



# Dave & Eileen Barkman Newsletter

January 2017

## Back to Japan

Our seven-month home service which began last July is almost over. Although we have been able to meet many of our supporters and report in supporting churches, we feel our times together have been too short. However, we thank God for the opportunity to renew our friendship with many of you. We have tickets to leave Kansas Feb. 17 and return to Japan Feb. 24 after spending a week with our two daughters in the Chicago area.

### Home Service Impressions

- ◆ LOTS of people are praying for us and God's work in Japan.
- ◆ Most US churches we visited are reaching out to their communities with God's love in word and deed.

- ◆ Many of our financial supporters are aging, some with limited or decreasing ability to continue giving. However, they continue to pray with zeal.
- ◆ Several "younger" ones have joined our support team.
- ◆ Our supporters have expressed much interest in our family, giving us a lot of affirmation about our staying with Eileen's elderly parents during our home service. Even though this has limited our travel and ministry to churches, we are thankful to God for this opportunity to minister to them. Eileen's brothers and sisters in the area will continue to support them with visits, meals and medical support.

### Recent Family Highlights

On Dec. 19, Liam, grandchild #8, was born to Katie & Jonathan Greene, joining older brother Jaythan. Because of the distance, they were not able to travel from Illinois to Kansas at Christmas time. However, Eileen was able to spend 10 days with the family in January.



Dave & Eileen Barkman Home Service July 2016 - February 24, 2017  
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Aaron & Lydia Most with family (from Illinois) came to Kansas and joined the rest of us (Shaun & Evie Beach and family from Newton and Joel & Kara in Whitewater) for a very special family Christmas. Having grandchildren close enough for frequent visits is a highlight of home service.

We are cheering on Joel & Kara as they prepare to launch out for Spain on Feb. 7 as career missionaries with SEND International. Emmaus Mennonite Church held a very special commis-

sioning service for them on Jan. 22 and it was a blessing to be part of that.

Eileen's parents have had their physical ups and downs but they are stabilized at this time. Dave's mom and husband in Phoenix are also doing well. It was so special spending a week with them in January.



We thank the Lord for these special times with our family.

### Ministry in Japan

Next month we will return to the same house and basically the same ministry we had last term in Tohoku, northeast coastal Japan where God has opened up a wide door for the Word through the terrible earthquake and tsunami of 2011. Lord willing, we will be resuming the following roles:

**1) Tohoku Team leader.** God has put together a team of two families, five

couples, and three singles working on six ministry locations. Some of the team members are in full-time language study. Pray that we will be "caring servant leaders" as we seek to encourage, to assist, and to give coaching, member care, and training. New missionaries need to be led into a good ministry fit.

### 2) Cooperating missionaries with Shiogama Bible Baptist Church.

While we will assist Pastor Otomo, Pastor Yukimasa, and the believers as needed, our focus is to be "church-planting disciple makers" in our Sakuragi neighborhood. We are eager to return, especially to help several of our friends who have made decisions to follow Jesus during our home service absence. There is still much follow-up work to be done with people seeking to rebuild their lives after the 2011 disaster.

### Financial Support Opportunity

Before we receive SEND's permission to return to Japan, we need to have pledges for 100% of our support. Currently we have 92% pledged through the support team God has given us. For this we are extremely grateful. If you are considering joining our support team or increasing your support, please fill in the form below and send it to us or to SEND International.

*Because Jesus loves the Japanese,  
Dave & Eileen*



## YES! I'd like to partner with Dave & Eileen Barkman

I feel God is leading me to support the ministry of Dave & Eileen in Japan as marked below.

**Prayer Partner**  
I commit to pray regularly. Please keep me informed on how I can pray for you.

**Financial Partner**  
I'd like to partner with Dave and Eileen by giving:

New or  Increase to amount below  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ per month, or  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ per quarter, or  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ per year,  
to begin on \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

\*Make checks payable to SEND International

I would like my funds automatically deducted from my bank account (monthly giving only). See reverse.

Enclosed is a special contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ for their support  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ for home service expenses

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Missionary Number 25141