



March 2025



JoyClub March



Mommy & Me

Dear Friends,

The departure of Joy

At the beginning of January, we were reminded of Solomon's words when we said our heartfelt goodbye to **Joy** after a short illness. He passed away in our arms after just four days. The sympathy from our church and neighborhood was touching.

Joy left a mark in the hearts of many people with his constant smiles and gentle nature throughout his 13 years of life. We thank Jesus for his last appearance at Christmas when around 100 children shouted: "Joooooy!"

Weeks of sadness and tears

Joy's departure made us wonder whether we should pray for a second dog. In view of the new neighborhood, where the first houses are now being built, the daily walks are very beneficial for getting to know our neighbors. So, despite our sadness, we visited a few pet shops and asked for clear guidance from Jesus.

A new program

In the meantime, we invited new neighbors to the program: "Mommy & Me" for newborns. Three mothers accepted the invitation!

Marianne runs the games and decorates the church, while Shoko holds the short devotional. All of these mothers come from non-Christian backgrounds and we are delighted that they have now decided to join this group and hear God's word.

Grief & light

Solomon continued: "There is a time to plant, and a time to uproot" (Ecclesiastes 3:2b). With Pastor Ito from Fukushima, we remembered the great destruction in Kobe in January of 1995 as well as in Tohoku in March 2011. It is God's goodness "that we are not finished" (Lam. 3:22). We pray for the ministry of Pastor Ito and his wife among many affected people in their region of the country. Jesus loves Japan and wants to be their Savior.

"Christmas" at the end of February

In mid-February, on a mission trip toward Toyohama Church in Shikoku, we found a puppy at a local breeder that met all the wishes we had been praying for over the last 6 weeks. We were told that the puppy was even born on Christmas Day! We received "**Noel**" at the end of February. We thank Jesus that "Music" has returned to our ears and that he was warmly welcomed by many.

Joy- and JumpClub

March marks the end of the old school year in Japan. On March 7, two new 4th graders joined our program. With these 17 children we enjoyed an amazing time. The 20-minute devotion by Shoko is always the center piece followed by games and food which is also clearly appreciated. We prayed for Renta, who will join us in JumpClub from April. Unfortunately, we do not believe many will follow him, for parents demand that their middle school children join the many evening school programs. Thus, JoyClub was an important time for spiritual seeds to be planted in the lives the JoyClub members.

We thank our short-termer, Malena, for all her contributions to these kid's programs. We thank you for all support and words of comfort!

Your missionaries,
Shoko & Andy.

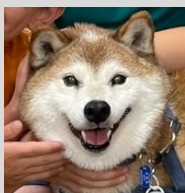
*There is a time for everything...
A time to be born and a time to die.*

Ecclesiastes 3:1f

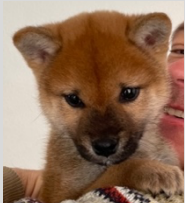


Thanks

For Joy



For Noel



Petition

In March **Kobe**

- 7. JoyClub
- 19. Cell group
- 20. English
- 21. JumpClub
- 28. Mommy & Me

Sanda

Every Sunday.

English every
Friday.

3-10-26 Midori M
Kita Ku, Kobe
651-1221, Japan

andreasshoko@web.de

Thank-you for
your donation:

Liberty Corner Mission Canada
315 Northlake Drive, Waterloo, ON, N2V 1W5
Please designate to: "Andy & Shoko, Kobe"