

Sonnenberg Report

August 2011



We are happy to announce the birth of Noah Hikaru Sonnenberg on July 31st, 2011. He was 8 lbs. 3 oz. at birth.

Noah is growing and developing well. Akiko is also doing well.

It was amazing how God had things planned in advance around Noah's

birth. The attending nurse had spent five years living in Japan and had even given birth there. She was able to explain how the Canadian hospital process is different from Japan, which was very helpful.

The whole family is thrilled to have a new baby. He gets cuddled and kissed often.

We chose his names based on the meanings. Noah means "comfort" and "rest" in Hebrew. Hikaru is Japanese and means "to shine."



We were pleased to be able to have our baby dedication surrounded by Canadian family and friends. It was our first time to dedicate a baby in Canada.

(The dedication gown is an heirloom that was made by Oma Kowalski and Noah is the fifth great grandchild to wear it.)



Summer in Canada

The summer has flown by all too quickly. We were encouraged by the warm reception we had in so many churches. It was wonderful to spend time with friends and family in different parts of the country. We had to limit our schedule and meetings a bit to leave enough space to prepare for and adjust to having a new baby. Thank you for being understanding.



Return To Japan

We return to Japan on September 2nd. This has been a mid-term home assignment, so we will return to Okinawa to continue to work with the church multiplication network. After a three month break adjusting back to Japanese school may be a challenge for the children.

One of the things that we look forward to is welcoming a new missionary couple who will join us in Okinawa. Peter and Valerie Limmer, from Mississauga, will arrive in mid-September and we are exciting to expand our team.

*Thank you for your continued prayers for
Japan and our ministry.*

Jeffery & Akiko



Things to Pray About

1. Pray for revival in Japan (population is less than 1% Christian).
2. Pray that many Japanese will turn to God as the true source of hope at this historic time. Pray that Japanese churches will continue to identify and respond to needs as well as provide a credible message of love and hope to hurting communities.
3. Pray that the Okinawa Church Multiplication Network will effectively help the churches to clarify vision, develop teams & strategies, and support & encourage the church planters who are being raised up.
4. Pray that God will continue to provide for our financial needs. We have not fully met our support requirements. The strong yen to the Canadian dollar demands that we significantly scale back our budget. Pray that more churches and individuals will partner with us.
5. Pray for our family as we adjust to being a family of five.

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*Please earmark all contributions "For Jeffery and Akiko Sonnenberg"