

Sunnyside Camp:

July 29 - August 4, 2018

Located at: Sunnyside Christian Retreat Centre
202 Birchcliff Road, Sylvan Lake, AB,
(16 kms. West of Red Deer, AB)



For further info - www.CJMin.com

Northeast Nikkei Christian 2018 Conference

August 3 - 4, 2018

at
Japanese Gospel Church of Toronto
301 Silver Star Blvd., Scarborough, ON

For further info - www.CJMin.com



Guest Speaker:
Rev. Norio Harada
- former Senior Pastor of Yokohama
Ryokuen Church

CJM REPORTER

Spring 2018

Published by the CANADIAN JAPANESE MINISTRIES

YOUTH SECTION ENCLOSED

CJM AGM/Conf. 2018

Hosted by:

Japanese Gospel Church of Toronto
301 Silver Star Blvd., Scarborough, ON M1V 0B6

May 25 - 26, 2018

Conference Speaker

Richard Nakamura:

Served in Japan in church-plant
ministry under SEND International
from 1989-2011.

Currently ministering together with
his wife, Keri, in Bellevue, Wash-
ington. as Japanese Diaspora
missionaries.



Conference weekend begins at 5:30 pm on Friday with
registration followed by pre-ordered obento dinner.

For further information, please contact:

Pastor Kevin Ueta / 647-298-6422 / kyoura@gmail.com

or

Nori Kanashiro (416) 321-5831 Email: nbkan11@gmail.com

See CJM website: www.CJMin.com for
Information, Registration & Schedule



Yoko Naito Cross-Canada 2018 Gospel Concerts

*Yoko Naito, is the leading Gospel singer/song writer
in Japan and **Atsushi Abe**, world-renown pianist will
be "on stage" to present by song and testimony the
wonderful grace of God at the following locations.*

June 29, Toronto, ON - (647-298-6422)

July 1, Calgary, AB - (589-434-1783)

July 4, Banff, AB - (403-668-2091)

July 7, Vancouver, BC - (604-596-7928) or (604-521-7737)

July 8, Victoria, BC - (778-350-0826)

*In the very near future poster/flyer advertising the concert will be posted/
distributed at strategic locations in your community. This will be a won-
derful opportunity to invite your family and friends to hear the Gospel of
Christ, and to enjoy a professional Christian concert. For further informa-
tion contact the numbers listed above.*

Sponsored by the CANADIAN JAPANESE MINISTRIES
www.CJMin.com

The CJM REPORTER is published semi-annually by the Canadian Japanese Ministries. News items, reports, testimonies and notices of events are welcomed by the editors. Next publication, October 15, 2018. Published in Toronto, ON

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What are we all about?

Seventy two years is a long time ago. That takes us back to the year 1946. It was the year CJM formally became a Mission. There were no Japanese evangelical churches in Canada at that time. As you know, due to the war-time hysteria of that era, the Japanese Canadians were confined to the ghost towns of interior BC or scattered throughout the prairies and into eastern Canada.

The priority of CJM at that time was to reach the scattered Japanese mainly in the provinces of BC, Alberta and Ontario. Many young people responded to the Gospel and churches began to be formed in each of these provinces. Many Japanese young people entered Bible Colleges to prepare for fulltime ministry as pastors, Christian workers and missionaries at home and abroad.

The mission and purposes were simple; to reach the scattered Japanese with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and ground them in the Word while participating in a local church.

Fast forward, 70 years. What has changed? The answer is; “everything around us has changed, but not the core of our message nor the mission”. What was essential in the early days of the Mission, to employ missionaries to reach out into the various communities now have churches in the vicinity. God has been faithful over the years. I believe now, as we work with the

churches, we must discern together the methods to reach communities which do not yet have an established evangelical Japanese fellowship. I was encouraged to read in one of the reports of a pastor who was challenged by a message redefining “church growth”. The intent should be to “multiply” rather than to enlarge our own church where people drive in from afar to worship. This is not a new idea but one that is deeply rooted in the early church growth concept. □



Nori Kanashiro
General Director

DONATIONS

Donations to the CJM General Fund may be made on-line through **CanadaHelps.org** or you may go to the CJM website at **www.CJMin.com** and press **DONATION** button

Donations can be mailed to:
Canadian Japanese Ministries
PO Box 92124
Scarborough ON M1W 2S0

Missionary Appointees preparing for cross-cultural ministry in Japan



Jessica & Kevin Teh

Editor's Note: The CJM Reporter has at its heart the promotion of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the lost Nikkei at home and abroad.

