

# Land of the Risen Son

## イエス・キリストは日本を愛する

(Jesus loves Japan)

### Interesting Facts

#### Typhoons...

are actually spelled typhuu (たいふう) in Japanese. However when spoken the vowel ends abruptly giving the word an "n" sound at the end.

#### Names

(see right)

*Typhoons are basically the same as hurricanes. However as far as we can tell giving them names is a Western idea. The Japanese use numbers! We were most recently hit by typhoon #21.*



We track typhoons using the Japan Meteorological Agency's website.

#### Worst Typhoons...

(see right)

*Typhoon #15 was the worst in 13 years. When Typhoon #16 was over the ocean it was the most powerful in recorded history. Typhoon #17 was the worst to hit Okinawa in 62 years, and during it even the English radio station went silent!*



The bright dot is where we live.

### Update: On the Road to Japan (Peter & Valerie Limmer)

#### Baptisms

In September we had a baptism service. It had originally been scheduled for the Sunday when a typhoon came through, so everything was cancelled. The following Sunday, an announcement was made at the front during the service: "We're going to be having a baptism service today, but we don't know when... Oh, Daniel has the tide schedule. Low tide is at 4pm. Okay, the baptisms are at 4pm. Be at the church at 3:30 and we'll head over to the ocean."

Peter showed up at 3:30, as directed, and Higa sensei (the pastor) told him that he wanted Peter's help for the baptisms. The ocean's tides are a little much for any single person to handle baptizing everyone himself. So Peter had the amazing privilege of helping to baptize his ESL students, Helen and Grant!



Peter helping to baptize Helen.

In Japanese buildings, there is often a sunken "genkan" (entranceway), which means that to enter a person must step up into the building. One of the barriers to people coming to church is that they are uncomfortable with going to a place that they don't know. To express this, the Japanese say that the step into the church building is too high.

When we first started teaching ESL classes, Peter's friend Daniel invited four of his friends to attend. Two continued to come, but for two the language level of the rest of the class was too high, and they stopped coming. However, since they had become familiar with the church through ESL, they began to attend the Sunday church services. Though they weren't part of our ESL classes, Peter eventually became friends with them too.

One of the young men, Neil, called Daniel last week, saying that he wanted to talk with him. Daniel thought, "Oh well, it's been a good run. I bet Neil wants to tell me that he doesn't want to come to church anymore. Well, at least he got to hear the good news about Jesus." When Daniel went to visit his friend, Neil told him that he wanted to become a Christian and be baptized!



"Neil"



Thanksgiving group photo.

#### Thanksgiving

On the afternoon of October 14th, we held a Thanksgiving potluck party for our friends. Since we have only a large toaster oven, we prepared two large chickens like turkeys, and also made a large ham, vegetables, and several pumpkin pies. Nineteen people came, including five people who we'd not previously known (family of friends)! We all had fun sampling each others' cooking, chatting, and playing games. We played a Thanksgiving version of a classic children's game - our variation was "pin the feathers on the turkey". To our surprise, the adults joined in colouring the feathers, along with the kids! This is another testament to the group culture that is so prevalent in the Japanese mentality. To see more of our pictures, please see reverse.

# Thanksgiving Party



Our "genkan" full of shoes!



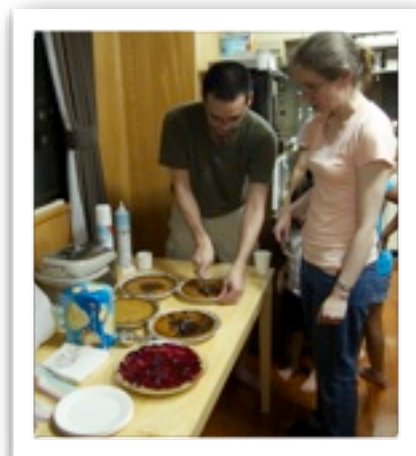
Everybody getting ready for "pin the feather on the turkey".



Our potluck Thanksgiving meal!



From the youngest to the oldest, everyone had their turn!



Cutting our homemade pumpkin pie.



Our finished turkey!

## Contact Information

### Thank You

Thank you for your interest in our work. We send out newsletters every two months. If at any point you decide that you don't want to receive them anymore, just email ([japan@peterandvalerie.com](mailto:japan@peterandvalerie.com)).

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