

Prayer Letter Vol. 12

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Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia

Where the Breath of the Lord's Love Remains

Hallelujah! Greetings and peace to you in the Lord.

It has been a while since our last prayer letter in March.

We hear that many people around the world are facing challenges due to extreme heat, unstable exchange rates, and rising costs of living and fuel. We pray that all of our ministry partners will remain in good health and experience each day the grace of God, who faithfully provides for every need.

Life here has not been easy either, but **God is still at work**. He continues to bring new people to our church, lead us to those who need to hear the gospel, and open doors for us to serve the next generation and the Korean community in Kota Kinabalu.

We would like to share some of the ways God has been at work over the past several months, as well as the ministries ahead.

Please pray with us that every step we take would be accomplished not by human effort, but **by the power of the Holy Spirit**.

01. Korean School

Caring for Each Child and Family, Regardless of the Numbers

This year, we continue to operate the Korean School in two semesters. The decreasing number of students reminds us that the Korean community here continues to shrink. Yet even with fewer students, we remain committed to faithfully caring for each child and each family entrusted to us.

Our hope is that those who come to the Korean School will also find a connection to the church and ultimately to the gospel.

Please pray for our teachers and students as they persevere despite limited resources, and that this school would become a place where children learn not only the Korean language, but also experience **love and faith**.

02. Youth KOSTA & Mini Bazaar

A Place of Grace Prepared by the Next Generation through Prayer

For the second consecutive year, our youth attended **Youth KOSTA**. This year, the students themselves organized a mini bazaar to help cover the cost of attending. They prayed together, worked together, and raised the funds they needed.

God poured out His grace upon us during the conference. The testimonies of faith shared by our students were so precious that they made every effort worthwhile.

Although the trip was physically demanding, we returned with an even stronger desire to continue bringing our students each year.

Please pray that our next generation will not be swayed by the values of this world, but will discover **their identity and calling in the gospel**.

03. Outreach to Korean Businesses

Bringing the Gospel into the Everyday Lives of a Weary Community

In preparation for our **Happiness Festival**, we visited Korean-owned businesses throughout Kota Kinabalu, sharing calendars and small gifts as expressions of God's love.

This year, we also visited those working in the tourism industry—including tour operators and guides—as well as Korean expatriate workers, offering vitamins and snacks as a small gesture of encouragement.

Though these encounters were brief, they gave us precious opportunities to listen to people, encourage them, and care for those who are weary.

Please pray that our church will not remain within the walls of the sanctuary, but will go out into the places where people live and work, bringing **comfort and the hope of the gospel**, and that every encounter would open a door for the gospel.

04. Bible Conference

Renewed and Strengthened through the Word and the Gospel

One of the ministries our church prepares for each year with great anticipation is our **Bible Conference**.

It is a precious time for our congregation to be renewed through God's Word and the gospel, and it is also a refreshing gift of grace for me personally when I become weary in ministry.

This year, **Pastor Sanggun Kim of Beautiful Church in Busan** came to preach God's Word to us.

Together, we looked again to Christ, **the power and wisdom of God**, and were deeply reminded that both our lives and our church must be built upon the gospel of the cross alone.

05. Happiness Festival

An Invitation to the Gospel We Cannot Stop Extending

For the second year, we held our **Happiness Festival**, a special outreach Sunday to invite those who do not yet know Christ.

As the Korean community continues to shrink, meeting new people to invite has become increasingly difficult. Yet because we cannot stop sharing the gospel, we once again stepped forward in faith.

By God's grace, **31 guests** joined us for worship:

- 12 adults
- 6 youth
- 13 children

Our prayer is that this will not end with a single invitation.

Please pray that the seeds of the gospel planted in their hearts will grow into genuine faith and connection with the church through continued prayer, love, and care.

06. Family Month

Growing Together as a Community of Love and Joy

In May, in celebration of **Family Month**, we took family portraits for members of our congregation.

Many families rarely have an opportunity to take a family photo together, so we hoped to give them a warm memory within the church and help them experience the love of our church community.

Our children and youth also held separate retreats, giving them opportunities to know one another more deeply and grow closer together.

