



UPDATE FROM JAPAN

Osaka Bible Seminary — Jesus for Japan



Paul and Rickie Clark

our email to you

No. 88 October 2018

CLEANING UP AFTER THE TYPHOON: With much help from Ryuji Niiro, an OBS graduate who is a gardener/tree surgeon, our back yard looks a little more organized with piles of log-rounds waiting to be split to use in our fireplace insert. We are so grateful for Ryuji, and it looks like our house insurance will cover all of the repairs. We thought the trunk of our 68-year Himalayan Cedar had hit the corner of our roof, but when the branches were cut off, we saw that it was a huge branch that had actually hit the roof and not the trunk itself!!



50 foot tree, 26" in diameter



Hit and miss!



Last cut!



Damaged but no leaking! PTL!

OCTOBER INTERNATIONAL NIGHT TACO FEED! Our annual taco party is one of our most popular International Nights. Our guests like Mexican tacos and we had 38 guests in our basement in early October. Mexican tacos are quite different from a Japanese tako, which means octopus! After our fun time of playing games and praise to our Lord in song, our pastor, Kimura Sensei, gave an excellent message on our Father's love. He told the true life story in Japan about a 5-year-old girl's letters to her abusive parents a year ago, vowing she would try her very best to live up to their expectations. She was found starved-to-death at the age of six last March in an unheated, freezing room of their house. What a contrast to our loving Father God!

KANSAI CHRISTIAN SCHOOL is almost to the end of its first quarter of the school year. Our 46 students are crowding out the walls in some classrooms, and in December we will have three more, which will bring us to 49, a record number of students! We already have eleven applications for first grade in 2018-19 and only 5 seniors will graduate!

KCS is in the process of accreditation with Western Association of Schools and Colleges, and all the staff and board are busy with various parts of an initial questionnaire so the visiting team coming in the spring will have a good picture of what our school is like. It's exciting but also lots of work on everyone's part—teachers, administration (Rickie's a part of that) and board members (I'm vice chairman of the board)!

We have many activities throughout the school year and Sports Day is one of them in October. It was a fun day with many parents participating, too.

The Covenant Players, a drama troupe that covers Japan, were with us for a whole day, working with

the students and putting on a performance for the parents and staff. They stayed in our home for parts of four days and we enjoyed the fellowship, as usual.



Full KCS Board



Game time!



Bro. Kimura's Message

MINISTRY TO CONGREGATIONS: Since returning home the end of August, I have preached at the Nakaburi congregation once and the Kamizono congregation twice. It is both fulfilling and a privilege to be used of the Lord in both these congregations. Several visitors came our last Sunday at Kamizono.



Preaching: Kamizono

VISITORS: It is such a privilege to have our son-in-law and daughter, Chad and Jennifer and kids, as missionaries in Japan, too. In late September they drove the 12-hour trip to Osaka for a weekend camp, We celebrated Gideon's 11th birthday, and Josiah, 17, gave me some great help in cleaning up the yard after the typhoon. After camp Caleb, 14, flew back up to their area for a 3-day hike with another missionary and some other young men. Katia, 13, enjoyed being with us while Josiah took the train to Okayama to help clean up after a previous typhoon.



Ready for Winter

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## The MONGOLIAN CONNECTION - 2018

As I never fail to say, EVERY TIME returning to Mongolia is different. I have included a set of photographs to help set the picture for you. Mentioning Mongolia always raises immediate interest—it remained one of the exotic places to go, for a time, and that time has passed! In its now twenty-five-plus years of FREEDOM and Democracy it has joined the rest of the world, for better and worse. Gone but a year, yet again seeing all the new buildings is striking—as always!! It took years to finish the BLUE-SKY building, a hallmark of the city, but now it is virtually surrounded by a city of buildings equal in height and taller!!

