

## Sunnyside Camp 2019

...Continuing to be overwhelmed with His awesomeness

By David Tano

Each year, I have had the privilege of updating all of you with what I've been referred to as a "hidden gem in the heart of Alberta". Having had our 52<sup>nd</sup> church anniversary of the Calgary Japanese Gospel Church this year, we were able to review the early beginnings of the ministries towards the Japanese in Alberta and British Columbia. It became evident how much the Sunnyside Camp ministry was an integral part of the overall vision and direction in moving the kingdom of God forward within the Japanese community here in Alberta and British Columbia. And now 60 plus years later, God continues to work miracles through this small but fruitful ministry. The impact God has on these campers year after year is truly an amazing testament to his power and love.

Since 2017 our numbers have continued to be very high. We are often running camps close to 270 to 290 campers over the past several years. What a blessing! We were blessed this year with our English speaker David Yang and his entire family as well as Rev Shigeru Suzuki on the Japanese side. Both speakers engaged well with our entire camp and integrated their families and themselves with the various campers and activities.

We were once again blessed to be witnesses of two baptisms.



Camp staff and campers preparing another delicious meal.

Congratulations to Cordain Walcott and Emiko Boys. Further to this, two of the campers, Tyson and Lauren, professed their faith and accepted Christ this year!

Thank you to you all once again for your amazing support in this ministry. God continues to bless Sunnyside Camp and we are truly grateful to witness his work year after year. □

On the morning of July 27th, the main sanctuary of Japanese Gospel Church of Toronto (JGCT) was ringing with laughter. The annual Northeast Nikkei Christian Conference (NENCC) 2019 was just getting underway. Our guest speaker was Pastor and Mrs. Mutsuo Watanabe, former pastor of Megumi Baptist Church in

## Northeast Nikkei Christian 2019 Conference

By Makiba Tamai

Well... it was a short moment that we enjoyed nostalgia, and we soon delved into a rich and meaningful time of study. Our theme was "Live Spiritually!". We had a very good time of study throughout the four sessions, learning about the Holy Spirit, believing and trusting in the Holy Spirit, and being filled with the Holy Spirit. We were also blessed by sharing what we learned during the table discussion following each session.

This year's workshop theme was "Recommendation and Encouragement of Personal Devotion". It was a summary of the 5-year campaign that Pastor Watanabe recently conducted at his church in Japan. It was a very meaningful workshop, and since we were unable to complete it, we decided on a follow up with a mini conference on Sat. Oct. 5. We used his DVD video instructions recorded at a recent conference in Japan.

The mini conference was blessed with 20 people in attendance. We began by reviewing lessons from the July conference and then covered about what our daily life



Conference sessions held in the main sanctuary of JGCT

was like after our devotion time with God. These mini conference lessons were laid out very systematically and was also very practical.

Please pray for NENCC, especially for its vision to include the next generation. If you have any comments, please feel free to contact the NENCC committee at [nencc@googlegroups.com](mailto:nencc@googlegroups.com). □

## A Brief Word from the General Director

CJM will soon be celebrating 75 years since organizing into a full-fledged missions outreach organization. Four years prior to that, God placed His hands on Margaret Ridgway (27 years of age) to follow the bewildered Japanese families into the dismal ghost-towns of interior BC. The evacuation of all citizens and non-citizens of Japanese extraction were mandated to be removed by government edict from the west coast of BC. Margaret soon became friends to many evacuees both young and old alike. Happy Hour Bible Clubs were formed amongst the children, youth activities and ladies craft clubs all became an attractive involvement for many. The years following became exceptional times of evangelism and spiritual awakening in the life of many Japanese youth and adults. Missionaries were employed as Japanese began to scatter throughout the provinces and country. Many Isseis too, were touched by the Gospel and needs for pastors to minister in the Japanese language also became necessary. Churches were organized in various cities as the Japanese began to settle across the country.

