

From... Japan

Hello Friend,

July 7, 2001

Greetings from hot and sweaty Japan! It doesn't usually get this hot until after rainy season ends in mid July, but we have been hitting 90 with heavy humidity many days since we returned to our home in Japan.

We had a great send off during the two weeks we spent in the middle of June in southern California, seeing Steve's parents and family and visiting with our many friends in the area, especially the Becomers Sunday School class and our home church, Evangelical Free Church of Yorba Linda. One highlight was the rededication prayer time as we were sent out again for mission in Japan.

A hearty welcome to all those of you who are new to our ministry support team! ☺ By God's grace almost all of the support we needed came in by the end, and there are a couple of people and a couple of churches whose decisions we need know and then we may be completely supported! At the same time we want you to know we need each and every one who gives regularly! For those who may need it, the information on giving to our staff account is given at the end of this letter.

Arrival Events On our arrival here two staff friends met us with a van and a truck. Providentially it was only cloudy, and all the people and boxes fit in okay. We were tired, but managed to stay up until the evening, and our adjustment through jet lag wasn't too hard.

We spent the first few days doing "oh-soh-ji" or spring cleaning, trying to get our house back into a good condition. I took the kids out in the mornings to work on the jungle, our little 3 foot wide side yard, whose bushes and trees were all quite overgrown and untouched for the year. Now things are looking a lot better.

The kids have gotten a hold of some of their friends, and the boys especially have gotten active in basketball camp, Joy Bible camp for Ben, and next week Hi-BA camp

for Andy. Rochelle has been calling up and seeing some of her friends and neighbors, and they will start getting together soon.

Starting To Work Steve plowed into the mountain of office work. Actually that was what the desktop looked like! A year's worth of all our mail (magazines, Christian mailings and bills) overflowed the space, and files from various projects that had been stacked there! After clearing some space Steve met with Kazu, and they began working through some of the upcoming projects.

This past Friday Steve was in the thick of it again, sharing with the general committee for the World Cup 2002 evangelism in Japan, regarding CCC's plans as a partner in this effort. There are 10 soccer venues (stadiums) in Japan and 10 in Korea, which will host the games in June of 2002. Working alongside the 10 regional pastor leaders at the 10 venues, JCCC and others are expecting literally thousands of Christians coming to be part of evangelism efforts aimed both at the guests of the games and local Japanese through their interest in soccer.

Pray for us as we renew relationships with staff, neighbors, and church friends. Ask God to give us favor with them, and that He will open the hearts of non-Christians towards Himself. Pray for the preparations of the World Cup 2002 evangelism. Please remember Rochelle's father's health as well. For more detailed and timely news and prayer items, join our email list! Send your email address to stcjapan@aol.com and we will get you more involved!

With all our love,