



Do not be afraid, but go on speaking
and do not be silent, for I am with you,
and no one will attack you to harm you,
for I have many in this city who are my people.
Acts 18:9b-10

新Tenzler ◦ Newsletter 2022 #3



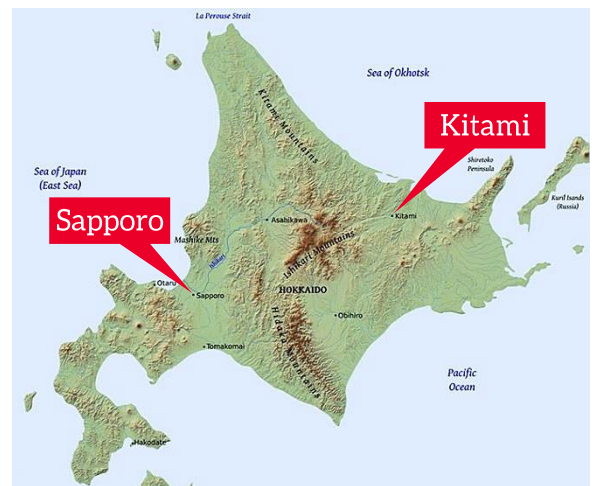
Julian and Karolina want to reach students and staff at Japan's universities with God's good news of love and forgiveness, and accompany them in following Jesus.

Dear family and friends,

04-07-2022

As we have already announced in our prayer letter, our future location has now been officially made public this month. We are happy to finally be able to tell you about our next steps.

In the fall after we finish our language school in Sapporo on September 16 we will be moving to **Kitami** in eastern Hokkaido! There we will work in the Kitami Megumi Church and learn how church is lived in Japan. Pastor Kitoh will be our mentor for this time and will let us share in his wealth of experience of over 30 years of church work with us. We expect to stay in this place for two and a half years and are very excited to see what God has in store for us during this time. After that, beginning in Spring of 2025 a one-year home assignment in Germany is planned.



Hokkaido, the northernmost of Japan's four main islands, is divided into two halves by a long mountain range. Kitami is on the eastern side.

A little bit of Japanese:



As is the case with many coats of arms and flags in Japan, the city flag of Kitami has several things embodied in it. First, the white symbol is a stylized form of the character 北 (north), the first character of Kitami

北見

which translates to "north view". The reason for the name is that from the mountains surrounding Kitami, one can see across the Sea of Okhotsk all the way to Sakhalin Island. In addition, the shape of the symbol represents a weight stone from the Edo period and thus stands for fair judgment.



Kitami is a town on the Sea of Okhotsk, framed by mountains and 4-5 hours by car from Sapporo. The economic focus is on agriculture, livestock and fishing, and there is a lot of agricultural land around the city. There are two universities there, a technical university and a Red Cross college. Both are quite close to the community and we hope to make contact with students during our time there. Here are some more data about Kitami:

Population	115.351 (6% of Sapporo)
Area	1427km ² (127% of Sapporo)
City flower	Hamanasu (Japanese beach rose)
Produce Kitami is famous for	Onions, white pea beans, oysters, scallops, Hokkai shrimps
Average highest daily temperatures in summer	25°C
Average lowest daily temperatures in winter	-14°C

Kitami Megumi Church

The church, where we will be allowed to serve and study from October on, was founded in 1992. It currently has only about 30



The new church building

members, but during its existence it has already planted two daughter churches in neighboring cities, and has sent two church members to Bible school for pastor training at church expense. Unlike most Japanese churches we have seen so far, it is organized in cell groups, in order to promote fellowship, spiritual growth and mutual discipleship among church members.

“Megumi” is the Japanese word for “blessing”, and indeed this church is a blessing to us. After all, it is not natural for a purely Japanese church to get involved with a missionary couple who comes with limited knowledge of Japanese and foreign cultural values. For us, it also feels a bit like jumping into cold water. While in Sapporo many things could be done in English and we had many experienced missionaries around us, in Kitami everything will have to be done in Japanese. However, we also see this as an enormous opportunity to immerse ourselves deeply in Japanese culture and language.

The rest in a nutshell

You have probably already seen in the table above that it can get very cold in Kitami. Please pray with us that God will give us a warm place to live that is also close enough to the church and universities so that we can invite students to our home as well.

We are excited to have 13 more missionaries and 11 children coming to Japan with OMF in the next few months. Please pray for a smooth transition, a stress-free arrival and enough capacity in the language school for all the newcomers.

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 ↓



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Our homepage:

www.prayforjapan.net



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Upcoming events:

2022

16.09. Graduation 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](#)

We want to invite you to start praying already for Kitami, the Megumi Church, Pastor Kito and the two universities. Please pray that God will break open the soil of hearts and make them fruitful for His Word. Pray that He will also work in the hearts of local Christians and to spark a spirit of awakening and go forth boldly, and a willingness to proclaim the Word in all its fullness. We want to go on speaking and not be silent, because we are sure that God has prepared much work for his workers.