November 2026
"Mightier than the thunders of many waters, mightier than the waves of the sea, the LORD on high is mighty!."
Psalm 93:4

Christmas planning
Praise God for the many opportunities we have to share the gospel over Christmas. **Please pray** that lots of people will come and hear the gospel at these events in December:

5th	English Christmas Party
6th	Kids' party (including children from the local children's home)
10th	Card making event
12th	Christmas market and carol service
13th	Family Christmas service
19th	Christmas music night
24th	Candle service

Please pray that church members will volunteer to help with events and that they will invite their friends to come. **Please pray** for everyone involved in the preparation - that we would prepare well and not feel overwhelmed.

Regular interested non-Christians
Praise God for Mr Helptree and Mr Smallground, two middle aged non-Christian men who regularly attend our Sunday services. They got to know an American Christian in the local area who introduced them to the church. They are regularly reading the Bible at home and in a group after church on a Sunday. **Please pray** for a growing understanding and love for God's word among them. **Please pray** for Mark and other church members as we explain the Bible to them and answer their questions.

Opportunities with non-Christian husbands
Please pray for a good witness at home for the ladies in our congregation with non-Christian husbands. Recently we were **encouraged** to have some new opportunities to meet some of these men. Please pray that Mr Thousandfield (who writes out passages of the Bible every day) will commit to regular Bible study. Please pray that the upcoming initial meeting with Mr Helptree (husband of a church member in Hanamaki) will be encouraging and lead to fruitful future meetings.

Discussions about church leadership
Thank you for praying about our plans to teach on church leadership. At the end of November, Mark will begin Bible studies with the Church Advisory Board where we'll consider the roles of pastors, elders and deacons. **Please pray** for a helpful study and some good discussion.

Student loan application
We are currently having some difficulties with Isaac's student loan application in the UK. He has been deemed ineligible because of his time abroad but we are able to submit one last round of evidence. The Student Loan Company has also reviewed Grace's application from 2024 and deemed that ineligible too. **Praise God** that both universities have agreed to put a hold on the payment of fees while the situation is being resolved. **Please pray** for favour with the Student Loan Company as they review the latest round of evidence and then (potentially) an appeal. **Please pray** for good planning for us as a family in an uncertain situation.

Please continue to pray that a difficult situation with a previous landlord will be resolved swiftly.

Wedding
Thank you for praying for the wedding of two of our church members on the 31st of October. The day went very smoothly. **Praise God** that it was an encouragement to family and church members and a good chance to witness to non-Christian guests. **Please pray** for God to bless the married life of this couple.

The Gelsthorpes – working for OMF leading a church plant in rural, northern Japan.
mark.gelsthorpe@omfmail.com sarah.gelsthorpe@omfmail.com

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Holiday
Praise God that Grace (20), Isaac (18) and Caleb (15) will all be able to join us in Japan for their Christmas holidays (from the 16th and 17th of December). **Please pray** for a relaxing time spent together as a family.

Thank you so much again for praying for us!

With love from Mark, Sarah, Grace, Isaac and Caleb



Thank you for praying for our events!


We had the privilege of going to the CPI (Church Planting Institute) Conference near Mount Fuji for a time of teaching and worship with other church workers in Japan




Snow in Hanamaki and thankful that Caleb could be in Japan for the wedding

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mark.gelsthorpe@omfmail.com sarah.gelsthorpe@omfmail.com