

Focus on: Representatives to Itsukushimi

Kansai Seminar Report by Akie Momiyama

The 14th Seminar in Kansai took place at Osaka Church on October 19th, 2013, inviting Ms. Seiko Ii, an organist and lecturer of Japan Lutheran College as the speaker.

Ms. Ii has been active not only as an editor of "Worship and Music," a quarterly magazine that focuses on church music, but also as a composer of some church music. Bringing the keyboard with her to the seminar, she showed us her talents to the full.

We learned the history of church music in the first part of the seminar. We realized the meaning of praise once again and made some discoveries, too. The most important lesson was that we should be conscious of the words of hymns because they are God's message to us: dialogue with God. In the second part after lunch, we experienced musical worship together. We went through the year according to the church calendar, singing hymns and reading the biblical word. It was a novel program to all of us. Some participants said that they felt as if their heart were released. We felt encouraged by such comments.

There were 101 attendees all together, including three children. Remarkably, some people (5 men incld.) came over from Shikoku, across the Inland Sea. The committee members are grateful for this.

Itsukushimi, which started in 1992, is the joint movement driven by women from four Lutheran denominations: WJELC, KELC, JELC, and NRK. It aims to nurture friendship and promote knowledge. We are aware that God blesses this movement all the time so that we should get to know one another beyond the denominational lines.



FYI: Ms. Ichihara has succeeded Ms. Yamamoto as representative as of the Seminar, Oct. 19.



Announcement: Kanto Committee

by Hisako Ishitobi

Kanto Committee will hold a seminar on "gender" on the 26th April at Ikebukuro Church. We will have Rev. Sayoko Ooka from the Anglican Church teach us about the term, gender, which we often hear, but may not know quite well. We hope this seminar will provide an opportunity for learning and meeting. We are looking forward to seeing many of you.

NCC Reports by Noriko Ishitani

- 08/02/2014 (Sat.):
Cooperated Forum with "National Christian Council Peace and Nuclear Problem Committee"
"Chelnobyl study tour report meeting"
Its purpose is learning the circumstances of nuclear problems for the healthful future of all residents in Japan.
- 07/03/2014 (Feb.):
Pray during "World day of prayer" and a thank offering.

ACWC (Asian Church Women's Conference)

by Naomi Tajima & Keiko Renge

Thank you for donation:

Signature Campaign ¥82,245, ICFLC ¥295,697.
(ICFLC=International Committee of the Fellowship of the Least Coin)

Please pray for Asian sisters.

"ACWC Day Seminar Report" is now on sale.
(¥500)

LWF/WICAS by Kyoko Tawara

LWF Gender Justice Policy was approved by the LWF Council in December 2013. Action plans and strategies to regain the equitable relationship among every man and woman and recover inclusive communities are expected to be promoted in all regional churches toward 500th anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation in 2017.