## Gardner Family MINISTERING IN OKINAWAY

"The harvest truly is plentious, but the laborers are few" Matthew 9:37

Faithfully delivering the message of NEW LIFE in Christ to the nationals of Okinawa, Japan.

Dear Pastors and Friends,

May/June 2025

"I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye." Psalm 32:8 As Christians, we are to listen to the Lord, follow His way and He will guide our way.

As we prepared for Mother's Day, we were expecting about 8 ladies, but due to different circumstances, none of our ladies were able to come that day. That was very discouraging, but the Lord is faithful!! I had to quickly change my message for the 6 faithful men that attended that day.

Recently, we had a young man named Nelmar come and visit our church. He recently moved to Okinawa from the Philippines for work. It takes him 1 hour to ride his bike to church every week!! He is a new Christian and so excited to find a church to attend.

Every year we try and plan a summer church BBQ.

Many of you have been praying for Tomoka (toe-moe-ka) and her family. Her husband, Chibana San (chi-bah-nah) LOVES to cook and was so excited to help cook for the church BBQ. He brought his 3 boys to help set up early before church. It was so exciting to have their ENTIRE family (dad, mom and 7 kids) in church for the first time!!!!

Our attendance on Father's Day was also a little low. Many of our attenders do not have Christian families. Many have family or school events planned on Sundays, so they are learning to be a testimony and put God first. Please continue to pray for growth in this area for our people.



Heidi's dad finished chemo for throat cancer recently and we are so excited to announce that our daughter will be having a baby this August!!!!!

Because of these things, we decided to take a short visit to the States this summer. Our last Sunday, we had our highest attendance yet!!!! We were so excited

for 38 in attendance that day!!!!! We will be returning to Japan on Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>. Please pray for safety as we travel and for safe delivery of our daughter, Kierstyn's baby!!

Please be in prayer for the young couple, Kamai (kaw-my) family as they are filling in and taking care of the church while we are away. He is a Pastor's son and recent graduate of the Kansai Independent Baptist Bible College in Kobe, Japan.

Thank you for your faithful prayers and support.

Dan & Heidi Gardner