



*Ethel Wilson*

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**Greetings from Japan!** I've been back in Japan for 2 months now and have good news and blessings to report. Thank you all for your many prayers during this time of transitioning back to Japan, and of seeking the Lord's will regarding a transition in location of ministry.

### Travels

I returned to Japan on May 16. I've had the opportunity to visit several churches since my return – two military works (including a supporting church, Yokota Baptist Church), and several Japanese churches. I've also been able to be at Yokosuka Baptist Church for several services. What a blessing it has been to see how the Lord is working in various places. Most of my travels have involved driving, though one was by train. Praise the Lord, the car is holding out well, though I did recently have to put 4 new tires on her, an unexpected expense. I praise the Lord also for safety in the air, on the rails, and on the road.

### Transitions

**I am thrilled to share with you that the Lord has, in His perfect timing, directed me to a new place of ministry.** On June 10, I visited Megumi Baptist Chapel, a church plant in the city of Okazaki (incidentally, the city in which I attended language school). I've known the pastor and his wife for many years. They have been praying that the Lord would send them someone to help them in their ministry. After discussion and prayer, plans are in place for me to begin working with them as soon as I can make the move down there. I'm very much looking forward to serving in a primarily Japanese-focused ministry once again.

After meeting some commitments back up here in Yokosuka, I returned just over a week later to begin looking for a place to live. I had allotted about a week and half, hoping that time might possibly be enough time to find a place. The Lord surprised me with being able to find a place on my second day of looking, confirming that on my third day (a Friday). The following Monday I met with the realtor to submit the application. He told me I would hear by the following Saturday if I'd been approved. I was surprised to receive a call from him the very next day stating that I had been approved. I will go down once again on July 31 to sign the lease and receive the keys. The move has been set for August 8 & 9. I'm so thankful for the allowance of the late-July lease signing because that has given me some time to be working on preparations for the move without paying double rent.

**I am very thankful for several answers to prayer requests in my previous letter.** The rent is a little lower than what I'm currently paying; it's a condo unit so everything is on the same level with access via elevator; and the parking is level with the building entrance. The size is adequate (though a couple of rooms may be a little tight). The Lord also gave me a few unexpected blessings – light, bright interior (lots of windows), good storage space, gas hook-up that should work with my American gas range, a security entrance, and only 8-10 minutes from the church.

### Needs

While the main moving costs have already been met, there are always other costs that arise. I know that I will need to install 3 air conditioning units. That is really not something I can delay because Augusts in Japan are very hot and humid, not agreeing well with my asthma. **Praise the Lord, the church I visited on July 15 voted to provide funds for one of the AC units** (in addition to providing a very unexpected love offering), and **I was recently informed of another special gift I will be receiving that will cover about 2/3 of the remaining costs.** I know there will also be assorted other items needed and unexpected fees that will crop up, as well as travel and lodging costs back and forth. *Please pray that the Lord will provide for the remainder of these financial needs.*

Please pray with me for the following:

1. *the new ministry: guidance in how to best serve, team unity, and salvation of Japanese souls*
2. *wisdom in the many remaining move decisions needed, and strength for completing all tasks*
3. *that the Lord will keep my 16-year-old car running well and keep me safe on the roads*
4. *needed funds when that car needs to be replaced by something newer*
5. *some needed additional regular monthly support*

Thank you all so very much for your prayers, and for your financial support. Thank you for partnering with me to share the gospel in Japan.

In His Service,

*Ethel*

Please note the new address in the header at the top. However, please do not use this address prior to August 1.

**Sending Church:** Fairfax Baptist Temple • 6401 Missionary Lane • Fairfax Station, VA 22039 • 703-323-8100  
**Mission Board:** Baptist International Missions, Inc. • PO Box 9 • Harrison, TN 37341 • 423-344-5050



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Serving at: Baptist Megumi Chapel

## November 2018

**Thank you, thank you, thank you** once again for your prayers, faithful financial support, and patience. The Lord is so gracious! I am so thankful to Him for putting together a team that supports me and enables me to serve Him in Japan. I am also thankful for His strength and provision.

### Move

The move to Okazaki has probably been the most difficult of my life, and I have moved MANY times. But again, the Lord is so gracious. I won't go into all the details, but there were many challenges. Yet in all the challenges, I felt the Lord's sweet peace that this was exactly where He wants me to be. I am finally mostly settled into my new home, having had to replace several items, even saying goodbye to my American stove (and replacing it with a much smaller Japanese oven and separate cooktop). Thank you, Heartland Baptist Church, for the financial gift that covered the rest of the AC unit costs, and to many others who have sent special gifts.

### Ministry

I am very thankful to be at Baptist Megumi Chapel (バプテスト恵みチャペル). Yes, that is different from the way I put it in my last prayer letter, and the order seems a bit awkward in English, but it works in Japanese. Pastor and Mrs. Yorita have wanted me to take some time to get adjusted here before becoming too heavily involved. However, in October we began our English class ministry: a children's English class before Sunday School, and an afternoon adult class. Thus far it has been only the pastor's children in the morning class, but one lady, a new contact, has started coming for the afternoon class. She is very emphatic that she wants nothing to do with the "religious" side of this, but she shared with us that she keeps ending up at English classes conducted by churches. Please pray that the Lord will open her heart. Although she declined our invitation to come to our Christmas service, she did at least take the invitation flyer. We also had a telephone contact recently from a man who attended a Baptist church when he was younger; he is planning to come next week.



I have been able to help a bit with some design work. And I will soon begin assisting in teaching. I'll be teaching one of the Christmas season lessons. Then after the first of the year, Mrs. Yorita and I will be alternating weeks teaching the Sunday School lesson as we also do now with playing piano for the service.



Please pray especially for our upcoming Christmas events. We will have a special children's Christmas event on December 9, and then will have our adult Christmas service on December 23. Please pray that people will come and that their hearts will be open.

### Prayer Requests

Please pray with me for the following:

1. *salvation of Japanese souls and growth of Baptist Megumi Chapel*
2. *encouragement for the Yoritas and myself*
3. *good reports from my upcoming medical check-up, and safety traveling for it*
4. *funds for when my car needs to be replaced by something newer* (an expensive inspection will be due next summer, and I would like to be able to consider putting that cost toward a newer vehicle)
5. *necessary additional monthly support*

*"Faithful is He that calleth you, who also will do it."* 1 Thessalonians 5:24

In His Service,

*Ethel*

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