

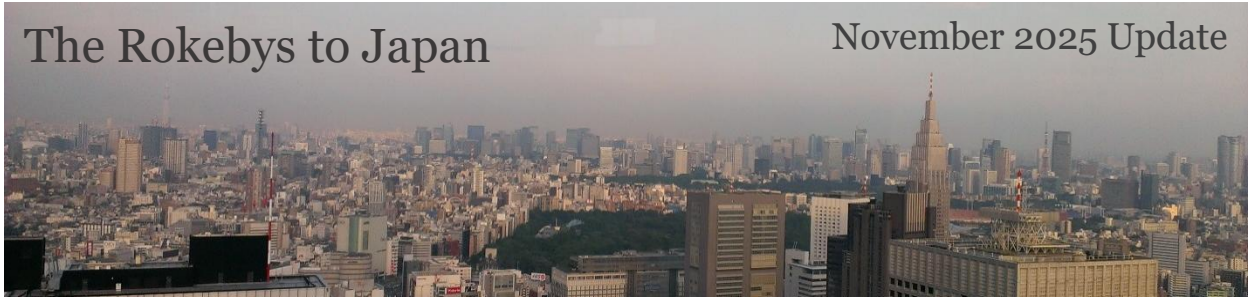
Dear Family and Friends,

We pray that this letter finds you making plans to spend Christmas with friends and family. This past week, we kicked off our Christmas season over turkey dinner with our American colleagues. Thanksgiving in November is a bit different for us, but we cannot complain when it includes hard-to-find-in-Japan turkey and two varieties of homemade pie!

November was a busy month for our family with several appointments and meetings. On top of the many hours each week we dedicate to language study, we found ourselves travelling on the weekends. Many of you prayed for our planned visit to Otawara. The congregation and church planters there greeted us warmly and we got to practice our Japanese while learning about life and ministry in rural Japan. Outside of large cities like Tokyo or Osaka, Japan can be a different place with an aging population and more traditional ways of thinking and living. Many have told us that the soil is even rockier and more resistant to the gospel. Nevertheless, the church planting pastor we visited has spent his life steadfastly proclaiming the gospel and has been used by the Lord to plant four churches to date. Please continue to pray for us as we consider this partnership.



Our church held a special kids' appreciation service in a local park



We have a full month coming up with meetings and ministry plans. The biggest event will be our second annual neighbourhood Christmas party. Last year, about ten of our neighbours attended and we have invited them again this year. After some brainstorming and talking with others, we decided we could improve the party by making homemade hot apple cider and adding a reading from Luke 2 in Japanese. Please pray with us as we excitedly anticipate loving our neighbours and sharing the story of Christ's birth.

In Christ,

Andrew, Tanja, John, Anna, and Peter

Prayers and Praises

1. Last week, we delivered our Christmas party (December 13) invitations to our neighbours. Please pray that our neighbours will attend and that the Spirit will prepare them to hear from God's Word.
2. December 1, Andrew will have a meeting with the pastor of a church in Yokohama to discuss joining his church for an internship. Please pray for a fruitful conversation and wisdom to discern whether to pursue this opportunity.
3. Next week, Tanja will have some testing done to discern the cause of a medical issue flagged at her annual checkup. Please pray for wisdom for the doctor to accurately diagnose the issue and prescribe an effective treatment.