Today, we no longer employ missionaries as we did in the past. With a shared vision of evangelism and outreach with the local Japanese churches, CJM enjoys the cooperation in spirit of unity with all it's affiliated churches across the country. Each year, as the annual CJM AGM/Conf. takes place, which generally is hosted by churches in the four cities of Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton and Toronto, it is heartening to see pastors/leaders of small fellowships make their way to enjoy the ministry and fellowship with their peers. It has been helpful, especially to many pastors/leaders of small affiliated church and fellowships as CJM has been able to offer 50% round trip subsidy for travel for pastors/leader and their spouse. It is through your prayers and financial support that we are able to do this at this time. May I encourage your faithful and generous donations to CJM in order that we can continue to support the overall Japanese evangelical ministry in Canada. □



Nori Kanashiro  
General Director

### DONATIONS

Donations to the CJM General Fund may be made on-line through **CanadaHelps.org** by going to the CJM website at **www.CJMin.com**

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

# Calgary Japanese Gospel Church

2203-15A St. SE, Calgary, AB  
Sunday Worship - 10:00 am  
Pastor Tomoyuki Horiuchi (J) Tel: 587-434-1783  
Email: tomhoriuchi@hotmail.com  
Pastor Brian Lavender (E) Tel: 403-606-5483  
Email: brianlav@me.com



Pastor Tom & Takako Horiuchi

By Pastor Tom Horiuchi

Calgary Japanese Gospel Church celebrated its 52nd years anniversary on August 31, 2019. Our church was officially established and registered as a charitable organization by Rev. Robert and Chieko Akutagawa in 1967.

Prior to the days the church was organized in Calgary, CJM missionary work was conducted largely in the Lethbridge and surrounding sugar beet farm areas. These pioneers workers did a lot of visitation to Japanese homes on the farms and villages surrounding the city of Lethbridge. When the occasional youth rallies were held, 60-80 Japanese youth would come together for socializing as well as to hear the Gospel message. Numbers of Japanese were saved in those days and many went to Bible colleges and became pastors, missionaries and church leaders. By the mid 1950's many Japanese families had left the farms and moved to eastern Canada or found jobs in larger cities such as Calgary and Edmonton.

Under the faithful ministry of Rev. & Mrs. Robert Akutagawa who had moved to Calgary from Lethbridge in 1961, the Japanese-speaking congregation gradually grew. CJM transferred Nori & Blanche Kanashiro to Calgary from Kamloops, BC in 1968 to give leadership to the growing children's work and to develop the English ministry with Jim & Noreen Kitagawa and Gordon & Lillian Kogawa. As the church continued to grow, several pastors and leaders, each by God's grace, contributed to where the church is now. A building was purchased in 1986 but has now practically outgrown its size.

Today, we have received this inheritance from the pioneers which we must pass on to the next generation. Whoever believes in Christ, who gave His life on the Cross as an atoning sacrifice for our sins, will receive salvation and have eternal life. We have indeed been blessed! We praised the Lord who was and is and is to come. □



Rev. & Mrs. Robert Akutagawa in center of front row. Photo circa 1971

## Montreal Japanese Christian Fellowship

Meeting at Peoples Church (basement)  
2097 Union Ave., Montreal, QC  
Bible Study: 2:00 pm. (3rd Sunday of the month)  
Fellowship/Events: (1st Sunday of the month)  
Contact: Haruyo Yoshino-Platt or Kyoko Matthew  
Email: montrealjapanesechristian@gmail.com  
Tel: 514-342-8509 Website: www.mjcf.ca



## 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



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

By Haruyo Yoshino-Platt

“Be still and know that I am God.”  
(Psa. 46:10)

This is our theme verse for this school year. We want to learn to wait upon the Lord by faith and see what he is going to do in our lives and for our group.

We continue to meet twice a month for Bible study and for fellowship. We celebrated Easter together on April 21<sup>st</sup>. We had a reading of a children's book at Easter, a testimony of one brother and an Easter message. We had a wonderful time with around 20 people. On July 7, we had a farewell BBQ for two good friends, T-kun and an OMF missionary, Rijke, who were returning to Japan.

A-san, from our group is a very energetic and friendly young lady who has been inviting many friends to our group. In the last couple of months, she had opportunities to share her faith with some individuals. She shared with us her recent experience, of how the Holy Spirit prompted her to invite her friend to take a French class in another city for the summer and how the Lord brought both to stay with a Christian family. She shared her testimony and now her friend is very interested in the Christian faith. A-san is discovering her gift as an evangelist. Praise the Lord!

Our ministry to young mothers is continuing every month. The group is small, but a couple of mothers come very regularly. We have nice meetings with good sharing time, and we are connecting well. These mothers are all non-believers. We pray that we can build good trusting relationships with them.



