

JCECS REPORTER



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Summer youth programs are not new to JCECS. In the days of CJM (Canadian Japanese Mission), summer outreach ministries were conducted in the '50's, '60's and '70's. JCECS carried on this ministry periodically in the '80's.

SUMMER Youth Ministry 2002

For the summer of 2002, plans are nearly complete to have four to six young people from Alberta and a similar number from the Toronto area exchange locations for a three week ministry period. It is anticipated that the Sunnyside Camp in Alberta and the Fairglen Camp in Ontario will be included in this ministry.

The purpose of the Summer Youth Ministry is:

1. To promote evangelism.
2. To give opportunity for Christian service.
3. To develop leadership skills while gaining spiritual maturity.
4. Fellowship with others across Canada.

The Summer Youth Ministry is sponsored by the JCECS in cooperation with local member churches. The youth will work under the direction of the local church's Coordinating Committee, who will plan and provide necessary resources to carry out the ministry.

Criteria for acceptance are as follows:

1. To have a positive and vibrant testimony for Jesus Christ.
2. To trust in the Lord for the supply of financial and other real needs related to yourself and the ministry.

(Continued on Page 7)

CJM/JCECS 50 Years of Camp Ministry

... a Celebration!

by Dave King, co-director

Time and tides wait for no man, and so it is with JCECS Camp. Plans for this year's camp are in the works. It has been 50 years in the making. We, who are on the committee want to make it a memorable occasion, but at the same time, let camp, be camp. We expect scores of past campers, coming back, to renew acquaintances and to see what it's like today. Many will share in the experiences of camp reliving the past.

KOOTENAY BIBLE KAMP	1953—1961
BOW VALLEY BIBLE KAMP	1962—1974
SUNNYSIDE FAMILY KAMP	1975 - 2002

These are wonderful thoughts and dreams; but is that what camp is to be remembered for? Undoubtedly camp has made many friendships and countless memories for thousands of people. They can all recall with fondness, a special moment, or action that stands out in their minds. A moment that causes them to reflect on the days gone by, some happy and some sad.

From the humble beginnings of Kootenay Kamp in 1953, to rustic Bow Valley Camp in 1962, and to the present day Sunnyside Camp since 1975, memories will fill



Class of Intermediate Boys on shores of Kootenay Lake

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Yoshinosuke & Makiko Nakao
with daughter Noa

Report from the Lethbridge Ministry

by Pastor Yoshinosuke Nakao

I am very happy to report that God has been gracious to the Lethbridge Japanese Christian Fellowship (LJCF) since JCECS has been supporting and praying for our ministry.

We had our 20th Anniversary celebration on Oct 6, 2001. Our guest speaker was Esther Sakamoto from Vancouver with 45 people in attendance. Prayer meetings continue every Thursday. Our ESL classes which started last fall have increased by three new students. Wendy Warren, whose father has been a long time friend of JCECS is the teacher for these classes. We are also frequently blessed with new attendees to our services.

We have organized a "Sports Day" once a month for the purpose of outreach. We went snowboarding and ice fishing in January. We are also blessed by the hospitality of the Hayashizaki family who open their home for supper and fellowship almost every week. God has given them a deep love for His ministry.

Recently, a Japanese minister from another denomination invited me to speak to a group of Japanese seniors in Taber, Alberta. This was indeed a blessing. Mr. Kaz Hayashizaki and I are planning a Men's Breakfast focusing on pray for the Japanese Canadians living in Southern Alberta. Our first meeting was held on Feb 23. We are deeply encouraged by our church members most of whom are quite young. Because of your faithfulness we are able to continue in this work in Southern Alberta.



20th Anniversary gathering with Esther Sakamoto as guest speaker

This past Christmas was an extra special occasion for us. A Japanese Christian family showered us with many gifts to put under our tree which included delicious Japanese food. How good God is to bless us in this way. God has used so many people from near and far to encourage us in the ministry here. Our hearts are overflowing with joy because God has been so good through all of you. We want to serve Him, because he said, "You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit" (John 15:16)

□

Editor's Note:

The Nakao's began their ministry in Lethbridge, Alberta under the auspices of the JCECS on June 1, 2001. We commend them to your prayers and financial support. Recent update from the treasurer reveals that the Nakao's are under supported by approximately \$300.00 per month, we cannot let this situation continue. Please pray and give. The treasurer's address is noted on page 7.



