

## Dear family and friends,

During the Chinese New Year season, we wish you and your family abundant blessings from the Lord and boundless grace. May the God of hope fill your hearts with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit in 2025.



# A Fresh Start in the New Year

We give thanks to God! On the Sunday of the 2025 Lunar New Year, He filled our small room with many brothers, sisters, and visitors who came for worship. Even though our ministry in Fukuoka is coming to a close, God still allowed us to experience a full and lively Sunday service at the beginning of 2025. A total of 51 adults and children (3 on-line included) attended worship service. This is a great encouragement, reminding us that God is using this church as His witness and a blessing to many.



# Transition Time

Alan's sermon message for this Lunar New Year Sunday was: "The end of a matter is better than its beginning" (Ecclesiastes 7:8). We pray that this verse from Ecclesiastes will become our firm conviction during our transition and serve as our New Year's blessing to everyone.

Sometimes, we don't understand why things happen the way they do. Yet through these experiences, God teaches us that the things we can control are incredibly limited. Each day, we need His sustaining grace, and more importantly, we must learn to let go and rely on Him. The God of all comfort sees and knows everything His people face, and He is always ready to provide help and hope at just the right time.

No matter what lies ahead, we trust that God works all things together for the good of those who love Him. And love never fails.

#### Passing the Torch

There was a time when Lunar New Year was all about family reunions—loved ones, young and old, gathered under one roof, sharing joy and laughter. However, for many, this experience is becoming less common.

This year, Joan challenged herself and the families with teenagers. She gathered them together to share and learn the lessons of faith inheritance. To their surprise, they ended up enjoying a truly intimate and meaningful evening together.





January marks the final month of Joan's weekly work with youth. We rejoice that two high school students have expressed their willingness to accept Jesus as their savior. Alan led them in this prayer and blessed them!

We believe that placing these young lives in God's hands is far better than holding onto them ourselves. We pray that God's Word will continually be a lamp to their feet and a light for their path, that they may walk with the Lord always, never straying from His way. May they experience His presence and guidance throughout their lives.

#### Home Assignment Trip Planning

We are currently planning for our mission-sharing journey from March to June. In spite of the short planning period, we thank ECD mobilizer Amanda who helped us to make the planning more effective and smooth.

Currently, we have received some invitations from churches to share and preach. Please pray for our home assignment planning process as we are doing it the first time. Below is our preliminary itinerary:

3/1-6: Chiang Mai, Thailand: Global Gathering Conference

3/6 – 19: Vancouver: Four speaking engagements at three churches

3/20-24 Winnipeg: — One speaking engagements at one church

3/24-4/13: Great Toronto Area:

- Three speaking engagements at three churches
- ECD prayer conference
- Possible in-person or digital connections at prayer meetings, bible study group, fellowship meetings

4/13-25: Visit parents in Chicago

4/25-27 Vancouver: — Speaking and activities at Mission Month Meeting

4/28-5/23 Chicago: Have a break

5/24-6/9: Ottawa:

- Home Church Mission Fair (table booth and activities)
- Four Speaking engagements at three churches.

6/9-6/30: Waterloo -- Chicago: -- Younger Daughter's graduation and family matters.

(...More details are still being planned and updated, please pray for us.)

# Our Prayer Requests:

# 1, Departure from Fukuoka & Upcoming Mission Sharing Tour

Please continue to pray for our February departure from Fukuoka, for all the logistics regarding our family, and for the upcoming mission-sharing journey. Pray for safe travels, for host families, and for the provision of our food, lodging, and daily needs. Also, pray for smooth communication and arrangements with the churches that have invited us. May God be glorified and His people be edified through all these plans.

# 2, Anointing for the Preaching & Sharing

Please pray for God's anointing on Alan as he prepares and delivers messages in line with God's heart. Missions is God's work of rebuilding lives, and throughout this journey, we inevitably face human weakness, spiritual battles, and personal struggles. Yet, through it all, God is refining us and giving us a deeper perspective on faith. Whether or not someone comes to Christ is ultimately the work of the Holy Spirit, but we trust that God can use any of us at the right time to fulfill His purpose. As missionaries and as the church, our role is to seek God's will together and work in unity to accomplish the Great Commission.

### 3. Fukuoka Church & Gospel Seeds

Please pray for the church in Fukuoka that we have been serving, asking God to provide the right pastor to shepherd the congregation and help brothers and sisters grow spiritually. Pray that the gospel seeds sown—especially among our Japanese friends—will continue to bear fruit in God's perfect timing.

Finally, a New Year Encouragement from God's Word: "This is what the Lord says: Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland." — Isaiah 43:18-19 May God bless you and your family with new experiences and new discoveries in this New Year.

### Living for Him,

### Alan & Joan

"How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news," Isalah 52:7

"在山上报佳音,传平安,报好信息,传扬效思,那人的陶踪何等佳美啊"以襄亚书52:7

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