

Japan Mission Newsletter

By: Ms. Ayumi Asada – Japan Mission Administrator

[Translated from Japanese]

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ.

November 2023

“We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.” I Thessalonians 1:2-3

We offer thanks for your continued support and prayers for Japan Mission. As we continue to undergo transformations and restructure, we give thanks we can see God's hand at work along the way. With your encouragement, we will move forward in God's mission! Some of these transitions have been a long time coming.

After restrictions because of health concerns, we are thankful that the hospital is getting back to hosting monthly times of fellowship and fun.



YCH Fellowship



YCH Fellowship

The chaplain's program was officially transferred from Japan Mission back to Yodogawa Christian Hospital effective October 1, 2023. This much needed shift allows better integration into the hospital, oversight of programs, and a renewed focus on the spiritual care of patients and staff.

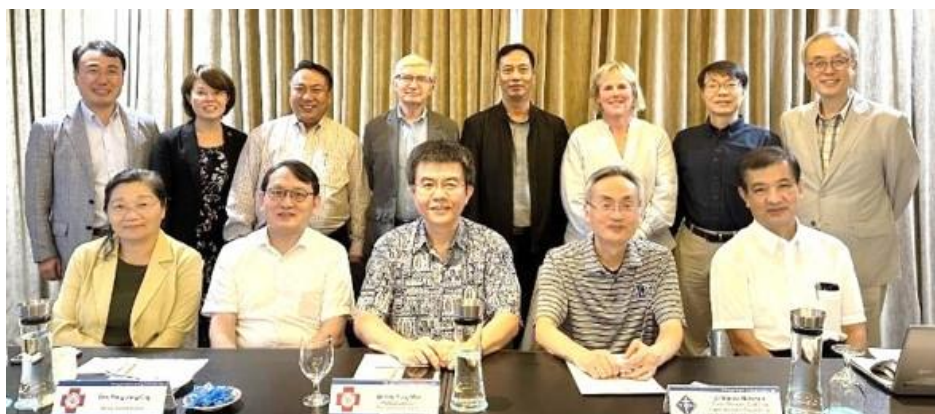
The chaplain's office hosted a dinner at a local Indian restaurant in late September to say farewell to Rev. Shiriokai who is moving to another prefecture. She cared for and supported many patients with love and prayer and worked hard at the Chaplain's office. She will be greatly missed!



Rev. Naomi Shioikari seated second from the right.

A meeting for support of the Presbyterian Church of Myanmar was held in Singapore in early October with representatives from several countries. From Japan, Dr. Makoto Nabetani, Vice Superintendent of Yodogawa Christian Hospital, and Mr. Toshio Onai of Japan Mission participated. They learned the current situation at Agape Hospital is very challenging as they face shortages of personnel and equipment and the political situation in Myanmar is unstable.

Relocation of Agape Hospital, which is operated by the Presbyterian Church of Myanmar, and construction of a new hospital is expected to take several years due to the situation within the country. Japan Mission will continue to support this project with human resource development and financial support, and we ask for your continued prayers.



**PCM Agape Hospital Planning Meeting on October 2.
Dr. Nebatani and Mr. Onai seated on the right.**

In late October Japan Mission welcomed Dr. Tom Taylor and Mrs. Julie Taylor, and Mr. Brad Masters from the Presbyterian Foundation to review Japan Mission's investment under their management. The Japan Mission Board seeks to be efficient stewards of the blessings God has entrusted to us as share in God's mission.



Mr. Masters, Mrs. Taylor, Dr. Taylor seated left to right.

Because Japan Mission is registered under the Japanese government all changes to our constitution must be approved. These changes have been a long process, and we are pleased to announce our approval! Part of our restructuring included closing one of our offices and relocating to Osaka into the building where the Osaka Church worships. The Osaka Church remains under the Japan Mission as required by the government.

One of the biggest changes came at Japan Mission's October board meeting when the position of Representative Director was officially turned over to Dr. Ishida. Rev. Hudson will end his service next month and return to the USA but continue to offer support as a responsible director of the JM Board. This transition was the clear intent of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) for many decades, and we give thanks and rejoice that this day has arrived. Our partnership with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) will continue and we are hopeful for this new step in our journey together for the glory of God.



New Representative Director Dr. Takeshi Ishida (Left)



JM Board Members

With gratitude,
Representative Director for Japan Mission David L. Hudson

In November 2023, the JM office moved to the following location.

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