Kyoko, co-leader of MJCF, with husband Samson

A Canadian couple who lived in Japan for 20 years returned to Canada a few years ago. The husband was a pastor of a church outside of Montreal. He recently retired and was delighted when I asked him if he would come and teach us sometimes. Please pray for the Lord's guidance. How they might be involved in this ministry and also pray for the future of Montreal JCF. We are continuing to ask for guidance to start bilingual services and eventually a Japanese church in Montreal in the future. □



New Years celebration 2019



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

By Pastor Tetsuya Fukusaku

On May 24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>, 2019, VJGC hosted the CJM AGM/Conf. We praise the Lord for the opportunity, once again. Every 4 years, the event returns to Vancouver. This year we had delegates from Toronto, Montreal, Winnipeg,

Edmonton, Calgary, Banff, and Victoria, each representing their church which is in affiliation with CJM. We all serve in our respective churches, in cities which are miles apart in our huge country of Canada, so it is a great blessing once a year to come together as one family serving in a common purpose of reaching our Japanese community for Christ.

I am glad to see each year, a little by little, we have increased the number of churches participating in CJM meetings. However, my concern is that when I view the overall picture of all Japanese churches, I note that many are in difficulty due to lack of evangelism and ministries of outreach. When I came to VJGC as a pastor in 2001, there were 12 Japanese speaking congregations in Vancouver, but now that number is down to 8 and some of them are stagnant with no growth in numbers. This situation is no different in other cities in Canada where Japanese church were once thriving. The same can be said in America too and other countries where diaspora ministries are seeking to reach the Japanese for Christ. Apart from the lack of spiritual ministry of the Gospel, other reasons may be; the decreasing numbers of Japanese people working overseas, aging members of the churches, some have moved out for one reason or another and difficulties in passing on the faith to the next generation. Some Christians too, have returned to Japan. At this time, there are less than 20 Japanese churches in Canada and some of them do not have a pastor and their numbers are declining. We need to be praying that these trends do not continue.

God has built and established His church in each area according to His will, and though the visible church may close, the invisible church is never closed in heaven. While God gives us the opportunity, He expects us to carry out his Great Commission through local visible churches.

I would like us to continue to pray and think about how we can carry out his mission and cooperate together as a family of God. □

**CJM AGM/Conf 2020**  
**May 22-23, 2020**

Hosted by: Calgary Japanese Gospel Church / Gracepoint Fellowship

## 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



## 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  
Website: www.vicjapanesechurch.com



Leader Tom & Miyako Ogasawara  
with sons Kei (6 yrs.) & Yuma (3 yrs.)

By Miyako Ogasawara

### OUR PLACE OF WORSHIP

**W**e rent and worship in the basement of Trinity Baptist Church every Sunday afternoon from 2 pm. Before we rented the church, we had a home Bible study meeting at the pastor's house, but due to circumstances,

we were unable to continue the home meeting, so we approached the Trinity Baptist Church next door for consultation. The pastor at that time agreed, "I would be happy to let you use the building for missionary outreach". In this way the service in the church basement started. That was in 1967. We are grateful for the love and generosity of the people of Trinity Baptist Church so that we could worship in the same location for more than 50 years. I spoke to a person who has been attending church since 1967 about the changes Trinity Baptist Church experienced in 50 years. Of course, pastors and members of the church have changed. But even if the generation changes, they have always stated that The Winnipeg Japanese Alliance Church is permitted to use the church building.

Trinity Baptist Church congregation always has a tea time in the basement after their service. When we arrive for our service they have always cleaned up and arranged chairs for our use. On one Sunday, as usual, we went early to get ready for the service, and a leader of Trinity Baptist Church was waiting for us. He showed us a preaching pulpit. "Can you use this?, he asked. I hope you like it." Until then we had been using a pulpit from



Tomo Ogasawara leading  
service from the new pulpit

the chapel upstairs and always carried it down the stairs. The elder said he made it because he feels sorry for us carrying that heavy pulpit down the stairs every week. The pulpit was handmade by him. It goes without saying that we are grateful for the use of it. In addition to us, the sanctuary is used for gatherings of a group of Central American people, and an African congregation for worship. We are learning a lot through the attitude of Trinity Baptist Church willingly opening the door to those in need and welcoming them with love. □



Pastor Yutaka & Miho Ishiguro

By Pastor Yutaka Ishiguro

**I** give praise to the wonderful name of our Lord! When I reflect on the past six months at Victoria Japanese Church, I see that the Lord has greatly encouraged, and guided us. When we experience God's work in our lives, it fills us with thankfulness.

