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April 28, 2017



Dear Friends,

The start of the new school year in April always makes meeting new students a breeze. Although students can often be hesitant and shy, it's an exciting season and meeting new people is the thing to do. We had a particularly great time at Gakugei University, where we have an official club. We could gather in the club room to pray and then go out to survey students' interests and just rub shoulders with them. It never ceases to amaze me how many are interested simply just because they want to speak English!

Watching some of the student leaders take charge, sometimes even on campuses other than their own, has been the best part. They've been overcoming cultural norms to boldly say they are Christian in a place where that's rare. I love seeing their excitement when their fellow students respond well and show interest. Jesus is giving them joy and allowing them to grow into amazing ministers of the good news.

Staff and students have been encouraged to see new students entering our community. Students have become more a part of setting goals the year, so they're more invested in praying for them and seeing them come to fruition. There's just a good sense of life, despite everyone getting a little worn out after weeks of class.



Of course there are also disappointments along the way. Like when you finally meet a Christian after weeks of engaging tons of students, but later she ignores you. Some opportunities seem to slip through the cracks, but overall spirits are high. Please pray for perseverance, in the faith and in doing good, for our staff and students!

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
- ❖ Students exploring the Bible or interested in starting (Natsuki, Erika, Maiko, Chie, and others)
- ❖ Preparations for summer missions teams and the hearts of those they will meet on campus