



A Minute with the Masons



Japanese Evangelical Missionary Society

A newsletter of Michael & Chris Mason

Oasis Church / Kansai Christian School, Japan

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Dear Praying Friends,

It has been almost two months since our return from the States, and we are finally starting to feel settled into our Fall routine. So now seems like a good time to report on our time of Home Ministry this summer.

FRUITFUL HOME MINISTRY

As always, our 8-week stay in the States this summer was both fun and busy. Our most important task was to visit our supporting churches and share stories of how we see the Kingdom of God growing in our tiny corner of Japan. We are always blessed and encouraged by the warm reception we receive from these churches. Many have partnered with us for over 20 years, and we are deeply thankful for their many forms of support.



After sharing at Christ Presbyterian Church w/ pastor Steve Baroldy (back) and Thomas Chinen (left)

Unfortunately, we were not able to attend JEMS's Mount Hermon camp this summer and missed out on seeing many dear friends. The reason we missed was because we were in Colorado Springs that week attending a missionary debriefing and renewal program. For five days, we had the joy of gathering with other missionaries from around the world as we processed through the ups and downs of living overseas and doing cross-cultural ministry. This was a wonderful time of emotional refreshment for us and is something that

we wish we would have done many years ago. We finished the week with a renewed vision for our work and ministry in Japan.



Enjoying the outdoors in Colorado Springs

In June, JEMS hosted an informal luncheon to celebrate our 20 years of ministry in Japan. Many kind words were spoken and lots of old photos were shown (thanks Roy!) as we looked back on God's faithfulness to us over the last two decades. We even had a number of old friends in attendance who were also at the airport on the day we departed for Japan back in April 1997. WE are so grateful to JEMS and all of the people in the JEMS office who work so tirelessly on our behalf. We could not have made it 20 years without their support. Thank you.

On a personal note, we were able to visit Chris' father on a number of occasions. After the passing of Chris' mother this past Spring, his strength, memory and temperament seems to have deteriorated quite a bit. Our prayer for him is that he would experience the love and joy of the Lord each and every day.

As Luke looks ahead to graduating from high school in June 2019, we spent the summer visiting six different college campuses in the Southern California area. Luke has never been to school in America, so the thought of leaving Japan and going to university seemed a bit overwhelming to him.

However, after our summer campus tour, I think he is beginning to get excited about this next chapter of his life. The next step is to start submitting applications. Can we ask you to **PLEASE PRAY** for Luke as he goes through the process of deciding on a school? Thank you.

OASIS CHURCH

While it was nice to visit a variety of churches this summer, it was also really nice to get back to our church family at Oasis Church. We missed them while we were away, and the good news is that they seemed to miss us as well. **PLEASE PRAY** for Oasis Church as we continue to learn, grow and serve together. **PLEASE** also continue to **PRAY** for the Kodomo Shokudo (Kid's Cafeteria) that we host for the neighborhood children once a month (usually the 2nd Sunday). As we show the love of Jesus through providing a nutritious meal and free English lessons, may the Lord open hearts and give us opportunities for deeper conversations with the kids and their parents.



Oasis Church: BBQ and Worship in the Park

KANSAI CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Although the new school year is only one month old, there has already been lots of excitement as Chris enters her 4th year of teaching the 1st-2nd grade class. First, we have had TWO typhoons come through the area which disrupted classes for a number of days. And then, one day during P.E. class, an attack of Asian giant hornets (Google it!) sent 9 of her 10 students to the emergency room in the back of three ambulances! All of the students were stung multiple times, and a few had to stay over night in the hospital. However, after a couple of days, all of the students were back in school. A number of people die each year in Japan from

these particular hornet stings, so we are very thankful for God's protection of the students.

Needless to say, it looks as if this is shaping up to be a crazy year for Chris, so we ask that you **PLEASE PRAY** for her and her students. Here are the names of her kiddos: 1st Grade- Mona & Yuri. 2nd Grade- Ayumu, Clara, Haru, Kohaku, Kokoro, Moka, Rinon & Sora. May the Lord bless all of them with much academic, social and spiritual growth this year at KCS.



Chris' 1st & 2nd Grade Class

Michael has also started serving in his 9th year as school chaplain. At all-school chapel this year he is doing a series called, "The Greatest Life: Exploring the Wonderful Kingdom of God." He will be looking at lessons we can learn about the Kingdom of God from the movie "The Greatest Showman." The movie was a big hit with the students this Spring, so he is already seeing way more enthusiasm about this year's messages than he has in years past. **PLEASE PRAY** for Michael as he prepares to speak. May his messages be Biblically sound, engaging to listen to and helpful for the spiritual growth of the students and staff. All-school chapel is usually the first Friday of the month.

Once again, thank you for all of your prayers and support for the Lord's work in Japan. May we continue to labor together to see His Kingdom come, here on Earth, just as it is in Heaven.

Blessings in Jesus,

Michael & Chris

Michael & Chris Mason



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

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☐ Until further notice
☐ For _____ months
2. Start Month: _____ on the ☐ 1st or ☐ 15th (mark)
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SAVE A TREE GROUP

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

Name(s):_____

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