

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

Psalm 32:8

わたしはあなたを目覚めさせ行くべき道を教えよう。あなたの上に目を注ぎ、勧めを与えよう。

詩編 32:8

Hi everyone,

Thank you again so much again for all your prayers and financial support!

I have been having a very blessed time in Singapore at OMF Headquarters, which is in a great location near the Botanic Gardens and which God has provided for the facilities here, since the 1950s, to be bought at a miraculous price and then expanded (with no loan) for comfortable accommodation, offices, a large dining area, auditorium, meeting rooms, library and archives and recreation and garden space etc.

This letter may be a little longer than previous, as there is much to tell about my time in Singapore.

Orientation Course (OC)

21 adults and 17 children, from 8 different countries, who are going to be missionaries in one of 7 countries in Asia where OMF works, from August are taking part in this course. I am the only one going to Japan on this round. All have given up a lot to follow God's call to share the gospel with unreached people in Asia and it has been a joy to get to know them better and do this part of the journey together. The staff and trainers have also been very supportive too. It has been great to get to know some of the OMF International and Singapore staff also (who keep the whole organisation running to support the missionaries).



As part of the course, for the 4 weeks, we start everyday with a Morning Prayer time, together with the other Singapore and International OMF staff here, where we have each shared testimonies of knowing Jesus and our call to missions.

Then we have been having class sessions from 9-4:30 with a break for morning tea and lunch. We did some sessions on introductory things like Finance, IT, Organisational history, the Values, Mission, Vision and Structure of OMF.

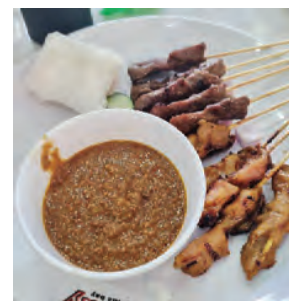
We also did quite a bit of Cross-Cultural studies about different perspectives and ways of thinking around the world, to use working with each other in inter-cultural missionary teams, as well as with the local people in our mission countries. The teaching is very practical including many group discussions and activities.

We also learnt about ministering as singles and families and being 'Holy and Pleasing to God'. And then we learnt about 'transition' and 'stress' and had short check-ins with the Medical Dr here and Mental health and Pastoral Care staff.

Finally, we did Bible studies on the book of Philippians about staying in Unity in Christ and being humble.

Outside of the classroom, we did an 'Amazing-Race-like' activity, to 'compete' to do certain tasks (eating or finding something) in various cultural areas of Singapore as teams within a time limit.

Also, a 'Cultural Observation' of a culture we are not familiar with. A few of us went to the Burmese



area where many people from Myanmar live and work and eat. We ate very spicy food from Myanmar there and made initial observations about what we saw, heard, tasted etc.



As well as our course, we also did some other social activities such as going to Gardens by the Bay and watching the light show, a BBQ night with



games and a 'Beach' picnic afternoon. I also met up with several Singaporean friends, who I knew from Australia, for meals and for one visit to a friends' house. These were very blessed times.

Church Visits

I visited a few churches, including a church my parents were connected with in Perth, at a church plant from that church here. and caught up with people there who knew my parents a long time ago!



I also visited a Japanese Church and it was great to fellowship with the Japanese people who live in Singapore. Especially to be able to join in their 30th Anniversary celebration service and dinner together.



Move to Japan next week

OMF Japan, in Sapporo, have rented and setup a lovely furnished 1brm apartment for me to use during the time I am studying at the language school for the first 6 months.

The other students at the language school sent me a card with messages to tell me that they are looking forward to having me there with them. Which was a lovely surprise and encouragement!

I will be met at the airport on August 3rd when I arrive in Sapporo and will be taken out the first few days to setup bank accounts, phone and internet and registrar with the city hall(council). Also, I will have meals with several of the other missionaries/Japanese students there over the first few nights. It is getting close now. I am really looking forward to finally being there!

I will write another letter a few weeks after I arrive in Japan, once I settle in.

Please let me know how I can be praying for you too!!

Love and God bless,

Wendy Cumberworth

OMF Missionary

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Prayer Points:

- *Praise God for provision of all supporters in prayer and financially to allow me to minister in Japan! Pray for continued provision of all support that I need ongoing for this journey!*
- *Thankful that Nigel has started attending his local church. Please pray for him to really understand God's love for him just as he is. Also pray for wisdom and direction for him to find a job, after completing his AOD (Alcohol Other Drugs) Counselling Diploma. Also, for courage to step into this new season of work.*
- *Pray that my Mum's procedure to have cataracts removed from both eyes next week will go smoothly.*
- *Pray for safe travel to Japan as I need to change airports in Tokyo, before travel to Sapporo(domestic flight). Please pray I make my connecting flight in time.*
- *Pray for me to settle in well to my apartment and life in Sapporo, and for the initial setup and processes.*
- *Pray for relationships and friendships with other OMF Missionaries and staff as well as to find local friendships.*

Financial Update

*Thank you so much to all who have partnered with me financially by pledging regular monthly amounts so far, of whatever amount they've decided with God to give. **My living and ministry in Japan is wholly funded by generous support of people and churches partnering with me in this mission in Japan.***

If you would like to partner with me financially, please visit: <https://omf.org/au/giving/>

For those outside Australia, please contact me for ways to pledge through OMF in your country and currency.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions at all about Japan, my mission work and how the finances work!

Timeline

Until July 31st Final sessions and week of the 4-week Orientation Course(OC) in Singapore

August 2nd and arriving Aug 3rd – Singapore to Sapporo, Hokkaido flight (via Tokyo)

Aug 4-10th Initial setup processes and procedures in Sapporo and getting to know colleagues.

August Start Japanese language training