

Multi-Language Productions (MLP)

MLP Japan News



Kyoto Prefecture, Arashiyama City

Greetings

A Journey of Faith in Fall

October is a busy month in Japan, filled with opportunities to enjoy leisure, sports, learning, and the arts. As we go about our days, we hold firm to the assurance that our Lord Jesus is with us, and we continue to pray for his grace and guidance.

This month, let's remember the love and forgiveness the Lord has given us, serve our neighbors, and encourage one another. As we seek to deepen our fellowship within the church, may we walk this journey of faith together. Let's also show compassion to those in pain or hardship and reach out to them through the Gospel.

Kaori Egawa
Editor of MLP Japan

Report

Translation Project

We are now in the final stages of translating and editing *The People's Bible: Hebrews*, having reached the last chapter (Chapter 13). With proofreading and layout underway, we are working toward publication by the end of the year. Please pray for a smooth and successful process.

We chose to move from *Exodus* in the Old Testament to *Hebrews* in the New Testament because *Hebrews* connects the events of *Exodus* with the life of Jesus, helping readers gain a deeper understanding of the Gospel. Although *Hebrews* may seem challenging at first, **we believe that a careful, step-by-step approach will make it accessible and clear for everyone.**

Pre-Evangelism Activities

English Learning Support

MLP Japan publishes Bible commentaries translated from English to Japanese. As part of this mission, we actively create opportunities for people to engage with English, the original language of these works. **In October, Egawa joined a volunteer program for extensive English reading at Yotsuya Library in Shinjuku.** With a collection of around 4,000 English books, Yotsuya Library is well-equipped to support English learners. If you're a Tokyo resident, you can easily get a library card, so we encourage you to make the most of this valuable resource.



SCRIPTURE OF THE MONTH

Now reform your ways and your actions and obey the Lord your God.

Jeremiah 26:13

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Christian Magazine Summery-From *Forward in Christ* October Issue Alone Time

Even the most social person needs time alone now and then—a chance to disconnect from the outside world and spend time in prayer, Bible study, reflection, or simply to relax. **October is also a time to celebrate Luther's Reformation—a moment to reflect on the historic event when Luther rediscovered God's truth and restored the Gospel and the truth of Scripture to the church.** Luther's Reformation is summed up in the four "alones": Grace alone, Faith alone, Scripture alone, and Christ alone.



Grace alone: We are made God's people by His free grace alone.

Faith alone: Salvation is received solely through the faith God has given us.

Scripture alone: Our faith rests solely on the foundation of Scripture, God's Word.

Christ alone: The source of salvation is Jesus Christ alone and His cross.

These truths represent the essential moments of 'solitude' we need to strengthen our confidence in salvation. May we continue to make time for meaningful solitude, turning our hearts to our Savior, gathering with fellow believers, and giving thanks to God for the truths He has given us as we praise His glory.

Mark Schroeder | WELS President

Growing in Grace and Knowledge

Martin Luther, originally a member of the Roman Catholic Church, didn't become a "Lutheran" believer overnight. His journey of faith transformation was gradual, reminding us that understanding the Bible and growing in faith takes time. As 2 Peter 3:18 says, **"But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen."**

On October 31, 1517, Luther posted his Ninety-Five Theses on the church door in Wittenberg, Germany, questioning doctrines like indulgences and purgatory. This was only the beginning; it took further study for Luther to fully reject these teachings.

All Christians are called to be lifelong learners, returning to the Bible for deeper understanding. **Luther's journey shows us that the true treasure of the church is the "gospel of the glory and grace of God." Like Luther, we too are encouraged to keep our focus on Jesus.**

James Pope | *Forward in Christ* Editor

Kaori Egawa's Talk on Christian Music

Back Translation of 'A Mighty Fortress Is Our God' – Japanese Version"

Here is a straightforward back translation of Martin Luther's beloved Reformation hymn, prepared especially for this Reformation season.

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| <p>1. The Lord is our strong fortress,
A mighty shield and weapon.
He is our helper who takes away
Our troubles and pain.
Today, too, the enemy moves around,
But there is none who can win against our Lord.</p> | <p>2. He fights in our place,
When we have fallen.
His name is Lord Jesus Christ.
He is God, ruler of all, the King of victory.
Our Lord surely
defeats the enemy.</p> |
| <p>3. Even if evil fills the world
And we are threatened,
With just one word,
The Lord will strike down the enemy.
So do not fear; when we face
This world, we receive
The strength of our Savior.</p> | <p>4. When the enemy's army
Comes to attack,
Or when people mock
The words of the Lord,
God will protect us.
By the Lord's victory,
God's kingdom will continue forever!</p> |