

2 0 0 6 W I N T E R E D I T I O N

the OKADA family

GREETINGS FROM THE LAND OF THE RISING SUN



Contact Infomation

4-14-5 Momoyamadai
Minamiku Sakai, Osaka
590-0141 JAPAN

homepage.mac.com/dokada

✧ Another Year of Blessings is coming to a close ✧

EXPOSITORS' SEMINAR SERIES

This year the Hamadera Bible Institute added a new program called the Expositors' Seminar Series. This is a one year program, taught in a series of 8 seminars which are spread throughout the year. The seminars consist of aprox. 20 hours of teaching each, taught over 3 days time. This has allowed men to attend the seminars over a weekend, who would not be able to quit work or move their families in order to study at the Institute full-time.

Daisuke taught 2 of these seminars and translated 2 others. Many of the men shared how encouraged they were by the oppretunities to study. Please pray for these men in their diligence and understanding of thier studies, as they have homework to complete prior to each seminar. Pray also for those who are presenting each seminar, that they may have wisdom in teaching. This program started in the summer so there are still 4 more seminars to complete.



*You know you have been
away from the States
when...*

*I thought since we soon will be
in the US...*

You visit a Ladies Restroom and you are surprised there is no special baby chair in the stall to put your child in.

When you forget how to use your ATM to pump gas until it no longer lets you try.

When you trip over your well trained child who is still trying to take off his shoes at the doorway.





Thanksgiving and The Christmas Play

Minna Mana Thanksgiving

This year's Thanksgiving party was such a rewarding time. About 70 people (adults and children) attended the party for the English ministry! With the help of Aaron to get the first bird in the oven...the the turkey bads that Valley Bible sent us...we were able to have 3 turkeys and most all the fixings to enjoy. It was fun to have some of the Mina Mana Moms in the Kitchen to help. These are the same moms which we have really become Marcia's good friends over the last year and have helped her out much with Noah at the kindergarten. Leah Faith and Aaron put much work into the party with Thanksgiving trivia and fun hats for everyone to make and Chiharu (Minna Mana's secretary) did a wonderful job decorating the room and tables. The people seemed to have a great time and the evening was closed with a message given by Jun, one of our Seminary students. Please pray that these families will continue to take part in activities within the church where we as a church body can spend time and share our lives with them.

The Christmas Play

This last Sunday was the Children's Ministries Christmas Play. We all had a pleasant afternoon as we watched the kids retell the Christmas Story. Some of the families from Minna Mana came. Daisuke shared a message afterwards about those who missed the first Christmas; ie. the Inn keeper, Herod. One person who stood out to me on this Sunday is a mother of one of the English students. Her son, Mion, started attending Minna Mana 2 years ago. He has some trouble focusing which seems to be more than just behavior problems or language. His parents started attending the church a few months back after they shared what a difference they had seen in their son's character, that he is always happy now and so loves to go to church. The father has come to talk to Pastor Kondo about this "Joy." Mion was unable to take part in the play because of food poisoning from travels, but his mother still came on Sunday. This family has been coming almost every week since the summer. Please pray that they may come to the understanding of the Gospel they are hearing each week.

We're Coming for a Visit

We sure would love to visit with you if we can. Marcia and the kids will leave for her parents in Northern CA this week. They will be the church in Pollock Pines through New Year's Eve. Daisuke will join the family on Christmas Day and together as a family travel to LA on Jan 2. We will be in LA area until Jan. 9 or 10 and then return to Marcia's parents for a few more days until we depart for Japan on Jan. 14. If we haven't already arranged to meet up with you, send us an email and we will surely try.



Thank you again for keeping us in your prayers. We know that the Lord has answered these prayers throughout the year and helped us go through another year of fruitful ministry. Please continue to pray for us for the upcoming year. Many great things are planned ahead such as the innagural Shepherds' Conference at HBC in the early June. Wihout your continuous support and prayer, we would not be able to do what share what we shared.

Daisuke and Marcia Okada