

From bulletin: November 28, 2021

MISSIONS FOCUS: Brian & Faith Janssen, Taiwan/Home Assignment

Our Missionaries, their health and ministries affected by Covid-19

From today's bulletin

During the past year, the Janssens have been actively serving on three university campuses and their Gospel Center. Brian led a new ministry to university students in Northern Kaohsiung area. He also provided pastoral care for OMF missionaries in the southern region of Taiwan. Faith oversaw nearly 200 short-term workers in Taiwan before COVID stopped travel internationally. She led many Zoom sessions to keep workers engaged as well as to train other Coordinators. The family returned to Vancouver for their one-year home assignment in June 2021.

There are 2 newsletters posted online. The first one before their return to US asked for prayer for Taiwan's first real COVID outbreak in May (that the numbers would decrease) and for the country experiencing record breaking drought - prayer for rain to fill the reservoirs. The second newsletter is after their return to the US with praise for smooth transitions for their children at school. They were able to visit friends and family they haven't seen across the country and able to attend OMF Training in Colorado. They hope to visit the Bay Area and give a report to our church family. They thank God for his faithfulness on their journey (they first went to Taiwan 10 years ago) and for their partners like BACBC!

From Annual Missions Report

OMF International (Taiwan) – Brian and Faith Janssen are actively serving on three university campuses and at their Gospel Center. Brian leads a team that pioneered a new ministry to university students in the northern Kaohsiung area. He is also the Southern Care Coordinator who provides pastoral care for OMF missionaries in the southern region of Taiwan. As OMF Taiwan's Serve Asia Coordinator, Faith oversaw almost 200 short-term workers who served in Taiwan before travel was stopped by COVID. When the short-term workers could not come, she and another OMF colleague wrote a Bible Study and Leader's Guide for short-term workers to be published in a few months. Faith also led many Zoom sessions to keep the workers engaged as well as to train other Serve Asia Coordinators. Brian and Faith

will be stepping out of these roles for one year in July when they return to Vancouver, WA for their home assignment.

Attached are recent newsletters.

Thank you for reading about and praying for our missionaries, countries and people locally and globally!



Praises

- We're excited about going on home assignment on June 23rd.
- A and N will be attending the school where they were on our last home assignment.
- The transfer to online Sunday Evening Fellowship has been going well.

Prayer Requests

- Pray for a smooth handing over of ministry responsibilities and for our colleagues.
- Pray for strength and energy during the travels and transitions.
- Pray for Taiwan's COVID numbers to go down and enough rain to fill the reservoirs.

Support Information

<https://partnerhub.omf.org/BFJ1>

Contact Information



Second Term

Dear Friends:

Until recently, Taiwan has been a COVID success story. We were grateful that we were able to continue with ministry activities and A and N were able to attend school. Life here in Taiwan changed around mid-May. COVID moved from being something we were watching on the news to a reality that Taiwan was facing. Now, as many parts of the world are considering how to best reopen, Taiwan is working hard to contain its first outbreak. Most of the cases are in Taipei but everyone is cautious even though there are very few cases in the southern part of Taiwan. For the past few months, Taiwan also experienced record breaking drought. It is now the start of the rainy season. Please pray that enough rain comes to fill the reservoirs and that Covid cases decline.



A turned 15!



Last in-person English club on campus; we went online for the last month.



Saying good-bye to a graduate



As a result of the COVID situation, A and N finished their school year online and we moved ministry online. While it has not been ideal, having our Sunday evening fellowship online has allowed a handful of students, who have previously moved away, to also participate. It has been mutually encouraging to meet together online and study the Bible together. Our colleague, Ben, will continue online meetings until they are allowed to meet in person again.

We will be spending our last week doing short outdoor visits with students individually and saying good-byes, especially to the ones who will be graduating or moving. We are now busy cleaning, packing and preparing for Home Assignment. There seems no end to the little details that need to be worked through. Moving over the ocean never gets easier.

We will be flying into Seattle and staying with Faith's sister and her family as we get through jetlag. We will then be going down to Vancouver to get our house set up. In July, we will be going to Denver for OMF training.

It is hard to believe that we have finished our second 4 year term in Taiwan. This term has been full of joyful experiences and a variety of challenges. We are excited to share about how God has been working and is continuing to work in Taiwan and to catch up with you either in person or online this year while we are on Home Assignment.

Blessings,
Brian & Faith



Outing with students in April



Praises

- A and N have transitioned well to school and are making friends.
- It has been a joy to reconnect with friends and churches.

Prayer Requests

- Pray for our colleagues as they continue the ministry to young people in Taiwan.
- Pray for opportunities to share about the ministry in Taiwan.
- We are currently at 85% supported. In order to return to Taiwan, we need to be at 100%.

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Home Assignment

Dear Friends:

Recently our family was discussing what foods we miss from Taiwan. N quickly spoke up and said, "Corn soup!" We told him that while corn soup is widely available in Taiwan, it is not as common in America. He responded, "That's okay, we can just get it sometime from McDonald's." He was disappointed when we explained that McDonald's in America does not sell corn soup.

There are many things, other than corn soup, that we miss in Taiwan. We think and pray for our colleagues who are continuing the ministry to university students and the young people who are involved in the ministry. We also dearly miss our dog, Muffin. Yet, we give thanks to God that our transition to life back in the US has gone quite smoothly. This summer, we visited



Visiting with family in NJ



Celebrating Grandma's birthday



Friends from California came to visit



Heart for Asia. Hope for Billions

family and friends in Vancouver, BC, Kirkland, WA and New Jersey. While in New Jersey, we also had the privilege to share at a few churches. It was also a joy to participate in the OMF training in Colorado Springs with other missionaries and their kids on Home Assignment. Faith finished the revisions on the Serve Asia Bible study and Leader's Guide, which is now being used to disciple short-term workers who have been postponed from their placements.

As missionaries, we consider it a blessing to move back into the same house. A (15) and N (13) have returned to Christian School in Vancouver, WA. This is the same school that they attended on our last Home Assignment. They have both connected with some old friends and have made new friends. We have started to reconnect with churches, families and individuals. Through this year we are eager to share how God has been working in Taiwan. If you live in the Vancouver/Portland area, we hope to see you in person some time before we return to Taiwan. We will also make a trip to the Bay Area before next summer. If we are not able to meet with you in person, we would enjoy connecting with you over Zoom.

Ten years ago this month, our family boarded a plane to Singapore to start our lives as missionaries. After one month of training at OMF International's headquarters we moved to Taichung, Taiwan to start language school. About two years later, we relocated to Kaohsiung, Taiwan and have been there ever since (apart from Home Assignments). We thank God for his faithfulness on this journey. We are not in this alone. We also thank you for partnering with us.

Blessings,
Brian & Faith



Celebrating September birthdays