When our own young people from our churches heed the call of God upon their lives, we wish to bring them to your attention for prayer and support as God leads.

Jessica grew up in the Japanese Gospel Church of Toronto. From a very young age, she displayed her love for the Lord who had given her a special gift for singing. Now, together with her husband, Kevin, who is also a gifted pianist, prepare to serve the Lord through music and commitment to a life of service as missionaries for the extension of His kingdom.

As a fourth-generation Japanese Canadian, Jessica grew up learning about the needs of God's people through her upbringing in the church and various mission trips to Japan and Jamaica. She served with OMF Canada as the Serve Asia Coordinator from mid-2013 to 2016, which further equipped her and increased her knowledge of the unreached of East Asia.

Kevin, who moved from Malaysia to Canada at the age of 6, accepted the gift of Christ at age 27. Though working in health care, he has also been challenged by the needs of the lost through his mission trips to Haiti and Kenya.

Kevin and Jessica were married in June 2014 and have dedicated their lives to serve the unreached peoples of East Asia. In

November 2015, they were accepted by OMF as appointees for full-time service to East Asia's peoples. In preparation for this, they pursued formal theological training at the Discipleship Training Centre in Singapore, graduating in May 2017. During their time there, they also went on a vision trip to Japan where God placed a desire in their hearts to serve the Japanese people.

They are currently working in Toronto, while they continue to prepare for cross-cultural ministry in Japan. Please pray as they focus on partnership development, trusting the Lord to raise up a strong team to pray and support them financially. They hope to be cleared to leave for Japan in 2018, where their first assignment will be language and cultural studies, equipping them to serve the Japanese people. They joyfully invite you to journey with them in prayer and welcome any correspondence from those interested. Email: jessica.ln.teh@gmail.com □

Vancouver Japanese Gospel Church

Church location:
425 - 11th St., New Westminster, BC V3M 4G1
Sunday Worship service - 11:00 am.
Pastor Tetsuya Fukusaku Tel: 604-517-4578
Email: vjgc@telus.net.
Pastor Tony Schmidt Tel: 604-420-2335
Email: tony.schmidt@omfmail.com
Website: www.japanesegospelchurch.com



Edmonton Japanese Christian Church

Meeting at
Zion Baptist Community Church
9802 - 76th Ave. NW, Edmonton, AB
Sunday bilingual Worship Service - 2:00 pm.
Pastor Toshihiro Tamura Tel: 587-986-8161
Email: tamuratoshihiro1981@gmail.com
Website: www.ejcc.ca



Equipped To Serve *by Senior Pastor Ted Fukusaku*

I pray for God's blessings and guidance upon all CJM churches, that they experience progress in ministries and see the body of Christ built up.



Pastor & Mrs. Fukusaku (on R), sons Mark, Matthew & Luke and daughter Joy (from L)

Our church held its AGM on March 1st and adopted the theme "To Be Equipped To Serve" taken from Ephesians 4:12. Although the early churches experienced persecution and trials they grew tremendously because the Christians were spiritually equipped to serve the Lord and to build a

church as a body of Christ. Christians who come to church are not guests but they are an important part of the body of Christ and also members of God's family and called by Him. The lesson we learn from this, and want to teach is that each member is to be equipped as a part of the body of Christ.

Several months ago, I read an article written by a pastor of a local Japanese church, in which he makes a surprising evaluation of their current situation. At present, this church meets with about 20 people. Before the war there were over 300 people in attendance. He explains that back in those days, the church played a role as a center of the community for Japanese people living in Vancouver, but now there are other Japanese community centres, and the people stopped coming to church. Do you think this is the reason?

