helpfully given us information on text books and syllabus. It's working quite well so far but has its fair share of challenges! Calum is now in Primary 4 and Alistair has started at the same school too.

- *Pray for Daniel at Hebron*
- *Remember the Ellwoods and other teaching staff*
- *Pray for Matthew in his home schooling*

This Month's Schedule

After a quieter summer, we hit the ground running once we get into September and don't stop till we reach the beginning of December. But it's great to go round so many places, not only to share about our work in Japan but to be blessed and encouraged by meeting different people and seeing what's going on around the country. Already we have known so much encouragement during our time back. This month we are able to spend quite a bit of time sharing in different ways with our church in Milngavie.

1 st	Hyndland OMF prayer group (Lorna)
3 rd	Polmont Rotary (David)
4 th	Comely Bank OMF prayer group (David)
7 th	St Luke's, Milngavie Morning Service (all)
7 th	Freeland Church Evening Service (all)
12 th	Largo OMF prayer group (both)
12 th	Cumbernauld Mission Event (David)
14 th	St Paul's Morning Service (David)
14 th	St Paul's Sunday Club (Lorna)
17 th	St Paul's Midweek (David)
21 st	St Paul's Bible Class (both)
21 st	St Paul's Evening Service (David)
23 rd	St John's Largs Midweek (David)
24 th	Kirkmuirhill Church Midweek (David)
28 th	Glenluce Churches (both)

- *Pray we would make the most of each opportunity*
- *Pray that our ministry would be a blessing*

Meeting Japanese in Glasgow...

We have been able over the summer to have some great times together with a young Japanese couple, **Hiroshi** and **Megumi**. He is studying at Glasgow University and became a Christian a few months ago. His wife is somewhat resistant to his faith, although she was asking questions one time we had them round. Their first child is due in October so they will return to Japan for one year on 28th August (and will come to us for a meal on the evening before). They hope to come back to Glasgow next year when he will begin work on a PhD. It will not be easy for Hiroshi when he returns to Japan as they will live initially with her (very Buddhist) family in a city (Nara) which is a place steeped in tradition.

- *Pray for Hiroshi to maintain and grow in his faith*
- *Pray for Megumi's heart to open and trust in Jesus*
- *Pray they might find a church to attend in Japan*

and remembering the vast needs in Japan

We continue to remember our friends and neighbours in Otaru and it's been good to have ongoing contact with some of them. We were encouraged to hear that two of Mrs Kudo's children (she was baptised last year) went to a Christian camp over the holidays. One is Rikiya (boy aged 13) and the other Julina (girl aged 10). It was our prayer right from the outset that the Kudos as a family would come to know the Lord. We've heard that her husband (who killed someone in a driving accident last year) too has been at church now and again. Pastor Ishihara recently baptised an elderly lady (and mother of church members) who has been near to confessing faith for years. She died a few weeks later but the wider family (half are Christian, half not) refused a Christian funeral. The Chuas in Sapporo ask us to remember a lady, Ms Okada, that they are in contact with. God is at work in Japan!

- *Give thanks for the Kudo children*
- *Remember Pastor Ishihara as he leads the church*
- *Pray for the Chuas' witness in Hiragishi (Sapporo)*

With our love and thanks

David, Lorna,

Daniel, Matthew, Calum and Alistair