

# Nakahara News

Christmas , 2017

Nakahara Mission

P.O. Box 54842

Lexington, KY 40555

Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Lord,

We praise and worship our Lord Jesus Christ, Immanuel (Matt. 1:22-23)!

We hope this finds you well and filled with the joy of Christmas. I would like to begin by sharing about our church. We are planning to have two Christmas services this year. In preparation for these services, we distributed about 500 invitations, which were handed door-to-door. The first one was on December 8, and we had eight visitors. We were so excited to welcome them. They all were willing to share their home addresses, so we have solid contact information now. Our second one will be held on December 24. We pray that these eight will return, and the Lord will bring even more visitors.

We are very excited to share with you that our oldest son, Kazuma, has a teaching job starting in the Spring. He will be teaching at Yamanashi Eiwa High School, approximately 80 miles from our home. This is a private Christian School established by Canadian Missionaries shortly after the WWII. There are Eiwa Christian Schools in our region, and Yamanashi School is one of them. Even though there is one in our own city, Kazuma chose the one in Yamanashi, because this particular one is more evangelical and was specifically seeking a teacher who is a believer. Kazuma is very interested in youth ministry, so he strongly felt the Lord's leading to this position. He is hoping to teach for five-to-six years, then he wishes to study in a seminary, Lord willing.

Linn is a first year student in college studying pre-med. He manages to come home once a month. Classes, homework, and a part-time job keep him busy, so he is somewhat sleep-deprived. We know he is young, and we always pray for his health; but most of all we pray that the Lord will lead and direct his life. We lost a dear church member recently. This makes the second funeral this year. Linn was not able to attend the funeral, but later that night I received an email from him observing that it must be difficult to talk with someone about death, but as a Christian, and secondly as a Christian med student, he knew it was important for him to think about how he would deal with the topic of 'death' with those who soon might be facing it. What an opportunity for witnessing! We are thankful that the Lord is speaking to his heart. We have been praying for God to grab Linn's heart, so this may be a part of our request.

Tomoko and I are doing well, but we notice a change in the desires of our hearts. We earnestly want our church to be a vibrant church, and pray that the Lord will use us in whatever capacity He would have. This was a new discovery for me. "For it is God who works in you both to will and to work (Phil. 2:13) really speaks to us. As we get older, the Lord is working in our hearts to love and serve Him more and more, and we are thrilled!

Thank you so much for your continued prayers and financial support. I am sure you have many requests, yet, you always remember us in your prayers and we are humbled. We pray God's rich blessings upon you in the coming year. Perhaps this is the year. Maranatha! (Rev. 22:20)

In Christian Love,  
Michiya, Tomoko, Kazuma and Linn Nakahara

