

## **ACWCJ**

### **Naomi Tajima / Keiko Renge**

ACWC (Asian Church Women's Conference) is a grass roots movement led by ecumenical fellowship among Christian women. Today, 19 Asian countries have joined ACWC to get to know each other and to share prayers. To support the conference, we promote "Signature Campaign." Each 100 Japanese yen with prayer can help many countries that face difficulties. All donations will be sent to ACWC office.

AWC-J Day seminar will be held on October 30th in Tokyo, and on November 6th in Kobe. The theme is "United in Christ."

ACWC-J would like to keep praying for all the participating countries of the ACWC.

## **LWF/WICAS**

### **Masae Nishida**

I am Masae Nishida from Hiroshima Church. I have taken the role of the representative to LWF/WICAS for the first time.

During the three years of my term, I will be introducing and implementing the WICAS program, "Women on the Move," which relates to the 500 anniversary of the Reformation. This program is designed to highlight women's efforts in the reformatory attempts in churches throughout the world over the past 500 years, which first began in Wittenburg. The program will bless advancement of leadership of women in ministry. One of its main goals is to collect "Her-stories," not "His-(s)stories. I believe my predecessor, Ms. Kyoko Tawara, has introduced this project and asked for your cooperation at the GM in June.

"Her-stories" project aims to compile episodes of women in the world who had wonderful leadership. By publishing them and sharing them, women may recognize their own power and talents, and they may empower themselves even more. I will try to implement this program together with Ms. Kyoko Tawara and Ms. Ayako Akiyama. Thank you for your cooperation in advance.

## **NCCJ**

### **Noriko Ishitani, Yamato Yasuda**

1. Report on the World Day of Prayer 2015

The offering amount during the World Day of Prayer 2015 was JPY 8,544,020.

Receivers of the offering in Lutheran church are:

- social welfare corporation Only-One, JPY 220,00
- LWF/WICAS (The department of Women In Church and Society), JPY 110,000
- two women seminarians, Ms. Mari Amada, Ms. Yuko Nakagawa, from the Japan Lutheran College & Seminary, JPY 50,000/pp.

Three kinds of commemorative stamps have been made in Bahamas on the World Day of Prayer.

Next year, on March 4th, we will remember and pray for Cuba.

We sincerely appreciate your prayer and participation by all of you.

2. Workshop at Anglican Women Community of Nazareth

An overnight workshop was held at an Anglican women community of Nazareth on ?????

The principle was confirmed by the new members.

## **ITSUKUSHIMI**

### **Hisako Ishitobi, representing Kanto**

### **Akie Momiya, representing Kansai**

Thank you for your continuous support for Itsukushimi.

Kanto committee will plan a new retreat together with Ms. Shigeko Tajima from NRK. We hope the retreat will help us step forward as Christians who are called to care for life and to make peace. We are happy to hear any proposals from you.

Kansai committee is preparing for the 15th retreat to be held at JELC Osaka Church on Oct. 17. The lecturer will be Mr. Akihiro Mochida, an attorney-at-law. As a Christian, he holds the Bible in his right hand and the Compendium of Laws in his left hand. He strives for his profession and for faith. (He authored a book entitled 'A Christian Lawyer's Blotter.') He named his lecture as 'Court on earth and Court in heaven ~ the trial of Jesus seen by an lawyer and Christians' hope.' We hope to learn from his various experiences and renew our hope.

The retreat is an opportunity for Christian women from four Lutheran denominations to get together. Please remember it in your prayers.

## KEPPAPPE / Ayumu-Kai / Kin-ichi Saijo's Marine Produce

'Keppappe' means 'hold out' in Tohoku dialect. This group sells lovely items such as straps, pins, arm covers, and notebook covers. They used to sell patchwork products before the Tsunami damaged their style of work, but now they aim to stand up again.



Ayumu-Kai once ran a wheel-chair dance circle, where people with and without disabilities could get together and enjoy dancing. But the Tsunami killed five of them and washed away the costumes. Getting help from Lutherans and others, they were able to restart their circle. Their straps, pouches, and hair accessories, etc., are all lovely.



Kin-ichi Saijo's Marine Produce, says everything. Marine produce is what he and his team sells. After the disaster hit seaweed fishermen and robbed them of their route to the market, the JLER staff visited them and helped establish this project in cooperation with JELCW. They

sell five different types of seaweed, of which fresh root kelp is a rarity. Please try it.

JELCW helps each group from the disaster-stricken areas. We called for the order at the GM&R. However, there has been little response to Ayumu-kai so far. Therefore, they needed to raise the shipping charges. We hear that the survivors are afraid of being forgotten. We ask you to please not forget them.

Contact Akiko Nemoto of JELCW by email [a-root@flute.oce.ne.jp](mailto:a-root@flute.oce.ne.jp) or fax: 03-3755-4552 Make sure to write your church name, your name, address and postal number, phone number, items, quantity, and preferred delivery date. Group order by the church is welcome. Postage is to be paid by the purchaser. (Nemoto)

PS

As God had planned, the board members were elected at the GM&R in June, 2015. Now, each strives for her activity. To issue the newsletter, the pastors and many others have kindly cooperated with me and helped me. I am pleased with the grace given and thankful from the bottom of my heart.

I will do my best to issue the newsletter. I trust in God for sending me help and look forward to it. (Y)