

July - August, 2023



Please become a JCFN Supporting member!

Dear Beloved Friends,

With heartfelt gratitude, we praise the name of the Lord for your unwavering support and prayers for JCFN. Today, we reach out to those who have been faithfully remembering, praying, and cooperating with JCFN, extending an invitation to become esteemed "**JCFN Supporting Members**" in a tangible and meaningful way. For those already part of our Supporting Members, we humbly request you to renew your membership and continue standing with us in this vital mission.

We are thrilled about two exciting ministry possibilities that we are earnestly praying for God's guidance and blessings.

Youth Movement in North America

The first is the remarkable growth of the youth movement in North America. We are witnessing a flourishing work among middle and high school students, engaging in various youth activities where Jesus is transforming lives. It is incredibly encouraging to see the number of youths increasing, and the impact they are making is truly inspiring.

These young ones are the "second generation," born and raised in families where parents studied and settled abroad. While JCFN primarily focuses on preparing returnees for missions, this organic youth ministry has unexpectedly thrived. This ministry extends beyond returnees themselves; it plays a vital role in reaching out to those who will send them back to Japan—the churches and ministries that share the Gospel, minister to them, and facilitate their journey back home. The youth represent the future of the sending side, and their involvement in missions, especially with the guidance of **the 4C's**, will undoubtedly impact Japanese missions overseas, the Japanese American church's future, and world missions.

To foster the growth of this youth ministry, we have appointed an associate staff dedicated to working with the youth. We are also actively collaborating with Japanese local churches, holding regular meetings called WINGS in Southern California, which allows us to promote youth ministry collectively. Our hearts are filled with anticipation and prayer as we witness the fruitfulness of this youth ministry.

The Potential of JCFN Ministries in Japan

Furthermore, we are delighted to witness a surge in Japanese participants attending EC. While many previously came to encourage those soon returning to Japan, we now observe more Japanese participants, drawn by the positive experiences they've heard about EC, even without prior knowledge of the returnee ministry.

In particular, at this year's EC, we are excited to welcome a group from Tokyo Christian University (TCU), led by Dr. Masaru Asaoka, TCU's board chairperson. This event signifies an emerging trend that we are carefully discerning, which could be attributed to certain characteristics of returnees' faith (those saved overseas), such as their openness to different denominations, being first-generation Christians, and their ability to share their hearts openly, influenced by American culture.

As we embark on this journey, we earnestly seek the Lord's guidance to advance both Japan and overseas missions through these new possibilities. We extend a heartfelt invitation to anyone from Japan to join us at the year-end EC and experience the richness of this gathering.

Please join the work of JCFN as a Supporting Member!

We invite you to join the work of JCFN as Supporting Members, making a significant impact on the lives of countless individuals. Together, we eagerly anticipate the development of JCFN ministry through these new opportunities. Your participation as Supporting Members will enable us to continue empowering returnees, volunteer leaders, interns, cooperating ministers, and those who seek the Lord's guidance as ministers. The work is advancing, and we truly need your support.

Please keep us in your prayers, that each returnee may be further equipped by the Lord to build His Kingdom wherever they are and further the ministry in profound ways.

Once again, thank you for your incredible support and prayers. Let us join hands in serving the Lord, making a lasting impact on the lives of many.

JCFN Supporting Members are members who support the JCFN ministry with an annual donation of \$30 (¥3,000). Please register and/or renew your membership [here](#). Please contact us at ushq@jcfn.org for any questions.

Difference between a Regular Member and a Supporting Member is...
A Regular Member receives various information, uses different ministries, and prays for JCFN. A Supporting Member supports JCFN with an annual donation of \$30 (3,000 Yen) in addition to their regular membership activities.
How to set up a recurring supporting donation.
You can set up recurring supporting donation (only for dollar based credit card payments). The recurring payment occurs annually in the month of the initial set up month.) If you have already set up last year, you do not have to do anything.
Term for a Supporting Member is...
The term is same as JCFN's fiscal year, July to June.

With sincere appreciation and love,

Setsu Shimizu: JCFN North America Director

Maki Goto: JCFN Japan Director