

CJM REPORTER

Fall 2016

Published by the CANADIAN JAPANESE MINISTRIES

On Saturday, June 25, 2016, CJM celebrated its 70th anniversary since it was organized in 1946.

The event took place in Calgary, AB with a total of 96 attendees enjoying an atmosphere of worship, reunion, reflection and envisioning the future.

Building our celebration on the theme "Jesus Christ the same, yesterday, and today and forever" (Heb. 13:8), the focus centered on honouring the pioneers of CJM. Of the total of 32 pioneers named on this occasion, eleven pioneers or their family representatives were present to receive a Certificate of Appreciation.

Five recipients of the Certificate who were present for the weekend

70th Anniversary

by Nori Kanashiro

conference gave their

testimonies. On Friday evening of the conference, Iwao Ikenoue and Nori Kanashiro gave their testimonies at the Calgary Japanese Gospel Church. On Saturday,

banquet evening, Pastor Stan Yokota, Machiko (Uchida) Budai & Jack Iwabuchi spoke of their early experiences with CJM.

Musical tributes during the program which delighted the audience were offered by the Grace Japanese Christian Church of Banff, AB and by Aya McLaughlin of Crossover Japanese Church of Calgary. The audience participation in worship was led by Rob & Marie Hasegawa of the Gracepoint Fellowship (the English department of the Calgary Japanese Gospel Church)

The audience was further blessed to have in person Mark McLeod who now works with Samaritan's Purse. He came down from Fort McMurray to join us for this occasion. Mark was formerly the Canadian chaplain for the Billy Graham Disaster Response Team. He reported and thanked CJM for sending him to Japan immediately after the Tohoku earthquake/tsunami in 2011 to work with CRASH Japan. Mark led in the development of Japan's first-responders to disaster situations. This training for Christian leaders and churches at-large equips people to assist not only the physical needs but emotional and spiritual needs. This training ministry carries on currently in Japan has also started in the Philippines and will soon touch other Asian countries. (Continued on page 7)



Youth Section Centerfold



Pastor Stan Yokota



Machiko Budai



Jack Iwabuchi



Nori Kanashiro

Mark McLeod



CJM 70th Anniversary banquet & program guests enjoyed the delicious buffet, worship, testimonies, slideshows & a challenging message.

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SUNNYSIDE CAMP

by David Tano – Chair of the Camp Committee

A Ray of Sunshine Amidst Tough Times in Alberta

Each year, I have the privilege of updating all of you on what I have been referring to as a “hidden gem in the heart of Alberta”. From its humble beginnings; God has taken an idea and vision from a small number of people to minister to the Japanese Canadians and has made it into something unimaginable from a human perspective. I can’t explain it in words but as I see the impact God has on the campers year after year; it truly does amaze me how powerful, loving and amazing our God is!

Despite the difficult times in Alberta, God continues to use Sunnyside as a venue to shine his light. This year, we had the largest camp ever! With part-time campers, we had over 270 attend. We were bursting at the seams! What a glorious blessing!

Over the past few years, one of the highlights has been that God is using the camp as a launching place for many of our youth. They have been declaring their allegiance and love for our Lord publicly through baptism. This year was no exception. We had the honour of witnessing 7 more baptisms this year! Further to the actual baptisms we were so blessed to hear their stories, convictions and struggles. Those baptized this year included: Matthew Komori, Bianke Colyn, Rachel Wood, Julia Zygun, Joey Tada and Richard & Miyako Yusa, a husband & wife. Congratulations to you all! We are so happy for you.

Our English speaker was the returning Matthew Moore. It was great having him back and reconnecting with our youth. Japanese Pastor Rev Tsukasa (Scott) Sugimoto from Irvine, California filled the Japanese with wisdom, guidance and counselling. Both had rave reviews!

And to all those who missed it, we had a repeat appearance from Tom “Michael Jackson” Horiuchi, joined by his new dance partner, “slidin” Sugi.