Please pray that our congregation—with people from many different backgrounds and with very different lengths of stay in Kota Kinabalu—will continue to be **built together as one family in Christ**.

07. Our Family Story

Sumin, Minhye & Harin Lee

1. Reaching One Soul Even in a Shrinking Community

As we look back on the many ministries of the first half of this year, God has reminded us once again that **loving one soul entrusted to us faithfully to the end is more important than the size of a ministry**.

The Korean community in Kota Kinabalu continues to change. Long-time church members leave, and meeting new people is not always easy.

Yet through the Korean School, outreach to local businesses, the Happiness Festival, and our next-generation ministries, God continues to show us the people He desires us to reach.

We do not want simply to run successful programs. We want to go first to those in our community who are weary and lonely.

Our prayer is that even those who stay here only briefly may hear the gospel, receive comfort, and then return to wherever God sends them as **witnesses of the gospel**.

As we prepare for the upcoming short-term mission teams, we also pray that these ministries would not simply be about how much we can give.

Rather, may we learn to see the local people through God's eyes, humbly learn from them, and love them well.

Please pray that we will not become impatient for visible results, but will faithfully love **the one person God has entrusted to us today**.

2. Before Ministry, a Family Being Built Together in Christ

We are now entering our fourth year of life overseas.

Although we have gradually become more accustomed to life here, living among different languages and cultures continues to be a challenge for each member of our family.

Through these years, we have been learning that just as important as faithfully carrying out ministry is ensuring that **our own family remains healthy, united in love, and rooted in the Lord**.

Harin has been receiving regular checkups due to concerns about early puberty. Thankfully, she has been growing well recently without any significant concerns.

As she studies in a multilingual environment, we pray that God will give her wisdom and help her grow in faith and character.

Minhye's dizziness has improved greatly, and I am also taking time to monitor my health, including my eyesight. We are learning that caring for our bodies so that we can faithfully serve for many years is also part of the stewardship God has entrusted to us.

In October, we will need to renew our housing contract. We also face several practical needs, including vehicle maintenance and health checkups for our family during visits to Korea.

At times, these realities can feel burdensome. Yet we continue each day trusting that the God who has faithfully provided what we needed at just the right time will continue to lead us with the same grace.

The busier ministry becomes, the more we desire to love and support one another and remain healthy in both body and spirit.

Please pray that our family would first live in the joy of the gospel ourselves, and that we would become **a small missionary community through which Christ's love flows to our neighbors.**

Ministry Schedule for the Second Half of the Year

AUGUST

August 3–7 | Songnae Sarang Church High School Short–Term Mission Team

- Ministry in underserved communities
- Ministry to the Korean next generation

August 16–21 | Jejadle Church Short–Term Mission Team

- Ministry visits to Tawau and Semporna
- Ministry among the Bajau people and refugee communities

SEPTEMBER

- Korean School — Fall Semester Begins
- Wednesday Worship & Discipleship Training Resume
- Small Group Ministry Resumes

OCTOBER

- All–Church Retreat
 - Korean School Teachers' Workshop
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Prayer Requests

1. Please pray that Kota Kinabalu Korean Church and our family will continue to be **built together in the Holy Spirit, centered on Jesus Christ.**
2. Please pray that we will trust God's unseen providence rather than the circumstances before us and faithfully obey Him in every moment.
3. Please pray that God will continue to bring the people He has prepared and enable us to faithfully share the gospel with each person we meet.
4. Please pray that our church will bring tangible comfort and the hope of the gospel to the struggling Korean community and to our local neighbors.
5. Please pray for the preparation and safe travel of the two short-term mission teams, and for lasting gospel fruit among the **Bajau people, refugee communities, underserved neighborhoods, and the next generation.**
6. Please pray that all three of us will remain strong in body and spirit, joyfully fulfill the calling God has entrusted to us, and continue to grow both in language and spiritual maturity.
7. Please pray that we will trust God to provide every need of our church and family, remain free from anxiety over our circumstances, and **seek first His kingdom and His righteousness.**

Ministry & Partnership Information

Ministry Church

Kota Kinabalu Korean Church
lovekkc.com

Sending Organization

IGC

Financial Partnership

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