



John and Eriko Houlette

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in Japan and Greater Asia**

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Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. Isaiah 43:19

Celebrating Milestones

The birth of our fourth grandson, our wedding anniversary, and the renewal of John's California driver's license were some of the wonderful milestones we celebrated these past several months. On May 16, our daughter Jasmine gave birth to **Yuuki** (gentle hope) **Oliver** in Tokyo. Jasmine, baby and proud dad Takuro, are doing well.



Then two weeks later on May 30, Eriko and I feted our 40 years of marriage. We had a great dinner, cake and stayed overnight at a Japanese hot spring inn. God has been so gracious to us. Four decades of marriage has taught us much about loving, serving, encouraging, collaborating, blessing, forgiving, supporting and caring for each other.

John's driver's license renewal was a huge answer to prayer. Born with congenital nystagmus, he has had life-long vision impairment issues. But thanks be to God, who provided a great low vision specialist and a DMV driving test appointment at a location near where I was staying. The driving test requirement was unexpected and the appointment was on the last possible day I could do it before returning to Japan!

Grandkids are wonderful! We had a blessed home assignment from June 27 to July 27 for Eriko and to August 20 for John. We spent quality time with my son and his family, including our twin grandsons, Oscar and Arlo, who turned seven on September 4! We visited nine churches and more than a dozen supporters. It was a blessed time of reconnecting with so many over a brief period of time. We also had an encouraging four-day debrief with our sending agency, SIM USA.

As I got to my gate to board my flight back to Japan, I realized that I would be joined on the plane by several Tokyo 2020 Paralympic athletes from the US and Columbia. It was a blessing to see these many individuals who have worked so hard under difficult circumstances to become olympians!

PRAISES

1. That Eriko and I have been vaccinated.
2. For a fruitful Home Assignment.
3. For John's US driver's license renewal last month.

PRAYER

4. That my book, ***Resilience: How Japanese Pastors Can Thrive in Every Season*** would bless pastors and seminary students.
5. For wisdom to prepare and teach a class at Sendai Baptist Seminary from November.
6. For discernment for Hokushin Calvary church as we vote to call Mr. Kitsunai as youth pastor on 10/17.

Hokushin Calvary Church will hold a special business meeting to call a youth pastor next month! Mr. Kitsunai, the church worship leader, feels led to respond to this need. I am working with the elders to discern God's leading and determine proper training, which will include Bible college.

High covid numbers caused the church to have online worship services only. The Kid's Cafe and Orange (Mental Health) Cafe are on hold for now. We are praying that we can return to onsite gatherings in the next few weeks. I hope to re-start the Bible study with Mr. Harumi later this month as well.

Eriko began another school year at Tohoku International School. She is also working with Asian Access in the areas of child safety and research. She hopes to use her harp to encourage people as Covid conditions improve.

A day of Prayer for Our Supporters. I continue to take the first day of the month to pray for you, our support team. Would you consider sharing your requests with me? You may email, text, call or message me. The next time will be on October 1 (September 30 US time).



Eriko and I thank you so much for your faithful financial and prayer support especially during the Covid pandemic.

Partnering with you in ministry in Japan and Greater Asia!

John and Eriko

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