



God Uses Student Opportunities to Call the Next Generation: Faithfulness Is Reaching Further in Japan

Both Daniel Shaffer and Levi Greer, Welch College students in Nashville, TN, share how ETEAM and CMP experiences and opportunities have impacted their lives.

DANIEL SHAFFER

So far, I have had the privilege of being a part of three student missions trips. I have been able to serve in Panama, Japan, and Southern Spain alongside the missionaries for a short time.



In Japan, the ministry we did was focused on making connections with people, and I learned a little bit about how to make connections with people who are different from me for the sake of sharing the love and gospel of Christ.

Each time was unique and stretched me in different ways, expanding my worldview to see how God is working in places other than my own church and country. Seeing the faith of the people in these areas was also very encouraging.

In Japan, it was especially encouraging to see the faith of the Japanese believers since the vast majority of the Japanese people are not Christians. This is powerful because “standing out” is looked down upon in Japanese culture.

Everyone should go on at least one short-term mission to better understand the world God has created and works in, and to discover where God will lead you to be a part of missions across the world.

LEVI GREER

IM has done so much to impact my life through student mission opportunities that I have been able to be a part of. While I was in high school, I was able to take part in the ETEAM student missions program, serving in Spain (2023), Panama (2024), and Japan (2025). There are many relationships that I have made with missionaries around the globe, as well as fellow mission-minded people my age here in the States.



Through ETEAM, I was able to serve as a part of outreach programs, hosting VBS, sharing my testimony in Sunday morning services, and on street corners, among a host of other things, which have all helped me grow in my ability to evangelize effectively.

My most recent trip was last summer, when I got to work alongside four different IM churches in Japan. During our time there, we were able to do a lot of English-based outreach programs, which is a common desire of the Japanese people to find outlets to practice their English. One of my favorite things that we were able to do was go into Ikebukuro, Japan, and do a prayer walk for a new IM church plant, which at the time was in the initial planning stages.

This very church is **where I will be interning, alongside Daniel Shaffer, this upcoming summer through the College Missions Program at IM.** It is very exciting to go back and work with this church that last summer I spent an afternoon walking around the city praying for, while it had not even had its first service. I am excited that we will be able to learn a lot from IM missionaries there as it pertains to our growth in pursuing our future ministries.

Participating in student missions opportunities with IM has shaped me and helped me to see God’s calling on my life into ministry. While I do not know everything that ministry may entail, **I know that I will forever have a passion for missions, a passion which I discovered through my trips with IM.**



We’re excited to host our first interns at Hope Alive Ikebukuro as we prepare for our soft launch this July! They will play such a vital role as we get ready to begin public services. We are especially excited for Daniel and Levi. Both have a genuine heart for the Japanese people, and they bring strengths that will bless our growing church. We’re looking forward not only to how they’ll contribute, but also how we can invest in them during their time with us. Thank you to IM, for their long term investment in students.

Learn more about IM student missions at:
www.iminc.org/student-missions/

Invest in the Next Generation of Leaders

More than 80 years ago, pioneering IM missionary Pop Willey invested in developing Cuban leaders amid one of the harshest climates in the world, both physically and politically, leaving a legacy that continues to impact the availability of the Gospel worldwide.

Today, the **Pop Willey Scholarship Fund** carries that vision forward by providing scholarships to students in Cuba, Pakistan, Argentina, and beyond. These scholarships enable remarkable students to receive quality biblical training, preparing them to establish Bible institutes and training programs in their home countries and to multiply leaders who will train others, creating a ripple effect as students are trained to carry the Gospel to the ends of the earth.

This **Impact Project** urgently needs renewed funding to advance Pop Willey's educational legacy and inspire the next generation of world-changing leaders. An investment in the Pop Willey Scholarship Fund is an investment in multiplication for the Kingdom.

Learn more about the scholarship and give to carry forward this urgent need as students prepare now for their fall studies: <https://bit.ly/3w9AJw7>

April Board Meeting

April 8–9, 2026, the IM Board met to celebrate how God is at work as we remain committed to our mission of **Sharing the Gospel. Giving a Million. Reaching a Million.** Clint Morgan, IM General Director, opened with inspiration as he highlighted the 2025 statistics gathered from partners and missionaries in the 39 fields where IM has a presence. A few of the key stats include **3,312 baptisms; 67,061 weekly average church attendance outside of North America; and 3,612 conversions.**

Morgan also reiterated the ten-year IM Horizon Goals, which are the focus in every ministry, field, and partnership. Two new IM missionaries, **Andie Greenwood (Japan)** and **Bea Provow (Bulgaria)**, were commissioned for their two-year internships. Read more: <https://bit.ly/4mqLBvO>

AN IM GOSPEL STORY

In February, Kenneth Eagleton visited a FWB church in El Progreso, Honduras, where he met Freddy, a man in his late 20s. Abandoned at seven, he grew up on the streets selling drugs to survive. After hearing a sermon about God's love, he began seeking truth, was welcomed into a church, and came to know Christ. Now disciplined and working as a machinist, he calls the church his only

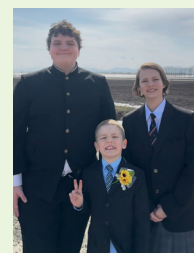
FAMILY HAPPENINGS



We are so excited to share that the **Sakamotos** are expecting a baby in August! Join us in celebrating and praying for a healthy pregnancy.

Three **Bishop kids** graduated recently. **Oliver**

graduated from middle school, **Scarlet** graduated from elementary school, and **Arthur** graduated from preschool.



Emilia Riggs

(left) is graduating from kindergarten in June!

Jade Reeves

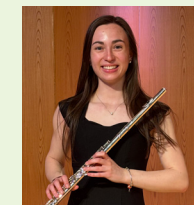
(right) is graduating from kindergarten in July!



Aubrey Morgan (left) will graduate high school from Evangelical Christian Academy.

From America last fall, **Callie**

Ketteman auditioned for and made the high school Tokyo honor band! The spring concert was excellent!



Grace Carney

graduated high school in Japan in March. She will participate in ETEAM St. Croix and Truth and Peace Leadership Conference this summer, then begin her

freshman year at Welch College (TN) in the fall.

Moriah Duncan will graduate from Keystone Academy in May.



family—he is the only one among his peers to escape that life. – **A partnership Gospel story from Honduras**

We continue to see lives being changed by Christ, reminding us why we give to partnerships and ministries reaching more people like Freddy.

REFLECTION QUESTION: *What might God be inviting you to do to help someone experience the same kind of love and transformation as Freddy?*



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