However, the more striking difference this time was how the horrendous traffic problem has escalated—escalated—incredible!! I used to joke about it—there was a time when you could drive through the city on Peace Boulevard in ten minutes (an exaggeration), but then not be able to get to the next light in ten minutes. Today it is a CRUSH of automobiles and trucks taking thirty minutes to GET to the next light. Peace Boulevard is like two round-ups of beef, in two 3-4 four lanes wide traffic, moving in opposite directions with drivers maneuvering their “machines” (Mongolian for vehicles) like robotic cows—without touching!! They anticipate each other's moves and know when the other is “demanding” or “refusing”—they are good—“NO!”—experts at mental telepathy. I have never been uncomfortable in the past giving my trust to the drivers—though I have a book of stories. This time I was shutting my eyes from time to time!! There was not so much as one rubbing of hide-to-hide, fender-to-fender!!

Our Centurions Ministry Command Center, being on the 5th floor, #507, of the Somang (Korean for HOPE) Plaza Building (adjacent to Mongolian Campus Crusade for Christ), is on a major intersection of the East end of the city core of Ulaanbaatar.



Our time with Centurions Ministry has evolved through the years with changing directors, given the bonding with each director's CALLING in continuing the Centurions Ministry. We did a lot of the far reaching travel in earlier days to the Border units (like “Evangelism Wild, Wild West”) and participated in Leadership Seminars sharing transforming leadership, the Servant model of John 13, enhanced by Col Jim Coy's compiled works on real leaders' testimonies. These times were followed by a number of Leadership Seminars, a Marriage Seminar and relating more to our CM Staff and cadet outreach. I began to take on more of a pastoral role—as “Grandpa (and Grandma) of the Centurions.” These recent years my ministry has been a significant one of pastoring and calling in the homes of staff and others when in country—weddings, hospital calling, condolence calling—and this time particularly I was in all our staff homes—just look at all the kiddies. Today our oldest is Angie at 20, and they just keep coming—we can't keep track!



**THE CADETS:** My arrival this time was to a warm welcome by cadets at the CM Command Center, and 2 weeks later they sent me off to the airport after a time of celebration. Never have I seen a more invigorated set of cadets! Presently we are looking for property with a building and area for outside activities to become a recreation and development center for cadets near the military academies. We have \$10,000 of seed money raised for this project! CM began from cadets, I have known ALL our staff since they were cadets; one of our earliest cadets is a CIA Major, others captains, and several have served or are serving in the UN Peace Forces abroad! Generals and colonels are among us, too, but we are focusing on building up the cadet ministry as the senior officer ministry continues to grow!



**TRIP TO THE "COUNTRYSIDE":** This time pleasure was mixed with outreach-evangelism with a long trip into the steppe countryside where we were first entertained by a Border Troop Commander over dinner. He then provided a van and driver, winter tenting facilities and the opportunity to create a fishing and hunting party—the local community pastor was also a part of the picture who will follow up. The hunting party came back from their night with a deer (deer-soup ensued); I fished (on good water) all day and at day's end with all watching I made a fine catch (fish-soup ensued, also)—conversing with other Mongolian fishermen through the day, I had the only catch!



The time with this Colonel above was a highlight as we shared our witness and presented him with a marked Bible; but all the home visits with staff were so significant, particularly in the home of Sis'Otgoo working with the Cadet Ministry. I was privileged to lead her father in a confession of faith in GOD, repenting of his self-served life and inviting Jesus to be the Lord of his life. As unromantic as international goodbyes are today, the staff, kids, and other friends saw me off and Sister Otgoo's father called me at the airport to bid me an enthusiastic farewell—pray for him as he was told he had incurable cancer. I prayed for his healing!



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS!** We know God gives us strength and perseverance because of your prayers and notes of encouragement. We have many things to write already for our shorter November and December eUpdates. We will be attending our granddaughter Michaela's wedding to Sam Richardson in Maryland during the Christmas-New Year's holidays. We would appreciate your prayers as we travel at such a busy time of year.

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