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INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON

MISSIONS

To God be the glory for this “Missions Throwback”! Be encouraged as you read excerpts from archived notes of Euwell Lee Jones, Jr. & Sandra Stallings Jones as they sought to become missionaries in Japan. (1970s)



MR.

THUMB-NAIL SKETCH FOR MISSIONARY FAMILIES 48003-074

This information will help with the preparation and publicity of the Missionary Picture Book, 1975.

Husband's Name Euwell Lee Jones, Jr. Born (Place) Atlanta, Ga
 Date 9-25-36

Wife's Maiden Name Sandra Stallings Born (Place) Macon, GA
 Date 12-4-39

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Some of the questions asked: What things influenced you to become a missionary? What is your purpose? What do you hope to accomplish on the mission field? Your own story in some detail might be influential in leading others into fulltime service.

Lee: The past 19 years have been spent in service to the Lord at the Capitol View Christian Church in Atlanta, GA. During that time, I served as deacon, teacher, superintendent and junior church preacher (8 years), among other things. Sandra worked with the choir, teacher, VBS director, prayer group leader and church treasurer. She has also served as camp counselor and program chairman for the Georgia Women’s Retreat. We are anxious to begin work in Japan, where we are confident the Lord wants us. I plan to work in film evangelism, English Bible classes, mission photography and general mission repair work. Sandra plans to serve as mission secretary, bookkeeper, but one of her main goals is to establish a Christian home in a Japanese neighborhood as a witness for Christ. Please pray for our family and our humble efforts to help spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the Japanese people.

Jack Pennington’s and Al Hamilton’s influence led to our decision to become missionaries. We prayed long and earnestly, and God seems to want us to go to Japan. In August, 1973, I used my tax return plus church contributions to spend the entire month in Hiroshima to investigate the work of the Turners in Japan. After my return home, God led us to decide to go to Japan as missionaries.

Sandra: We first began to really think about missionary service when we opened our home for missionaries on furlough who were speaking in our area. The Pennington's from Rhodesia, the Coles from Japan, Freddie Gilbert from New England and lastly, the Turners from Japan were some who first planted seeds of thought in our minds. You just can't live with people like this day after day without getting an urge to DO SOMETHING!

Of course, we worked harder and with more determination in our own home church but still we felt a nagging urge that God had something else in store for our future. And the more we prayed about it, the more things began to happen. At last, Lee and I decided to use our '72 tax refund to send him to Japan to investigate that field of service. He came home convinced there was much we could do, especially with taking the load off the Turners so they (knowing the language better) could spend more time evangelizing. Also, he found he could do film evangelism as well as teach English in order to make additional contacts. My goal is to relieve Betty of secretarial & bookkeeping duties and establish a Christian home in a Japanese neighborhood. Things are happening even faster now. We sold our house and are in the process of selling all our furnishings. Many obstacles are ahead of us, I'm sure, but we know God is more than able to help us work them out. We just praise Him for the opportunity to serve.

From (1990's) Jones Hiroshima Mission Newsletter:

We all have times where we feel that we are not making much progress; Sandra and I have those times, too. So, it's especially good to be able to share some recent encouraging things. Mr. Naoyuki Matsunaga attended our center and the church services. After graduating from the Hiroshima University Graduate School, he moved up near the Nagoya area and continued to read the Bible and attend church services. Now he has become a Christian and is going to marry a Christian young lady from our center. He wrote me a very thankful, wonderful letter...It sure was encouraging to Sandra and I. We didn't 'directly' receive his baptism; we 'fed' another church. But that's alright; the main point was that we introduced him to Christianity; we planted the seeds. GOD received the harvest.

From Jones Hiroshima Mission Newsletter celebrating 20 years in Japan:

Every day gets sweeter with the Lord! If we hear what He says and do as He commands, we are the most blessed people...My hope and prayer is that He will help me build relationships with the Japanese people, to love them and minister to them in His power...He will do great and mighty things. His Spirit is working in a great way in these days and may we be the vessels He has chosen to fill. I praise Him for His goodness and mercy that endures forever!