

## March 2026

“I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me.” John 10:14

### Moving House and then Country

**Praise God** for His help in moving all our belongings into the church in mid-March. The church will then kindly keep all of our things in the upstairs apartment while we are in the UK. On the 19th of March, Mark returned to the UK while Sarah went to India for Caleb's half term break and Parents' Week. **Please pray** for a good time with Caleb and encouragement for him as he reflects on his start at Hebron School.

Mark has already been able to return to St Luke's Church last Sunday and also attend a home-group there. **Please pray** for mutual encouragement and good building of relationships as we reconnect with supporting churches.

### The Church Eldership

**Please continue to pray** for the Church Eldership who, **praise God**, have taken on lots of extra responsibilities while we are away. They have already decided to plan a sermon series on the Psalms. **Please pray** for God's guidance for them and for visiting preachers as they work their way through this series.

### Spending Time with Family

We are very **thankful** to see our family again and are enjoying spending time together. Last Sunday, Mark picked up Grace from university for the Easter Holidays and enjoyed going to her church (St Mary's in Southampton). Isaac is still working hard on his A-Level revision. **Please pray** for good concentration for him and wisdom in narrowing down his university offers in the near future.

Sarah's parents are with her and Caleb in India and are enjoying seeing his school for the first time. Mark and Isaac are looking forward to visiting Mark's parents next week. **Please pray** for a happy and encouraging time seeing family for the first time in a while.

### Preparing to Share about Japan

We are now working hard to prepare talks and publicity materials to share about the work in Hanamaki. **Please pray** for helpful materials that encourage people to pray and support the work. **Please pray** for us to be able to communicate well the passion we have for reaching the Japanese people for Jesus.

### Upcoming Events

**Praise God** for the opportunity to share about Japan while we are in the UK. In the next couple of months, we will be sharing about the work in Hanamaki in these places:

#### April

- 18th OMF Day Conference at Gunnersbury Baptist Church  
<https://omf.org/uk/event/omf-london-and-the-southeast-day-conference/>
- 26th Evening service at Emmanuel Church Canterbury  
<https://www.emmanuelcanterbury.org.uk/>

#### May

- 9th Hudson Taylor Tour in London
- 10th St Michael and All Angels, Blackheath  
<https://se3.org.uk/>
- 17th Glendale Church Newbury  
<https://www.glendale-church.com/>
- 24th St Luke's Church Watford  
<https://www.stlukeswatford.org/>

Please pray for clear communication and for lots of interest in supporting the work in Hanamaki in each of these places.

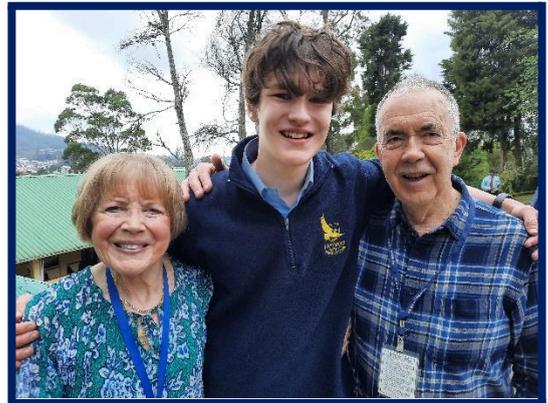
Thank you so much again for praying for us!

With love from Mark, Sarah, Grace, Isaac and Caleb

**The Gelsthorpes – working for OMF leading a church plant in rural, northern Japan.**  
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