Thanks to the leadership of Robert Hasegawa and Robson Shukuda we once again had an amazing camp. Praise God! A special thanks goes to the many volunteers who put their time and effort into making Sunnyside Camp 2016 another very successful camp. For all of you who have never experienced Sunnyside, come join us on **July 30- August 5, 2017**. □



Miyako & Richard Yusa with daughter, Sakura and Pastor Brian Lavender after baptismal service in Sylvan Lake, AB.

North East Nikkei Christian 2016 Conference

By Pastor Haruo Sato

Once again, the North East Nikkei Christian Conference was held at the Scarborough Mission, a facility dedicated for Catholic missions and missionaries. The conference was held on April 29-30. Our attendance over these days was approx. 100 youth and adults plus several children.

Our guest speaker was Pastor Tetsuya Fukusaku from Vancouver Japanese Gospel Church. Building on the theme “Seek God and Live”. He taught us through the Word and shared his personal testimony over four sessions.



Special musical number by Makiba & Yoshiye Tamai

The praise and worship part of the conference was led by each of the participating church groups. This too, was a delightful and uplifting ministry to everyone. His presence was surely there.

Days prior to the conference, our long-time NENCC participant and leader, Yoko Iwai, was admitted to the hospital for treatment of recurring cancer. The Lord called her home on May 18 and we all dearly miss her.

Pray for the 2017 NENCC. The Scarborough Mission building is undergoing major renovation so we are uncertain where the venue for our next conference will be. □

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

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



Pastor Toshihiro & Hiromi Tamura
 With daughter Hinata (7)

by Pastor Toshihiro Tamura

Greetings to all brothers and sisters in Christ. The summer of 2016 was full of God's grace and blessings.

We had three baptismal services, one wedding and one engagement ceremony, in ad-



Congregation and visitors in attendance at the baptismal service of Anna & Maya Hudon

dition to our other regular annual summer events. Yoshimi, who won a prize for her memory verses at Sunnyside Camp last year, continued walking with the Lord faithfully, and she was baptized at the end of June. Joyce Aita, who grew up and served EJCC for almost her entire life, married Johnny (Nozomu) in July. It was such a memorable wedding. Right after Joyce & Johnny's wedding, we had baptismal services for Anna and Maya Hudon who also grew up in our church. Their testimonies were absolutely unforgettable. Lastly, we had Tim and Tomoko's engagement ceremony at the end of July. Due to limited space, I am not able to share all the details here, but I would like to simply praise the Lord for all things that He has done for us this summer. As life changes, most of these people are now no longer in Edmonton, because of a new job, new school and new ministry. We miss them very much, but at the same time, we are grateful that we were able to send them to the world as the salt and the light of Christ. Please remember them in your prayers as they start their new lives in new places with Christ. Thank you and God bless you all. □



Family and guests at the lovely wedding of Joyce Aida & Nozomu Takano

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



Pastor Masato & Harumi Murai

by Pastor Masato Murai

We, the Japanese congregation of Grace Toronto Japanese Church celebrated our 20th anniversary on June 5th, 2016. 20 years have passed since my ordination under the Presbyterian

Church of North America (Eastern Canada Presbytery).

Our existence literally owes itself to the fellowship of the denomination and to the prayers and support of the Japan Antioch Mission. My wife and I have been members of the Japan Antioch Mission since 2001. We had Rev. Eriya Mitsuhashi deliver the message on the occasion, with Rev. Yasuhiro Oda being our guest music messenger. We are very thankful to both of

them who have been so committed and faithful in the ministries they brought to us.

One major growth area in our church has been the permanent residents now outnumbering the short-term visitors. We praise God for that! We now pray that the Lord will prepare and provide a new pastor in His time - hopefully in about 5 years. In the meantime, while the church continues to grow, we will anticipate God's leading and provision of His gift to bless our congregation.

Lastly we pray that all of you will be blessed richly by the Lord! Halleluiah! □



Congregation, guests and visitors on the occasion of TGJC's 20th Anniversary

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 Yoichi & Midori Taniguchi
with daughters Mana & Agasa

by Miyuki Taniguchi

Since summer 2016, God has been bringing more international students to our church. We have some young people who are committed to a FOCUS club which is a Christian organization working for international students every Friday night. They have been bringing them to our church.

