



# THE MANSELLS

## YOUR VOICE IN JAPAN SINCE 1983

Dear Praying Friends,

June/July 2005

Summer has been so different this year with temperatures for this area a lot higher than usual. Now if only the Japanese would understand how hot eternal death in the lake of fire will be and the paths they follow now are leading them there. **Teshio** held their annual town parade of portable shrines (photo) this last month. It doesn't always happen on a Sunday but this year it was. It *does* always go right in front of our building. From the time schedule we could tell they would be going in front of our building right about 11:00 a.m.! But what we didn't expect was that Satan would cause problems with one of their carts or something and they ended up stopping the parade so a whole section of it was stuck in front of our building. They had their weird music going on for a bit but eventually stopped when they realized they weren't going any place for awhile. Meanwhile, we opened all the windows and the girls and ourselves (none of our believers were able to be here) sang as loud as we could get for the 20 minutes or so they were stuck there. They probably really thought they were 'stuck', too--we sang about being God's children; about the blood of Christ; about the cross...etc. We were glad when they moved on but thankful that we had that little chance to do 'something' even though it seemed to be a bad situation.



We appreciated your prayers for Vicki's trip with **Mrs. Kuwata** to visit a former resident of Teshio (photo). It went well and Vicki did witness some more but for the first time in many times of trying to talk to her, Mrs. Kuwata really sort of shut down the conversation. Vicki has been doing some study of the particular Buddhist group that Mrs. Kuwata is a part of (not even a local sect) so that she can write a letter to her contrasting the truth of the Gospel and what Mrs. Kuwata believes in that gives her its own kind of peace which we know from God's Word isn't true. You have also prayed for Vicki and **Mrs. Sonoda's** health concerns and we praise God that both are feeling much better. Mrs. Sonoda often has different things that continue to affect her but she is so faithful to the service on Sundays even when not feeling well. Thank you for your prayers.



We sent out a short notice about **Tetsuya Mashike**, the young man saved at age 16 (now around 35) and then put in an institution for his faith. We ask that you would continue to pray. The head of the school promised to contact Missionary Randy Smith to let him know when he could start visiting Tetsuya regularly. That has not happened so Mr. Smith trusts to be able to check in on the situation. As soon as we have a current photo of Tetsuya we will share that with you as well and ask that you would continue to pray.

Thank you also for praying for Joshua and Alicia as they sought God's will for his internship as well as continued full time Christian work. The Lord led and they will be staying in Ottawa, Kansas where Joshua will do his internship with Pastor Richards of Calvary Baptist Church. The Appels will also continue their job with Amazing Grace Baptist Camp. They trust to have an update out soon and we will pass that on when it arrives.



Our summer missionary intern, **Barbara Sutton** from a supporting church in Sidney, Montana returned safely home after eight weeks with us. She studied hard on the Japanese language and had a good attitude toward the things we desired to teach her about missionary life and work. We are thankful to the Lord and her home church for the opportunity of having her as part of our ministry this summer. We will all miss her but especially **Alice Straughan**, our one year intern, who became very close friends with her. They were a real encouragement and challenge to one another; to serve the Lord and grow in Christ. Pray for Alice as she will be taking a three month furlough to Maryland this fall to raise more full time support to return and continue to train with the goal of having her live in a near by town by next spring.

We also ask you to pray for **Vicki** as she will be traveling with 14 others from Teshio to Homer, Alaska as the interpreter for the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary trip of the sister-city association with this town. The dates will be the 24<sup>th</sup> of August through the 30<sup>th</sup>. Her partner in hotel and home stays will be Mrs. Kurokawa who has a Bible; reads it often; and has gone through some Bible study on a regular basis in the past with us. Vicki desires to share more with her while on this trip, hectic though it may be.

Besides regular duties, **Ken** continues to help the Smiths with their total building renovation week by week. With school summer vacation in August, he plans to spend most of each week doing larger projects. He has also been asked to do a couple of other building projects for contacts of missionaries we know. Pray that through this he would have the wisdom and boldness to take every opportunity to share the gospel with these people. Please continue to pray for safety and wisdom.



Finally, we would like you to put these dates on your calendar: **September 1<sup>st</sup> through the 23<sup>rd</sup>**. Our three children and their families (eight in total) will be visiting us then!! We look forward to having us all together for the first time since they all got married. We especially look forward to the opportunities this will bring to be with people who we haven't been able to for awhile. There will many special witnessing opportunities provided by this trip and we need your prayer for that time period and the special Sunday services we will hold on **Sunday the 11<sup>th</sup>** with a carry-in dinner afterwards.

In Christ's Service Together,

*Ken and Vicki Mansell*

*Just A Prayer At Night – your evening is our daytime*