In John 10: 28-30, Jesus answers; "I did tell you, but you do not believe.

*The miracles I do in my Father's name speak for me, but you do not*

*believe because you are not my sheep. My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. I and the Father are one."* The Lord has made this beautiful promise to us who believe in Him. It shows the blessings of those who decide to accept the Lord's salvation.

At our Easter service, many people witnessed the baptism of our sister in Christ. Following the service, over a potluck dinner, we were able to praise the Lord together, and through the heart felt testimony of our sister, we once again experienced the wonderful grace of our Lord and Saviour. We closed the day with praise to God for His wonderful works in our lives.

The Lord is also sending new people to our church. Two families, who we all came to love so much, for different reasons had to move away from Victoria. But our precious Lord sent another Christian family to our church the following Sunday! We experienced God's tender care and love of our little church, we again give God our thanks from the bottom of our hearts.

It is a great encouragement to us that we can deepen our relationships with other churches across Canada through the work of CJM. This provides us fellowship in the Lord, a time to support each other in prayer, and receive encouragement witnessing how God is working amongst us. We are grateful for your continued prayers for the work at Victoria Japanese Church. □



Congregational photo following the baptismal service

# 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



# 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 Tel: 403-707-6132  
 Email: banffgjcc.enoki@gmail.com



Pastor Toshihiro Hiromi Tamura with daughter Hinata (8)

By Toshihiro Tamura

**G**reetings and blessings to all brothers and sisters in Christ.

Though it has been rainy summer here in Alberta, we have received showers of blessing as well. First of all, we had the privilege of celebrating two weddings within our congregation. Congratulations to

Anna & Stephan! and also “Omedetou” to Daniel & Ai I’ve known them for some years and it was really encouraging to witness how God blessed and joined them together and reflecting His glory through their marriage. May God continue to guide and bless them as they build their new life together. It is interesting to note that Daniel & Ai’s wedding took place only two weeks after Sunnyside camp. As many of you know, Daniel has been serving as a camp director for Japanese side for many years. Ai also has been supporting the camp with him in various ways during the past few years. It doubtlessly was a hectic summer for them preparing for their wedding and Sunnyside camp at the same time, but I believe it was a great opportunity that God provided for them to grow as husband and wife.

In addition to various annual events, we were blessed to have Yuri Nakano who came home for her home assignment from Japan. Yuri was our former pastor, and now she is serving as a missionary in Osaka. We have been always encouraged by her reports and testimony, but this year, she impressed us even more by her ventriloquism. Yuri and her cute partner Ducky shared a Bible story with the younger children, and that just grabbed their heart.

Yuri saw ventriloquism at Sunnyside camp when she was a child, and she wanted to do it one day. That dream finally came true at Sunnyside camp this summer. She shared her amazing skill during the talent show. I believe God will continue to bless her talent and use them to reach out to more children in Japan. It is amazing to see how the experience at the camp could have such an impact



Yuri Nakano, missionary in Osaka Japan, teaches Bible stories to children through ventriloquism

on children and eventually help them to bear fruits in the future.

May God continue to bless the various CJM ministries and each individual church so that we can all bear fruits richly and praise our Lord’s name. □



Pastor Minoru & Izumi Enoki with daughters Yuika (4) & Mitsuki (2)

By Pastor Minoru Enoki

**G**reetings to the CJM family. Praise the name of Jesus Christ.

At this time, I would like to share our gratitude and challenges that we have been facing at GJCC over the past few months.

In April, we were refused an extension for our work permit.

It has been challenging and stretching time for us as well as for the members of GJCC in terms of faith. This was totally unexpected, but we understand that in His eyes, every single area of our life needs full commitment to Him in order to realize the greater purpose the Lord has for us. Through this trial, God increased in all of us a passion for prayer for the pastor and GJCC. Moreover, one lady of our congregation, who always gives me a text to encourage me, said, “we are praying for you at our workplace”. God also added a new member to our prayer meeting. At the present time, we are experiencing precious moments, something I have never seen before at GJCC and I can only attribute this to the work of God as these blessings are not the work of human hands. We have successfully reapplied for our work permit in the middle of August and waiting for the result from IRCC. Please continue to remember us in your prayers. I know that His purpose is always the best even if we cannot fully comprehend it.

