



Dear Praying Friends,

We just returned to Osaka after 3 months of home ministry in the States. After 4 years of being unable to travel due to COVID, we had an amazing time of reunion, celebration and reminders of God's faithfulness to us. We truly sensed a theme of God's faithfulness to our family and supporting churches throughout our time in the U.S.

GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS TO: LUKE

For the last four years, besides the usual workload of university life, Luke also endured the craziness of COVID and the reality of his parents being an ocean away. It was hard for us to support Luke from afar and we missed not being able to see him in person during his Summer, Spring and Christmas vacations from school. For this reason, we are all the more grateful to God for His faithfulness to Luke though the struggles and challenges of college life.



The sign says "Congratulations" in Japanese.

We arrived in the States on Thursday, May 4th and Luke picked us up at the airport and drove us back to Santa Barbara. Luke had just recently gotten his driver's license, so this was our first experience

riding in a car with Luke as our driver! On Friday he was offered a full time job in Santa Barbara with an NPO that works with the homeless community, and on Saturday Luke graduated from Westmont College with a B.A. in Religious Studies. A few weeks later, Luke began his new job as a disabilities case manager who helps secure long-term housing for his clients. The job is challenging, but Luke seems to enjoy it. As parents, the best part is that the job includes full benefits: dental, health insurance & retirement! This is a huge answer to prayer. We are proud of our son and very thankful to God.

GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS TO: OUR SUPPORTING CHURCHES

While in Southern California we were able to visit 5 supporting churches and share about the ministry in Japan. We truly sensed God's faithfulness to all 5 churches. On our first Sunday in Los Angeles, we visited Christ Presbyterian Church of Hollywood and joined their 100th Anniversary Celebration. What a wonderful testimony to God's faithfulness to that church.

It is so fitting that the famous hymn "Great is Thy Faithfulness" was written the same year that Christ Presbyterian Church of Hollywood was founded. The hymn is a great reminder of God's great faithfulness, both past and present.



With Pastor Steve at Christ Presbyterian Church

GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS TO: OUR FAMILY

During our three months at home, God faithfully provided opportunities to spend quality time with family.

Last April, Chris lost two aunts in one week. Both aunts were the last surviving siblings of her parents, which means that Chris now has no living aunts or uncles. We were able to participate in the memorial service for her auntie Sue in June and meet with all of the cousins on her mom's side of the family. It was a sad time to say goodbye, but also a good chance to renew families ties.



Chris with her cousins at their auntie's memorial service

In July, we traveled North to spend time with Michael's family. We had a family reunion on the Oregon Coast in Lincoln City and another reunion in Medford, Oregon. We also got to stay a couple of weeks with Michael's dad in Portland. It was a special opportunity to see family that we rarely get to spend time with.



With Michael's family on the beach in Oregon

Now that we are back in Osaka, we are quickly adjusting back into life and ministry here with Oasis Church (including Kid's Cafeteria) and JEMS Member Care responsibilities (including coaching). Thank you to all of you who so generously support us financially and in prayer. Also, a special thanks to all who blessed us during our time of "home ministry" with airline tickets, housing, hotels, a car to drive, meals, movies, and Disneyland tickets! We are so blessed and grateful for the care and support.



Some friends treated us to two days at Disneyland

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for...

- * ... **Luke** as he adjusts to life after college while working full time in Santa Barbara.
- * ... **Oasis Church** as we return to ministry there. Our August Kodomo Shokudo (Kid's Cafeteria) is on **August 20th**.
- * ... the **JEMS Member Care team** (Roy Toma, Darryl Wong, Paul and Rie Mizuki, Yumiko Wu and us) as we serve the needs of the JEMS missionaries in Japan.

Thanks again for all of your support and prayers.

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 (click on the donate link under the Mason's bio)

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.

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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**.

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