From the ministry perspective, it is very important for a church to play a role in the community, however, unless they come to believe in Jesus, become disciples in the Word, and actively participate, you cannot build a church, the body of Christ as it is meant to be.

For us, to do this, we need faith and trust, and to apply hard work through difficulties. I believe that evangelism to non-

Christians and discipleship to Christians, is the fulfilling of the Great Commission. This is the goal of the church which is common in any place and any age. □



Youth group with joined by numbers of non-Christian friends

By Pastor Toshihiro Tamura

Greetings and blessings to all brothers and sisters in Christ in all our churches across Canada.

Last year, our theme was "Encouragement". We focused on fixing our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what



Pastor Toshihiro Hiromi Tamura with daughter Hinata (8)

is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal. 2 Cor. 4:18.— a promise of God. As for this year, we would like to emphasize extending this hope of God's promise to the next generation. We also value our unity as God's family. God made each one of us unique and different so that we can help one another, not to force our wishes onto others. As we extend our faith and ministry to the next generation and to the seekers, it is essential to love and respect one another so that we all unite in Christ.

We are planning to have children-focused worship services a couple times this year, to encourage and support their spiritual growth. We have also started a new bible study group for seekers, to support them to know God deeper and to encourage them to walk their life with Christ.



Children's choir, Christmas Service 2017

Please pray for the next generations so that God can bless them and shape them as the salt of the earth and the light of the world. □



Toshokushoba on New Years eve, Dec. 31, 2017

Grace Japanese Christian Church

Banff, AB

Meeting at Banff Full Gospel Church
407 Cougar Street, Banff, AB
Sunday Worship: 9:00 am.
Pastor Minoru Enoki
Email: banffgjcc.enoki@gmail.com



Winnipeg Japanese Alliance Church

Meeting at Trinity Baptist Church
549 Gertrude Ave. W., Winnipeg, MB R2L 0M9

Sunday Worship Service: 2:00 pm.
c/o Miyako Ogasawara - Leader
Email: winnipegjapanesechurch@gmail.com
Website: www.wjac.weebly.com



Pastor Minoru & Izumi Enoki
with daughters Yuika (3) & Mitsuki (1)

by Pastor Minoru Enoki

Greetings to the CJM family. Praise the name of Jesus Christ. It's still chilly weather here in Alberta, but it feels like spring is right around the corner, so it is exciting to anticipate the new season and look forward to what the Lord has in store through the ministry of the church as well.

I would like to share briefly our challenges and His grace that God has shown to us during our recent trip to Japan. In February of each year, we go back to Japan to visit churches who have generously supported the Grace Japanese Christian Church (GJCC) over the past 22 years. On this occasion, I was given opportunities to visit 4 of the 12 churches to share His Word. It is always a joy to see God's Hand at work, adding prayer pals for our ministries, each, who has dedicated and committed themselves to pray for CJM, and all its affiliated churches.

While we were attending the Nippon Revival Assoc. (NRA) Pastor's Conference in Shizuoka, I was greatly challenged by the thought of the speaker's redefined "Church growth". I do see this as an important consideration for all churches here in Japan and world-wide. A church needs to step out from "the concept of it's own growth" which almost always consumes all pastors and its leaders and must become the church that produces churches, multiplying itself. This is the concept of the church in Antioch in Acts 11. As we look at the spiritual principle regarding His kingdom in the Bible, probably the best word to describe this is "magnify" (or increase).

As CJM steps forward to the next level of ministry and to see fruit in it's labors, I believe the challenge will be to see a renewed vision with new strength giving birth to new church plants from our Nikkei churches across Canada. □



2018 New Years Kid's Camp

A Church that Sows Seeds

by Miyako Ogasawara

As we entered 2018 we had our usual New Year potluck dinner and party. This year a young lady, Shiori, visiting from Montreal was able to participate. Until about 6 years ago, she and her family lived in Winnipeg. As little girls she and her two sisters participated in our church and Sunday school. She is planning to return to Winnipeg for work and studies later this year, so we eagerly await their return.



