

# Resonate™

## GLOBAL MISSION

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### Life in the fast lane!

Wow, it has been a crazy few months! Some highlights:

Jan: Zoom meeting with the boss in Grand Rapids  
Jan: 2 Japanese pastors' association meetings  
Feb: Audit books of a missionary association  
Feb: Lead sessions at Kobe Reformed Seminary  
Feb: Resonate planning and budgeting meetings  
Feb: Japan Evangelical Missionary Association mtgs  
Feb: Groundbreaking service in Utsunomiya (see ➔)  
Feb-Mar: Entertaining visitors from home office  
Mar: Ruth to S. Korea for seminar on child protection  
Mar: Yellow fever, typhoid and Hepatitis immunizations  
Mar: Crazy busy preparing for (Next slide please)  
Mar: Travel to Kenya to lead retreat  
Mar-Apr: Ministry in Kenya, visit to South Africa  
Apr: Quarterly ministry report and Africa Trip report  
Meanwhile, I preached almost every Sunday, filed monthly financial reports for the Japan field, did our Japanese and US tax returns, Skyped with kids and grandkids in the US, and so forth. Yeah, I know!

Much has happened, and we are so thankful to God for watching over us in our travels, enabling us to do a lot of ministry with his blessing, and teaching us anew at each step to rely on him. We are so grateful for all of you who



have been praying for these things. Your prayers have been answered most abundantly! I have to say, we were blown away not only by the beauty of places we visited in Africa, but even more so by the evidence of what God is doing there. We were also sobered by some of the issues our brothers and sisters face. Above all, we had a great time with the colleagues and new friends (and some old friends too) we met in Kenya and South Africa!

### A happy story...

What an impact a brief visit to an isolated church can have! Since I didn't have a preaching engagement on February 18, Ruth and I decided to visit Utsunomiya (a "country-side city" that's north of Tokyo) and attend the Utsunomiya Reformed Church's ceremony to break ground for a new church building. This is a very small and isolated congregation. We didn't tell them we were coming, and in fact, when we arrived, we realized we



were the only ones present from outside the congregation. After the brief ceremony, we had a short and sweet time with those who were there. The church dreams of new & ongoing ministry and outreach in their new facility; maybe we helped them devote themselves to that even more just by our "ministry of presence" that day as we all symbolically and prayerfully turned over of a few shovelfulls of soil where we pray the church will grow!

### Our prayer requests (*Thanks for standing with us!*):

- The schedule will be a little more reasonable the next couple of months. Give thanks with us for that!
- Well be visiting Choshi, Chichibu, Niigata -- a couple of other remote groups, and we hope to start surveying another site to see if it may be viable for a church plant.
- Our fiscal year ends June 30. We are at 73.28% of our funding target. We hope for some special support gifts at Pentecost (May 20). Thank you for your involvement!
- Pray that God's Spirit will work powerfully in this nation! Believe with us that God will call many to Jesus!
- I'll be giving a special presentation about worship and other issues to a group of church leaders on June 10.

Gratefully yours,

*Larry & Ruth Spalink*