



# A Minute with the Masons



Japanese Evangelical Missionary Society

A newsletter of Michael & Chris Mason

Oasis Church, Osaka, Japan

Issue 93 February 2022

*"For he is the living God, enduring forever;  
his kingdom shall never be destroyed,  
and his dominion shall be to the end."  
Daniel 6:26b*

Dear Praying Friends,

Greetings from Osaka! As we write this update, Japan is once again in a "Quasi State of Emergency." I guess we can thank the new Omicron variant for this latest round of restrictions. Despite the limitations however, we have much to be thankful to God for this new year.



## OASIS CHURCH

At Oasis Church, we are grateful to God to be able to continue meeting in person (with Covid protocols in place of course!). Since January, Michael has been taking us through the book of Daniel, and we are encouraged by Daniel 6 which states that God's kingdom will never be destroyed. What comfort this is, knowing that even during a pandemic God's kingdom will not be destroyed.

We continue to press on with the weekly Sunday worship services and the mid-week Zoom prayer meetings. Although our Kodomo Shokudo (Children's Cafeteria) and Food Distribution ministries have had a dip in response due to the recent uptick in Covid cases, we are encouraged that we are still able to meet the needs of a small number of families who are willing to receive our assistance. **PLEASE PRAY** that more people who

are in need would not hesitate to respond to our food assistance programs.



*Christmas Message at Kid's Cafeteria*

We are grateful to God that in November we were able to hold an outdoor outreach BBQ/mikan (mandarin orange) picking event at a nearby orchard. It was well attended (including a number of non-believers) and a great opportunity to develop relationships with new people outdoors. Besides great food and fellowship, we also had a time for games and testimony. Unfortunately, the facility would not let us worship together as we had planned.



*Testimony Time after BBQ*

In December, we had our Christmas celebration/worship on the evening of December 25th. Due to

Covid, we did have our usual potluck but instead had a take-out dessert bar so people could enjoy their Christmas goodies in the comfort of their own home. **PLEASE PRAY** for the ability to freely have more events at Oasis Church in 2022.



*Christmas Candle Light Service*

### MEMBER CARE

Earlier this winter, we had another opportunity to host a "Staying Resilient" small group. This is a 4-part, on-line seminar designed to encourage missionaries in Japan to remain spiritually, emotionally and physically healthy during the pandemic. We had a wonderful group of people this time, and all who attended were greatly encouraged. The groups were sponsored by JEMA (Japan Evangelical Missionary Association).

Chris continues to serve as an on-line Life Coach to missionaries and Christian workers in Japan. Later this year she hopes to apply for certification with the International Coaching Federation (ICF). **PLEASE PRAY** for wisdom and grace during this process.

### FAMILY NEWS

Unfortunately, our son, Luke, was unable to return to Japan during his winter break from school in California. We decided at the last minute to cancel his trip as border restrictions/entry into Japan were too severe due to the Omicron outbreak. Since he only had 3 weeks off, we felt it was best for him to remain in California for the holidays. We are grateful to God for providing a homestay for him with his roommate's family in Santa Barbara. Needless to say, we were quite disappointed as we miss him a lot. We haven't seen him in person since the summer of 2020. **PLEASE PRAY** that God would work out all of our schedules in 2022 so that we can see him again soon

As always, thank you for your faithful support of our many years of ministry in Japan (this is year 25!). Your gifts, prayers, encouragement and love have made it possible for us to serve here. Thank you for being a blessing to us in so many ways.

Blessings in Jesus,

*Michael & Chris*

Michael & Chris Mason





# 3 Ways to Support the Masons



## \* On-Line Giving

You can make one-time, monthly, quarterly or annual donations with your credit card via the JEMS' Network For Good donation site. Links to the site can be found here:

[www.jems.org/missionaries](http://www.jems.org/missionaries) (click on the donate link under the Mason's bio)

[www.masonsinjapan.com](http://www.masonsinjapan.com) (the donate button is on the bottom of the page)

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## \* Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)

### Electronic Funds Transfer (ETF) Authorization Form for gifts preferenced\* for Michael & Chris Mason

Monthly Donation: [ ] \$250 [ ] \$100 [ ] \$50 [ ] \$25 [ ] \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Starting Month: \_\_\_\_\_. I would like to transfer on: \_\_\_\_ 1st or \_\_\_\_ 15th of the month.

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☐ I have enclosed my **voided blank check** from the bank account to be used for the EFT withdrawal.

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*\* While a donor may express a preference for a gift, IRS regulations state that tax-deductible gifts must be under the complete discretion of the non-profit organization. Please contact JEMS if you have questions.*

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## \* Send Support by Mail

- ☐ Here is my gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_ preferenced\* for Michael & Chris Mason
- ☐ I want to receive a paper version of the Mason's prayer letter
- ☐ I want to save a tree! Please send me the Mason's prayer letter via e-mail
- ☐ Please remove me from the Mason's mailing list

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Please make **check payable to "JEMS"** and leave the **memo line blank**.

Your check, along with this form, can be mailed to: JEMS, P.O. Box 86047 Los Angeles, CA 90086-0047.

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