

Youth In ACTION!

Attachment to the CJM Reporter - Spring 2018

Calgary Crossover Church

By Richard Yusa



Bible Study and Games Night!

Praise the Lord for all the work He has been doing in our young adults.

Meshiya Hallelujah (メシヤ in Japanese can mean “Messiah” or “a place to eat”) is a new initiative started by one of our young adults, Yuki Koyama. As this skilled cook watched the many international students eating out at restaurants after Sunday service every week, God laid it upon his heart that he was to use his cooking skills for kingdom work. Yuki felt God calling him to provide the students with a healthy affordable meal, and a good time of

God laid it upon his heart that he was to use his cooking skills for kingdom work.

fellowship each month after the service. He has also had an opportunity to cook for the Edmonton and Banff Japanese churches, as well as for home bible studies held for Japanese university students, and the Alpha course hosted by our host church. We are seeing God working through Meshiya Hallelujah by bringing new students to our church and increasing the fellowship within our church, as well as between the other Japanese churches in our province.

Our church also had the privilege of sending four people to the Equipper Conference last

year, including a new believer. The Equipper Conference is a five day conference in the U.S. held for young Japanese Christians. There our young adults were put in charge of several important leadership roles.

As we watch the growth of our young adults, we realize just how much God has provided. We are a small church and the experience and training we can offer our future leaders is limited. However seeing the Banff and Edmonton Japanese churches, and the Equipper Conference organizers providing our young adults opportunities to serve and lead, we're made to realize that in the hands of God, there are no limits to the resources He has to mould and train our future leaders. Praise God for providing us with so many loving and supportive brothers and sisters in Christ to help grow our next generation of Japanese Christian leaders.



Yuki preparing meal for the Meshiya Hallelujah



by Adam Shih



Baking pizza before their Bible study



Children enjoying a game the teens organized for them

For most of 2017, we took a temporary hiatus from youth ministry to strategize and train leadership for an eventual relaunch in 2018. The renewed youth ministry happened just a few months ago. Equipped with fresh and excited leaders, and a slightly new model, JGCT's youth group has officially relaunched.

We have widened the age group of our youth ministry to grade 7 and up. Many of our high school stu-

dents have gone off to college and university, and our junior high age group is large and lively. Our youth ministry has a focus on partnering with the youth and their families to develop vibrant faith and joy in serving their communities.

The teens have enjoyed cooking together so they are able to learn basic knife skills, familiarize themselves with different cookware, and master simple recipes. Not only is it fun to cook together, we can develop creativity and competency in the kitchen so that they can help out with meals in their own home. Most of our

youth and their families have deep connection to the church. Because of this, one of our key strategies is partnering with the parents to help develop their teens' faith.

This past Easter, the youth group ran our children's Easter program. The youth planned the Bible

story, game, and craft that were prepared for the children. At this point in their lives, it's so valu-

able to give teens opportunities to serve in meaningful ways within the church. This also gives opportunity for the young children to have good interaction with those who are older than them. Hopefully, by having mixed age programming, children will be able to learn from each other and be open minded with different people.

We are very excited about God working in our youth. This past Easter one of our youth was baptized as well. Praise God because He calls young people to faith in Him! We are very encouraged by

this young man and are looking forward to seeing how God continues to transform him in the future.

On the long weekend of May 20 & 21, will be the first youth retreat after our youth ministry re-launch. We are very excited about the opportunity to bond with the teens and share deeply with one another as we 'retreat' from some of the things that are stressing us out and receive renewed perspective from God's Word. Please pray for our team and the teens as we plan our Spring retreat.



Children enjoying the Easter craft planned by the teens

VANCOUVER JAPANESE GOSPEL CHURCH

By: Mari Fukusaku, Assistant Pastor



VJGC Youth Christmas Skit & Dance at Nikkei Centre

In 2017 our Youth Ministry received many blessings. The Lord sent to us many Japanese international students who become Christians and were baptised. We are blessed in our Youth Ministry as mostly young Nisei members organize or youth activities. During the past year, the Lord connected many Japanese students to our youth.