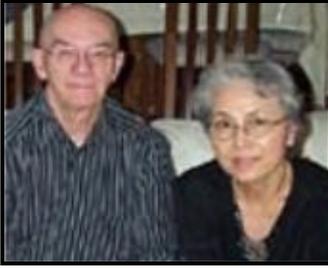
Nori Kanashiro
General Director

We are living in momentous times. The long shadows of Sept. 11th is cast on everything we do and think. As I prepare this writing I am both elated and saddened as I watch the events unfold at the Olympic Games. Our enemy is no longer clear and obvious. Who and where are the terrorists? The high ideals of the Olympics are eroded by moral corruptions at the very core of fairness and judgment. Where are we going as a society of people?

The answer lies in the church of Jesus Christ. People are changed when they meet Christ. The church is a fellowship of those who have experienced this change from the core of their being. Christ commissions us to prepare and "go", touching and winning people for Him.

I believe that's what the vision of JCECS is all about. As we work in consultation and harmony with the churches, we need to think and pray towards preparing our own people to share the "life giving" message of Jesus Christ. We need to create meaningful ministries and undertake projects together that will give opportunities for spiritual growth and leadership skills to our youth, who are the future of our churches. I am delighted that we are preparing for the Summer Youth Ministry this year. Most of our churches have young people who can spiritually benefit by a challenge to a faith ministry. We, as churches - and JCECS, need to pray toward developing creative means and ministries so that our youth can be involved in spiritually enriching experiences.

□



Pastor Jacob and Junko Friesen

Pastor Jacob Friesen commenced his missionary career in 1955 under The Evangelical Alliance Mission (TEAM). He, together with his wife Junko, served in Kanazawa, Japan for over 35 years involved in evangelism and church planting.

The Friesens returned from Japan in 1990. Their current ministry is with the New Westminster Evangelical Free Church a unique, "intentionally multicultural" church made up of believers from eleven identifiable ethnic people groups. Each culture is recognized and embraced within the circumference of their respective distinctions.

The Friesen's have two sons and a daughter, all are married with a total of five grand children.

New Westminster Evangelical Free Church Japanese Language Group

By Pastor Jacob Friesen

We began the year 2001 with an emphasis on the elder Jethro's advice to his illustrious son-in-law; as recorded in Exodus 18: 19-21. Moses was told that in order to 'stand the strain' so that his congregation would 'go home and be satisfied', he needed to incorporate and practice five categorical imperatives. Those five imperatives, we have set as goals, are as follows:

1. Listen - "... take my advice" - We took this as a challenge to provide audience for open, community 'share sessions', where the body is given opportunity to vocalize concerns and to express appreciation; as well as to understand and learn leadership.
2. Intercede - "bring their disputes to God" - Jesus explained that workers are sent into His harvest - in answer to prayer (Luke 10:2)! The Apostle Paul urged that we bring our prayers and petitions to God with thanksgiving and added that this would bring health and wholeness to the total man (Philippians 4: 4-7)! We resolved that not programs, but prayer would see God at work in our witness!
3. Teach - "teach them the decrees and laws" - We resolved that from the pulpit and in the classroom we would emphasize the impartation of Bible-based truths and focus towards 'building each other up in the most holy faith' (Jude 20). And 'equip each other with everything good for doing His will' (Hebrews 13:21), always conscious of the truth that our hearers are to 'teach others also'. (2 Timothy 2:2)
4. Model - "show them the way to live" - That example by "doing" is greatly more effective than verbal injunctions alone. It is just as universally demonstrated to be the fulcrum of failure when the example is flawed! We resolved to continue to pray and preach and teach for a verdict; so that our wills might be confronted with Biblical truth and that spontaneous commitments into faith and obedience be made! No effective modeling is possible apart from a willed integration into Christ through His word and by His Spirit!