Our service usually separates into two groups; Japanese and English after a period of worship. Recently, we started having a joint service once a month. The messengers speak in Japanese, and we have a translator. I think this is one of the reasons more international students and married couples frequent our church now. Most of these newcomers are non-Christians. We need wisdom from our Lord to help us guide them to Jesus.

Recently, a young seminarian offered to help us lead our English group. We are now planning an Alpha Course for newcomers under his leadership.



Temakizushi Party

The Lord has opened the hearts of young seekers so we hope they will continue to be open to the Gospel. We praise the Lord for new helpers who assist us now. □

Wesley Chapel Japanese Church

Meeting at Wesley Chapel
2385 Warden Ave., Scarborough, ON M1W 2L6
Sunday Worship: 1:00 pm.
Pastor Munetoshi Hatsusegawa Tel: 647-347-3167
Email: mmh1123@hotmail.com
Website: www.wcjc.wordpress.com



by Mika Hatsusegawa

Our church chooses a vision each year. In 2011, it was, "To become a worshipping church filled with God's enriched presence". In 2012, "Growing up healthy in God, robust in love". In 2013, "To experience together the restoration and the rebuilding of our walls" and in 2014-2015, "To walk with the Holy Spirit and experience the living God in our lives".

Someone has said, "The church is a place where we come to meet with God." I think that is true. My husband and I have tried to make the worship service God-centered so that people might become more attentive to Him during the service. I have led the small group after the service where people reflect on the sermon they have just heard. I enjoy listening to how each person is challenged through the sermon. The participants learn that our spiritual lives are greatly affected by a sermon given each Sunday, and also that it is important to pray for the preacher. Our vision for this year is "To long for a

better country - a heavenly one."



Pastor Munetoshi & Mika Hatsusegawa with
sons, Ayanari (10) & Yoshisone (7)

Although my husband and I will leave the church next spring, our prayer is that Wesley Chapel Japanese Church will grow focusing on God and His church.

We would like to extend thanks to all of you for your fellowship and prayers. □



CJM Board of Directors 2016 - 2017

(Front L-R) Valerie Secord, Pastor Tony Schmidt, Pastor Masato Murai, Nori Kanashiro, Ed Arinobu, Pastor Gerald Neufeld, & Larry Iwamoto
(Back L-R) Pastor Tetsuya Fukusaku, Tim Shigemitsu, Pastor Tomoyuki Horiuchi, Izumi Araki, Marie (Fuki) Duavis, Pastor Kevin Ueta & Mark Hoshizaki

CJM Board of Directors 2016-2017

Izumi Araki	- Vancouver
Ed Arinobu	- Lethbridge
Marie Fuki	- Toronto
Pastor Tetsuya Fukusaku	- Vancouver
Pastor Tom Horiuchi	- Calgary
Mark Hoshizaki	- Calgary
Larry Iwamoto	- Toronto
Nori Kanashiro	- Toronto
Pastor Masato Murai	- Toronto
Pastor Gerald Neufeld	- Vancouver
Pastor Tony Schmidt	- Vancouver
Valerie Secord	- Victoria
Tim Shigemitsu	- Edmonton
Pastor Kevin Ueta	- Toronto

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



Pastor Yutaka & Miho Ishiguro

Yutaka Ishiguro arrived in Canada as a young single man in 1972 as part of the Federal farm trainee program. He met the Lord in Japan shortly before coming to Canada. Yutaka participated in the CJM farm boys outreach ministry in Vauxhall, AB, begun by the late Pastor Philip Hatano and Nori Kanashiro in 1971. The Lord led Yutaka to study theology through JTJ Mission Seminary by extension, graduating in 2010. Yutaka is a gifted preacher/evangelist and further gifted in musical abilities. He was anointed into ministry by the well-known Rev. Yuichiro Nakano of Hawaii in the spring of 2016.

Pray for the Ishiguro's as they assume their first pastoral position, seeking God's wisdom and direction.

