

Land of the Risen Son

イエス・キリストは日本を愛する

(Jesus loves Japan)

Interesting Facts

When Dining Out...

In Japan there are several things one should be aware of when out on the town. For instance, if you don't want any more to drink, leave your glass full.

Tipping Etiquette

(see right)

In Japan it is impolite to tip. In fact it is an insult. By tipping you are flaunting your wealth and telling the server's employer that he/she does not pay his/her employees enough money.



Refilling Your Glass...

(see right)

When at the table with others it is impolite to pour your own drink. The proper custom is to pour your companion's drink and your companion will pour yours.



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

Transitions

This month we are undergoing yet another life transition. We are in the process of finishing up our jobs and kicking into high-gear preparations in anticipation of our September departure.

The People of Okinawa

Though Okinawa is part of Japan, its people and culture are very different from other areas. There is a distinct Okinawan language, which is dying (only the very old speak it anymore); different Okinawan music and food; and even the religion is distinct from the rest of Japan. Whereas Buddhism and Shinto are the main religions elsewhere, in Okinawa the primary religion is matriarchal shamanism.

We will be serving with "Shinsei Kyokai", which translated means "New Life



Church". It has about sixty members. The church was itself originally planted by Canadian missionaries, and is located in Itoman (the southernmost city on the island). The pastor of New Life Church is called Higa Sensei. He has been pastor there for more than 40 years, and it turns out that there are only two degrees of separation between us. One of our friends from the Japanese Gospel Church of Toronto knew him years ago.

New Life Church recently moved locations; it had previously been in an area which was becoming increasingly industrial and thus was less and less ideal as a meeting location. So, they decided to transplant themselves into a new area to continue being effective in ministering to the needs of the people. They have just completed their new building, which has capacity for 400 people. For the first several months of our term we will likely aid the church in getting rooted into its new community, before going on in efforts to plant a new church.

New Life Church has already planted two other churches; we will be involved in helping it to plant a third. We will be stationed in Okinawa for three years.

Next newsletter we will have another tasty recipe for you to try.

Contact Information

Thank You

Thank you for your interest in our work. We plan to 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) or call us (905-848-2529).

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“As a rule in Japan there is no tipping,” says Michael Lev, a Tribune correspondent. “When you check into a hotel and the bellman drops your bags and says ‘Is there anything else you need?’, he really wants to know if there is anything else you need.”