Baptism of Fumiko Nagao and Evangeline Cabezon
Prayers by a Japanese and a Jamaican

5. Delegate - "select capable men" - The Scriptures are replete with examples of this imperative. To Moses it was, "select capable men!" (Exodus 18:19-21). In the early apostolic church, it was "choose men full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom!" (Acts 6:3). Paul the apostle underlined the same 'health-growth' ingredient when he told Timothy, "Teach men - who will be able to teach others also!" (2 Timothy 2:2). We agreed to pray, plan and groom - so as to have a door always open for inclusion, so that existing gifts may be recognized and implemented into our corporate witness.

While we are looking at new goals for the year 2002, we hope to approach these while still practicing 2001! We are a unique fellowship in that our aim is not to become a sort of 'two tiered' church where the 'Nikkei' presence practices a distinctive 'Japanese' identity, but rather a truly Biblical body consciousness where each cultural entity grows increasingly to become an integrated whole, within a fellowship of faith with eleven other equally identifiable ethnic groups! In the 'natural' this seems like a daunting challenge, but because it is totally Biblical, it can only fail when we insist on the comfort zones of a provincial faith. □

“In my weakness, God was strong ...”

Testimony

by Janet Hayashizaki



Janet Hayashizaki

Greetings in Christ! I am deeply thankful for the opportunity to share my testimony.

I was born into a Christian family and God was present in my life since the day I can remember.

However, it wasn't until I was nine years old, attending Sunnyside Family Camp that I understood I

was a sinner and needed Christ's forgiveness to become His child. Many things have happened since then, but the hardest time in my life was in high school. I felt very alone, but it was at this time that God showed me His true love and helped me to turn to Him. In my weakness God was strong. "I can do all things through Him who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13. I wanted to learn more about Him so He led me to Prairie Bible College.

I am currently in my third year in a four-year education program. I believe God is preparing me to become a teacher. I thank Him, who has given me a love for children and I hope I can reflect God's love to them.

This year, God has been teaching me about His perfect timing in my life. "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven..." Ecclesiastes 3:1. Things have happened in my life that I can't understand and I've asked, "Why is this happening to me now?" But I believe God can use questions in our lives to help us focus on Him. Whatever happens, trials or joys, both are in His hands and in His time. I am learning that I need to trust Him and know God is in control.

I praise God for continually amazing me with who He is and what He can do when I choose to seek His way. ☐

Janet is the eldest child of Kaz and Akemi Hayashizaki of Diamond City, Alberta, just north of Lethbridge. She is a leader amongst the youth in that area and currently attends the Prairie Bible College in Three Hills, Alberta. Janet is a committee member of the Youth In Action section of the JCECS Reporter.

JCECS
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
 (Saturday) June 1, 2002
 Edmonton, Alberta
 (see details on page 8)

AN INTERVIEW with KEVIN TABUCHI

This interview was conducted by Pastor Ed Yoshida and recorded by Stan Yokota following a Nikkei Christian Breakfast Meeting at the Momiji Centre on Oct. 27, 2001



Rev. Kevin & Theresa Tabuchi

EY: *Kevin, can you share a little of your family background?*

KT: My grandparents came from Kumamoto, Japan and my parents were born in Vancouver, BC. My mother was in Tashme during the evacuation and then moved to Hamilton, ON. My father came directly to Toronto. I have two brothers and a sister.

EY: *How did you become a Christian?*

KT: I attended church with my parents as a child and had a concept of God early in life and that was when the seed of the Gospel was planted. The turning point came at the age of 25 when I was a constable on the Toronto Police Force. I was encouraged to attend church by my partner. It was there that I began to understand the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

EY: *Did you receive a calling for the ministry?*

KT: I was impressed about the needs of people in other countries. It was a struggle to leave a career and go to Bible School, but when I decided to make the change, I had total peace and assurance that this was God's leading. After graduation, I pastored in southern Ontario and then went to Sioux Lookout in Northern Ontario to minister to the First Nations people. It was a great thrill to witness the conversion of the chief and other community leaders. The church is still thriving there today.

