



*Together, the Body of Christ; Individually,
Its Parts-1Corinthians 12:27*

JAUC is a Christian community seeking to reach out, especially to Japanese and those who are interested in Japan in the greater New York City area, with the purpose of sharing faith in Christ and growing together in Christian discipleship through worship, fellowship, study, evangelism and mission.

◇ Pastor's Message ◇

Sixty-five years ago, the Pacific War finally came to an end. Since then Japan and the U.S.A. have been close allies. In this context, what should Christians of Japan and America pray to God? Both Japanese and American Christians are to pray for the courage to repent. ◆Japanese Christians are to pray for the courage to confess that Japan through its militarism and misdirected nationalism colonized Korea and invaded China, the Philippines and attacked Pearl Harbor.◆ American Christians ought to pray for the courage to confess that the U.S. dropped two atomic bombs on Japan, instantly killing tens of thousands of civilians, most of whom were women and children. Japanese and American Christians are to confess that our nations sinned against God and one another.◆ Then, and only then, we will be able to affirm joyfully that we are created as instruments of God's peace today.

◇ Sunday Worship Sermons ◇

■ **July 25 "Teach Us to Pray" Luke 11: 1-13** When the disciples asked Jesus, "Teach us to pray," they were not asking for technique for praying. Rather, "Teach us WHAT to pray." Jesus' answer was clear. First, "Father, keep showing us who you are." That is, "Deepen and strengthen our faith in and commitment to you." Second, "Set the world right." That is, establish justice in this world where so much goes wrong. Third, "Give us three square meals." That is, eliminate hunger from this world of ours. Fourth, "Forgive us as we forgive others who are indebted to us." That is, help us reflect your forgiveness in our dealings with others. ◆And finally, "Keep us from all kinds of danger." That is, may war, violence, hatred, and jealousy be no more. ◆We should pray for faith, justice, and the spirit of forgiveness. ◆When you pray, you must be persistent. Keep asking. Keep seeking. And keep knocking. God will give you what you need. Jesus does not say that our selfish motives will be rewarded, nor does he mean our desire for vengeance will be given a chance. When Jesus prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane, he wanted God to remove the burden of the cross from him, but he ended "Nevertheless, Your will, and not my will be done." ◆God sent Jesus the Holy Spirit for him to seek the will of God. Through the Holy Spirit, God enables us to understand that God knows what we need more than we ever know.

■ **August 8 "Is Money the Root of All Evil? What Does Jesus Say? Luke 12:16-21** Is money the root of all evil? To hear Jesus' answer, let us go over Jesus' parable of a

greedy farmer? His farm produces a bumper crop. So he builds a bigger barn than the one he had and puts all his grain and goods in the new barn. Then he says to himself, "Now I've got it made. From now on, I will eat, drink, and make merry." However, that very night, he died. What good does all the grain in his big barn do? It does not mean that Jesus regards money as the root of all evil. ◆However, perhaps he means money can be used both as an instrument of good or an instrument of evil. Which way it may go is entirely up to human beings who use it. In short, the root of all evil is not money. The root of all evil is human egocentrism. As in the case of the greedy farmer, wealth often holds us in bondage to our self-concern and prevents us from being truly compassionate and genuinely neighborly. ◆Like food, money becomes good when it is shared, when it is used for the good of neighbors. God blesses us when we use our money, regardless of its amount, responsibly. His grace will transform our money to be a humble instrument of Almighty God.

◇ Church Members' News ◇

■ **Baptism Jesus is the True Vine** by Miyuki Sato In spring of 1999, my Korean friend invited me to go to a Korean Church in China where I was at that time. That was my first church experience. Again in 2008, the same friend invited me to go to a Korean church; this time in America! ◆I started attending JAUC in July 2009 when I found an advertisement of Fall Alpha course in the newspaper. I started to attend Alpha and learned a lot about Christianity. After I was introduced to Ephesians 2:19-22 during the course, I began to feel the presence of God in the congregation. The more my relationship developed with the leaders of Alpha and seekers like me, the more my desire to become a Christian grew. ◆Consequently I was led to become a Christian through those people who supported me. After I made my covenant with God, my taste in daily life changed. I no longer enjoyed watching Japanese TV dramas and entertainment shows. They made me feel empty. Instead, I began seeking something that makes me feel the love



of Christ, fellowship with other brothers and sisters in Christ. I began to feel the presence of God in those relationships and found comfort in them. ◆Now I have joined the small group "The Vine" and am trying to grow spiritually with other members. I want to abide in the vine and bear much fruit.

■ **Congratulations** Dr. Kazunori Tabe ◆My wife and I wish to express our gratitude for your encouragement and prayer for healing during my sickness. I have recovered and am ready to work. In addition, God opened the way for me to become an associate professor of Civil Engineering, in the school of Engineering and Technology, Sharda University, India. We

will leave for India on September. We thank God that He led us to JAUC and gave us wonderful days at this church.

