



~~ The MANSELLS ~~

Your Voice in Japan Since 1983



Dear Praying Friends

April 2026

*I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works;
and that my soul knoweth right well.. Psalm 139:14*

We have multiple reasons to praise God. This verse reminds us of one. Our whole being is made especially by God. Each of us is unique and not a mistake or accident. Let us use all that God has made us to glorify and praise the ever-living God.



April has brought some answers to prayer, and we appreciate your support for our daily and monthly needs. We were able to purchase a “new to us” vehicle and already we are so thankful for God’s provision for this. We said goodbye to “Queen Esther” our 2000 hybrid Estima van and hello to “Prince Prado” a 2014 Toyota Prado Land Cruiser. This is giving Ken more body room and leg length



while driving. Our Estima had serviced us well for 16 years and we were thankful to be able to donate it to another missionary family needing more room than their small vehicle! We trust there are many more years in her for them.



Another prayer answered is that that Mr. Kuwata’s frozen body was found as the snow drifts melted enough for more searching. We were able to talk to the youngest son a couple times and even got to have prayer with him. He started to cry and admitted he hadn’t been able to cry in front of the family. He told us he felt so much better after that. We saw the other three adult children at the funeral. Ken, Vicki and Jadon Saltzman attended the funeral. Mr. Kuwata was a community leader as well as had a couple large businesses, so it was attended by many. We might have been protected in some way by being put in the overflow room for the viewing of the funeral. There is no way to explain what goes on for you to completely understand. Just imagine

any unsaved funeral without any message of hope and only ritualistic sets of things done before the photo of the deceased including speeches and prayers said to this person via the photo. They truly believe that the spirit hears them as they talk. The Buddhist droning of the priests and ringing of the bells just breaks your heart. Please keep praying we and the Saltzmans (the youngest son is their landlord) have many opportunities of sharing the Gospel with this dear family.



Jadon and Aly have been watering seeds through various conversations with people they are trying to get to know better. Sometimes we can take part in that opportunity. Both here and in their home, and in a local café we have had conversations and tea with those that we know and new contacts as well. We are thankful the Saltzmans don’t let their level of language ability hold them back and just keep trying. They use the Japanese words they know to put into sentences as they learn the grammar. Before coming to Japan they studied Japanese via online tutoring and now our teaching here as well as apps have really increased their ability to learn the language. Pray



for them as they balance everyday needs and these studies, especially for Aly in daily and night challenges with an almost 1 yr old baby. They are both doing well in working with him and he is a joy to all who meet him.



We ended the month by combining a couple needs that had to be taken care of with the cherry blossom viewing in Hokkaido’s capital city of Sapporo about 4-5 hours south of us. God gave good weather and this was our first long trip in the new vehicle as well. One of the tasks was to spend an evening with a doctor friend who is 90 and we have known him and his wife for many years. Ken still works with him in English once a week via the internet. We hadn’t seen him and his wife for 3 years and we were saddened that she passed away in December. We knew it was important to see him and encourage him in any way we could. He wanted us to see the memorial for her in his house, so we started there. When Dr. Mitsu told us to please go and talk to Tomoko-san there at the altar, Ken explained to him that her ‘eternity is fixed’

but his isn’t yet so we could pray for him and thank God for our friendship with her but not pray to her’. So, he agreed and Ken prayed out loud for Dr. Mitsu to come to understand who the Creator God of love truly was and thanked God for our long friendship with Tomoko. Ken witnesses to him in one way or another as he teaches Dr. Mitsu every week. After we left there, Dr. Mitsu took us to a hotel restaurant where he had arranged for a 7-course meal for us to eat together! Let’s just say it was quite an experience!! All plates of different special Japanese ingredients including snail, squid ink cooking, and more! Finally, Cherry blossom viewing and Costco shopping didn’t disappoint!

Prayer Requests:

1. Continue to pray for the salvation of the husbands of: Mrs. Sonoda, Mrs. Kuwata, Mrs. Kawabata
2. Jadon and Aly are taking written driver’s license tests on **the 21st of May**. 50 questions-only 3 allowed for mistakes
3. For teaching and mentoring those that are in church fellowship with us currently.
4. For the salvation of Mr. Oota, the Kuwata family and so many more.

Serving Christ Together, Ken & Vicki Mansell

Just A Prayer At Night –Your evening is our daytime!

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