**ADVENT 2024** 

## Kenji & Amy Fukunaga

Serving with Cadence International Cadence.org/Fukunaga



## Dear friends,

In the summer of 2023, we launched into our new roles on the Pastoral Care team with Cadence. We had a big heart and vision to care for the kids of Cadence missionaries and be a support to our Cadence families. Our ideas were endless, and we started with a lot of energy.

Fast forward to today, we are thankful for the opportunities we've had to serve our kids and families and the privilege of interacting with them. We have not been able to pursue all our initial ideas and dreams, and there is

some frustration in that, but we continue to seek God to lead us as we build Cadence Kids Care. He has called us back to prayer. The kids and families we serve are His kids and His families first and foremost. It is so clear that God led us to this role, and He continues to remind us of that and asks us to wait on Him as He reveals His plan.

Recently, as I (Kenji) was praying, I was reminded of a verse that was prayed over me in 2023 as we began our new roles. Although this verse was randomly selected, it felt so applicable to what we want Cadence Kids Care to be all about and what God wants to do in the hearts of our Cadence Kids and families.

"Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed,' says the Lord, who has compassion on you." Isaiah 54:10

God deeply loves each member of our missionary families. Our goal, as caregivers, is to reflect God's love for His kids and to encourage them to live out of His great love. This goal is bigger than our initial ideas and transcends simply building a great program for Cadence families. This allows God to lead and guide us to the people He wants us to be with, in the way He wants us to be with them, and at the time He wants.

We invite you to pray that God's love for Cadence kids and families will flow through us as we continue to build Cadence Kids Care heading into 2025. Healthy kids and strong families reflect the heart of Jesus and make for more effective ministry. Would you join us in praying for this as we continue to build the Cadence Kids Care program? The picture God keeps bringing to our minds as we pray is a group of kids who know their Father loves them and are thriving, both as missionary kids and into the future. Pray with us!



## **FUKUNAGA FAMILY FUN!**

We have a new member of our family! Aiko Kalani was born on August 23. Her name means "beloved little one," and it fits! Her older siblings adore her, and she is such a joyous addition to our family team. Akira is now six, and in his words, is "crushing first grade." Mika is a precocious 4-year-old and loves her new role as a big sister. As a family, we are settling into our lives in Colorado. God has led us into more involvement in our local church by helping with the youth, children's ministry, and co-leading a women's group (well, just Amy on that last one!).

We continue to be so thankful for you and how God has provided for us richly through your generosity. Thank you!

## Kenji & Amy

