

Sarah Rooney

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*Come behold the wondrous mystery
In the dawning of the king
He, the theme of Heaven's praises
Robed in frail humanity
In our longing, in our darkness
Now the light of life has come
Look to Christ who condescended
Took on flesh to ransom us*

Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery
by Matt Boswell, Michael Bleecker, Matt Papa

Dear friends,

It's time to trade in baseball games for Christmas recitals. Time sped by as we moved through summer into fall, and now we are approaching winter's doorstep. I watch kids grow but don't often realize how much until I look back at old pictures. Typically, I have kids for only two or three years, but I am always amazed at how much they change during that time, especially in their emotional and spiritual maturity. I watch my students pray for each other, serve our local Japanese community, and worship with authenticity. It has been a joy to walk alongside their families through the various seasons of life.

THIS PAST FALL BROUGHT SOME FUN EVENTS:

We hosted our first softball camp for middle and high school students. Over thirty girls gave their all in some extremely HOT weather. Families came out at the end of the camp for a parent/child game. Moms, dads, and daughters played and laughed together.

Our biggest event, Trunk or Treat, drew over 500 people! We had perfect weather, and with the addition of food trucks this year, people stuck around to enjoy the community. We invited students from a local children's center to join us in the festivities, and it was fun to see American and Japanese kids run around together.



We celebrated Thanksgiving with a meal and an added worship portion this year. Families and young active-duty Marines came together to break bread and sing praises for their many blessings.

Attendance has increased at our ongoing Sunday school and Wednesday night meal and Bible study. This fall, we had some changeover with a chaplain and another assistant staff, but it finally feels like we are in a groove.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS:

Night in Bethlehem, December 9—This immersive, family-focused event brings people into the stable to meet our Emmanuel.

Movie and Pizza Night, December 15—A fun family event where everyone eats popcorn and watches “The Star.”

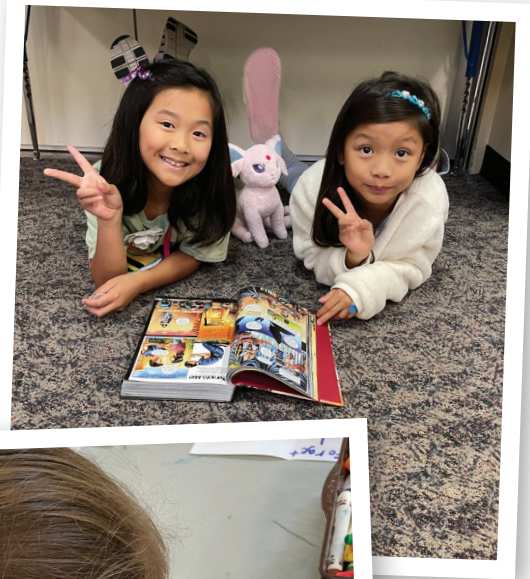
Christmas Eve Service, December 24—Family service to celebrate the birth of Christ!

Cambodia Missions Trip, February 16–25

A HUGE praise is that our current chaplain, who was supposed to leave in a few weeks, is staying! Consistency is rare in the military community, and I am grateful for even the slightest bit.

Thank you for your continued prayers and financial gifts. These events and the ongoing discipleship I do would not be possible without you. Donations given at Christmas time help fill in the gaps with the extra programs held this time of year. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve those who serve for us.

Blessings,
Sarah



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