

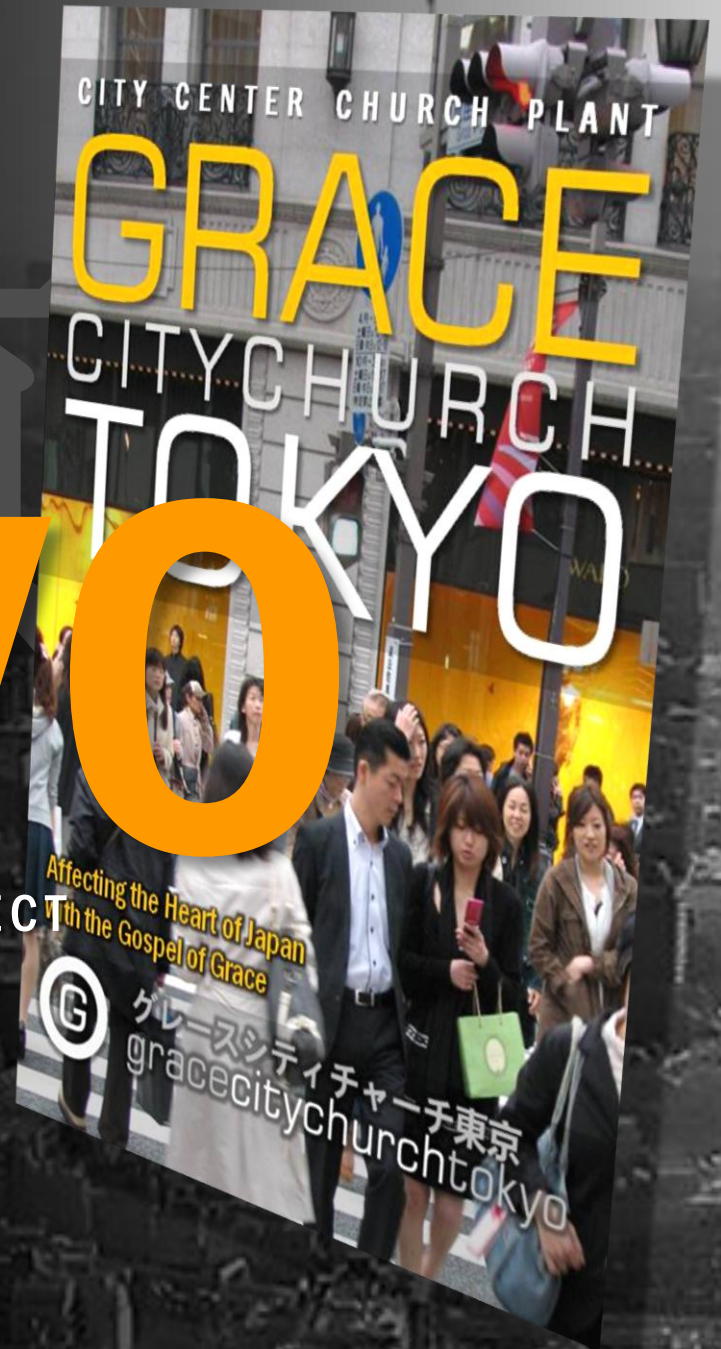
# 東京 Tokyo

CITY CENTER CHURCH PLANTING PROJECT

 グレースシティチャーチ東京  
gracecitychurchtokyo

Church Planter **Makoto Fukuda**

福田真理



# Church Plant

GRACE CITY CHURCH TOKYO

Renewing **Lives**

Serving **the City**

Building up

**the Kingdom**

人生を新たにし  
都市に仕え  
御国を建てあげます



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# Why the (mega)city?

## What the Bible Says

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations... [Matthew 28:19]

I saw the Holy City, the New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God. [Revelation 21:2]

Also seek the peace and prosperity of the city... Pray to the LORD for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper. [Jeremiah 29:7]



# Why Tokyo?

impact culture

1 of 4 most influential cities in the world

trendsetter in Asia

heart of Japanese culture: political,  
business & finance, media, arts, fashion,  
education

magnet for young people

\*population of Tokyo still continues to grow  
despite declining population nationwide



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# Why Tokyo?