Photo shoot following the New Years dinner 2018

There are many students and young adults who are here from Japan, and are involved in our church for a period of time. When they leave we feel sad, but most of them still continue their contact with us. When we hear that they are involved with a church when they return, it brings us much joy. Then too, when someone moves back and becomes part of our church again, it's a great joy! We can see that the Lord is using us as a "seed sowing church" and the seeds sprout and grow up elsewhere. The time and energy we invest in them is used by the Lord to build his church throughout the world.

In March we celebrated the birthdays of two of our senior members. Mrs. Tatsue Okamoto turned 102 years and Mrs. Shin turned 95 years. Both birthdays were celebrated with a cake, flowers and a specially made birthday cards. Mrs. Okamoto is surprisingly healthy, she has a touch of memory loss, but able to walk and joins in conversation well. Unfortunately, Mrs. Shin who suffered a severe stroke is confined to a wheel chair and is not able to talk but is showing signs of recovery. Her face radiates contentment and peace, and we know our visits are an encouragement to her. □



CJM's long time faithful supporter, Mrs. Tatsue Okamoto celebrating 102nd birthday with friends from the WJAC.

VICTORIA JAPANESE CHURCH

Meeting at First Baptist Church
877 North Park St., Victoria, BC V8W 1S9

Sunday Worship service - 1:30 pm.
Pastor Yutaka Ishiguro Tel: 778-265-6092
Email: ymishiguro@shaw.ca



Crossover Japanese Church of Calgary

Meeting at Westview Baptist Church
1313 Ranchlands Way NW, Calgary, AB
Sunday Worship: 2:00 pm.
Pastor Yoichi Taniguchi Tel: 403-455-0074
Email: ymtaniguchi@hotmail.com
Website: www.crossoverjapanesechurch.com



Pastor Yutaka & Miho Ishiguro

by Pastor Yutaka Ishiguro

I give praise to the wonderful name of our Lord Jesus Christ. In Victoria, the beautiful pink and white blossoms of plum and cherry trees surround us as the days get warmer, bringing welcoming signs of spring.

The Victoria Japanese Church family is growing together through the encouragement of our Lord and the support of your prayers. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

In our monthly ladies group called “Saffron”, we are grateful that new members are being added each month, as we spend time in the Word and share our testimonies of how God is working in our lives.

At the same time we have a men’s meeting, averaging seven men, and we also are blessed in our fellowship which is held in both English and Japanese.

We are especially rejoicing as we look forward to two baptisms that will be held on Easter Sunday. We have completed our baptismal classes, and not only the two candidates, but the whole church family is looking forward with expectation.

The Scripture given to the church for 2018 is found in Colossians 3:15 “The peace that Christ gives is to guide you in the decisions you make; for it is to this peace that God has called you together in the one body. And be thankful.”

As this verse indicates, it is our desire for the church to be filled with peace and thankfulness, and the same blessings to be given to each individual. □



Once a month “Saffron” - Ladies Meeting



Church choir singing at the Christmas service 2017



Pastor Yoichi & Miyuki Taniguchi with daughter, Mana

by Miyuki Taniguchi

We are fortunate to be able to have weekly services in Japanese under the support of Westview Baptist Church. Westview is also supporting two other churches, the Calgary Christian Church of the Deaf and the Arabic Church. Two church services are held on Sunday afternoons. The Deaf

Church is held at the same time as ours but in a different room. I have attended their service once, and was astonished by the beautiful atmosphere of silence and sign language. The sermon was in sign language with scriptures projected onto the screen, so I was able to read and follow along. I see them sometimes in the kitchen, and I embrace the fellowship we have through gestures of helping each other with small things.

After our church is over, the Arabic church comes to have their service in the evening. Most of them are from Syria. Last month, we had our first joint service, alternating singing in Arabic, Japanese, and English. The last song was sung in all three languages at the same time. Although each of us spoke different words, we felt a sense of unity and joy, and it almost felt like what worship in heaven would be. The senior pastor of Westview church gave us a message after the worship. The service was followed by a time of fellowship with a potluck, each bringing a traditional dish from their culture.



Joint service with the Arabic Church - a little touch of heaven

As one body of Christ, we have experienced the joy of a united heart in spite of language and cultural barriers. □



Following the joint service - a wonderful potluck, each bringing a traditional food from their culture.

