

January 2022

'Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne.'

Psalm 89v14

Christmas Services

Thank you so much for praying for our Christmas Family Service and our candle-lit Christmas Eve service. **Praise God** that a handful of non-Christians came and heard the gospel including one man who'd never been to the church before. **Please pray** that they will be reminded of the gospel message they heard and respond to it.

Christmas Parties

Thank you for praying for our elementary school and youth Christmas parties. They were great opportunities to share the gospel with children from non-Christian families and we had lots of fun playing games including pass the parcel using giant balls of clingfilm. The nativity at the front of our church became a useful tool in explaining the Christmas story. **Please pray** that these children, some of whom have heard the gospel many times, will believe. **Please pray** that new children will come when groups restart this month.

New Team Members in 2022



We are delighted to be welcoming the Pawson family to Hanamaki in May when they are due to graduate from language school. David is British (from the Ipswich area) and Manuella is the daughter of the German family who founded this church. They have two children, Esther (3) and Gideon (1). They are about to complete two years of language study on the northern island of Hokkaido and will then start a two-year training term with us in Hanamaki. **Please pray** that God will prepare lots of good opportunities for them to meet people and share the gospel. **Please pray** that they will be happy and thrive in Hanamaki.

Grace's Exam Results

We are very **thankful** that Grace did well in the IGCSEs that she took last year. **Please pray** for wisdom for her as she chooses her A Levels.

Mr Highbridge

Thank you for praying before for Mr Highbridge who is a single father who joined our church last year. As he is a relatively young Christian, he is keen to learn lots about the Bible and is meeting with Mark once a month for one-to-one Bible study. **Please pray** for good times of fellowship every month and for Mr Highbridge to grow in his faith. **Please pray** for energy for him as he brings up his 7-year-old son.

Trip to the UK

We have booked tickets to return to the UK for a short trip on the 21st of February to visit family. We are **thankful** that many of the restrictions on travel have eased recently making the preparation for the trip more straightforward. **Please pray** for a good time with our parents and for some good rest.

New Year Planning

Having been very busy over Christmas we have been reminded that there is a limit to the number of events we can supervise at the church. **Please pray** for wisdom in the coming weeks as we plan the church schedule for the spring. **Please pray** for good ideas for ministry that the Pawsons can be involved with once they arrive in Hanamaki and are settled in.

The Gelsthorpes – working for OMF leading a church plant in rural, northern Japan.
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Children's work

Please pray for new people to come and hear the gospel at our weekly Minecraft Club which is due to start again on the 22nd of January. We usually have three regulars. **Please pray** that the regulars at our Teen Club (due to start on the 29th of January) will invite their friends and that more of the children will come to the Bible study we hold before the club and that there will be good, open discussions. **Please pray** for a warm and open atmosphere at these Bible studies.

Zoom prayer meeting

Thank you for supporting this meeting, we look forward to seeing you if you are able to make it.

Monday 31st, 9am until 10am

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81165487307>

Passcode: megumi202!

Thank you so much for praying and please let us know how we can pray for you.

Love from Mark, Sarah, Grace, Isaac and Caleb



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