

Street Ministry

Street ministry has been a proven and successful winner in evangelism outreach in Japan. As part of the future outreach in Fukuoka universities and street ministries, we require some new equipment. No we do not need a motorbike sidecar band as shown in the first image. We need a portable karaoke PA system that runs on a 12 Volt battery as shown in the second picture. Let us know if you can help.



Heading Back to Japan - Eugene's Preparation Trip

How exciting! Preparing to serve in Fukuoka Japan is an amazing time. Now as we are getting closer to the vision God has for our family to serve there, it is time for Eugene to fly back and start the preparation work on the ground.

Eugene has booked a return trip ticket to fly to Fukuoka leaving Melbourne on Thursday the 16th October 2014 and returning just over 6 weeks later on the 2nd December 2014.

Eugene will be staying with the Patersons who are the senior pastors of Hakata New Life church Fukuoka. The Patersons are from Brisbane and have started to lead Hakata New Life church in April. This is an exciting time as the church prepares for greater service and evangelism in the community.

As part of these preparations there are some works underway to refurbish the church, replacing wall tiles, carpeting and basic PA equipment. There is still so much more that needs to be done.

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Eugene is also expecting to relaunch the Ignite English outreach program when on field in October and November. There will be a number of people who were involved in this program that will be able to get involved again and potentially connect with Jesus and the church in a very real life changing way.

There will also be an opportunity to do some outreach activities at local universities with the 5 minute English challenge and possibly some other forms of evangelistic outreach similar to street evangelism outreach.

Eugene will also have the opportunity to get to know the local area and available church resources. It will be important for him to get to know the people they will be working with, and to train and develop in similar outreach activities and leadership development.

Stay tuned as there is sure to be some very exciting developments in future issues.



Preparing to go and the question of “when?”

Fiona and I have both served in Japan before prior to our marriage. We know that to be successful in Japan means more than reliving the past. Success has to come from a strong relationship with God and strong relationship with people. Our reliance on God and His provision is growing more each day. God has not given us a booming voice with a date or flight number. We are in the season of preparing and are on track with his perfect timing. We need people to start supporting us in every way as soon as possible so that there are enough finances for everything including set up costs and flights. A wise friend gave me a piece of wisdom I have always carried – don't wish away any part of your life as you only get it once and for a reason. We will be in Japan serving God and His vision soon enough, possibly May next year, but I wouldn't want to wish away the preparation for it or to try and get there before we should be.

We are trusting God and doing what needs to be done as we prepare.

Four ways individuals, churches and business can help.

Everyone can easily participate in the Gebert's journey by giving support in one of the four areas needed.



PRAYER

The Gebert's need your prayers as they step out in faith; with the vision of Japan as a nation that loves God. God sees Japan as it will be; a Christian nation.

There will be regular updates on how you can pray specifically for them and the situations they work with in Fukuoka and Japan. Pg 4 has their prayer needs.

We all need to keep God the central focus in all we do.



FINANCE & GIVING

Financial giving is so important and key to being able to do what needs to be done. One off donations are great, and regular monthly commitments essential.

Everyone can be a key part in God's work by simply making a commitment to support the Gebert's so that people who have never heard the good news have a chance to accept God's life changing love.

ALL IT TAKES IS FOR GOD'S PEOPLE TO DECIDE TO NEVER TIRE OF DOING GOOD, OWN THE VISION & ACT



SOCIAL MEDIA

The Gebert's need the word to go out around Australia about what God has called them to do. They need everyone who has a heart to see Japan changed by the good news, to share with their friends how they too can become involved.

This can be done through Facebook by going to <https://www.facebook.com/japandirections>, and liking and sharing with your friends and talking to them about it. At the moment the Facebook site's purpose is to draw people to the website <http://japandirections.com/>. This is where people can find all the information needed on the work the Geberts are doing and more.

At the moment there are 51 likes on Facebook, which is a great start. Keep the momentum going and get the word out directing people to both the Facebook and webpages where all the relevant information and forms can be found as well as commendations.



SENDING SHORT TERM TEAMS

As part of our vision the Gebert's are interested in hearing from their supporters if they have teams with talent that could be used on field in evangelistic outreach activities.

