



A Minute with the Masons



Japanese Evangelical Missionary Society
A newsletter of Michael & Chris Mason

Oasis Church / Kansai Christian School, Japan
Issue 76 February 2016

Dear Praying Family and Friends,

February is the coldest month of the year in Japan. This wouldn't be so bad if the cold stayed outdoors, but often it is just as cold on the inside. When we wake up in the morning, the temperature in the house is usually hovering around zero degrees! Needless to say, this makes it a bit hard to get out of bed when the alarm goes off.

Anyway, we hope that you are staying warm, wherever you may be.

KANSAI CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



Singing Christmas songs at the nursing facility

Every December at KCS, the entire school participates in some sort of outreach project in the local community. This year, Chris brought her 1st/2nd grade class to a local nursing care facility. The kids performed Christmas songs for the residents and told the Christmas story using *kamishibai* (Japanese storytelling cards). Their visit was a huge blessing, both to the elderly audience as well as the students. One of Chris' second graders was so thrilled to be a missionary and to "start her missionary work." How cute!

As we enter the second semester, Chris will now set her sight on the all-school drama production, where she will once again serve as co-director. The name of the musical is "Back to the Cross" and will require lots of rehearsal between now and the April 29th performance night. **PLEASE PRAY** for the extra energy that will be required from Chris during these next few months.

We also ask that you **PLEASE PRAY** for the boys in Chris' class. Lately they have been testing her patience more than usual. May Chris always respond to their antics with love and grace.

Michael is enjoying his duties as all-school chaplain. He is about half way through his monthly series called "Not Of This World: Following Jesus in a World that Doesn't." **PLEASE PRAY** that he would connect with the hearts of the students each time he speaks with them. He is currently scheduled to speak on March 3rd & 25th, May 6th and June 3rd.

OASIS CHURCH

Life at Oasis Church is going well. Our study of 1 Corinthians has been a wonderful time of learning and growth for many. **PLEASE PRAY** as we continue to go deep in the studying of God's word.

The church is planning an outreach event for April 9th. We are calling it Family Easter Party & BBQ (yes, we know this is AFTER Easter, but most Japanese don't know that!) We will have a special program for children and then a time when the adults and kids can enjoy a meal together. **PLEASE PRAY** that many non-believers might join us for this event and hear the Good News of the resurrection of Jesus.



SHORT TERM TEAM

This Spring we are VERY excited to host a short-term mission team from Cerritos Baptist Church in California. Calling themselves "Team Hippo," they will be with us March 31 to April 11, and will serve at both the school and the church. At KCS, they will be leading the Spiritual Life Emphasis Week April 5-8th, and at Oasis they will assist with the children's portion of the Family Easter Party on April 9th. They will also join the Oasis worship services on April 3rd and 10th, sharing testimonies and teaching a seminar on the spiritual formation of children. **PLEASE PRAY** for the team as they prepare to serve in Japan. May the Lord use their talents and skills to be a blessing to both KCS and Oasis Church as they serve to build the Kingdom of God in Japan.



Team Hippo from Cerritos Baptist Church

PERSONAL

We have mentioned in the past about Luke's involvement with the worship team at school. However, God has recently provided Luke with other opportunities to play the piano at various Christian meetings and youth events. He really enjoys being able help lead worship, so much so that he has also started learning to play the guitar. We are very proud of Luke's desire to serve and ask that you **PLEASE PRAY** for him. May he not only improve in his musical ability, but also grow in having a heart of worship. Pray that he might become a genuine worshipper of Jesus so that he can effectively lead others in worship as well.

Finally, we continue to covet your prayers for Chris' parents. Her mother's Alzheimer's seems to be progressing and the doctors are now considering the best course of treatment for her. As for her father, his frailty seems to be hindering

his ability to stand, walk and get around. **PLEASE PRAY** for Chris as their situation obviously weighs heavy on her heart. We are so thankful for the wonderful staff at Atherton Baptist Homes, but it is hard to not be there in person.

Well, that's it for now. As always, we greatly appreciate your prayers for us and the work the Lord has called us to do here in Japan. Together let's build up the church and help reach the Japanese for Christ.



Blessings in Jesus,

Michael & Chris

Michael & Chris Mason

ANNOUNCEMENT

For those who are interested in making a financial contribution to our ministry, JEMS is currently in the process of setting up a new, on-line donation system. In the very near future we will have our very own page which will allow you to give directly to JEMS without all of the hassles of writing a check. Stay tuned for more details!



My Personal Response for Michael and Chris Mason Japan Career Missionaries

- ☐ Please consider me as your regular prayer partner
- ☐ I would like to make a gift preferenced* for Michael and Chris Mason by a monthly offering of \$_____, starting _____(month) _____(year)
(Please see **the choice below** if you prefer **Electronic Transfer**)
- ☐ This is a one-time gift of \$_____ preferenced* for Michael and Chris Mason's support needs
- ☐ No thanks, please remove me from your mailing list

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ADDRESS_____CITY_____STATE____ZIP_____

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CHURCH:_____

Please make check payable to "JEMS", 948 E. 2nd St., Los Angeles, CA 90012 (please leave the memo line blank). *While a donor may express a preference for a gift, IRS regulations state that tax-deductible gifts must be under control of the non-profit organization. Please contact JEMS if you have questions.

JEMS will mail you written confirmation upon completion of your EFT application.

Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) Authorization Form

Please return the provided form with a voided blank check from your checking account. Your donation will be withdrawn on the **1st or 15th** of each month. JEMS will mail an "Annual Tax Deductible Statement" at the beginning of each year. JEMS will continue to withdraw your donation electronically for the specified number of months or until you give **written notification** that you wish to change or cancel your EFT enrollment. Written notification two months prior to closing your checking account or changing banks is requested to avoid any unnecessary confusion and charges from our bank.

1. **Monthly Donation:** [] \$200 [] \$100 [] \$50 [] \$_____
[] Until further notice
[] For _____ months
2. Start Month: _____ on the [] 1st or [] 15th (mark)
3. I hereby authorize my bank to pay JEMS the amount listed above on the 1st or 15th of each month as specified above.

Signature (required for EFT payments) date
4. Please return this form in the enclosed envelope along with a "voided" check from the bank account to be used for EFT withdrawal

SAVE A TREE GROUP

Please send to JEMS in the enclosed envelope

Please send me the Mason's prayer letter through email.

Name(s):_____

Address:_____

Email Address: (please print)_____

Date: _____