EY: *What led you into the work of Evangelism?*

KT: The belief that Jesus is returning soon and the prophetic messages in the Bible particularly captured my attention. Another factor that strengthened my desire

(Continued on page 7)

Japanese Gospel Church of Toronto (Japanese speaking Department)

by Pastor Yuzuru Yano

When people call me “pastor”, sometimes I wonder what kind of expectations they have of me. Many expect a pastor to be like a chaplain who spends most of his or her time caring for members. Some expect a pastor to be like an evangelist, a worship leader or a teacher.

I try to remind people of what God says about the role of a pastor. Ephesians 4:12 clearly tells us about what kind of person God expects of a pastor. “To prepare God’s people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up”. The Bible teaches us that pastors are equippers.

I have now been working with JGCT for 6 years. I know it is difficult for pastors to continue to be equippers as God orders in the context of the local church. However, I am thankful to God for JGCT leaders and members who are so patient with me as a pastor to focus on my role as an “equipper”. I try to help someone to visit people in the hospital or at home instead of me being a chaplain. I try to help someone to share the love of Jesus with non-Christians instead of me being the evangelist. I try to help someone to lead a joy-filled worship service instead of me being a worship leader. And I also try to help someone be trained as a Bible class leader, and a speaker for a worship service instead of me being a teacher.

I know it takes more time to train the people rather than a pastor being a chaplain, an evangelist, a worship leader or a teacher. So again, I am thankful for the patience of JGCT leaders and members who allow me to put these Scriptural principles into action. I believe, as a result, the church will be healthy and growth will be the natural result of obeying Biblical principles.

My prayer is that God will use pastors, including myself, to equip our congregation for the “work of service”, then I am confident that His blessings will follow resulting in growth in our churches. May our Lord be glorified through each of our churches. ☐



Pastor Yuzuru & Midori Yano

Rev. Yuzuru Yano became the pastor to the Japanese speaking department of the JGCT in April of 1996. Prior to his coming to Toronto, he was a member of the highly successful pastoral team under the Japan Evangelistic Gospel Association in Urawa, Saitama ken, Japan. He is a graduate of the Tokyo Biblical Seminary. Both are musically talented with Midori exceptionally gifted as a singer. They have three growing children ranging in ages 17 to 23 years.

Church website
<http://jgct.dyn.ca>



A brief dedication service on the newly purchased church property,
(5 minute drive from our current meeting location)
Sunday afternoon, December 30, 2001



Japanese-speaking youth group fellowship hour
following Sunday worship service

We are contemplating changing the name of our organization. Do you have any ideas? Please submit by April 30, 2002 to:
Pastor Stan Yokota 59 Regency Square, Scarborough, ON M1E 1N4 Tel: (416) 265-3386



Promoted to Glory

Hiroko (Koko) Hoshizaki

On May 23, 2001, our sister Hiroko was ushered into the presence of her Lord. She bravely fought her encounter with cancer for 11/2 years. Koko, as she was affectionately known, was graced with a heart of kindness, an ever-present smile and a God-given gentleness that marked her charming personality. Many, who have been her friend thank God for our sister who has enriched and touched our lives in countless ways.

Bill, states in his note, "she has completed her duties here with me, and has been seconded to a higher calling. I still miss her more than any words could adequately describe, and will always be grateful to God for this wonderful wife, mother, friend and life companion that she was to me, for over 40 years".

... His Wonderful Grace ...

Bill writes: "As we now look ahead to 2002, I want to confirm the news that many of you have now heard, that God in His wonderful grace, has provided me with another life-partner. Dori (Hendricks) Hoshizaki and I were married in a simple ceremony at Peachland Baptist Church, on Nov. 25, 2001. Although this event came as a great surprise to many, Koko and I have known the Hendricks family for some 35 years, having attended Kelowna Alliance Church together for some of that period, and having participated in many church activities together. Dori lost her husband, Clarence, in January of last year. We have many similar interests, including unity of faith, music styles, many mutual friends, travel, camping and fishing. As God enables us via good health, we hope to visit many of our out-of-town friends in the coming summer.



