



A Minute with the Masons



Japanese Evangelical Missionary Society

Oasis Church, Osaka, Japan

A newsletter of Michael & Chris Mason

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Dear Praying Friends,

The cherry blossoms mark the beginning of spring in Japan with an explosion of pink across the country. It is a beautiful time of the year in Japan and a symbol of new life. The school year begins in April and everything feels fresh and new. With spring comes Easter celebrations and lots of opportunities to share the Easter message with those who are celebrating the spring events.

EASTER AT OASIS CHURCH

At Oasis Church we celebrated Easter Sunday with an Easter worship service followed by a church potluck lunch with many of our Kodomo Shokudo (Kid's Cafeteria) and Food Distribution friends joining us. After lunch we shared about Easter with the kids and followed that up with songs, games, an egg hunt and Easter egg coloring. What a joyous celebration of new life.



Talking about Easter with the Kodomo Shokudo kids

JEMS MISSIONARY RETREAT

At the end of March, the JEMS Japan Annual Conference was held in Shizuoka. JEMS missionaries from across Japan (from Kyushu to Hokkaido, and everywhere in between), gathered for three days of worship, fellowship and prayer. We even had the Japan missions staff from the

main office in Los Angeles join us for the retreat. Approximately 90 people were in attendance, including a number of volunteers from outside of JEMS who served in the children's ministry. Due to COVID, we have not been able to gather together like this since 2019, so it was a huge blessing to see everyone again. We are thankful for the generous donor who funded the retreat.



*All of the JEMS missionary families serving in Japan
(Can you find us?)*

HOME MINISTRY

In May we will be flying to Los Angeles to attend Luke's graduation from Westmont College in Santa Barbara. Following that celebration, we will be staying in the Los Angeles area visiting our supporting churches, relatives and friends. This will also give us time for various health care check-ups and administrative/personal details that we can only handle in-person in the United States. Below is our church visitation schedule for Sunday mornings while in Southern CA. If you are in the area on one of these days, we would love to see you!

Following our time in Southern California, we will be spending time with family in the PNW before returning to Osaka at the end of July.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for...

- * ...**Luke's job search** following graduation in May. He hopes to live in Santa Barbara and work full-time in the area of Urban Development.
- * ...**Home Ministry time** to be restful, refreshing and a wonderful reunion of relationships after four long years away from "home".
- * ...**Oasis Church** in our absence. The church members will assume leadership of the church while we are away.

Thanks again for all of your support and prayers.

See you soon!

Michael & Chris

Michael & Chris Mason



We are so excited to be "home" this summer!

The Masons in America: Summer 2023

May 21

Christ Presbyterian Church of Hollywood
(short sharing)

May 28

First Presbyterian Church of Altadena
(short sharing)

June 4

Los Angeles Holiness Church
(full message)

June 11

Victory Fellowship
(full message)

June 25

Cerritos Baptist Church
(short sharing at both services)