JAPANESE GOSPEL Church of Toronto

301 Silver Star Blvd., Scarborough, ON M1V 0B6
Tel: 416-335-5428 Fax: 416-335-5932
Sunday Worship service - 11:00 am. (E & J)
Pastor Haruo Sato (J) 416-495-1534
Pastor Kevin Ueta (E) 647-298-6422
Website: www.jgct.com



New Life Christian Church Japanese Division

Meeting at: New Life Christian Church
480 Huntingwood Drive, Scarborough, ON M1W 1G4
Sunday Worship Service: 10:30 am.
Pastor Edward Yoshida Tel: 416-261-4302
Email: esyoshida@sympatico.ca



Pastor Haruo & Yoko Sato

A Farewell Message

By Pastor Haruo Sato

I was born in Tokyo Japan on February 19, 1950, so I am now 68 years old. I was thinking that I should retire in two years when I turn 70 years old. I was noting that the circumstances in our church, Japanese Gospel

Church of Toronto, have been changing rapidly and I have not been able to keep up with them.

When I visited Japan last October, I met my mentor pastor in Okinawa who happened to be visiting from Hawaii. In our discussion together, he mentioned to me about a new position as a chaplain in the senior's facility in Hiroshima. Coincidentally, my next stop was Hiroshima to visit my wife's elderly mother who lives about 2 hours away from the city of Hiroshima. I visited the facility and was able to meet the chairperson of the organization who had just returned from a business trip in Vietnam. Following my discussion with him, he asked me to return to Hiroshima again with my wife, and also wanted to test my preaching skills. We visited Hiroshima again at the end of January, and I was accepted as a chaplain of the organization. At this time, we are planning to leave Canada in April or May when we have resolved all matters, including the sale of our house.

I will miss the congregation of the Japanese Gospel Church of Toronto and also other associates of the Nikkei community, such as the Japanese Social Services, seniors at the Momiji Centre and various members of the Japanese Cultural Centre. Japan is our homeland and my wife's elderly mother lives close to Hiroshima, so she will be able to take care of her and visit her more often.

The biggest motivation for moving is that our Lord God is giving me another opportunity to work for Him in Hiroshima. Hiroshima is the city that suffered the first atomic bomb in human history. I would like to listen to any testimony from elderly people in the facility as well.

In the Old Testament, the grandson of Abraham, Jacob, was in a foreign land, he heard a voice of God saying, "Return to the land of your fathers and to your family, and I will be with you." (Genesis 31:3, NIV). I think that God is saying the same words to me. God is good all the time and He has made everything beautiful in its time.

It has also been my privilege beyond the service to the Japanese Gospel Church of Toronto, to have come to know many of the pastors in our sister churches across Canada who are affiliated with the Canadian Japanese Ministries (CJM). I wish you every blessing of our Almighty God as you seek to reach out to the Nikkei population in Canada. Thank you for your fellowship in the Gospel. God be with you all. □



Pastor Edward Yoshida

by Pastor Edward Yoshida

After our official retirement, my late wife, Yoko, and I remained at Wesley Chapel J.C. for another year but also found a warm welcome and comfort at the New Life Christian Centre (NLCC). A post-retirement opportunity was afforded us to continue our passion for souls, especially the Nikkei souls in Toronto.

These are the ministries that we were enabled to continue: Momiji Seniors Centre Chapel Service, the Yee Hong Centre (Nikkei Residents) Chapel, the Nisei Breakfast/Bible Study - twice a month and the downtown COF-FEE HOUSE ministry for youths from Japan until the end of 2017.

