

# Land of the Risen Son

## イエス・キリストは日本を愛する

(Jesus loves Japan)

Dear Friends and Family,

*This Christmas, for the first time in four years, we're back in Canada! How wonderful it is to think that soon we'll be sipping 'real' egg nog, curling up by a fire, playing in the snow, and celebrating with our families, after four years where all those things have been absent.*

*This year, we were so blessed to partner not only with Seaside Chapel, but with the Sawyer family, to bring the good news about Jesus to our community. Two of the little girls attending our kids' ESL class started going to the Sawyers' Bible club, and eventually decided to open their hearts to Jesus. We saw these girls also make an impact on the rest of their family. Their parents have been curious, and come out to several church events since their daughters' decisions.*

*The Fletcher family, who have been coming out to Bible ESL classes for more than two years, continued to grow in their spiritual sensitivity and insight. They have developed a craving for the Bible stories. Each week when it comes time for the class to act out the story together, twelve year old Felicity invariably wants to be Jesus. She's really fallen in love with Him, and I can't wait for the day when she decides to ask Him to heal and forgive her, as He did for so many of the people she's read about in the Bible.*

*We also had the opportunity to begin some hearty relationships with people in our community. Earlier this year, our neighbour Percival shyly came to us with some questions about the Bible. When we pulled one out to show him the answers directly, we learned that he'd never seen or touched one before in his life. What a privilege to be the ones to answer his questions and explain some basic information about Jesus.*

*When Peter hurt his shoulder about a month before we left, we were able to go to Percival (who is a physiotherapist) for treatment. We ended up having daily visits with both him and Penelope which extended far beyond the physiotherapy sessions, and served to really deepen our connection.*

*We met Theo in a rather remarkable manner, through our evening excursions to feed our little cat friend, Blackie. Our first encounter was two months (to the day) after he and his wife got divorced. Theo continues to think of us as his family, and we've been able to facilitate some good initial connections between him and the Japanese church. When he came to Seaside Chapel for a special gospel concert, it was as if the songs and later message were custom-made for him; they re-iterated many of the themes of our earlier conversations, but in better Japanese than we could muster!*

*Emily was also deeply hurting when we met her. However, through the friendships she developed with us and some of the other Christians at Seaside Chapel, we've seen God doing remarkable healing in her life. Before we left, I was having regular sessions with her as she worked through many complex and difficult spiritual and emotional issues. Though she's not yet a Christian, she's now at the point where she's willing to ask God for help in forgiving her abusive ex-husband, so that she can experience freedom from her past.*

*Her children, Erica and Ernie, are also being profoundly affected by these changes. Emily brought them out to the Sawyers' Bible clubs, and recently Erica has made a decision to follow Jesus. When she came home that day, she proudly announced to her mum, "I'm a child of God!"*

*At the end of October, we flew back to Canada to start our year-long furlough, after which we plan to return to Okinawa. Through this time, we will be carrying out a variety of projects, and have already made a good start on several of them. They will help us in our ministry when we return to Okinawa in 2016.*

*We've only been back in Canada for a short time, but we've already felt the incredible blessing of being surrounded by beautiful nature, loving friends, and of course our families. As we look to the coming year, we can't help wondering what's in store for our time here. We hope and pray that as this year comes to a close, you too would take a deep breath, look around you, and be filled with the joy of possibility this Christmas.*

Love,  
Peter & Valerie Limmer



Meeting Peter's Japanese family for the first time.



No-Bake Energy Bites (See reverse for the recipe.)



*A hand-made toque as a parting gift.*



*Commemorating our last Sunday at Seaside Chapel.*



*With Theo's friends, at their restaurant.*



*New friends at our last cooking class.*



*Thanking Daniel for all his help.*



*A wonderful goodbye party.*

# No-Bake Energy Bites

*Don't let the boring name fool you. These are delicious, and I'm rather addicted to them!*

*Preparation time: 5 minutes*

*Refrigeration time: 1 hour*

*Yield: 3 dozen*

## Ingredients

*1/2 cup honey*

*1/2 cup peanut butter, creamy*

*1 cup oats, old-fashioned raw*

*6 tbsp chocolate chips*

*1 tsp vanilla extract*

*2/3 cup coconut, sweetened toasted and cooled*

## Directions

*Mix all ingredients together. Form mixture into balls (1" in diameter), and refrigerate to harden.*

## Notes

*I've not tried this yet, but adding some dried cranberries to this recipe might be a nice variation.*



*Meeting up with Neil and Zaphira, in Tokyo.*



*Peter's grandfather lived on this land in Japan 70 years ago.*

## Contact Information

### Thank You

*Thank you for your interest in our work. We send out newsletters every two months. If at any point you decide that you don't want to receive them anymore, just write or email us.*



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