



# A Minute with the Masons



Japanese Evangelical Missionary Society

A newsletter of Michael & Chris Mason

Oasis Church, Osaka, Japan

Issue 90 March 2021

Dear Praying Friends,

Japan, like most countries around the world, has been struggling with the COVID-19 pandemic. The possibility of hosting the 2020 Olympics this summer worries many in the country and about 80% of the population now supports canceling the Olympics or delaying the games for another year.



The good news is that in mid-February Japan started vaccinating health care workers with the Pfizer vaccine. Their plan is to vaccinate people over the age of 65 starting in April. We are hopeful that the vaccine will bring the COVID-19 numbers down rapidly. Whether it will be in time for the start of the summer Olympics in July is still undetermined.

## OASIS CHURCH

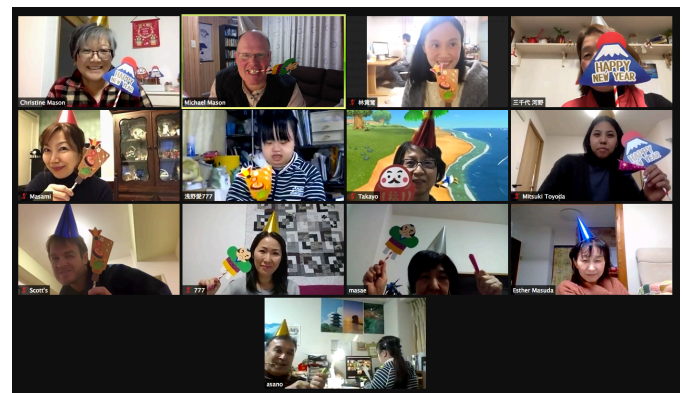
The Osaka area, as well as other large urban areas in Japan, has been in a state of emergency since December. Needless to say, this has had a large impact on the local church life and daily ministry.

Oasis Church has continued to meet in person each Sunday morning (while following strict safety protocols) as well as offer an online presence for those who want to join us from home. Technology has also enabled us to continue meeting for prayer on Wednesday nights via Zoom.

We continue to cling to Galatians 6:9,

*"Don't get tired of doing what is good. Don't get discouraged and give up, for we will reap a harvest of blessing at the appropriate time."*

**PLEASE PRAY** for Oasis Church to thrive despite the on-going pandemic.



*The Oasis Zoom New Year's party with games, snacks, Bible study and prayer time.*

## MEMBER CARE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

Chris is planning to take an on-line Christian Life Coaching course that will result in her becoming a certified life coach. Upon completion of the course, Chris will offer Life Coaching to JEMS missionaries as a part of her member care duties. This course will begin in April and will include 60 hours of lectures and 110 hours of practicum training with clients. With the limitations to doing ministry because of the coronavirus situation, Chris feels that this is a wonderful opportunity to add another tool to her member care tool belt.

**PLEASE PRAY** for Chris to learn the concepts and skills well as she studies online towards a Life Coaching Certification. May she be able to use these skills to help JEMS missionaries thrive in Japan.

**PLEASE ALSO PRAY** for an increase in our financial support base with JEMS. Beginning in 2021, we have lost some regular supporters due to

attrition and the economic crisis caused by the pandemic. In total, we are down about **\$400** a month in pledged support. We would also need to raise additional support to help pay for the tuition and expenses of Chris' up-coming Christian Life Coaching class which amounts to about **\$3,500**. During these challenging days, we continue to trust in God's daily provision.

### SCHOOL OF LIVING WATER

A couple of times a month, Chris helps out at a small English cram school called the School of Living Waters in Osaka. The students are of various levels and range from 1st grade to 12th grade. It has been a wonderful opportunity to encourage students to grow in their English language ability and learn Bible verse at the same time.



**PLEASE PRAY** for the children at the School of Living Waters that while they are studying English that the Gospel will take root in their hearts through their exposure to God's Word.

We want to thank you for your generous support of our ministry in Japan through these many years. It is through faithful supporters like you that we are able to minister among the Japanese people in Sakai.

Blessings in Jesus,

*Michael & Chris*

Michael & Chris Mason



If you would like to donate to our ministry, please go to our homepage at [www.masonsinjapan.com](http://www.masonsinjapan.com). The "Donate Now" button at the bottom of the page will bring you to fundraiser page with JEMS. Thank you!

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**Thank you!**



# 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.

I authorize my bank to pay JEMS the amount listed above on the 1st or 15th working day of every month. This authorization will remain in effect until I notify JEMS in writing that I wish to change or discontinue the contribution.

Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
(required for EFT payments)

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

Please place this **form** and your **voided check** in an envelope and mail to:  
JEMS, 948 E. 2nd St., Los Angeles, CA 90012.

*\* 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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please make **check payable to "JEMS"** and leave the **memo line blank**.  
Your check, along with this form, can be mailed to: JEMS, 948 E. 2nd St., Los Angeles, CA 90012.

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