

# The Johnsons

## Missionaries to Japan

January 2021



## A COVID Christmas

Greetings and Happy New Year from Aomori, Japan! As was the case with many of your churches, our Christmas season looked a little bit different this year from past years. Because of the concern brought on by the Coronavirus, we made the decision not to hold any major events at the church building. We instead decided to put together smaller gatherings at our house. From Thanksgiving weekend through Christmas, we were busy hosting groups of friends for Christmas parties. At each of these events, I was able to share the Christmas story and give the gospel to those in attendance. The smaller settings allowed us to build a better relationship with those that were in attendance. Throughout the month, we had about **60 people come over to the house** and hear the gospel presentation. Please pray for these folks that the planted seed would grow.

As we look toward the new year, we are excited about the future of the Aomori Megumi Baptist Church. In our last prayer letter, we mentioned the bank branch directly in front of our current location was closing and we let the bank know we were interested in the property. We asked you to pray that they would be willing to sell it to us for less than \$250,000. Thank you so much for praying for this opportunity. As of the first week in January, the head of the bank's real estate division **accepted our offer of \$195,000**. We are so excited to see God answering prayer! The deal is not completely finalized yet. The bank's board still must officially vote to sell us the property at that price, but we are 90% certain they will do so. If everything goes according to plan, we **should be purchasing the building in the middle of March**. We are making plans for the transition and are excited to see God working. Of course, purchasing the building is only the beginning. In order to change from a bank building into a church building, we will be undertaking some major renovations as well. We look forward to sharing more of those plans with you as we move forward.

On January 23<sup>rd</sup>, we are planning on holding a **snow camp for elementary age kids**. We started this event last year and had a great turnout. With the Coronavirus this year, we are taking extra precautions but are still preparing to hold this event. Please pray that many will come and hear the gospel during this event.

In family news, **we are expecting with our fifth child**, a girl due in March. We are excited about our growing family. Please pray for both Sarah and the baby in this last trimester of pregnancy.

I have already contacted many, if not all our supporting churches about this, but we are going to coming back to America for a **short furlough from the end of July of this year through November**. With the short timeframe, we unfortunately will not be able to visit every one of our supporting churches, but we will make it to as many as we can during this time. God has blessed with a good number of meetings already lined up, but if you would like us to come and give an update, please feel free to contact me. Thank you for your faithful prayers and support of our ministry. We are excited about the days ahead!

God bless,

Paul, Sarah, Timothy, Karen, Ethan, and Joshua Johnson

### Missions Statement

Evangelize the Lost  
Equip National Leaders  
Plant Local Churches

### Sending Church

Heritage Baptist Church  
14510 Spriggs Rd.  
Woodbridge, VA 22193  
(703) 680-6629  
www.visitheritage.com

### Contact Information

181-8 Komagome  
Kirinosawa, Aomori  
Japan, 030-0955

20 Valley Ridge Dr.  
Stafford, VA 22554

www.Johnsons2japan.com  
johnsons2japan@gmail.com

### Mission Board

Baptist International  
Missions, Inc. (BIMI)  
P.O. Box 9  
Harrison, TN 37341



Paul, Sarah, Timothy, Karen, Ethan, Joshua

“From the rising of the sun...the LORD's name is to be praised.” Psalm 113:3