

Resonate™

GLOBAL MISSION

1700 28th Street SE, Grand Rapids, Mi. 49508-1407 USA
<<https://www.resonateglobalmission.org/spalink>>



Larry & Ruth Spalink
1-15-24 Shinkawa-cho
Higashi Kurume-shi
203-0013 JAPAN
<LSpalink@aol.com>
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SPRING!!! YAY!!!

While our friends in the USA were “springing ahead” by one hour and resetting their watches to daylight savings time, we are enjoying the real deal! Plum blossoms are out and almost done already. On Sunday my daffodils started to blossom. Spring is without a doubt the loveliest time of the year in this very season-conscious, beautiful country. Michigan and Massachusetts, making you jealous???



Preaching theme for 2019: “Answer God’s Call!”

One of my main ministries, whether in North America or in Japan (or in Kenya, for that matter) is to encourage all of God’s people to be very intentional about following Jesus and answering his call to “Go and make disciples!” I will continue to be challenging young children and young adults especially to make this the highest goal of life and to implement the vision God gave to share the Good News with others, and I hope to motivate several to choose the ministry of the Word as a career. At this time when there is a **severe shortage of workers**, this is the need of the hour! So I will talk about my own call to mission work, about the calls of Isaiah, Jeremiah and Ezekiel, Samuel, Paul, well you get the idea! I have my eye on several potential ministry candidates at Kamifukuoka Church, where I minister each month. I also want to bring this message to small, rural churches where the average age of attendees may be in the 70s, that God uses all his people to be his instruments to reveal himself to others. Of course I also want to get the message out to everyone of my partners in prayer and financial support: WE NEED more workers, career missionaries, and we are very eager to welcome new workers to this harvest field! HELP US spread this news please! Someone said recently that 95% of the people in Japan have not yet heard the Good News! Fewer than 1% are attending Christian churches and serving the Lord Jesus Christ. **IS GOD CALLING YOU?**

March 11, 2019, 2:46 PM: it’s been 8 years!

Yesterday we marked the 8th anniversary of the Great East Japan Earthquake. I don’t think the Western media even mentioned it, but it was practically the only thing we saw in the reports here. Kids who were 10 years old and witnessed their family members taken by the tsunami are now about to graduate from high school, but they are still traumatized. The nuclear reactors in Fukushima remain untouched, with melted fuel inaccessible and beyond the ability of present technology to deal with. Aftershocks are still occurring fairly regularly, and scientists predict more “big ones” will hit; it’s only a matter of time! Even so, ministries we helped set up are still operating, giving light, joy and HOPE to their communities, especially reaching out to those “left behind” by the triple disaster. We’re glad to be able to help deploy volunteer teams to help them!

Prayer items:

- Pray for God’s mercy on Japan and plead with him for spiritual breakthroughs in this very resistant nation!
- Thank God for a very successful worship symposium and for follow-up with friends who attended from Japan. Change is afoot with more to come to make worship more Gospel-focused and more delightful to all!
- Pray for the tiny Kawagoe congregation, where I serve on the 4th Sunday each month, to boost their evangelistic zeal and know-how and raise their visibility in their area.
- Pray for God to bless another special worship service at Kamifukuoka Church on May 12. We will be looking at God’s call to young Samuel and do a dramatic reading of I Samuel 3. I serve this congregation on the 2nd Sunday.
- Thank you for praying for good health and stamina--for both of us. We keep pretty busy!

“Home assignment” plans:

We plan to be in the USA for 8 weeks in the summer, in both 2019 and 2020. I have contacted some of you to plan visits already, and more of you will be hearing from us soon! ☺ Please be patient with us if we can’t visit you this year. We haven’t forgotten you by any means!

Did you know that Resonate Global Mission is having an in-house contest to find a new name for this activity that we now call “home service”? So I’m thinking, hmm, RGM, hmm, how about “Reconfirming God’s Mandate”? RGM does RGM! Winner? We’ll see.

Thank you for your partnership! ~ Larry & Ruth