



Lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest.
The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.
John 4:35b; Matthew 9:37-38



新Tenzler • Newsletter 2022 #2

Julian and Karolina want to reach students and staff at Japan's universities with God's good news of love and forgiveness, and accompany them in following Jesus.

Dear family and friends,

06-05-2022

It's time again for an extensive update. March was a real travel month for us. As announced in our last prayer letter, we spent our week of vacation in Ikoma near Osaka, where the plums, which are considered the harbingers of spring in Japan, had already begun to bloom.

A little bit of Japanese:

March marked the eleventh anniversary of the terrible tsunami disaster in eastern Japan. And the earthquake we experienced in Sendai again awakened memories and fears for many Japanese that have not yet completely healed. Even today, large parts of Tohoku have not been rebuilt.



But what does the word tsunami actually mean? It is a combination of the words 津 (tsu harbor) and 波 (nami wave):

津波

The three drops indicate that the meaning of these characters is related to water. However, there is also another way of spelling

海嘯

which means "roar of the sea" and expresses the nation's respect but also the fear of the sea.

There we met several missionaries and Japanese Christians for whom mission is a great concern. It was very encouraging to hear how Jesus is

working in the lives of these people and in which way He has already moved in Japan. No less encouraging were the various evangelistic outreaches we did together in the area. For example, in downtown Osaka, we started conversations with young people in the parks and on the street and handed out



Missionseinsatz im Stadtpark von Akaishi mit einem der verbliebenen Wachtürme auf dem Burgberg im Hintergrund

tracts; we went to the south of Osaka to a very run-down part of the city where there are many homeless people, and shared the Gospel with them and prayed for them; and we went on prayer walks in several places, such as Kobe, Akaishi, and the park around Osaka Castle, praying that God would touch the hearts of the residents of these cities.

Vision-Trip through East-Japan

A week later, we were finally able to start our two-week Center Visit. Our round trip started in Aomori, where we looked at several church plants and the heavily snowed-in Christian retreat center run by OMF missionaries (Aomori is the snowiest area in the world!). We also had the opportunity to talk with a Japanese pastor who had been involved in student ministry for many years.

We continued our trip going to Yahaba, a town in the heart of Tohoku, where an Australian family is trying to start a house church. They explained to us that people in Tohoku are very reserved compared to other areas in Japan, and they have difficulty inviting people or making closer contacts. From Yahaba, we took a rental car to Sendai, where we were again able to talk a lot with people who are doing student ministry. On our first night there, the city was shaken by the strongest earthquake since the catastrophic earthquake with tsunami 11 years ago. Thank God, only a few dishes were broken in our guest house. So



far, we had only experienced quakes up to intensity 2 in Hokkaido. This earthquake of intensity 5+ was a completely different experience.

Next, we visited a pastor in Utsunomiya who wants to start a student ministry in this city north of Tokyo. Utsunomiya is a very promising place with five universities, where there is hardly any mission work so far. And his church is right in between two campuses and next to many student dorms.

Last but not least, we came to Ichikawa near Tokyo, where the headquarters of OMF Japan is located. We had fellowship with the leadership and other missionaries in the Tokyo area who, among other things, are involved in sports mission and homeless ministry. On our last day, we helped with an outreach to the homeless in the Ikebukuro district, where food was distributed in several locations and the pastor of a homeless congregation preached about the Easter message.

After this packed and inspiring tour, our next task was to write down how we understand God's guidance for the time after our language school graduation in September. This was followed by a few conversations with the OMF leadership. Now we are waiting for their proposal for our placement and our fields of work for the next two years.

Japan's borders are open!

The Japanese government finally opened the borders for entering at the beginning of March and we have already welcomed 5 single missionaries and 2 families to our language school. Another family is still waiting in the wings. We thank God that this drama has at last come to an end and we can finally see each other live.

We thank you for your prayers and support and for accompanying us on our journey as missionaries in Japan!

Julian & Karolina

Please check out our Telegram channel for photos, videos and stories ↓

Upcoming events:

2022

21.04. Julian's testimony at HBI

August Grad. language school

This is how you can support mission in Asia:

- Order our prayer letter (write us an email).
- Become a prayer partner: [Link](#)
- Become part of an OMF team of volunteers close to you: [Link](#)
- Do a short term mission trip with OMF Serve Asia: [Link](#)
- Or does God call you to Asia as a long-term missionary? [Link](#)

Invite OMF to your church.

Pray for Japan: [Link](#)

During our vision trip, we became especially aware of how many unused opportunities and needs there are in Japan that cannot be served because of a lack of missionaries and mission-minded Christians. Jesus' word that the harvest is ready and plentiful applies here as well. Therefore, please pray for more laborers in God's vineyard in Japan – from abroad as well as from within Japan – and that God will turn the hearts of the people in Japan and make them receptive to Him.

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