

Multi-Language Productions (MLP)

MLP Japan News



Cherry blossoms in Meguro (Tokyo)

Greetings

Reflecting on Lent

In the church calendar, it is the season of Lent. During this period, we reflect on the passion of Jesus and the meaning of His death on the cross.

While living on earth, Jesus showed deep empathy and love for those who were grieving and suffering.

Let us also draw close to the hearts of those who suffer and grieve, and continue to spread the gospel that brings salvation to all people.

Kaori Egawa

MLP Japan Media Consultant/Editor

Evangelism

MLP Japan Plans

The translation materials for the mission in Japan, "Time of Grace - Fathers and Mothers," devotions are now available to read on the LECC homepage.

Furthermore, materials and newsletters that have been published so far can also be read on this site. For more details, please visit leccjp.org.



Events

Report

Tomato Club met on February 24th, notably with a high school student rejoining us after dedicating a year to university entrance exam preparations. Following our devotional time, we sang "Jesus Loves Me" to express our gratitude to God for His love and blessings over the year. The minestrone, spring rolls, and mandarin jelly they prepared were delicious.

On February 26th, Oyako Joy Club hosted a reading session, warmly welcoming families who had participated in the January session. The next session is March 18th at the Higahikurume Central Library, starting at 11 am.



SCRIPTURE OF THE MONTH

Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.

John 17:3

Christian Magazine Summery-*Forward in Christ***Practicing Christian Freedom**

Members of WELS, Lori and Brent Ryan, belong to the Holy Trinity Church in New Hope, Minnesota, and through hospitality at home, they engage in family evangelism and invite others to worship. **Through their hospitality, they create the deep connections people seek and strengthen human relationships within a Christian family environment through various types of events.** The guests they invite are chosen based on the Ryans' lifestyle at the time and the group with whom they wish to deepen their relationship.

Meanwhile, Steve Hansen, a WELS member from the Gloria Dei Church in Belmont, California, has the opportunity to spread the Word in regions of East Asia where Christianity is less prevalent, through his work. He believes that by living a life that reflects the Lord's glory, people will naturally gather around. Below are answers from an interview with Steve:

Q: What does it mean to "let your light shine"?

A: My role is to share the gospel and wait for God to deliver the message to people's hearts. "Letting your light shine" means demonstrating Christ's teachings of patience, love, and tolerance in real life. I live in an area where Christianity is not well-known, so I avoid foul language, treat everyone kindly, and strive to gain trust from my coworkers. This leads to conversations about faith. Ultimately, it's not my power, but God's work that makes the Word resonate in people's hearts.

Q: Are you able to boldly profess your faith because you are outgoing?

A: Our "light" varies from person to person, but all reflect the glory of Christ. Whether outgoing or introverted, what's important is to speak openly about Christ with others. Anyone can learn how to connect people with the gospel through various Bible studies.

A Summary of *Forward In Christ (FIC)* article of March 2024 issue.

Jesus Wept

It is well known that Jesus wept at the tomb of his friend Lazarus. "Jesus wept." (John 11:35) is translated as such in English and is one of the shortest verses in the English Bible. Jesus is also recorded to have wept over the city of Jerusalem (Luke 19:41). These moments of Jesus crying demonstrate God's deep empathy towards human suffering, teaching us that God is with us in our sadness and pain, providing support.

Lent is an ideal time to deepen our understanding of Jesus, who accepted the cross. During this period, we give thanks for Jesus' great sacrifice and forgiveness of sins. We repent our sins, rejoice in the salvation granted by Jesus, and shed tears. Jesus was never a weak victim. Despite being sinless, He is our precious Savior who chose to endure suffering for the salvation of mankind.

James Pope | FIC Editor

A Summary of *Forward In Christ (FIC)* article of March 2024 issue.

Hymn of the Season**CW103 Glory Be to Jesus** Translated by Edward Caswall

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| 1 Glory be to Jesus,
Who in bitter pains
Poured for me the lifeblood
From his sacred veins. | 2 Grace and life eternal
In that blood I find;
Blest be his compassion,
Infinitely kind. | 3 Blest through endless ages
Be the precious stream
Which from endless torment
Did the world redeem. |
| 5 Oft as earth exulting
Lifts its praise on high,
Angel hosts rejoicing
Make their glad reply. | 6 Lift we, then, our voices,
Swell the mighty flood;
Louder still and louder
Praise the precious blood! | |