



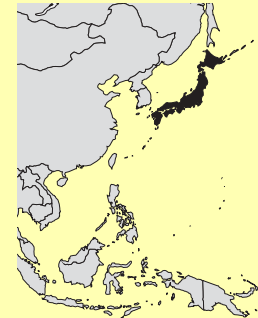
# RCA Missionary Update

from Cornelia Roghair

Cornelia Roghair felt called to be a missionary and a teacher while she was in high school. She earned a degree in elementary education from Black Hills State College in South Dakota and a master's degree in education from Azusa Pacific University in California. After teaching in Japan as an RCA volunteer for over ten years, Cornelia was appointed a career missionary in 1987. For twenty-one years, she taught English at San'ai High School. She now teaches pre-school and works with Sunday schools and youth groups. She also partners with Nopporo Christian School to develop ministries throughout Japan's northern island of Hokkaido.

## Japan facts:

- Population: 127,333,000
- Size: 377,835 square miles (slightly smaller than California)
- Major religions: 84 percent Shinto and Buddhist, 16 percent other (0.7 percent Christian)



### MINISTRY

Christian Education

### LOCATION

Ebetsu, Hokkaido, Japan

### PARTNERS

United Church of Christ in Japan  
Nopporo Christian School

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*"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."* Lamentations 3:22-23 (NRSV)

Greetings from Japan!

April 2008

Spring will come! February was a month of heavy snow and what seemed like never ending shoveling. Besides the normal shoveling in front of the house, the garage roof had to be shoveled as the weight of the snow threatened to cave it in. March was warmer than usual and the snow banks became smaller with each passing day.

The school year ends in March here and the new school year begins in April. Companies also hire new employees and transfers are made in late March. Our church was greatly saddened to lose one of our young families due to a job transfer. He was on the church board, she was an organist and the little girls ages 4 and 7 and their parents provided a core for the Sunday school. Easter Sunday was their last Sunday with us. Many tears were shed and we gave thanks for all they have given of their time and talents. I first met them when they were college students and came to my house for youth group. Little Nanase ran into my arms and said, "I will never forget you." She is only four years old. Please pray for the Mizuno family as they adjust to life in Tokyo.

Easter Sunday we had a wonderful worship service with the Sunday school children. During the activity time we dyed eggs and then at the beginning of the worship serv-

ice the children took the eggs and wished each person a "Happy Easter" and gave them one of the eggs they had colored. Please continue to pray for the Sunday school.

I continue to enjoy working with the preschool children. At a recent program for the parents the children sang "Jesus Loves Me" in English and in Japanese. What a joy to teach the children about God's love at an early age and also witness to their parents through them. Pray that the seeds of the gospel will grow in their hearts.



This picture was taken at a rural preschool I visited with the pastor and one of the teachers.

The annual conference for missionaries working with the United Church of Christ in Japan was held last Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. This is the group that the Reformed Church works with. I was able to meet with some of the Japanese leaders, other RCA missionaries, and missionaries from other groups for a time of worship and sharing. The theme was "A Tradition of Faith through Many Believers" and focused on God's faithfulness. God is faithful and each day we need to give thanks and be encouraged.

Thank you for sharing in the work here through your prayers and gifts.

In Christ,

Cornelia Roghair