In July, 2018, we plan to go to Iwate prefecture for a mission trip with 17 members of our church and 9 of them are teens.

From the beginning of the year until now, we have had over 15 Japanese high school students from the public schools in this area. Some of these students have become Christians and returned to Japan. However, there are still a good number of students who attend our 1st and 2nd worship services who have become Christians and currently preparing for baptism. We also have other Japanese international students from local Christian high schools connected to our services and bible studies as well.

Last year during Christmas, we rented the Nikkei Centre to hold a Christmas Celebration and our Youth members dedicated their time and effort for a skit and a dance performance. They invited their friends from school and had over 260 people attend this event. We are now in preparation for the Easter Service and celebration.

Each Wednesday from 7:30 pm., and once a month on Friday evenings, we have a Teens group gathering to learn from the Bible and pray for one another.

In July, 2018, we plan to go to Iwate prefecture for a mission trip with 17 members of our church and 9 of them are teens. We have been praying as a church that these teens will grow spiritually throughout the mission trip.

From July to September we are planning many events such as the Iwate Mission Trip, Kids Day Camp, Church Family Camp, and Gospel Night 2018. And a large number of teens are committed to these ministries. I pray that each event and ministry will be used of God for their salvation and growth in their spiritual lives. In Ecclesiastes 12 :1 we read: *Remember your Creator in the days of your youth, before the days of trouble come and the years approach when you will say, "I find no pleasure in them"*



VJGC Youth Gym Night

VJGC is now looking for a Director of Youth Ministries. This is a part-time position. We are looking for a young bilingual Christian who have a passion and burden of reaching and discipling young teenagers. If you are interested or know someone who is capable, please let us know.

VICTORIA JAPANESE CHURCH



VJC's Young People's Bible Study



VJC Christmas Service - Youth Worship



Noah Ozaki - Youth leader

by Noah Ozaki

Praise the name of the Lord. We, young members of Victoria Japanese Church have a wonderful

monthly meeting. We go hiking to feel how wonderful and amazing all of His creation is and we feel God's presence through singing worship songs as well. We also enjoy a meal fellowship. It is definitely a blessing that we have such a wonderful pastor's wife who is excellent at cooking.

In September, we started a Bible study using a text book. Every member is at a different stage of faith and has different situations in life but our Lord perfectly tells

all of us what we really need every time and fills our hearts. Following the Bible study, one of our members gives a testimony about how she/he met God and became a Christian. Through each of our testimonies, we know the truth that our God is actually living and intervenes in our life to walk with us.

We thank God that we have such a blessed time every month and also thank you for all the support and all the prayers. God bless you.

JGCT
SPRING YOUTH RETREAT

Willow Springs Camp
4408 Bethesda Rd., Stouffville, ON
<https://goo.gl/maps/u5KdZQbAm3J2>
(Fri) May 18 (7:00 pm) - (Mon) 21 (1:00 pm) 2018
For information and Registration Contact:
Adam Shih 647-449-0704
Email: a.shih50@gmail.com
Invite your friends to come with you!

JGCT
SUMMER CAMP 2018
August 11-17
Pearce Williams Christian Centre
For more information contact
Scott Ohashi 416-461-7666
www.jgct.com:8080/camp/campinfo.asp

Sunnyside Camp:
July 29 - Aug. 4, 2018
Sunnyside Christian Retreat Centre
202 Birchcliff Road, Sylvan Lake, AB,
(16 kms. West of Red Deer, AB)

For further info - www.CJMin.com

Hello Youth Leaders. Thank you for your contributions to this newsletter. It's so good to hear what is going on in your neck of the woods. We aim to put out the CJM Reporter with the Youth In Action attachment twice a year; our next publication will be in Fall 2018. Looking forward to your article then! Thank you! YIA Editor