



June 16, 2011

Dear Friend,

***We've been busy!*** Here's what we've been up to lately...



### **Aloha English Club**

We mentioned this big push to start the new semester. It's doing well! ***We've had 11 brand new guests, all non-Christians, and many coming as friends of friends of friends.*** And the meetings are fun! People really practice their English, much more so than in a classroom. Friendships are blooming. Conversations about faith are unfolding naturally. So we feel we're really onto something. Keep praying for this outreach to attract many fresh faces towards the Lord.



### **May 1-6 Relief Trip**

Ted took a team of 15 for five days of hard work, clearing rubble in a small town called Motoyoshi, about two hours north of Sendai. We helped the Miura family, whose house was destroyed, and helped a local Baptist church to deepen its connection to this family and the surrounding neighborhood. ***They were deeply impacted by our sincere love and old-fashioned hard work.*** All who went were touched, including five non-church friends that tagged along.



### **Hawaii Team Outreaches**

A team of 17 landed in Japan on May 24, seven helping to do outreach with our Tokyo church, and ten others helping here in Yokohama. They always have such an impact on our kids, and bring a ton of guests to our church events. We're thankful for our Hawaii-side Every Nation family! ***This team was excellent, humble, hard-working and FUN! Ted gets crazy-busy whenever they're in town, but it's always worth it.***



### **May 29-June 1 Relief Trip**

Locals plus Hawaiians, 29 in all, traveled north to serve for a three day stretch, which was every bit as memorable as the earlier one. We dug mud and debris out of an old folks' home in Minami-Sanriku that is being turned into a community center. We helped the Tsuda family in Ishinomaki to clear an unbelievable mountain of debris from their back yard. And we dug nasty-smelling sludge from clogged road-side drains to bless the neighborhood. ***Yuck. Pew. Uggh. But so worth it.***

The relief efforts will continue for months and maybe years. So far our group of churches has sent 12 truckloads of relief supplies and 4 teams of hands-on volunteers. We'll put a lot of photos on the back of this letter, just to help you feel a part of it all, because you really are.

Changing Japan... **together!**

*Ted and Lauren*



## Ted's First Relief Trip, May 1-6 Motoyoshi



Motoyoshi area devastation



Sorting debris



Go, boys! Lots to do!



Someone did their best to "estimate" the risk areas



Wheelbarrow, in Japanese, is "ichirinsha" – which is also the name for unicycle



The van ride each morning was lively. We yelled "surprise" when anticipating a big bump!



Main pic is Miura family yard now. Inset pic shows the houses before the tsunami



Prayer on the Miura property with the family

## Ted's Second Relief Trip, May 29-June 1 Minami-Sanriku and Ishinomaki



Minami-Sanriku: 10,000 missing from this one town!



Helping to convert an old folks home to a community center



Our team of 29 was able to attack about 7 rooms like this!



Morning devotions



Main pic is Tsuda yard 80% cleared. Top left is after we finished!



Clearing mud and sludge from the gutters was tough on the back, but more so on the nose!



Eating lunch in front of typical Ishinomaki scenery



Prayer with the team and some families that live near Mr. Tsuda

## Last-minute add-in. Baptism photo's! 13 took the plunge on June 11<sup>th</sup>!!!

