

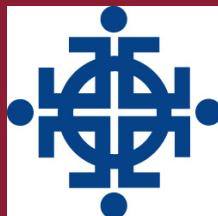
# Notes from Jim and Hydi

Mt. Akagi, Japan

July, 2015

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Dear Partners in Ministry,

We survived our first winter on Mt. Akagi and are gearing up for the peak of our summer camping season. We are also preparing for a six month trip to the U.S. and hope to visit with as many of you as possible between October, 2015 and March, 2016. Please take a moment to catch up on some of our ministries over the past six months.

## Camping Activities

### Akagi Bible Camp

During the winter months we had a number of small groups and individuals visit Akagi Bible Camp but weren't able to host large groups as our two main buildings get shut down for the coldest part of the season. But once we were able to open them up and get the water running again in April we began hosting larger groups. We started off with a work camp in April to get the facilities ready, with lots of cleaning, painting and repairs. Then we welcomed a group of young church families with little kids in late April and during the first week of May we had our denominational family camp with over one hundred guests, and later in the month we hosted a smaller group of business leaders. In June we hosted the mountain photography club Jim joined earlier in the year and a group of young Covenant pastors. Now that it's summer vacation in Japan we will have four camps in July and five in August, almost all of which are church groups. Please pray for our staff as we work around the clock to keep things going smoothly, and for the campers that they might come away from their time on the mountain enriched, challenged and empowered.



BBQ lunch in early May

## Sports Ministries

Spring weather has provided lots of opportunities for Hydi to pursue her sports ministries, centered around trail running, mountain climbing and tennis. She also had an opportunity to participate in a triathlon in Nagano where she has lots of friends and acquaintances. Please continue to pray that she will find ongoing

opportunities to share the good news with people thru sports.



Before the triathlon start with our good friend, Mr. Sato



Heading out for the bike leg of the triathlon in Nagano

## Covenant Seminary

### Preparing the next generation of church leaders

Jim is teaching preaching and church history at the Covenant Seminary again this semester. In March we celebrated the graduation of six students and then in April, when the new school year begins in Japan, we welcomed fourteen new students. God has blessed the Covenant Seminary with about seventy students in an era when many seminaries are struggling to get any students at all. Please pray that God will continue to use our seminary for this vital ministry and that the students will be well prepared for their work as church leaders.



The graduating class of 2015



New students at the entrance ceremony in April

## Church Ministries

Jim continues to preach almost every Sunday in a wide variety of churches, sometimes doing double duty at one church in the morning and another in the afternoon or evening. We also have a close working relationship with the four local Covenant churches here in Gunma. Hydi participates in the monthly cooking class outreach at the Shibukawa church and both Jim and Hydi often help out with the youth soccer outreach at the Isesaki church. On Easter Sunday we joined the joint celebration with all four churches for a time of singing and proclaiming the Risen Christ.



A lively Easter celebration!



Cooking class in Shibukawa with Hydi and our daughter Kendra



Indoor soccer in Isesaki

## Family News

Eli, our youngest, has finished his first year of college working on an Emergency Administration degree at Utah Valley University. He was able to get a spot on a wildland fire fighting crew for a summer job so please pray for his safety. Kendra finished her third year of college at Point Loma Nazarene University as a Social Work major and Women's Studies minor and is home in Japan for the summer. After spending a year here in Japan working, Miles has been accepted into a graduate program in Fisheries at the Univ. of Southern Mississippi, Gulf Coast Research Lab in Ocean Springs, MS and will be starting in late August. But the biggest news is that Miles and Miho Mizuno have just announced their engagement and hope to get married next spring.



Miles and Miho

## Visiting the U.S.

### Up Coming Home Assignment

We are planning to be in the U.S. for six months, from October 2015 to March 2016. We are contacting our ministry partners to line up an itineration schedule. We look forward to seeing you again soon.

## A Special Request

We are blessed beyond words to be living and working at Akagi Bible Camp. Yet there are challenges and this summer we have encountered a new problem. The house we live in is going to require some significant repairs to the water and sewage system and the expense is more than the camp can handle. We have already received commitments for some offerings to help with this expense but are still about \$2500 short. Would you consider making a designated offering to Akagi Bible Camp for this cause. The Covenant has made it very easy to make [online gifts at this site](#).

Or you can send checks to the following, designated for Akagi Bible Camp (Jim and Hydi Peterson).

ECC, Dept. of World Mission  
8303 West Higgins Road  
Chicago, Illinois 60631

Thank you for your thoughts, your prayers and your gifts. We treasure our partnership with you and hope to connect with you in person soon.

In Christ,

Jim and Hydi Peterson

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*Try it FREE today.*

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