

### **Itabashi Church**     Sister Takeuchi's Family

Following my grandparents and parents, I am a third generation Christian. In junior high, it was natural for me to get baptized. In my twenties, however, I struggled with my faith. Then I met my husband and was blessed to have a Christian home. Thankfully, our two daughters have been baptized. Now I am engaged in early childhood education based on Christianity. I hope to tell God's message to as many children as possible. I also pray that my grandchildren will be baptized some day. (Akemi Takeuchi)



### **Nagoya-Megumi Church**     Sister Yasui's Family

My mother-in-law turned 90 this year. In spite of her age, as a member of Ogaki Church, she sits at the reception desk every Sunday with Mrs. Bowman.

My husband and I, together with our daughters, belong to Nagoya-Megumi Church. Each of us do different church work assigned to us. Grandchildren go to Hakobune Daycare. Every day at meal, I listen to them pray in a loud voice. I pray that those little ones continue to go to church as they grow older. (Yoshiko Yasui)



### **Murozono Church**     Sister Kawano's Family

To commemorate my husband's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday, we had a special service to remember his parents. Our extended family includes a first generation Christian who was born in the Meiji Era (1868-1912) and a fourth generation Christian who was born in Heisei Era (1989-present). Except for our daughter and her family of seven, all family members were reunited for the service. I

have prayed to maintain a Christian home and, after ups and downs in life, God has responded to my prayer like this. We have changed churches due to job relocations either of my father or my husband, but we have always been guided by the Lord, for which I am deeply grateful. (Kumiko Kawano)



### **Kyoto Church**     Sister Taniguchi's Family

Fifty-seven years have passed since I was baptized at 17 years old. Time flies. For maintaining a Christian home, I was blessed by missionaries and church members because, it seems to me, I have continued to serve through church school and belonged to the churchwomen's group. All four of my daughters have spontaneously received confirmation. I felt God's blessing and guidance when three of my grandchildren asked their parents to let them be baptized and were baptized at the same time. I owe this heavily to the prayer by Rev. Masami Ishii.



Due to my hearing difficulty, I can no longer serve but still attend church school with my grandchildren. I sing old children's hymns while keeping house. My daughters and my husband play the organ and sing in the choir. My son-in-law has started to attend church since this spring. He says he likes to sing in the choir. I bet he is attracted to the word of God as well as the nice communal association. Everyday I pray that our home, which was started in love and faith, shall be guided by the Lord till the end. (Masako Taniguchi)

**Obihiro Church**    Sister Ishii's Family

Along with the "Pioneer Mission Movement"

Forty-five years ago, when Kushiro Church was established under the "National Pioneer Mission Movement", I became the first person to be baptized there. At that time, I was studying to be a nurse. My first and second sons were baptized as soon as they were born. When I returned to my hometown Obihiro, the Eastern district had just started the Pioneer Mission Plan. I joined the movement and my daughter was baptized as a child at the newly dedicated church. God's guidance is just wonderful in that we were able to live alongside the new-born churches.



Thirty years have passed and I have had many experiences. When my daughter and grandchild moved to Obihiro, God as well as the church was there to accept them. Having learned a Christian way of living, my grandchild spontaneously asked for baptism and my daughter and second son were confirmed. Now we attend Obihiro Church together as a three-generation family. (Ritsuko Ishii)