

Mission and Art in Japan

WE'VE MOVED!

MARCH 2010



Our apartment building

On March 1, all of our things were moved to downtown Tokyo in the area of Tsukishima, known for the famous food monjayaki and traditional fishing houses. Tsukishima has grown considerably in the past ten years with the construction of many tall residential buildings. Most families have been



View from our living room: many new apartment towers along with Aidan's elementary school



Friends who helped us move. Taken in our living room.

uprooted when they moved to this area and are looking for new community. What a great place to connect with people and plant a church! The provision of this place really was a miracle: Exactly at our budget, application was accepted (foreigners usually turned down), right

next to kindergarten for Eastin and elementary school for Aidan, artistic contrast of both the old and new, easy access to worship location and missionary team in Chiba, etc. We really are so thankful!



Traditional shopping street next to our building

Grace City Church meets for "full worship" once a month, with almost 60 people attending each time! The other Sundays, we meet for what we call "simple worship," a shorter and less-preparation-intensive worship which leaves more time for evangelism. All gatherings are exciting and full of life. What an honor it is to be part of what God is doing here! Pray for more workers to join us!



Our conversations following worship continue outside after our rental period runs out!

The logo for *Grace City* is a big circle with a G in the middle in the same style as the subway lines that wind around the city. An expression of the fact that grace is at the middle of all we do and are, it is also a reminder to pray God would wind a line of grace through this city, blessing the lives of everyone who comes into contact with it!





This Christmas, we noticed a large gathering of people near one of our concert locations making “mochi,” a kind of pounded rice cake. To the left, you can see Eastin taking a turn. What an opportunity to connect with people and invite them to the church for our concert! The photo on the lower left shows a completely packed sanctuary while I play Bach on the piano. One church member was especially encouraged to boldly invite more of her own friends and neighbors to church.



In order to focus on language study, we are taking a year-long break from giving concerts. Roger finished reading his first novel in Japanese and has been working hard to develop the skill of live translation into Japanese. To the right is a picture of Abi with one of our teachers, Sachiko-san.



In May, a group of musicians will come for two weeks from Belhaven College in Jackson, Mississippi. Alex McDonald, an extremely gifted doctoral piano student from The Juilliard School with a huge heart for ministry, will also be working with us for a month. Please start praying now that God would use them to build many new contacts in downtown Tokyo and to build the church for His glory.

Other news on our website:

- Read Roger’s article for *The American Organist*, “The Spiritual Power of Bach’s Music in Japan,” designed to spread news worldwide of God’s work in Japan.
- Watch a video of Tim Keller, senior pastor for Redeemer Presbyterian Church New York City, speaking about the importance of Grace City Church for reaching Tokyo and the rest of the world.
- Online giving now possible! A link from our website will direct you to a secure connection through Mission to the World to give instantaneously via credit card.



Additional Prayer Requests:

1. Thank God for providing the perfect place for us to live in Tokyo and for providing a renter for our house in Memphis. Pray for the more than 1,000 people living in our new building.
2. Pray for Aidan and Eastin's adjustment to new schools in April. Pray that we would be able to find new friends in Tokyo and that God would use this move to bring many into His church.
3. Pray for continuing balance of family, ministry, and language school. Continue to pray for a nanny to help us care for our children so that we can be more involved in ministry.

In Him,

Roger, Abi, Aidan, Eastin & Coen



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