

Dear friends and family,

We are excited to let you know that we are returning to Japan on March 17th. I (Dale) had a successful two week trip to Japan and we saw God's clear guidance throughout the trip. On the first day back in Japan, I had contact with a Japanese house church leader and was also able to set up several job interviews. By the end of the trip, I had received and accepted a job offer and had the unexpected privilege of meeting with the new International Fellowship of Alliance Professionals (IFAP) director and his wife.

The Job

I accepted a full-time job as a native English teacher in the Japanese public elementary schools of the Fuchu area of Tokyo. Training begins on April 6th and the new school year starts on April 15th. I will rotate among several elementary schools in Fuchu teaching English. This job should provide many contacts with students, teachers, and administrative staff. We also believe that this job will provide a great opportunity to get involved in the local community. Since we are a young family and anticipate the possibility of sending our girls to one of these schools in a few years, we are eager to see how God will use us in this type of position. *Please pray that we will be able to find an apartment in the local community quickly so that we can move into our new place by April 1st. We are also praying that I will be able to change my visa status to an Educator Working Visa quickly and easily upon returning to Japan.*

The International Fellowship of Alliance Professionals (IFAP)

We have been working closely with the IFAP office to complete our membership application. IFAP is an association of Alliance "tent-maker" (bi-vocational) missionaries. There are three types of overseas workers in the Alliance. There are traditional missionaries who are supported by the Great Commission Fund, but we also have IFAP workers and relief and development workers (CAMA Services). IFAP workers are professional business people and educators who gain employment in a foreign country and seek to share Christ through their work and community relationships. There are approximately 150 IFAP workers around the world. *Please pray the we will be able to complete the IFAP process smoothly over the course of the next few weeks.*

About Joining our Financial Support Team

Even though we will be working in Japan, it would be nearly impossible for us to live and minister there without some extra financial assistance. If you would like to partner with us financially, we would like to let you know about the following two areas of need.

1) Moving Expenses: Our immediate need is to raise approximately \$6500 in order to cover the costs of my job-hunting trip to Japan, flying our family back to Japan, and moving into a new apartment in Fuchu. This is a very urgent need for March. The best way to contribute to our moving expenses is to send a tax-deductible donation to Fremont Alliance Church, 1615 N. Lincoln Ave., Fremont, NE 68025. Please make checks out to Fremont Alliance Church and write "Lemke – Japan" in the memo.

2) Monthly Support: We estimate that my job will provide about 50% of the finances we need to live and minister in Japan. This means that we anticipate needing to raise approximately \$2000 per month in additional support. Once we become official members of IFAP, the national office of the Alliance will set up a fund to which tax-deductible donations can be sent. We will be in touch again about the details of the IFAP fund, but would appreciate hearing from you if you would like to become part of our monthly support team.

We are very excited about the potential for tent-making ministry in Japan. Our desire is not just to live and work in Japan, but to see God use our lives and work to influence people for the Kingdom. Toward that end, we would appreciate your continued prayer support for us and for the seekers that we will encounter in our new city.

Thank you for your prayers, encouragement, and support as we have navigated the transitions of the past year. It has meant more to us than you can imagine.

Sending our love,

Dale, Heidi, Mia, and Selah Lemke



Fuchu, Japan

Population: 240,000

Location: 12 miles west of central Tokyo

Geography: Mostly flat land segmented by east-west cliffs running across the north and center of the city and the Tama River flowing across the south

History: Ancient (7th Century) capital of a large area that includes modern Tokyo

Economy: primarily service-oriented

Universities: Tokyo University of Foreign Studies and Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology

Sports: 2 professional rugby teams and 1 football (soccer) team

Home of one of Japan's largest prisons and a major base of Japan's Air Self-Defense Force