

ADAIR UPDATE



Baby Anderson

INTRODUCING ANDERSON LUKE

And then there were five

On the afternoon of Sunday, March 11th, Roberta started feeling a little “strange,” but she assured us the feeling was not a contraction and that she was *not* going into labor. We went on a fun family walk that afternoon with Grandma, and by the time we were driving home she wasn’t so confident of what the “strange” feelings were. An hour or so after that, we were off to the hospital to see if these “strange” feelings were actually contractions. Then at 3:37 the next morning, we had the privilege of meeting our third son, Anderson Luke.

Anderson is the middle name of Roberta’s maternal grandfather and namesake. In Japan, he will probably go by the nickname “Andy,” which works better with Japanese phonetics. Interestingly, Roberta is convinced that Anderson looks a bit like her Grandpa. *Luke* is from the author of the gospel of Luke and Acts. Luke stated that his purpose in writing his two books was “so you can be certain of the truth of everything you were taught” (Acts 1:4). Our

prayer for Anderson is that he will be certain of these truths from a young age and that his life will be a clear testimony to those around him.

Roberta enjoyed her 5 days in the hospital resting and being pampered by the nurses (this length is typical in Japan). Once out of the hospital, she enjoyed the help and companionship of her mom who visited (e.g. helped our family and ministry) for a month. Anderson is growing well and is being adored by 2 older brothers. We appreciate your prayers for our adjustment as a family, for Anderson’s continued health and growth, and for two of his toes, which are pointed in an unusual direction (we will see a bone specialist soon).

It is hard to believe that 4 years ago it was just Roberta and me, and now we are the parents of 3 energetic boys under the age of 4 (3, 2, and 0). Although sometimes we feel a bit overwhelmed, we are also so grateful for God’s faithfulness to our family up until this point and his promises for the future.



What are we all dressed up for?

- A) A wedding
 - B) A funeral
 - C) A school entrance ceremony
 - D) This is how we look every day
- (Answer on page 2)



FAMILY UPDATES

What we are up to this spring

Jojo the onichan

Joseph is starting to take his role of *onichan* (big brother) seriously. Until now, he's primarily enjoyed being spoiled as the little kid by older boys and girls in our church and neighborhood. We've seen a jump in his maturity since Anderson was born.

Although his Japanese is improving, he still feels a bit of stress in new situations in Japanese. In addition to being the only non-Asian, he is likely the only child of Christian parents at his historically Christian school. We ask for prayers for his language, for good friends, and for him as he begins to notice and process his "otherness." Please also pray for our relationship with this school - the teachers, staff, kids, and families.



Benji the Brave

Benji started going to daycare at the same school where Jojo goes. He will go 2 to 3 times a week for now, but it's been a challenging transition for him so far. Please pray for Benji's language acquisition, that he'll have a good relationship with his teachers, and that school becomes a fun and safe place for him soon.

When we moved to our current neighborhood, I was concerned that there wouldn't be any kids around (this is a legitimate concern in many parts of Japan). Thankfully, we live near a small children's community center, and there are several little boys and girls Benji's age who we meet there frequently. We're also happy that 3 of these little buddies recently had baby brothers and sisters added to their families, so Anderson will also have neighborhood friends (we haven't met anyone Joseph's age yet though).



Roberta the...?

I (pictured with our friend E) am trying to know what my limits are for this next season. At the risk of sounding too repetitive or too obvious, I appreciate your prayers for my Japanese language acquisition, for sleep, and for deepening relationships with my English students, mom friends, neighbors, and church friends (and that I remember to plug the crock pot in next time).

Robert with many hats

Robert is on the leadership team for Asian Access. One of his roles is to help facilitate partnerships between western missionaries and Japanese churches. With that, he and another missionary are supervising a new team in Kyushu (southern Japan) where he lived for 4 years. These missionaries are partnering with a church planting network, and two weeks ago Robert went to celebrate the launch as well as introduce the missionaries to their churches. He will continue to go down several times a year to encourage the missionaries and partner churches.

On a local level, in addition to teaching kids English weekly at our partner church, Robert has almost 30 adult students mostly from our neighborhood meeting in the building our church owns a short walk from our house. As we prepare to launch bi-monthly worship services, we pray that many of these students will become part of the local church and turn to Jesus. We appreciate your prayers for Robert as he seeks a good balance between doing both local ministry as well as serving our mission in a leadership capacity.

We are grateful for your partnership with and prayers for all five of us.

-Robert, Roberta, Jojo, Benji, and Andy

Partner

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Specific Prayer Points

- For our family (specifics above)
- For bi-monthly worship services in Higashi-Shiogama
- For continued discipleship of our friend E
- For our English students and neighbors to know Jesus
- For a continued good relationship with our partner church (Shiogama Bible Baptist Church)
- For the Kyushu church planting network and for new missionaries to settle in well

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