

PETERSON PERSONALS

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Hot Springs Evangelism!?

We have found a new place to meet the people of Yoshioka; a place where people come to relax, chat with neighbors, and forget about their worries. This is a place where people gather and mutually let down their guard. Conversations are easy to come by and everyone is in a good mood. "What a great place for evangelism", you say. Well, we agree as long as you aren't shy. Because birthday suits are the only attire allowed here!

What we're talking about is the new Yoshioka "Rivertopia" (Yes, that's really what it's called) hot springs and spa that recently opened just a couple of blocks from our home. Actually you are allowed to wear swim suits in the pool section, but the real attraction is the hot spring baths. The outdoor baths are especially nice, with a grand view of the sprawling fairways of the local golf course set against a backdrop of the mighty Tone River and majestic Mt. Akagi. We have been enjoying this treat 2-3 times a week, and have really found it to be a wonderful place to get to know our fellow townspeople. We continually pray for effective points of entry into the community and what a joy this one is.

Family Scoop

We had a wonderful summer, although a little less rain would have been fine. On July 5th, Miles' birthday, we welcomed a new member into our family. "Stripe" is his name. He is very warm and fuzzy with rather large ears and a twitchy nose.



Fall is sliding into winter and the mountains around us are beginning to show their whitened caps. Miles continues to do well in grade school, Kendra loves kindergarten and is quite fluent in Japanese. She is also learning how to ride her bike without the training wheels. Eli has turned into a jabber box and is very excited about beginning kindergarten next April. (They start at age 3 in Japan) Hydi has been dealing with nagging health problems. Her knees have been hurting for several months, she recently

had a bout of tonsillitis and then was diagnosed with severe allergies. Nevertheless she still keeps busy with the kids, three English classes and occasional exercise in between it all. Jim is enjoying the weekly preaching and especially a ten week discipleship class with three people from the church, two of whom have not yet made confessions of faith.

Christmas for Kids



On December 23rd we will be having our third annual children's Christmas meeting. The first two years it was held in the local civic center but this year we are excited to use our own church. Attendance was over 100 both previous times. Holding the meeting in our church may scare some people away, but will bring many into a building that they might otherwise never enter. Everyone in Japan knows about Christmas and even celebrates it to some extent, but the true meaning of this day is completely lost in all of the tinsel, glitter, and lights. Please pray that this meeting will be an eye opening and heart changing experience for many.

Please Pray

- **For the Yoshioka Church**
That God would continue to build us up and use us to spread the good news in the town of Yoshioka.
- **For the Discipleship Group**
One man hopes to be baptized soon and the other two are still searching. Please pray for conviction, confession, and assurance.
- **For Hydi's Health**
Pray for proper treatment, quick healing, patience and peace in the mean time.

In Christ,
Jim, Hydi, Miles, Kendra, & Eli