

*And you will have joy and gladness,  
and many will rejoice at his birth*

*Luke 1:14*



Christmas Greetings from the Petersons!

2007 was a blessed year for our family, full of excitement, change, and joy. We began the year in Tokyo, with all three kids and Hydi spending their days at CAJ. Miles and Eli played basketball while Kendra played a leading role in the middle school drama. Miles had a cast removed from his ankle on January 4<sup>th</sup>, 5 weeks after injuring his ankle and quickly got back into the swing of basketball games 2-3 times a week.

In the spring it was Kendra's turn to play basketball, while Miles and Eli enjoyed track and field. Hydi continued teaching at CAJ and playing tennis with friends in the community. Jim taught his courses at the Covenant Seminary and Tokyo Christian University. It was also a time for packing, as we sadly said goodbye to our wonderful home in Higashi Kurume in preparation for a 1 year home assignment.

As soon as school was out Hydi and Miles left for Colorado so Miles could play basketball in the summer leagues and Hydi could attend the ECC Annual meeting in Wisconsin. Jim stayed behind with Kendra and Eli, packing up our seemingly endless collection of stuff and then spending a few weeks up at the cabin in Nojiri.

On July 24<sup>th</sup> we were saddened by the news of Jim's dad's passing. But after a 5 year battle with Alzheimer's and the promise of new life we found many reasons to give thanks as well. Our family was reunited in San Diego for the memorial services, and it was a bitter-sweet time with relatives and friends.

August was spent in Colorado Springs, getting the kids ready for the new school year. They have all made a smooth transition, and find themselves busy with sports and studies. In the fall Miles played tennis, Kendra played volleyball and Eli played football, keeping the mom/dad & grandpa shuttle service stretched to the limit! Winter sports have started now and all three kids are playing basketball.

Hydi has been substitute teaching in local schools 2-4 days a week. She recently received certification as a basketball referee and has been officiating several nights a week as well. In her free time she has been playing on a local tennis team and recently traveled with them to Phoenix for the USTA level 4.5 national championships! Jim has been travelling around the country visiting Covenant churches to share the good news of what God is doing in Japan.

We hope and pray that this Christmas will be a season of blessings and joy for your family.

Peace on Earth!

Jim, Hydi, Miles, Kendra and Eli