



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

CONTACT

Honcho 28-8
Higashi Nopporo
Ebetsu-shi 069-0824
Japan

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding." —Proverbs 3:5

Greetings from Japan!

August 2008

In northern Japan in Hokkaido where I serve, this is the time of the year for outdoor activities. At the Nopporo Preschool the children go to the high school where I used to teach and plant corn. The high school has an agricultural course and the little children and the high school students work together. Last week we went to weed the corn. The little children eagerly pull the weeds and tend the little corn plants.



Caring for corn

At the Asabu Preschool where I just started teaching this spring, we went to a farm to pick strawberries. It was a wonderful chance to get to know the families better as a family member came with each child.



Celebrating a birthday

The Nopporo Sunday School also had an outing after worship. We had a picnic in a nearby park and played



Sunday school outing



Nopporo Church 60th Anniversary

games. Afterwards we took flowers which the church members and children had brought and went to sing at a nursing home. Now preparations are being made for an August outing.

Sunday Nopporo Church celebrated its 60th Anniversary. A young pastor who had been baptized in Nopporo Church when he was a college student was asked to speak. He had attended the youth group in my home and helped with my Sunday school class when he was in college. Pastor Miyajima had a friend of his make a large loaf of bread which said congratulations on the churches 60th anniversary. Several who had been part of the youth group attended.

A very close friend, who was a Christian Reformed Church missionary, passed away this week after struggling with cancer for nine months. She encouraged those of us around her who were struggling with the very difficult path of suffering she was traveling. I flew with her to the Tokyo Airport so that someone from her mission could fly on with her to her home in South Dakota. Just 15 days later she was called Home by her Heavenly Father.

Please continue to pray especially for the children and youth. Pray that the church will have a vision to reach out to a community busy with "empty" activities.

Thank you for your prayers and support.

In Christ,

Cornelia Roghair