



March 2024

Hello Pastors/Praying Friends,

Thank you so much for all your prayers and support. The Lord has blessed a lot over the past few months over here in Japan, and we praise the Lord for all He has done. Recently, we got a sign put up outside of our church and those in the neighborhood have noticed. One man who was doing some work on the building for us asked a question. "Why Hirosaki? Hirosaki already has a lot of churches." I get this question a lot. When Japanese people think of churches, they do not know there are differences between a Baptist church, a Catholic church, a Mormon, etc. That is something I must explain. In reality, there are still only 10 "churches" in all of Hirosaki. And then, they always ask, "Well, what is a Baptist?" I have enjoyed being able to explain to them what I believe, and I am excited to get a Baptist church started in this city.

In January, along with quite a bit of snow and a lot of shoveling, we were able to get into the new building and start some of the renovations. Half of the building had recently been renovated but the space we will be using for the auditorium needed some walls put in and then some new paint and flooring. Also, we began purchasing all the needed items to furnish the building, as well as getting a website and invitations ready for distribution. Here in the area, there are many people who want to study English. And so, we plan on holding an English Conversation Class, a Kids English Time, and a few others different activities before we hold our first service at the church. Please be in prayer for each of these activities. Pray that God would bless them and use them as means to get the gospel out. And please pray for the opening service coming up in May.

In February, I had the privilege to go back down to Kobe and be a part of a special service for the church we served in while studying the language. Their new building was completed in December, and although they have been holding services there since Christmas, they held an official "Opening Service" and invited many people out to see the building. To me, the highlight of the trip was knowing that the next Sunday. Mrs. Iwata, the lady I have mentioned a few times over the past few months, was the first person to be baptized in the new building. We praise the Lord for all that He has done down in Kobe, all that He has done for us here in Hirosaki, and we are looking forward to all He will do in the future. Thank you all very much.

Striving together,

James, Rebekah, Joshua, Lily, and Daisy Scott Your missionaries in Japan







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