◆ Repairs to Church Building ◆

The Restoration Team has met weekly through the summer to discuss the repairwork needed on our church building. The various inspections have been completed and we have received preliminary reports about the conditions of the building. We are also meeting with Mr. Jim Kruhly, the architect engaged to help us with this phase. The Team will make a report to the BOD at its next meeting, then to the Congregation. Please look for pictures and information to soon be posted giving the Congregation a clearer understanding of the building's condition. We all saw the damage to the facade of the building but did not realize that the rear is also in urgent need of repairs. And these must be completed before work can begin on the facade. We ask you to continue praying for the Team and the BOD in these deliberations.

◆ Alaska Youth Mission ◆

■ **ALASKA MISSION ADVENTURE 2010** ◆ From July 31st to August 11th Hatsumi Yoshida and Sabrina Faranda joined a 21-member work team from the Baileyville Reformed Church in Illinois to go to Eaglecrest Youth Ministries in Sutton, Alaska where they did construction work for local residents. They primed, plastered and painted the inside and outside of houses as well as on the roof; hauled wood, drilled nails to fix the porch, and other forms of manual labor. They had daily devotions in the mornings and evenings in addition to Sunday services at the local church. They enjoyed sightseeing in



Seward, walking on a glacier, flying in a bungee plane and white water rafting. This was shared in a slide show and testimony on August 15th. Hatsumi and Sabrina choreographed a praise dance,

You Raise Me Up, with 6 friends: Erica Aita, Kakra Conduah, Cortney Guignard, Donna Karimi, William U. Liberal, and Sue Anne Maduro. A love offering was collected for the Ohori Youth Fund for future youth mission trips and for youth programming at JAUC.

◆ Summer Camp and Retreat ◆

■ **Discovery Camp Visitation** by Kaoru Kobayashi ◆ Riding in the Mr. Nakahara's car filled with snacks and instant noodles, four of us (Chizuko Imado, Miyuki Sato, and Kaoru Kobayashi) went to visit the Discovery Camp 2010 for volunteering over the weekend of 7/31 and 8/1. That Saturday was a bright sunny day - breezy and not too hot. While Rev. Yoshimatsu showed us around the facility, we saw children playing basket ball. Then we made *Somen a la Chinese*. After dinner, we asked Rev. Yoshimatsu a favor, a camp fire! We

enjoyed games and praise songs with children around the camp fire. Later, we joined the discussion among counselors and Revs. Yoshimatsu and Sagara. Next day, we woke up at 6 and made rice balls, miso soup, omelets, and sausage. The campers were delighted with this breakfast *a la Japanese*. We had Sunday worship after the meal. Three of us



headed back to New York City, but Miyuki, decided to stay till the camp's end as a counselor. Miyuki had fruitful days with kids at the camp. I wondered if I had ever been to camp, let alone have a camp fire. I gazed at the quiet sea reflecting the light from the sunset and watched the sunrise there. Shelter Island is a truly beautiful place. The camp is offered yearly with the hope for the salvation of Japanese children. They desire to teach the kids about the love of God through this camp experience. In order to sustain this program which was founded in 1997 by JAUC, Revs. Yoshimatsu and Sagara express the urgent need for counselors from JAUC. Would you be interested in becoming a counselor or helper next year? You will be blessed.

■ **2010 East Coast Family Camp:** The 2010 East Coast Japanese Church Family Camp will be at Ellenville, NY, Sep. 4-6. The guest speaker will be Rev. Hiroshi Sakakibara, from Japan, a well-known TV evangelist. Christian Musician Mr. Makoto Iwabuchi will also join. This is a very rare occasion when hundreds of Japanese Christians in the US praise God together. Mr. Iwabuchi will have a concert at JAUC on Sep. 7. Do not miss this special event!

◆ Reflections on Dr. Hinohara's Lecture ◆

By Keijiro Motoi ◆ Last May, Dr. Shigeaki Hinohara gave a speech on John Majiro at the Sheraton New York after he spoke at the opening ceremony of Captain Whitfield-Manjuro Friendship Memorial House, in Fair Haven, Mass. Having heard his speech there, I was overjoyed that Dr. Hinohara would give a lecture at JAUC, my church.! The lecture was titled "Life's Choice: the Vertical Dimension and Horizontal Dimension", which deals with Christian ideology, the art of practicing *Agape*. From my understanding, the horizontal dimension means the secular way of life. On the other hand, the vertical dimension means the way of life directly connected with God which is filled with the Holy Spirit, the path that divine power directs us to walk. Dr. Hinohara's father was a minister and came to America to study in 1912, the year the Titanic sank. Dr. Hinohara was just one year old. When World War II broke out, his father predicted that Japan would lose the war. Dr. Hinohara himself came to America to study medicine in 1951, at age 39. He studied the newest medical practices at the time at Mayo Clinic, among others. After he returned to