At our new church, the NLCC, we were given a vision to begin a fresh ministry in a bilingual way to Isseis/Niseis in a Bible-centered Discussion Group popularly known as GIDEON FELLOWSHIP. It meets twice a month in the lower auditorium of the church, and this Fellowship became the catchment group for those from the above Outreach Ministries to further challenge seeking souls to decision and commitment to Jesus. Japanese-speaking Nikkei contacts have been added. English-speaking Niseis and other ethnic parties who showed interest in this small-group ministry's discipleship program have been welcomed. Recently, two medical specialists from Iran have joined our Seekers Group meeting on Wednesdays at the Fairview Mall. The wife of a Zen (Shingon) Buddhist monk, who studied on Mt. Koya, Japan, is also in this cell. With the blessings of the Almighty and the supporting encouragement of the new church board, our vision has been clarified and enlarged. TO GOD BE ALL THE GLORY. AMEN □



Gideon Fellowship & Bible Discussion

Please join us at the **CJM AGM/Conf 2018** held on **May 25 - 26, 2018** at the Japanese Gospel Church of Toronto. The Conf. begins at 5:00 pm with registration followed by obento dinner (by pre-order on registration form) and the first plenary session at 7:00 pm.

Montreal Japanese Christian Fellowship

Meeting at Peoples Church (basem't)
2097 Union Ave., Montreal, QC
Sunday Bible Study: 2:00 pm. (3rd Sun. of the month)
Contact: Haruyo Yoshino-Platt / Tel: 514-342-8509
Email: montrealjapanesechristian@gmail.com



Grace Toronto Japanese Church

Meeting at Glebe Road United Church
20 Glebe Road East, Toronto ON. M4S 1N6
Sunday service—1:30 pm.
Pastor Masato Murai Tel: 416-789-1902
Email: masmurai@yahoo.co.jp
www.facebook.com/userGTJC



Haruyo Yoshino-Platt, Richard, with daughter Aiko and son, Jonathan

by Haruyo Yoshino-Platt

We thank the Lord for his marvellous work! We continued to meet every month for the Bible studies, and we have been studying “Foundations for Faith”, a Bible study guide to learn the core message of the Bible. We’ve had a couple of new people who joined the group. Since last September, we have two groups for the discussion, one in Japanese and one in English. There were some challenging Bible passages to understand/accept, but they opened to further discussions on the topic with some of the members.

Beside the monthly Bible study meeting, we hosted an event each month. We had different kind of events where the members were encouraged to invite non-Christian friends. These are encouraging times and have averaged around 15 people each time.

Last November, we invited a couple who lived in Japan as missionaries for 20 years. They shared what the Bible tells us about relationships and marriage. They also shared their own experience. We also had very interesting discussion time.



Monthly Bible Study group meeting on the 3rd Sunday of each month

In February, we invited a young lady who has just returned from Japan after living there for a year, doing mission work in Aomori. She shared her experience, then we prayed for Japan. We also had fun answering some quiz on Japan. We are praying that some people who come to these events would start coming to the Bible study. Please pray for T, a young man who has been attending the Bible study and is very open to the gospel. Please pray also for creative ways to reach Japanese people in Montreal.

“Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven”.
(Matthew 5:16) □



Pastor Masato & Harumi Murai

by Pastor Masato Murai

The followings are the summary of happenings at our church during the past year.

Annually our church produces an anniversary testimonial booklet called “Kami no Kazoku” or “The Family of God.” This year’s issue is #21.

Each year, the members witness their personal growth and can reflect back to the founding year of our church. The highlight year was the 20th anniversary issue celebrated in 2016.

During the year 2017, we had:

1. Two baptismal services, and one transfer service. We pray for each of these people that they would be a blessings to their own family, and to the extended family, that is, the church.
2. In May we welcomed Luke & Yuko Elliot and their family. During their home assignment they remained with us until February 2018 which had followed their 4 year assignment with OMF in Aomori, Japan.
3. Our first church camp was held in July. This was a good time of fellowship and learning for all who attended.
4. We are pleased that we will be having two candidates ordained as “ruling elders” by the Presbyterian Church in America. Please pray for them as they need to be equipped with good scriptural knowledge, theology and testimonies.
5. A “Blessing service” for 1 year old babies was held in September. We have numbers of young children who need to be nurtured and brought up in the things of the Lord.
6. We are grateful for good fellowship and prayer among men, women and other congregation groups. These inner groups have been the foundation as we have many transitional people.

Lastly, 2 Timothy 4:1-2 is encouraging and consoling, which says, *“In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction.”* □



The remaining crowd after the fellowship hour following the Renrakukai Good Friday service 2018