

## Welcome to the West District

Visits to Shion Church Masuda Chapel (Northern Yamaguchi) and Matsuyama Church (Ehime)



There is one CW member in Masuda Chapel. She reads the JELCW and CW newsletters and remembers us in her prayers. Two of our CW officers visited the Chapel this time and the five women worshipped together. The CW member prayed for us with thankful tears.



In June we visited Matsuyama Church which celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in May. The church took a long break from the JELCW membership, but from this fall one member joined the JELCW as the Matsuyama Church CW. May our fellowship grow more in our Lord!

## Get-together Event for the West District Churchwomen's League "Hanamizuki Gathering": Through the Eyes of Finnish Hymns

The Kansai area



-We had a voice-training lesson to fully use the body and mind.



-The Kansai area CW held a disaster fundraising 100-yen bazaar.



The Higashi Chugoku area



-Learn the background of the hymns to understand the meaning of the words.



-The Higashi Chugoku area CW heard the story of the bell gifted from J.F. Kennedy to Nishijo Church (12.5.1962). Some went on a tour of a sake brewery.



-The Nishi Chugoku area hosted the same seminar and a concert at the Atsugi Church special fellowship.

### ◆Planning a CW program for the Reformation 500th Anniversary in 2017

The West District is going to hold a commemorative service of the reformation on March 30, 2017. On the night before the service, a CW program, "Hanamizuki Gathering" is currently being planned. A reception and a talk tentatively titled "Reformation 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is Also the 500<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Hymns!" will be given. Luther created words and tunes of chorales and equated them to preaching done by the congregation. Let's learn the hymns and be nurtured!

### ◆The West District will have three pillars of communication

-Email newsletter: More frequently and timely sent out than the paper newsletter. 50 members of the 20 JELCW member churches and chapels will be receiving the e-newsletter.

-Sharing event information: Information is sent out every two months. Even when we cannot visit other CWs, this will help us remember them and pray for them.

-Printed newsletter *Hanamizuki*: Bridges the members by introducing the CWs and their activities.



### Ube Church Churchwomen's Group

The picture is from Ube Church's mini-bazaar. Every Sunday they sell homegrown vegetables and homemade juice, jam, scones, and kelp *tsukudani*. Anyone is welcome. The proceeds will be used for the activities of the CW and church.



### Fukuyama Church Churchwomen's Group

The tradition of the Fukuyama CW's handmade cookies started 35 years ago, when the church needed funding to expand the kitchen space. Since then the CW has been selling cookies made with high-quality ingredients and no preservatives every month.

