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Adriana and I  
have been thoroughly  
enjoying friendship and ice  
cream and with Michiko, Yuka,  
Mariko, and others!

Dear Friends,

One of the many things that never ceases to amaze me is the power of ice cream to bring people together. We have three consecutive weeks and counting at Sophia University, and I think the girls really liked my idea to make a calendar out of our photos. This shot shows our first run, which was a classic, strawberry. Currently, there's green tea, and we're excited to see what flavor will be next!

Along with Adriana, one of our interns, I met Michiko and Yuka through an English club on campus. We later bumped into them in the cafeteria and talked and laughed together for hours. Since then, they've introduced us to some of their other friends, and we've started the aforementioned ice cream tradition. ☺ Having made Christian friends for the first time, Yuka decided to learn more. She researched the various denominations of Christianity and came with questions about the differences. She also raised questions about the start of the protestant church and how Christians can really be loving when they don't accept same-sex marriage. (Thankfully, Adriana is our strongest intern with the language and can follow when we switch to Japanese!)

The girls' friend Mariko is interested in international relations, so she studied world history for the entrance exams to enter their university. Subsequently, she is also much more well versed in talking about Christianity than the average Japanese student. I think she has really enjoyed sharing her knowledge about church history.

Michiko is also very comfortable talking deeply, and coincidentally she lives at a station that I visit once a month for a meeting with my church's denomination. The station is about an hour outside of Tokyo, so it was really fun for us to meet up in a different environment, away from campus. This month, she was busy taking a standardized English test, but she expressed interest in visiting church with me the next time I'm there.

I'm really excited about how all the details of meeting Michiko and Yuka came together. It's already led to a lot of meaningful conversation as well as fun bonding. Please pray that every week we can genuinely display Christ's love to them and impact them and their friends! Please pray for more blessed friendships like these!

In Christ,

Christina

Please join me in praying for~

- ❖ Akane, Marina, Megumiko, Risako, Mayu, and Shiho to keep growing closer to Jesus and sharing Him
- ❖ Friends Night, (6/16) our last main event while this year's interns are still with us
- ❖ The summer missions teams to share the gospel and connect students to us and the local church in Japan