

San Diego Japanese Ministry Newsletter

April 2025

Happy Easter! Glory to the Lord of the Resurrection!



Our San Diego Japanese Christian Church began its pioneer mission in the La Jolla/UTC area of San Diego in November 2024. This is the first time in the history of the United States that there has been a Japanese-language mission in this area, as I have mentioned many times. This year, 80 people attended the Easter service! Only about 15 of them are Christians, and the rest (about 65) are non-Christians.

Such a mission in Japan today would probably be unthinkable. In fact, a good friend of mine pastors a church in Japan that is one of the largest churches in Japan with over 100 members, but this year they had only two newcomers for Easter.

I believe that God softens the hearts of the Japanese in America. Perhaps it is not only in the U.S.A. but also in other countries where Japanese who have left Japan and moved to various foreign

lands can be freed from the Japanese culture and values they were unaware of in Japan, and can enjoy the culture and traditions of a foreign country. I think it is because they are able to see themselves as individuals. I think it is also due to the Japanese people's characteristic kindness and tolerance towards other countries and cultures.

On the other hand, while we are tolerant of other cultures, we cannot deny that there is a certain resistance to what the Bible says, "...one hope... one Lord, one faith,..." (Eph. 4:4-5). We do not deny such sensitivities peculiar to the Japanese, but rather accept them and serve them, praying that they may be drawn to the saving truth of the risen Lord. I hope that the Lord will speak to them richly in their own time and that they themselves will receive the salvation of the Lord in truth. Please pray for their salvation.

San Diego Nikkei Christian Church/ Missions Door
Pastor and missionary Hideyoshi Kashiwagura



“Rejoice with me, for I have found the missing lamb.” Luke 15:4-10

The Easter service and event began with an egg hunt, followed by a special worship service with two praise teams, a message from the Word of God, lots of delicious food and fellowship, a salvation testimony, worship together, information about upcoming services and events, and finally a prayer of blessing and thanksgiving! It was a full service and event that could be called a "full course of missions"!

Haruka served on two praise teams and prepared 80 meals and 400 eggs for the egg hunt. She worked so hard, interacted with each and every one of the participants, and followed up the next day to thank them. She worked extremely hard. And she served the Lord with joy and sincerity. Her work is truly wonderful. I was also busy with the preparation for the service sermon, the venue and set-up, contacting and meeting with the servants, practice, shopping, and various other preparations.

Both of us were so tired that we could not move for three days, but our fatigue was filled with joy in the Lord. If we do these things out of a human heart, it would be easy to burn out. But always we surrender to the Lord and let Him lead us and we simply serve His work. And there are always pleasant surprises. For example, it was a pleasant surprise when we had planned to have about 60 participants, but the day before the meeting the number of participants increased to 80. It is such a joy to be sent out into the mission field as a missionary and share the gospel with people who don't know God. And behind it all, there are the sincere prayers and support of all those who support us. Please celebrate and rejoice with us in this wonderful work of the Lord!



IF YOU ARE CONSIDERING PARTNERING WITH US AND OUR MISSION TO SHARE THE GOSPEL IN SAN DIEGO, PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE TO SUPPORT US. THANK YOU IN ADVANCE.



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