Thank you for your friendship, love and concern for us. Dori and I want to wish you God's best for 2002. As we are reminded of you, we will be praying for God's blessings in your life."

Editor's Note:

With Bill's gracious permission, JCECS acknowledges our sister Hiroko's promotion to Glory and also the wonderful news of God's leading to another life partner. JCECS wishes God's special provisions of blessings, consolations and joy as you begin your life together. God be with you, Bill, Dori and each of your family members.

For a brief period of time in the early 1960's, Bill and Hiroko pastored the Nisei Gospel Church in Lethbridge, Alberta. They have been key members of the former Canadian Japanese Mission and instrumental in organizing the JCECS. Currently, Bill is the chair of the Constitutional Review Committee.

Continued from page 1

volumes of scrapbooks. Some recall the days of straw ticks for beds, sleeping in tents, having Bible studies beside rivers and streams. Stories of the treacherous trips to Ainsworth Hot Springs, an evening praise service on the rocky ledge of Moraine Lake with 100 voices singing "How Great Thou Art", the Indian Paint Pots and hiking in the hills near the Three Sisters Mountains, all are deeply impressed images we fondly recall of our camps.

SUNNYSIDE CAMP 2002

August 4-10

Many will remember the time when friends and loved ones made decisions for Christ. This is the common thread that holds us together. Different people, from different lives coming together under a common name, of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is not the silly games, late nights or hard work that draws us together. It is the need to feel connected, to fellowship and to build each other up. To strengthen and encourage. Who wouldn't want to be a part of that!

This year, plans are in already in place for speakers and teachers. We are currently seeking counselors and support staff. Special anniversary events will be planned throughout the week. We are striving to remember the past and look forward to the future, trusting in the Lord who has provided for the past 50 years. □



Senior Boy's Campout
at Bow Valley Camp

(Continued from page 4)

for evangelism in Japan was the meeting of Pastor Makino at the Eastern Pentecostal Bible College.

EY: *How do you recognize the voice of God?*

KT: Through reading the Bible. Visions and discerning the thoughts in my mind whether it is of God or other. We must receive confirmation of certain visions by the people of God.

EY: *What experiences have you had in ministry?*

KT: The Bible declares that there will be signs following with many who are deaf, blind and the lame healed. In my prayers, God has allowed me to see the healing of cancer, finances, jobs and the restoring of marriages. I desire to see people experience God's peace and His touch for one's total health. In Japan, I have seen great miracle works of God and through an interpreter, many have come to a personal relationship with Jesus.

EY: *Do all people you pray for receive healing?*

KT: Not all are healed. God is sovereign. The Apostle Paul prayed and not all were healed. God may desire to heal but barriers such as sin, unbelief and other personal reasons will hinder. I believe it may even be hereditary requiring discipline to diet, exercise etc.

EY: *What is your vision for the future?*

KT: It is two fold: a) to know Christ more personally and b) to reach people globally, particularly in Japan, Africa and the Inuit and the First Nations people in Canada. As a Sansei, I desire to know the Japanese mentality, and through prayer, a revival in Japan with their leaders touched by God.

EY: *What are your concluding remarks for Christians?*

KT: That Christians be devoted to ministry in their churches. That each reach out to their friends and neighbours. That we pray for our pastors and leaders. I desire to see unity amongst churches and denominations. To preach the purity of God's holiness and the confusion and complexity of our daily lives be brought into focus in Christ.

EY: *Thank you, Kevin. God bless your ministry.*

**“Behold I say to you, lift up your eyes,
and look on the fields that are white for harvest”
John 4:35 ☐**

(Continued from page 1)

3. To work in a team setting as required by the ministry.
4. To have a clear understanding of the Gospel and prepared to lead the unsaved to Christ.
5. Must be 16 years of age or older.

Each applicant will be challenged to raise their own financial and prayer support. They will look to the Lord and to His people to support them both financially and in prayer.

