

Religious Juridical Person Japan Mission Newsletter

By: Ms. Ayumi Asada – Japan Mission Administrator
[Translated from Japanese]

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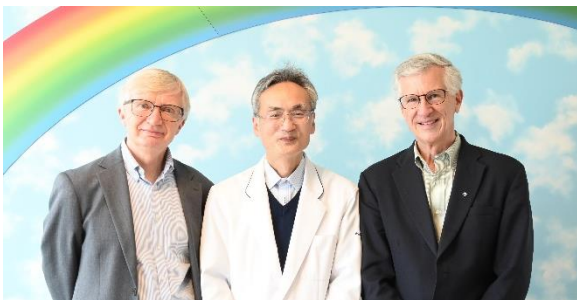
Praise the name of our Lord.

*Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?”
And I said, “Here am I. Send me!” (Isaiah 6:8)*

Thank you very much for your continued prayers and support for Japan Mission.

We are currently undergoing a transformation. Changes of all sizes are coming, and there are endless discussions, confirmations, and decisions which need to be made daily. We remember that God's hand has been at work in each of the decisions we have made thus far. With your prayers and encouragement, we hope to continue to make the right decisions in God's protection as we move forward in God's mission. It is a blessing and a privilege that we can continue to serve the Lord.

In May, Rev. Philip Woods and Rev. Jieun Kim from the World Mission Office of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) visited Japan Mission and Yodogawa Christian Hospital, respectively. We introduced them to the home-visit nursing activities of "YCH Medical and Healthcare Community Co.,Ltd.," an affiliated organization, and its advanced efforts to provide in-home care. We were able to rejoice together that the seeds that were prayerfully planted by our brothers and sisters from the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) are growing and bearing fruit in Osaka, and at the same time we renewed our determination to carry on the philosophy and work of Whole Person Healing.



Rev. Philip Woods (Left), Associate Director for Strategy, Program and Recruitment, at YCH Children's Hospice Ward with Dr. Makoto Nabetani, Head of Vice-Superintendents of YCH



Rev. Jieun Han Kim (center), Regional Liaison for East Asia with Ms. Mineko Fukuda, Vice-superintendent of YCH and other responsible staff of Nursing Dept.

Yodogawa Christian Hospital had a change in the Chairman of the Board of Directors on July 3. Dr. Mitsuru Sasako, a world-renowned authority in the field of gastrointestinal surgery and a devoted Christian who loves the Lord, delivered a message at the morning service, followed by the inauguration ceremony. In front of many staff members of the hospital he vowed to fulfill his duties for the work of Whole Person Healing with God's help. All staff members prayed for God to give strength to the new chairman. We are confident that the Lord heard their prayers.



July 3rd Inauguration Ceremony of New Chairman, Dr. Mitsuru Sasako



Appointment Letter Presented



Inaugural Address

But thou shalt in all circumstances humble thyself, endure suffering, and do thy duty in the work of a preacher of the gospel. (II Timothy 4:5)

Two responsible directors of Japan Mission retired at the end of June, and we welcomed new members in July. One is Dr. Mitsuru Sasako, newly appointed Chairman of Yodogawa Christian Hospital Group, and the other is Ms. Minako Iwasa, who has served as Chairman of Mead Christian Center, Social Welfare Corporation for many years. We look forward to continuing fruitful discussions at the board meeting with their wisdom and opinions based on their rich faith and experience. We hope that we will be able to further



advance the various mission endeavors. Japan Mission expressed appreciation to outgoing board members Rev. Thomas Goetz and Rev. Susan Hudson for their wisdom and prayerful support for the board.

**June 23rd, Japan Mission Responsible Directors
New members (center): Ms. Minako Iwasa and Dr. Mitsuru Sasako**

In May and July, "Spiritual Care Study Sessions" were held at Yodogawa Christian Hospital. The speaker was Rev. Kyoko Hamamoto, who has worked as a chaplain at both Japanese and U.S. hospitals for many years. She started with the basic knowledge of spiritual care and the definition of "Yorisou" (snuggle/stay close/considerate) and explained spiritual pains, citing many examples based on her own experiences. We hope to see more cooperation within the hospital in the future, with staff members who identify the needs of patients and request chaplains to intervene. We look forward to chaplains providing deeper spiritual care as part of the team medical care approach. The speaker, Rev. Hamamoto, will be employed as a chaplain at Yodogawa Christian Hospital from October this year. The work of the chaplains, who support and accompany the "spiritual" care of the patients is important and indispensable in a Christian hospital. Please pray for this important work.



Rev. Kyoko Hamamoto

A meeting for support of the Presbyterian Church of Myanmar will be held in Singapore in early October. Representatives from various countries will gather to discuss the relocation of Agape Hospital, which is operated by the Presbyterian Church of Myanmar, and the construction of a new hospital. From Japan, Dr. Makoto Nabetani, Vice Superintendent of Yodogawa Christian Hospital, and Mr. Toshio Onai of Japan Mission will participate in the meeting. This project is expected to take some years to complete due to the political situation within the country. We appreciate your continued support and prayers.

Representative Director for the Japan Mission
David L. Hudson