Another praise report that we would like to share with you is that 3 young people in our church confessed Christ as Lord & Savior during the past month. As we see the whitened harvest fields around us, we strongly feel that we need more workers in His harvest field. In particular, all Japanese-speaking churches in foreign countries have major obstacles that need to be overcome. Obvious obstacles are; language and cultural. Workers who wish to serve on foreign fields need to be adequately equipped to face these challenges. Our prayer is that the Holy Spirit will continue to lead and guide foreign language ministries



Fellowship gathering following morning service

which are led by well equipped pastors so that in His time, we can pass on the spiritual baton to the next generation without losing the identity of Japanese churches in Canada. □



## GRACEPOINT FELLOWSHIP

English department of the  
**Calgary Japanese Gospel Church**

Worship Service: 10:00 am Pastor Brian Lavender  
Tel: 403-606-5483 Email: brianlavy@me.com  
Website: www.calgaryjapanesegospel.com



2203-15A St. SE.,  
Calgary, AB T2G 3N2

## Mennonite Japanese Christian Fellowship

Meeting at: Living Hope Christian Fellowship  
12246 - 100th Ave., Surrey, BC V3V 2X1  
Sunday Worship Services at 3:00 pm.  
Pastor Gerald Neufeld, Tel: 604-596-7928  
Email: grneufeld5@yahoo.ca



Pastor Brian & Cindy Lavender with sons  
Ethan (L) and Noah (R)

By Pastor Brian Lavender

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” Romans 15:13

This past year has been a year of change and uncertainty, yet never without

blessing and hope, and the “peace of God that passes all understanding”.

Our church left the Associated Gospel Churches of Canada denomination, and are now partnering with the Christian and Missionary Alliance. It has been busy transitioning, but we believe that God is positioning us for growth and increasing effectiveness in reaching our community. We are in the midst of looking for a new building, or potentially building a new building, and would appreciate your prayers that God would direct us and provide for us in the way He wants us to go... Plus if you happen to have one million dollars to donate to our new building we would really appreciate it and would give you a tax receipt!

We had another great year at Sunnyside camp with almost 300 attending – if you would like to see more of Sunnyside 2019 – please view our slide show on Youtube - [https://youtu.be/6qe\\_5kUVZ0A](https://youtu.be/6qe_5kUVZ0A).

We also celebrated our 50+ years as a church, and launched a new Young adults ministry. The 50 year anniversary celebration was amazing with speakers from every decade, and it was so good to hear of God’s faithfulness and leading over the past 50 years. We also have a new ministry focus to Japanese students in Calgary. Up to about dozen students attend our church from our city universities.

We join with all of you in prayer and purpose to reach Japanese people both here and back in Japan. We know that the God who fills us with joy and peace and hope desires to grant the same to Japan, and will work through us as we work faithfully to that end. □



Congregational photo - CJGC / Gracepoint Fellowship



Pastor Gerald & Rei Neufeld with daughter Rena,  
Son, Jay & daughter Irene (R)

Submitted by  
Tada Miwako

As has happened every year, the Mennonite Central Committee festival was held in Abbotsford and volunteers from our church participated. Food, flower pots, fruits and vegetables, a play area for children, complete with bouncy castles, music, auctions and various other things made for a lively atmosphere, with crowds of people. All the money from sales goes to support refugees as well as developing countries. About half the volunteers were seniors. Our church sells sushi every year, but we wonder just how much we are able to help those in need.