Let's encourage and support them all the way! They are the future of our churches and the hope for a greater and meaningful outreach to our community for Christ.

For the Summer Youth Ministries 2002, we are limiting ourselves to involvement amongst churches in the Alberta region and the city of Toronto. Youth from these churches or elsewhere who sense the calling of God to this ministry are encouraged to seek information and apply to your pastor or to:

Nori Kanashiro
JCECS Summer Youth Ministry
56 Wakefield Cres.,
Scarborough, ON M1W 2C2
Tel: (416)321-5831 Fax: (416)321-2765
Email: nbkan@sympatico.ca ☐

DONATIONS

Currently, JCECS is undertaking
2 PROJECTS

- Lethbridge Ministry and
 - Summer Youth Ministry 2002
- donations to both projects are needed*

Donations designated to the above or to the
GENERAL FUND
may be sent to the JCECS treasurer:

Mr. Tomo Adachi
#106-2191W. 39th Ave.
Vancouver, BC
V6M 1T7

Thank you

Brief **NEWS** from the Churches

New Westminster Evangelical Free Church: By the end of February we expect to be happy owners of the property adjoining our current overflowing parking area. Financing is to be concluded today-Monday, Feb. 11. God is sooooo good!

Wesley Chapel Japanese Congregation (Toronto): The community Good Friday Service is on March 29. Wesley Chapel will host the event. Total of 7 churches are participating and 150-200 worshippers are expected to attend. Offerings received will go to the Canadian Bible Society and the Japanese Social Services.

Megumi Baptist Church: Pastor Kiyokazu Kaneko began his ministry in October, 2001 after the retirement of Pastor Akira Uchida. Prior to assuming this position in Vancouver, he served as a youth and Filipino pastor at the Kasugai Evangelical Christ Church in Kasugai, Japan.

Vancouver Japanese Gospel Church: We are happy to report that Pastor Robert Brown commenced ministry at VJGC in January '02 as an Associate Pastor of the English department. Our Family Camp, which is held together with other churches will be on July 12 to 14.

Winnipeg Japanese Alliance Church: Pastor Nobuo Matsubara, who began the work in Winnipeg under the Christian & Missionary Alliance (C&MA) in 1966 recently retired from his pastoral position. The church and C&MA is pleased to announce the installation of Pastor Samuel Saeki as the full time pastor of WJAC.

Japanese Gospel Church of Toronto: The annual Fair Glen Bible Camp will be held on Aug. 25-31, '02. A Strategic Planning Team has been organized to review and consider all aspects of future developments in the church.

The 16th annual **N.E. Nikkei Conference** will be held on Aug. 3-5, '02 at the Crieff Hills Conference Centre at Puslinch, Ontario, south of Guelph. The keynote speaker will be Rev. Mitsuhiro Kato from Tokyo, Japan. For further information contact Rev. Edward Yoshida (416) 425-6760.

JCECS MEMBERSHIP

We encourage all recipient of this newsletter to apply for membership to JCECS. It is the only way for the Society to be assured of your interest, support and prayers. Please find an Application form enclosed. Thank You.

Images from 50 years of Camping



Kootenay Kamp—Adult Class



Bow Valley Camp—Morning exercise



Sunnyside Camp - Beach fun

JCECS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

(Sat.) June 1, 2002
9:00 AM - 12:00 noon

(one day only)
at

Evangelical Covenant Church
8501 - 82nd Ave.,
Edmonton, Alberta
780-466 - 0462

Host Director:
Pastor Yuri Nakano
780-437-5294

Board of Directors meeting: 1-3:30 pm.

Fellowship & Praise Hour: 7 pm.
Reports from the churches and other projects of interest will be given at this time.

Please join us at the Annual General Meeting & Fellowship and Praise Hour

The JCECS REPORTER is published semi-annually by the Japanese Canadian Evangelical Christian Society. News items, reports, testimonies and notices of events are welcomed by the editors. Next publication, October 15, 2002. Published in Toronto, ON

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