

Thank you for your prayers and support!
Love you all in the name of Jesus Christ!

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2023 Q1 Prayer Update

Hello to my family and friends in Christ

It has been a while since I updated you on where we are and how you can be praying for us. The past year has been a time of transition and readjusting for our family and ministry. I am currently settled in with my position serving as an academic advisor and interpreter at CBI as a full time staff. During the last year we had a time of sabbath, reflecting, healing and growing, especially as a family. I am very grateful for the past year that God and my missions team granted us. Also thank you so much for your prayers and walking besides us during this period of our ministry and lives. God is indeed good!

Mini covid update!

Japan lifted their mask mandate and now people are free to not wear or wear masks. It does feel refreshing to be able not to wear masks but the reality is many in Japan continue to choose to wear masks. Covid is not gone but we seem to be learning to live with it, rather than trying to run away from it. We are praying that life and ministry will feel even more normal with the regulations being lifted.



Christmas at ANF!

Christ Bible Institute

Special update: For the first time ever. The CBS "Welcome home" gathering



In the beginning of March we were able to host an event, that we called "Okaerinasai no kai" which means "Welcome home gathering", for our alumni. Over the 15 years that CBS has been around we have had more than 60 graduates and of them 40 were able to join us. It was a time of celebration and thanksgiving while also trying to encourage those who were struggling. We rented a nice room and had good food and we tried to gather as many people together to share our thanksgiving to God and gratitude towards one another.

There were many reasons to why we wanted to host an event like this.

1. We felt the need. We were hearing many stories of Japanese pastors and alumni's struggling with ministry and life. Covid 19 made it difficult for many churches to really do ministry for God. Some pastors felt burn out under the pressure of life and ministry. Some graduates felt like they were doing so little for the Lord. We wanted to give a clear message to all of our graduates. God cares and we also care. We wanted to encourage the graduates that no matter where they were in life, as long as they continued to trust God, they were walking the good walk.
2. The timing was good. Covid was coming to an end, there was 15+ years of faithful ministry in Christ and over 60 graduates!!! 10 years ago we weren't even sure if the seminary would continue to exist in 2022, but by God's grace CBS still serves the Japanese church and I am very happy to be a part of this ministry.
3. The recent resources. We have been working hard during this lock down season to really strengthen our website and publishing ministry in Japan. We wanted to let the alumni know that there are ways we can stay connected together and that we wanted to provide solid Christian teaching and resources in an accessible way.



Fellow graduates and also interns who used to serve at ANF

Church and family update

We are now coming to a full year since the closing of the Nagakute campus. It was Easter Sunday of 2022 that marked the end of ANF Nagakute. It doesn't feel like it was too long ago that we were talking as a team what kind of worship service we wanted to create, but ANF has already been around for more than 10 years. I was one of the first 5 elders when ANF became a church. In many ways my ministry in Japan was connected to ANF. And it was in the process of finding a new leader for Nagakute that we ended up closing. There are things that we could have done differently but at the end of the day I believe what we did as a church were the correct things, we were all trying to honor God and love one another, just in different ways. A year has passed and most of all I feel grateful for the God who was and

is always with us. Most of the members at ANF have settled down either with ANF downtown or are now connected to other churches. ANF downtown feels lively and they have done an amazing job welcoming Nagakute. We used to be a church with two locations and now we are one church in one place. Currently we average around 60 people per week at our worship.



Near by park where we had a church picnic

The time of sabbath and changing my focus to Christ Bible Institute has also been a very good change for the family. My wife and I have grown much deeper in our relationship through rest, mentoring and counseling. As a result we also feel closer to our children. I had been an inactive elder at ANF but we I am planning to become active again this year. But unlike last year where I served in the church part time, I will be serving as a lay elder, meaning my main focus will continue to be with Christ Bible Institute. Once again thank you so much for your prayers over the last year. We couldn't have made this journey without them and most of all without the Holy Spirit guiding us.



Catching up with old family and friends



Family trip to Tokyo



As I close I want to share three prayer requests in the usual areas of our lives.

For CBI: We will have 3 graduating students and 3 new students this year. I will continue to serve as interpreter and support for the professors and staff at CBS. Also we have been recording some video courses so please pray that I interpret well in all these areas.

For our family: Our children are wrestling through their faith right now. Isaac who is 13 now is struggling with his identity and relationship to God. Sara has recently shown more understanding and interest in the gospel. Please pray that the Holy Spirit continue to lead both of them. Also pray for Yu chan as she has had a lot of migraines recently.

For ANF: Pray for wisdom as I begin to be a part of the elders once again. We want the church to be a place of worship and growth for God's kingdom and our sanctification.



Reminder that we have a new website!! We recently made the Love Japan teachings also available! Please check it out. The website is in English and Japanese.

PAST EVENT MEDIA



WHEN PEOPLE ARE BIG AND GOD IS SMALL

Edward T. Welch ■■



CARING FOR ONE ANOTHER

Edward T. Welch ■■



SINGLE AND FLOURISHING

Lois Kehlenbrink ■■



MARRIAGE MATTERS



2018 PAUL TRIPP CONFERENCE



LOVE JAPAN

As always thank you so much for reading this and praying with us. Ministry here really cannot happen without the prayer and support of churches and people like you. Praise God!

With much love in Christ,
Paul, Yu, Isaac and Sara Kang

Please remember and continue to pray for Japan!
Also thank you for praying and supporting us financially!

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