

MLP Japan News



Mt.Fuji at dawn

Greetings

A New Year Begins

We have entered the season of Epiphany after Christmas our celebration. Let us all think about the glories of Jesus Christ at this time. Jesus came to earth as the perfect sacrifice for our sins. He came to give us eternal life, to us who were dead spiritually in our sins. Glory be to Jesus! Kaori Egawa
– MLP Japan Media

Announcements

Pre-evangelism Work

Oyako Joy Club started posting regular updates on Instagram and Facebook. Our first post this year was on Jan.23, reporting the storytelling event which is being held at the local library held once a month.



<https://www.instagram.com/oyakojoyclub/>

Goals

We are running a race

My father-in-law loves to watch the New year's Hakone marathon. We were blessed to enjoy the tradition as a family this year. Christians are like these marathon athletes we saw on TV, only we run toward our heavenly goal, which is our eternal home. In heaven, our Triune Father welcomes us like the father of the prodigal son, who hugs him with love and forgiveness.



SCRIPTURE OF THE MONTH

When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, "Look, the Lamb of God!"

John 1:36

PUBLISHED BY KAORI EGAWA - MLP JAPAN MEDIA CONSULTANT

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SUPPORTEd by Star Cross, a Japanese Writing & Translation Company

TOKYO, VOL. 5

Christian Topics**Running the Christian Race**

Jesus welcomes us when we arrive in heaven along with the believers who have gone before us. It will be a pure joy to be greeted with “congratulations!” and cheers! All Christians hope to enjoy the heavenly feasts with the King of the whole universe to celebrate this happy homecoming. Nothing in this world compares with this great joy! The author of the book of Hebrews writes, **“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer, and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God”**(Hebrews 12:1-2). Let us trust in God’s mercy and grace and pray that we are given a heart that joyfully and humbly follows God’s eternal will.

Reading the Bible**Time of Grace on YouVersion**

We have provided 7 series of Time of Grace devotions in Japanese on the free **YouVersion** app, which is designed to help people read the Bible and pray everyday. When you type in **Time of Grace** on your “Bible plan” search, you will see the following 7 titles in Japanese. They each contain about a months’ worth of devotions to be read every day. May your new year be guided by the His Word through regular Bible reading!

1. *God’s Prophecy and Promise*
2. *Teach Us to Pray*
3. *The Stories Jesus Taught*
4. *God that the Bible Teaches*
5. *Joy in Serving*
6. *Heros*

**YouVersion****Christian Worship****Help Us, O Lord, for Now We Enter**

Here is the back translation of CW 70 v.1-4

1. In this new year, In Jesus Christ,
We taste and enjoy the blessings of faith.
Rejoicing in our salvation with thankful hearts.
2. May all of our new plans and actions,
Glorify the one and only Christ, our King.
May they become our praises; we pray.
3. May the new year be filled with thoughts
Which abound in Jesus like love.
Give us help and guidance, we pray.
4. We ask you, dear Lord, to protect us,
From the enemies which try to deceive us.
Let us be close to you and never wander
off on our own.

Translation by Kaori E. 2023.1

MLP Japan is working under the direction of the WELS, a Lutheran church. <https://wels.net/>
MLP Japan’s mission is to help new souls to be saved and to strengthen their faith through multi-language contents. Our prayer is that the name of our Lord Jesus is praised in all 47 prefectures in Japan.

Multi-Language Productions (MLP) Japan produces multimedia content that conducts and encourages gospel outreach in Japan. MLP Japan is working under the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) www.wels.net