## some facts

### population

metro Tokyo: **34 million**

central Tokyo: 8 million

downtown (3 central wards): **50%** ↗  
**growth in past 12 years**

### density

central Tokyo: **13,500 people/km<sup>2</sup>**



# Why Tokyo?

impact social structures

## Japanese social structure on verge of collapse

- rapidly aging/low fertility rate (Tokyo 0.91)
- working poor
- broken families
- domestic violence

## quote from Oe Kenzaburo

well known (secular) Japanese author and Nobel Literature laureate:

"I would like young people to become 'new persons'... transformed into one 'new person' out of two opposites, through the crucifixion of their own flesh on the cross ...The resurrection of the 'new person' Jesus Christ is the most important event in the history of mankind." ["New People" by Kenzaburo Oe]



# Why Tokyo?

some facts

suicide: **32,000+** people/year

‘karoshi’: **5,000+** people/year  
(death from overwork)

‘hikikomori’: **1.6 million**

=acute social withdrawal

(Japanese social phenomena: young people who seek extreme degree of isolation and confinement, withdrawing from family and society)

人生の目的の喪失・自殺(年間3.2万人以上)

「過労死」(働き過ぎ)・年間5,000人以上(60万人)、失業

家族の問題・家庭内暴力・不倫・少年

大江健三郎(『青春の貴族』)

「若い人たちに『新しい人』になってほしい

たい対立してきた二つのものを、十字架に

かいた。御自身の肉体をつうじて、ひとつの『新しい人』に作り上げられた。『新しい人』となられたイエス・キリストがよみがえられた。この二つの歴史の中で、よみがえり、



# Why Tokyo?

impact church

unreached people group:

LESS THAN 0.5% evangelical Christian's

overwhelming fact:  $\geq 95\%$  of Japanese  
has not even heard Gospel once

church growth slower than population  
growth

\*population of Tokyo is still continuing to grow  
despite declining population nationwide



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# Why Tokyo?

some facts

Christian population

officially registered: 1.2 million=1%

worshippers: **LESS THAN 0.5%**

Protestant Churches

Japan: 8000

Tokyo city limits (23 wards) : 980

downtown (3 central wards) : 41/evangelical 5

**NEEDED: churches that especially target young professionals**



# Why Tokyo?

some facts

**GREAT POTENTIAL:**

Gallup Poll:

Favorable towards Christianity: **23%**

Consider themselves Christian: **6%**

\*of those who claim to have a religion

Christian style weddings (in chapel with  
'pastor') : 65%



# Vision

GRACE CITY CHURCH TOKYO

Revealing God's Glory  
through a Church Planting Movement,  
seeking to Renew Peoples Lives,  
Restore the City,  
and Build God's Kingdom,  
through Proclaiming  
Christ's Gospel of Grace  
in City Center Tokyo!



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ビジョン  
キリストの福音を東  
京の中心地に植すこと  
によって  
人々の人生が新しく  
生まれ  
され  
東京が造り変えられ  
神の国が建てあげら  
れるために  
教会開拓運動を展開  
して  
神の栄光を現します

# Mission

GRACE CITY CHURCH TOKYO

To establish at least  
**3 Churches**,  
each with its own Characteristics and  
different **Style of Worship**,  
and **1000 Worshipers**

ミッション  
2020年までに  
異なる文化的  
特徴を持つ計3  
教会を全体で  
1000人の会衆  
に成長する教  
会を設立しま  
す。



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# Who?

target group & area

target group: 25-35y young professionals  
young Japanese who start working, developing their  
careers in the city center surrounding Tokyo station

percentage singles (29-34y): 64%

target area: downtown Tokyo

(3 core wards: Chiyoda, Chuo, Minato)

the so-called 'heart of Japan', center of politics,  
business & finance, and culture

population: 353,000 people (nighttime)

day time: 2.4 million!



# How?

ministry design

gospel-centered teaching

grace-focused preaching and discipleship appealing to both MIND and EMOTION

evangelistic worship

(style appropriate for target group, i.e. mixture of contemporary, traditional, international and indigenous)

faith & work/faith & arts

focus on equipping for being disciples of Christ in the market place, builders of the Kingdom, shapers of culture

small groups

focus on caring community and personal growth

diaconate ministry

counseling



# Timeline

**start: November 2008**

small groups  
discipleship training  
outreach events  
worship try outs

**start formal worship: End of 2009**

**financial independence: 2014**

**launch daughter church plant: 2014**



# Staff Team

Rev. Makoto & Michiru Fukuda

Geert & Eline de Boo (GZB)

Roger & Abi Lowther (MTW) fall 2009

Rev. Seima & Naoko Aoyagi (PMI) summer 2010

collaboration with **'Launch Team'**, a group of evangelistic bringers who are committed to help launch Grace City Church Tokyo through prayer, support, giftedness

… 東京都心で教会開拓運動を推進するために祈り、支え、人材を提供するincubator



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# Prayer

please pray with us for

Tokyo: For the renewal of this city and its people through Christ's Gospel of Grace.

That through the Gospel Tokyo may be renewed to become a capital of worship of God. That for many Tokyoites the Gospel of Christ may be the answer to their life's needs.

Church Planting Project: For a gospel-centered church planting movement to have the Gospel affect this city.

Prayer partners

Financial needs

Church Planter and Team



# Partnership

prayer & support

Become a Prayer Partner

Introduce your friends  
and acquaintances who live and/or  
work in central Tokyo

Support us financially

[info@gracecitychurch.jp](mailto:info@gracecitychurch.jp)  
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