



# 2023 Year in Review



## Nozomi Brownell - Japan

### A glimpse at what your support made possible:

2023 was the year that we saw more doors opened for the worship leaders to practice the Children and Worship (C&W) program. There were three gatherings held to introduce the program to a local church in Tokai district (southwest of Yokohama). What was amazing was that those events were led by the local worship leaders who were certified at the C&W center in Yokohama.

Two Montessori preschools are currently using the program year-round and the teachers are seeing the spiritual growth of the young children.

In other cases, the program was used in the summer camp or worship session of Sunday school.

The worship leaders are in awe to see the children's positive and voluntary responses. I heard several joyful reports; a praise song emerged out of children during the wondering time, spontaneously but in an orderly manner; children began reciting Psalm 23 after the story of the Good Shepherd; children began dancing after the story of the Exodus, and so on.

We are grateful that the used wooden figures, which were sent by several churches in the U.S., actually made it possible for the leaders to practice the program. We are so grateful for the RCA's general financial to help us provide the textbooks in Japanese.





## Our challenges of 2023

Constant provision of the wooden figures and other props has been our greatest challenge. Although we have many wooden figures provided by the RCA just as I wrote above, we need some of the materials, such as Noah's ark, Tabernacle, Temple, 3D Good Shepherd and sheep, the Lord's Table, and such. We had a gentleman who used to make nice props, but he is retired now. Nozomi makes some of them for the people who are in need or the Worship center in Yokohama would lend them to the leaders. We have workshops periodically to make some of them together, as well. However, we are still looking for a wood workshop to help produce the large items.

## Please Pray

- 1) For Nozomi to be able to continue equipping the new leaders.
- 2) For the growth of the worship leaders in their skills and their spirituality.
- 3) For more opportunities to practice the program consistently.
- 4) For more young children to meet the Lord.

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