Today marks FOUR YEARS in Japan.

Wow we feel so honored and grateful for the blessing of being able to be a part of God's work here. We are still so in awe of God's provision through each of you, that you would join us in God's call to share the gospel with the Japanese people. We are

God's call to share the gospel with the Japanese people. We are incredibly grateful for your prayers, encouragement, and generous support. Together we are sharing God's love and truth with the the 2nd largest unreached people group in the world! Thank you SO much and all glory to God!!

<u>Update:</u> Addison just got back from a great trip to Sendai, about a 5 hour drive away. He attended a meeting with the leaders of our mission and of our church association. They shared updates and discussed how the missionaries and Japanese pastors can work together. Then Addison spent a few days meeting with pastors in the area, attending prayer meetings, and visiting their churches. The pastors expressed their appreciation for him connecting with them and we are excited to continue supporting these churches through our short-term program.

<u>Praise:</u> We have been SO encouraged lately by our Japanese Christian friends. One friend told us recently that because of our investment into her life she feels empowered and motivated to share the gospel with her friends. God is working here in Japan!!  $\heartsuit$ 

## <u>Prayer Requests:</u>

- We visited several houses in Tsukuba and applied for one last week. Please pray that <u>God would provide the right home</u> and location for our family!
- Please pray for Addison working on <u>preparations for several interns</u> and teams coming this spring and summer.
- Our friend Beste came to our church's ladies' Valentines' event and got to hear about God's love! We had a great conversation afterwards on the way home. She is processing a lot right now about her beliefs in Islam, please pray for God to reveal His love and truth to her!
- Please pray for <u>Azamino Chapel's Easter service</u> on March 23rd, that many people would come and hear the good news of Jesus!





Trip to Sendai: We're so grateful for these pastors and leaders, and that God allows us to work together with them for His glory here in Japan!





These are our precious Christian friends: Saori, Mika, Haru, and our teammate Alissa. What a gift these girls are!! God has deepened our faith and joy in Him so much through them.  $\heartsuit$ 





Azamino Chapel English class and "Ladies & Lattes" Valentines event. We are going to miss this church and this community so much when we move to Tsukuba. Soaking up all these sweet opportunities to serve together and share God's love with this community.



And we couldn't finish this update without a picture of Lily. She loves hats and playing at this kids area in our local grocery store. She is starting to take steps on her own and can't wait to spend time with her grandparents and aunties (Abigail's parents and 2 sisters) who are visiting us next week!

Update: God began putting it on our heart this past summer to move our family to Tsukuba, Ibaraki, Japan. This is a smaller city outside Tokyo, about two hours from where we currently live. Since moving to Japan almost four years ago, God has grown in us a heart to serve the Japanese pastors in our association (75+ Conservative Baptist churches). As God developed this vision in our hearts. He has led us to consider moving out of Tokyo to work with one of these churches. We have been working together with Pastor Sakuma and Tsukuba Grace Chapel several times over the past few years, bringing short-term teams and interns to work with his church. Pastor Sakuma is an influential new leader in our denomination who has a heart for local outreach and global missions. We pray that this move will help us better connect with all the churches and pastors as we hope to bring them encouragement and practical help through our short-termer program. We feel that this timing and new location will be good for our family for this next term of ministry. We pray God will help us grow in our language abilities through this primarily Japanese speaking context and that Japan will become our home even more.

While we are really excited about God's clear direction in our lives in this, we have also wrestled over the past few months about the sadness we feel towards leaving our friends and opportunities here in Kawasaki. God has been so good to give us sweet relationships with fellow missionaries, a wonderful church plant to serve at, and many friendships with Japanese. We certainly feel the bittersweetness of this decision, and we are glad that we'll only be two hours away so we can still see our friends in Kanagawa/Tokyo occasionally!

<u>Praise:</u> After a busy holiday season, we've had a really sweet and slower January- celebrating Lily's first birthday, Addison's mom visiting from Texas, preparing for spring/summer teams, and spending time with friends! (see pictures below)

## Prayer Requests:

- We are beginning the search for a house in Tsukuba. Please pray that God would provide the right home and location for our family!
- Please pray for Addison working to prepare for several interns and teams coming this spring and summer. There are many exciting opportunities for long-term relationships to be built, so pray that God would give clear direction in these decisions.
- Please pray for Addison's trip and meeting in northern Japan this
  February to meet with various leaders in our denomination. We want
  to deepen relationships between our mission and these national
  pastors for greater Gospel impact!





It was so sweet to celebrate Lily's first birthday with our teammates plus Hitoshi, Beste, and Minori. Lily is so loved by each of these friends!

We had a great time with Addison's mom, Lily's Lovey! We're so grateful for the time we still get with family, though farther in between than we would prefer, it is so sweet to soak up lots of intentional time together during visits like this.





Azamino Chapel, English classes, Chosen nights, hanging out with friends, and finding lots of joy in our simple family routines of raising our precious one year old! Thank you to everyone for partnering with us in this life and ministry in Japan- we feel so grateful for all the opportunities and blessings God gives us!