Japan, he established the internship system. He fully utilized his learning experiences in America, helping to found nursing schools and medical facilities which were the first of their kind in Japan. ♦Dr. Hinohara told us many interesting stories that night. Citing Psalm 90, he said that 2500 years ago people could live to 70 or even 80 years if they ate food that was good for the body, drank pure water, and breathed clean air. He continued by saying that today we could live for 100 years, but polluted air, contaminated water and highly processed food limit our potential. He advised us to eat less in order to live healthy. ♦His main theme was love. He cited a well-known verse from I Corinthians 13. He talked about *Agape*; no matter what happens to us we must forgive, not seek revenge. If we don't possess that thought, we will not bear any fruit. As a Christian, Dr. Hinohara believes dying for another is the ultimate act of love. ♦At age 10, he became ill and was housebound for one year so he learned to play the piano. Later, as a med student at Kyoto University he suffered from TB and was bed ridden for 8 months. His experiences helped him realize that illness and tribulation were a blessing in disguise. They helped him become compassionate toward others. He expressed his pacifism by saying "Civilized countries do not need to go to war". I am thankful Dr. Hinohara came; he certainly gave us hope and a dream for tomorrow.

■ **12 autographed copies of Dr. Shigeaki Hinohara's book, "I Want to Talk to You Now"** are still available (\$15 a copy). If you would like to purchase one, please contact the pastor.

◇ Church Activity News ◇

■ **September Schedule:** ♦Sat.-Mon. Sep. 4-6: 3rd East Coast Japanese Churches Joint Family Camp in Ellenville, NY ♦ Tue. Sep. 7, 7 pm Makoto Iwabuchi (Guitarist/Singer) Music Concert at JAUC ♦Sun. Sep. 26 Hinohara Church Music Mission team. ♦Sept. 12, 9:30 am Choir Practice – Please join us as we raise our voices in praise to our living Lord. Thursday practice - TBA

■ **New hymnal:** We are grateful for the generosity of many folks who contributed to the purchase of NEW English hymnals. They have been ordered and we await their arrival with great anticipation. There will be a service of dedication after they arrive.

◇ Alpha News ◇

■ **Alpha Celebration: Dinner & Talk**
Sep. 15, 7pm "Christianity: is it irrelevant, untrue and boring?" All are invited.

■ **Alpha for everyone!** Sep. 22-Nov. 24 It's especially geared to people interested in learning about Christianity, newcomers to the church, new Christians, couples preparing for marriage, Christians who want to brush up on the basics. For more info: please contact Rika D. Marubashi <infoalpha@gmail.com>

◇ Personal News ◇

■ **Sympathy** ♦ **Mr. Mitsuo (Mits) Matsuo**, an active member during the 50-60s, passed away from a heart attack on June 5, 2010. He was born on June 3, 1920. He is survived by his wife, Kiyo, daughter Nancy and son Robert. A memorial Service was held at his church in New Jersey on July 24.

♦ **Rev. Kyoji Buma** (1926-2010) was born in Kyoto, Japan. He attended Doshisha University Divinity School in Kyoto for his BA degree. He received his Bachelor of Divinity and Master of Sacred Theology from Yale Divinity School. Rev. Buma and JAUC had close relations for SMJ and Summer Camp. We invited Rev. Buma several times as guest speaker for Sunday Worship Service. He and his wife, Nobuko, were married for 55 years. They had three children - Timothy, Makiko, Stephen, and three grandchildren. JAUC sent flowers and 4 members attended the Memorial Service. on July 12 at the Presbyterian Church in Tenafly.

♦ **Mrs. Shih Hua Liu (Seika-san)** passed away on August 16 after a long illness. She was 96 years old. She was born in Taiwan, and during WWII, she learned Japanese in school so she was able to speak Japanese. She lived near by JAUC and attended Sunday Worship services for more than 20 years. She was such a gentle grandmother and always smiling. She had 9 children and her husband passed way many years ago. She came to the US to join her children and stayed in NYC. Her families are all devoted Christians. She was a member of JAUC since 1994. JAUC sent flowers in memory of Mrs. Seika-san.

◇ Prayer Requests ◇

Please remember the following people in your prayers: Jayne Arbon (Mrs. Kasuga's daughter-in-law), Hisayo Asai, Yuko Ito, Toshio Iwasa, Yone Kanzaki, Sue Kubo, Harry Kuwada, Keith Miyazaki (Mr. & Mrs. Matsukuma's nephew), Fumiko Matsumoto, Minako Noma, Ai Oguchi (from Westminster Japanese Church, Atlanta GA), Hisako Okuda, Despina Prodromidis (Ms. Hogan's daughter)

Receipt & Expense Report	06/2010	Y-T-M 06/2010
Receipt	8,873.49	57,357.26
Pledges	4,041.00	32,786.43
Other offering	1,861.90	14,584.12
Interest & Dividend	2,970.59	9,986.71
Expense	5,796.30	58,086.73
Profit or Loss	3,077.19	(729.47)

As of 6/30/2010