By Pastor Yutaka Ishiguro

My name is Yutaka Ishiguro. I was called to be the minister at Victoria Japanese Church beginning in August of this year.

It is my desire to share the good news of the Gospel, disciple believers and let others know the blessing of knowing and following our Lord Jesus Christ. It is our prayer to know the love of God deeper, to love each other more, and to become an attractive church to everyone. Beyond our Sunday Services, we meet weekly on Tuesday afternoon for Bible study where we find encouragement from the Lord and each other followed by a time of prayer.

We are very grateful for a new believer who has moved to Victoria in September and has been added to the flock. We are also thankful for all the ladies who were able to attend our monthly ladies meeting (Saffron). Beginning in August the men's group was started again, and a good time of fellowship and study was enjoyed by all.

We are looking forward to a baptismal service in October, so the preparation classes have begun. We covet your continued prayer support for the work of our Lord in Victoria! □



House-warming, Praise and Fellowship night at the Ishiguro's on Sat. Sept. 24

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 Rev. Bruce Yarrow - Leader
Email: faith43@shaw.ca
Website: www.wjac.weebly.com



by Miyako Ogasawara

This year in June and July two families moved away, one to Alberta and the other to Ontario. As a result our congregation shrunk even more and the summer started somewhat sadly, but there are also a few newcomers. Ayako moved here recently from Japan and newly married Kiichiro. Minori has also started to attend.

As always we try to enjoy the short summers with various recreational activities. In July we gathered at St. Malo Provincial Park (about an hour drive south) for picnicking, swimming and canoeing. In August we gathered for a picnic with a time of worship, singing and games in Kildonan Park (a park in the city). Near the end of August several families came together to camp at Hecla Island (an island in Lake Winnipeg). At this time the family that had moved to Alberta, came back for a visit and joined us for the camp. We had lots of fun and wonderful fellowship. □



Picnic at Kildonen Park - paper plane making contest



Enjoying supper while camping on Hecla Island in Lake Winnipeg.

Joy of Christmas

Saturday, Dec. 3, 2016

at

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

Sponsored by the Japanese Inter-church Council

Featuring musical groups from the local churches and ever-popular Chor Trillium (Japanese choir)

Everyone Welcome (No admission charge)

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



Calgary Japanese Gospel Church

2203-15A St. SE, Calgary, AB
Sunday Worship - 10:30 am

Pastor Tomoyuki Horiuchi (J) Tel: 587-352-2233
Pastor Brian Lavender (E) Tel: 403-275-7132
Website: www.calgaryjapanesegospel.com



Pastor Minoru & Izumi Enoki with daughter Yuika (1 yr.)

by Pastor Minoru Enoki

Greetings to all CJM ministers and families in Christ.

As a new season of the year begins, I am pleased to inform you that God opened a new door of opportunity for Japanese churches in Alberta to be united as one body in Christ. On Sept. 11th, we gathered at our house to worship and to fellowship, calling this event "Arise Night". Since the beginning of this year, this has occurred every three to

four months and it has been a great opportunity for churches to be blessed. It is a means by which we can encourage each other, and most importantly, to build leaders who can make a great impact in their own churches and community.

Nowhere in the Bible does it say to "build your church", instead the Lord Jesus says in Matthew 16:18 "on this rock I will build my church". We are not called to build our church, but as the Body of Christ, we are the church, that needs to be individually "built" by Jesus Christ as we follow and obey His Word. We are one church in Christ and need to encourage and help each other grow and develop into the likeness of Christ Himself.

This is my prayer that God's vision of our oneness in Christ, irrespective of our church affiliation, be richly revealed in every church associated with CJM. May we become encouragers to each other and difference makers in our communities. In this way, we will be greatly used by God to bring His blessing to our nation. God bless you all. □



Participants at "Arise Night" at the Enoki's residence in Canmore, Alberta



Pastor Tomoyuki & Kate Horiuchi

by Pastor Tomoyuki Horiuchi

The Word of God is living and active. Heb. 4:12

Praise the name of the Lord! We are thankful that we had the privilege of hosting the CJM AGM/Conf. & 70th Anniversary event at Calgary Japanese Gospel Church and at the local hotel and conference centre. Through this conference and the banquet

program we were able to learn more about our Japanese Christian heritage of faith and the rich blessings through the labours of the CJM pioneers.

