



Tokyo Cityscape

## Ministry Update April-September 2018

### Friends,

We had quite a summer this year as Japan experienced excessive heat, multiple typhoons, and strong earthquakes. I had difficulties of my own as I spent several months dealing with a minor health problem. (I eventually discovered that it was the result of my body adjusting to the new environment.) Ryan and I recently celebrated one year of being in Japan. We are amazed at the way God has blessed us richly during our time here. In addition, God continues to show me His passion for His work of healing in my ministry and I feel honored to witness what He has done in the life of people around me.

### Megumi Counseling

The Megumi Counseling ministry is flourishing. The word is getting out and new clients continue to come. This past May I received counseling training with three other counselors who work in Nagoya, Japan. After the training, we committed to actively support and encourage one another. In addition, we formed a cohort group to continue learning under the supervision of the counselor that came to Japan. Through all of this, we have decided to form a network of Christian counseling under the name "Megumi Counseling." It is a tremendous encouragement to have co-laborers and a powerful answer to prayer that God would provide me with supervision and ministry partners.

### Seminars/Conference

I have given two seminars this summer on the topic of "Expectations." It was a great learning experience and I gained valuable insight into cross-cultural differences. I had both Japanese and English-speaking attendees, a few of whom started individual counseling. I also had an opportunity, along with two other counselors, to provide free counseling to participants at the denominational retreat in early August. We were surprised by the strong interest and all the spots we made available were filled.



### Recent Opportunity

Another great opportunity presented itself in September when I was asked to join a Japanese trauma counseling center as a part-time administrator. The center is made up of wonderful, experienced Japanese counselors who I have enjoyed getting to know and learn from. They are the forerunners in sexual trauma, an area in which there is very little support in Japan. This is an incredible blessing for me as I continue to enlarge my vision for Christian counseling in Japan. Through these relationships, I have gained access to valuable resources and training.

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(Over for more)

## Praise & Prayer

1. **Praise** for God's provision and guidance in my growth and development as a counselor. I am so grateful for the ongoing training and bi-weekly supervision with the cohort group. Two counselors in the group were trained at Covenant Seminary and so we have a mutual understanding and respect for one another.
2. **Praise** for the connections I have made the past several months through seminars, conferences, and the trauma center. I have witnessed the ways in which God has been planting seeds in Japan, raising up people who have a similar vision and passion for counseling.
3. **Prayer** that I manage my time wisely and not over-extend myself. Apart from the counseling ministry, I lead a bible study and a small group, serve as worship leader, and support church events. I really enjoy everything I do, but need to learn how to manage my time and priorities well.

*Thank you for your prayers,*

*Tomoko*

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My ministry website: [pmiweb.org/ts.php](http://pmiweb.org/ts.php)



PS: We have found some places to help us with homesickness!

How can you support this vital work?

Contribute by check (my name in memo)  
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