It must really be tough for people who have experienced hurricanes in the Bahamas, and Florida, typhoons in Japan, and other disasters. I notice how I myself can’t really do much, but, I can join my prayers with others at our prayer meeting. The other day I heard a message on the meaning of church. Of course, the church is where God is, where we don’t focus on ourselves, and instead, together, humble ourselves before God. Thankfully, God supports the church. God is at the centre, filling the church’s need. We want to always learn from the Bible, work at putting it into practice, and build each other up in faith. We are excited that there are people who are ready to receive baptism during our Thanksgiving worship service. We want to continue praying for new people, that the Good News can spread. □



MCC Fund-raising festival. Sushi table by members of the MJCF



Members of the church enjoying a day of Camping

### CJM SUNNYSIDE CAMP 2020

July 26 - Aug. 1, 2020

Located on the shores of Sylvan Lake, AB  
(16 kms west of Red Deer, AB)

## Wesley Chapel Japanese Church

Meeting at Wesley Chapel  
 2385 Warden Ave., Scarborough, ON M1W 2L6  
 Sunday Worship: 1:00 pm.  
 Pastor Misa Mochinaga Tel: 416-904-5496  
 Email: [misa.mochinaga@gmail.com](mailto:misa.mochinaga@gmail.com)  
 Website: [www.wesleychapeljapanesefmc.com](http://www.wesleychapeljapanesefmc.com)



Pastor Misa Mochinaga

By Pastor Misa Mochinaga

**W**e, at Wesley Chapel Japanese FMC, have been focused on themes of healing and transformation during the past year, reflecting on questions such as, “What does it mean to be a follower of Christ?” “What kind of life is God calling us to live?” “Are we being transformed?” “Are we growing, why not?” We are not alone in this journey of growth, as Christians everywhere wrestle with these questions too.

Peter Scazzero is the author of the book “The Emotionally Healthy Spirituality,” where he addresses the topic of spiritual growth. He explains that one of the reasons we don’t grow spiritually is because we are not emotionally healthy. In other words, it is impossible to be spiritually mature while remaining emotionally immature. Sensing an invitation from God to go deeper with Him, we started a sermon series based on this book in the spring.

We trust God to lead us through this time and bring about the healing and growth we long for. After all, transforming people is something only God can do. We know change takes time, but we feel encouraged as we are noticing the evidence of God’s Presence in our midst: people are enjoying each other during coffee time, people are sharing about their desire to know Jesus’ voice and praying that the Word will find a home in their hearts and change them.”

The blessings don’t end there... we have a baptism service later this year, the bonds of friendship with our brothers and sisters who returned to Japan remain strong despite the distance that separates us, and we have been richly blessed by inspiring guest speakers this past year, who have both affirmed and encouraged us.

We pray that we will become a church that remains in Jesus and loves Him deeply with all our heart and strength. To seeks emotional health, supports and forgives one another, loves neighbours as ourselves and to witness Jesus in word and deed, being doers of the Word and not hearers only. □

## 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](mailto:ymtaniguchi@hotmail.com)  
 Website: [www.crossoverjapanesechurch.com](http://www.crossoverjapanesechurch.com)



Pastor Yoichi & Miyuki Taniguchi

By Miyuki Taniguchi

### TO THE NEXT GENERATION

**T**here is a time for everything and a season for every activity under the heavens (Eccles. 3:1).

Because of God's perfect timing, support and provision, Crossover has been on its feet now for 11 years. There was a season of starting a house church with only a few people,

a season of worshipping in a church building, a season of transitioning into a bilingual service, and many more. Our church went through many seasons, but now, three words have been in me and my husband's minds. "A new generation." We feel that it is about time that we handover to the newer generation. Recently, we had younger people joining our board. They are humbly giving their time and gifts for Crossover, and I can't thank them enough.

Not long ago, I saw a clip from the World Triathlon race. Towards the final kilometre, a young man leading was about to collapse due to the heat. Then, a man behind him slowed down and took his arm around his shoulders and began running with him. They were brothers. As the two ran towards the line, the one in third easily caught up to them and finished in first place. If the older brother didn't help his younger brother, he would have won the race. But he chose to help him instead. But what's more, as he carried his younger brother to the finishing line, he pushed him forward so that his brother can finish in second place. The commentator praised their brotherly love, the action taken by the older brother.

I saw in this video, how the different generations in a church should be. As for the older generation like myself, we must encourage and support the younger ones, just as the older brother did in the race; that is to run alongside the younger generations. If the new generation is about to collapse, we would carry and run with them. Just as Paul ran to obtain the heavenly crown, we run continuously towards a goal. There's always a limit to how far you

can go if you are alone. But if the old and the young can come together as one in Christ, and run towards the Lord together, I'm confident enough to say that we can do something much greater for the Lord. □



Crossover Church with booth at the Japanese Food Festival



Recent special service at Wesley

Last photo before Naomi & Aisa Sayama left for Japan