In August of this year, we were pleased to send off Yutaka & Miho Ishiguro to become the pastor of the Victoria Japanese Church in Victoria, BC. They were both members of our church for over 40 years. (Please see Pastor Ishiguro's report on page 5).

On the weekend of Sept. 23-25, we held a weekend Retreat with our guest speakers Rev. Yuichiro Nakano and his wife Meiko from Hawaii. They challenged us to move forward in faith trusting Him who makes all things work together for good for those who love God. We praise His name and step forward by faith as we face challenges in the future. □



Members and friends of CJM attending the AGM at the CJGC



Some of the attendee at the CJM 70th Anniversary banquet

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



by Yoko Sato

Often we hear suggestions from a member of our Japanese congregation that "we would like to start this kind or that kind of ministry". Generally, if the pastor thinks it is a positive ministry, the suggestion will be passed on to the board and usually the person who suggests it will lead the new ministry. (Actually, no suggestion has been rejected to date) This year, we began a new ministry called "Art and Craft ministry" which started in June of this year. There are 5 to 8 participants from both English and Japanese speaking congregations, and they are enjoying this twice a month activity at the church.

This is our twelfth year since we started small group ministries. This year, with the addition of one more, our total now is seven groups.

Over the past two years, there have been periods where up to twenty young adults from Japan regularly attended our Sunday services. Following each service we have an Introductory Bible Class (Seed) but with so many we divided into 2 classes. Over this time we also had 5-6 Christians, so a discipleship class was organized as well. There were those who confessed faith in Jesus Christ, and others chose to be baptized after returning to Japan. Since the beginning of summer many have returned home to Japan so we feel sad about a much smaller number but we know these things are in the Lord's hand. We believe the numbers will increase again.

This year, three people were baptized from the Japanese speaking congregation, and also a 9 year old boy at the summer camp. Each testimony is so very encouraging and so unique. God's way in each persons life is so very different and it is always perfect. Praise the Lord!

As the church moves forward, it is important that each person recognizes his gifts and talents and contributes to the ministry God is preparing for them.

"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."
 Ephesians 2:10 (NIV) □



After the worship service, an Introductory Bible Class for the Japanese students and young adults is conducted.

(Continued from page 1)



Pastor Kevin Ueta
 English department
 pastor of the Japanese
 Gospel Church of
 Toronto



As one of the young leaders of the CJM Board of Directors, Pastor Kevin Ueta challenged the audience with his thoughts on "CJM, What is the Future Like?" Below is the summary of his message to the CJM 70th Anniversary banquet audience given in both English and Japanese.

The testimonies from various pioneers during the evening highlighted God's faithfulness in and through the CJM over the past 70 years. I shared a passage from Lamentations 3:22-24 where Jeremiah, in the midst of trials, declared the praises of Him who is still faithful. It is a reminder for us to also celebrate God's faithfulness in the

road ahead as we look forward to new opportunities to declare and demonstrate the Gospel in the midst of those who do not yet have their hope and trust in Jesus Christ.

Recent statistics have shown that we have a growing window of opportunity to minister to the Japanese who gather in our Canadian diasporas. With these opportunities comes a need to further strengthen our partnership with one another as part of the body of Christ. This mission may even necessitate partnerships with other churches and organizations beyond the Japanese Canadian Church and we've seen that starting to happen at our local church as well. If we are to vision with the leading and guidance of the Holy Spirit, I believe we cannot ignore these opportunities for proactive mission that I believe God is revealing to us. And if we are to be faithful stewards of these opportunities, this is where I believe CJM can play a unique role in helping to equip and bring us together for the purpose of God's mission in Canada. This mission is bigger than any one or a few Japanese Canadian churches or missionaries and I believe this is where God can continue to use CJM in the future. □

Some images from the CJM

AGM, June 24, 2016

