

## Mission letter from Japan (13)

**“Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near.” Philippians 4:4-5**

Paul continues to encourage the Philippian believers to rejoice in the Lord, to care for their neighbors with love, and to maintain a peaceful mind by praying to God. Even if the current situation is different from what we expected and seems difficult to overcome, we know that this too is part of God’s plan, so that you may live a life of obedience and faith.



TKMC Mission Team



New GCA library



Installing security cameras

The school was surrounded by waves of green, and the birds’ songs became louder and the busy movements of small insects became noticeably more frequent. Most of the students who entered school in April are adjusting well to school life, but Kazuaki, who recently transferred to the 9th grade, has already been absent several times and needs special prayers. His parents are very worried because he refuses to come to school on Mondays, making various excuses. Kazuaki, who came from a non-Christian Japanese family, had difficulty adjusting to Japanese middle schools, but came to our school at the strong recommendation of his maternal grandmother. Kazuaki’s maternal grandmother, who reads the Daily Bible book published by Pastor Cho every month, said that after hearing about GCA, she had been praying for her grandson to enter GCA and grow as a believer. Please pray for Kazuaki as he gets used to his new school, new friends, and especially dormitory life and Christian life.

From May 21 to June 1, a short-term mission team of five from the Tampa Korean Methodist Church (TKMC), which sent us to GCA, came and did a lot of work, such as installing security cameras in a new building, replacing old lights with LED lights, beautifying the school, and setting up the library. The students and teachers were so happy that they organized things that they had always wanted to do but had not been able to do so neatly and beautifully. We feel sorry that we are receiving so many thanks. We sincerely thank the TKMC mission team that took the time out of their busy schedules to come from far away to support us. On Sunday, we visited Pastor Cho’s church (Kawasaki First Christian Church) and greeted the church members, and Pastor Han Myung-hoon also gave a sermon. We pray that in the future, the two churches will cooperate for the expansion of the kingdom of God and have many gracious fellowships where they dedicate themselves together for the gospel.

After the TKMC mission team, a mission team of 25 youth students from the Korean churches in LA and Houston, USA, is currently visiting and holding a Bible camp (June 8-15). About 25% of our students, or 9 students, are currently from non-Christian families. Please pray that this Bible camp will be a time of blessing for them to personally meet Jesus and continue to experience a time of grace even after the Bible camp ends.



2025 Bible Camp

Students from Westminster Christian Academy (WCA) in St. Louis, USA, will come and hold an English camp from July 7-11. Twelve students from GCA had visited WCA before. Thirteen WCA students and four teachers will visit this time to discuss the issue of establishing an official sisterhood relationship with our school. We hope to maintain good relationships between Christian schools and use this network to help our students gain better experiences and learnings in the world.

The basketball court fence installation is currently being done by contractors. The futsal field also needs fencing, so please pray that the budget (\$25,000) can be met. The Tampa Korean Methodist Church has pledged \$15,000 in support. We will use the precious support, filled with the prayers and dedication of the congregation, beautifully for the kingdom of God.

With the start of summer vacation on July 14, we will visit Tampa for 10 days (until July 23) to report on the ministry work we have been doing. I hope to see you in good health and end this missionary letter. Thank you.

**June 11, 2025**

**David & Sophia Hong**

### Prayers

1. May the Bible camp with the church teams in LA and Houston be filled with the Holy Spirit, and may the experience of grace continue so that faith may grow.
2. May Kazuaki, who is having trouble adjusting to school, and the new students who are having a hard time studying English overcome it with God's help.
3. Please guide the work of installing fences for the basketball and futsal courts so that they proceed smoothly without accidents.
4. May all teachers be able to understand and guide not only the students' studies but also their spiritual states with one heart.
5. May we not be ahead of the Lord in our ministry, and always be spiritually awake.