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Dear Brothers and Sisters.

Greeting from Japan. Thank you for your ongoing prayer and support. Spring will be over soon in Japan. Spring in Japan is always full of colors and beautiful cherry blossoms everywhere, but it is very short-lived. It is said that cherry trees have a very long life span, but cherry blossoms are very short, withering in about half a month and only blooming once a year. This makes people look forward to the arrival of spring every year.

The new year starts in April in Japan because the cherry blossoms are in full bloom. Both schools and most companies have a new beginning at this time of the year. After almost two years of lockdown due to the pandemic, Japan finally opened its border to people with visas in March. Our team in Japan also welcomed many new missionaries into the country. Praise the Lord. We finally see the end of the tunnel of the pandemic in Japan. Please pray that in this new season, we will have many more opportunities to share connect with people and share the love of Christ with many more people in Japan.

Ministry update

- Thank the Lord that Gary had the opportunity to preach an evangelistic message on Easter. Several non-believers came that day. One of them stepped foot into church for the first time. Please pray that the Lord would work in their hearts and lead them to Jesus.
- Last time Gary shared that he was invited to join a bible study group to study the "Book of Romans." It was a very fruitful experience. Gary had to practice speaking a lot more Japanese and saw that the content he shared was very encouraging to the participants, which was the greatest reward of the ministry. Pray that the Lord will continue to guide this Bible study group so that all the participants will have a deeper understanding of God's word.
 - Gary has been invited to preach at another church in July. Please pray for this opportunity.
 - The COVID situation in Japan has finally calmed down. The Japanese government has also decided to open the border for tourist groups to come. The church can now resume physical worship, but to take care of some inconvenienced brothers and sisters, the church will continue to use a hybrid form of worship.
 - Due to the pandemic, we cannot physically attend the annual retreat for the past two years.
 Thank the Lord, this year, we are able to.
 - There are almost 70 missionaries, including children attending this year's retreat.
 - During this retreat, we had the opportunity to hear how God led each and everyone to Japan. Also, the testimonies of those missionaries who have been in Japan for over 30 years. Their perseverance and God's grace on them. It was very encouraging to hear those stories.





Praise and prayer request:

- Our team has three new units that have finally entered Japan. We have helped them get settled and find housing in the past two months. Renting an apartment in Japan is more complicated than we thought. It's been two months, and there is still one family (The Walker) who has not found an apartment yet. Please pray that the Lord will provide for their need and sustain them in this long wait.
- Jennifer needs to return to the US on 6/13 for the citizenship interview scheduled for 6/21, and just like Gary last year, she will be going back to the US alone to do this. Please pray that Jennifer gets in and out safely and that the interview goes smoothly. All the necessary paperwork will go through. She will also take the opportunity to visit with some friends and mission supporters, and please pray that the Lord may use her to share the needs of the Gospel in Japan.
- Please pray for Gary as he takes care of two children in Japan by himself; Caleb's summer holiday is starting soon, and Abigail has a month of school left. Pray that Dad will be able to take care of the kids at home.
- Jennifer has attended several PTA events at Caleb's school over the past few months and had the opportunity to meet one of the moms (Ms.Y) whose child is in the same class as Caleb, and recently invited them to join a nearby church. Jennifer is planning to continue volunteering at Caleb's school after returning from the U.S. so she can build relationships and share God's love with more parents.
- Once every other week in June, Jennifer began to teach Ms. M's son (A.) Art+Craft/English lessons, (A.) is a 4th-grade boy and his younger sister was Abby's friend from Kindergarten. (A.) hasn't attended school for a while due to his health issue. We hope that through this opportunity, we can continue to share God's love and salvation with this family.



Financial Update

- We shared about the financial need in the last prayer letter. We thank
 the Lord that God is moving more churches and brothers and sisters
 to come together to be our support. Thank you for your partnership.
- If you still feel called to partner with us, please visit this website. https://www.worldventure.com/chang4japan
- You can also send in checks please make payable to <u>WorldVenture</u>, and <u>memo #275</u> WorldVenture
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