It is important that teams come with their skills identified and developed and prepared to serve. The Gebert's would love to consider having you along on field. The website will have a login section where teams will be able to have access to all relevant information for them including maps, itineraries, emergency contact information, some basic survival language kits and a place to share photos and experiences.

Again, this is available to those who are already supporting them in every other area and under the direction of the senior pastor and the Geberts.





This issue's Facts & Figures about Fukuoka

Q: How many people live in Fukuoka and how many are Christians?

A: There are 5 million people who live in the greater Fukuoka area, 1.5 million who live in the city center. There is just over 1% of the population who consider themselves to be Christian.

Nothing hits you greater than walking down a busy main road knowing that nearly all of the beautiful people you are walking past could be about to spend eternity in hell simply because no-one has told them the good news and given them a

chance to believe.

It is very humbling to know that God is sending us into this harvest field to make disciples, raise leaders and see his kingdom come in Japan.

When there are so many people in a city similar in size to Melbourne or Sydney with a massive unreached need, it's easy to want to serve and be an encouragement to everyone else who is serving God in reaching such a wonderful group of people.

Suicide

Desperate for hope

It is common knowledge that suicide is a big issue for Japan but the facts shock. Over a three year period the MCG could be filled! 30,000 people a year or one every 15 minutes dies. Half of these suicides are committed by teens. Young people are desperate, and God can move and help people who are desperate who seek Him. Please pray as depression and hopelessness is a major issue in Japanese society.

Kids in the mix

Remembering the needs of our kids

This is a very exciting time for our family and one where as parents we can naturally worry about our kids and how moving the kids to a completely different country will affect them. Our holiday to Japan showed us that kids can be very versatile and take so many things in their stride. We have needed to keep it real and relevant for them by talking about it and involving them. Because of this we must get a silver sparkly car!

The good news is that they will not be alone. But our two girls will have two girls from Brisbane to be instant friends with in Fukuoka.



Sayonara Sales

Since being married we have been blessed by Gods provision for our family, and church family. We, like many new young families started off with very little, and saved just

enough to buy a small unit in Bacchus Marsh. We quickly outgrew this unit and moved to a house in Melton where we currently live, to be closer to our church family and friends.

Little did we realise though, that every little thing we accumulated now needs to be dealt with, either by being transported to Japan, stored or sold. We have started by having a

garage sale which was met with some success. There is still a long way to go. Eugene has just been able to sell his pride and joy this week, leaving us with one more car to sell, a 2007 VW Jetta. The remaining car is being kept to be able to drive around on furlough to catch up with all of our supporters. There is still so much more to get ready, and as time runs out we are waiting on

God to know what to do with our house. Please pray that all these mundane but very important things are resolved well. There is real freedom in not holding onto earthly things, knowing that God has the best in store still to come.

Our Sayonara sale will have some great bargains which we will publish closer the date.





Upcoming Events

Preliminary trip to Japan

Eugene will be traveling to Japan later in this year to restart the university outreach "Ignite English" program as well as build working relationships with those in the church and assisting with general preparation of hearts, minds and projects for outreach into the community of Fukuoka.

Pastors and church events

The Geberts are spending a lot of time to connect with pastors and meeting them to share the vision of Japan as a Christian nation. This is also extending into booking times with churches to visit them and share the vision as well as getting to know their supporters and the vision that they have for their local missions field.

Vic ACC state conference

Eugene will be attending the Victoria ACC conference, and would like to encourage you to attend and catch up with him there. I would like to encourage you to book a time and place to meet me during state conference, especially those from far afield.

If this is something you would like to do please call Eugene on 0414 35 35 35 to book.

Prayer Needs

Eugene's Trip

- Safety & Family
- Evangelism
- Sensitivity to the church people and needs
- Identify key local geographical places for various needs

Financial support to reach budget requirements

Greater awareness and support from the right people to partner with the Geberts

Personal items sell well

That people desperate for God and answers to life issues connect with Gods community of people

- Hakata New Life Church
- Fukuoka Uni outreach
 - 5 min English challenge
- Street ministry
- Ignite English program
- Development of a mothers support group
- Venue upgrades
 - Sound Equipment
 - Carpet & tiles
- Cell Groups
- Developing new leaders
- Depressed, desperate people get connected to church people and find hope

