



# Tokyo Central City Ministry

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“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have Commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the

very end of the age.

(Matthew 28:19-20)

=May.2020=

< News Letter Vol.4 >

*“So Abraham called that place The LORD Will Provide. And to this day it is said, “On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided.” (Genesis 22:14)*

We sincerely appreciate your prayers and support for Tokyo Central City ministry. The worship service of our new church, "Tokyo Center Church (TCC)" has started in December last year. And in February, TCC was approved as a new member of the Evangelical Free Church of Japan at the 59th General Assembly of the Evangelical Free Church of Japan. Our original plan was to start inviting non-Christians to our worship services since April; however, under the COVID19 influence, we had no choice but to change our plan. We believe the Lord is the one who will carry forward the plan that He has prepared, regardless of unpredictable circumstances. We would like to report the current situation while praying for the complete end of COVID19 chaos as soon as possible.

## Worship service ONLINE



TCC had started broadcasting our worship service online from the beginning of March (prior to the “Stay Home” request) because there was a sister who was unable to attend the worship service because of her family's health concern. That made it easy for us to respond to the government’s request in April. We believe it was God’s divine preparation for us. In addition, because we have informed many acquaintances and friends that we are starting the church (official Sunday services) in April, we have simply changed the announcement to "Because we cannot gather together, we are starting Online service for now!" We were able to spread the word more than we expected so it was also a blessing.



As the situation worsened, the pianist hasn’t been able to attend the service anymore. But instead, a new player was provided by God around the same time. About half a year ago, we met a music missionary from the US, Ellie, who has just completed her deputation in the United States and returned to Tokyo in April. After she stayed home for 14 days, she joined us at the Easter service. She lives within walking distance and was grateful to be able to celebrate Easter together by saying, "I’ve attended the first real worship in a month!"

We haven’t been able to worship with the three core members given by the Lord for a while, but we talk and pray with each other online every week. Please pray for Emi, who works in the medical field as a nurse, will be especially protected from the risk of infection.



## Bible Study & fellowship ONLINE

- 『Evening Bible Study & Prayer Meeting on every Tuesday』 20:00~21:15
- 『Evening Reading Circle on every Thursday』 [Every Good Endeavor by Tim Keller] 19:00~21:00

## Working as a Family supporter in Tushima

Pastor's wife Hatae is working part-time as a "child-care supporter", which is one of the Chuo ward's child-rearing support programs. The organization connects the family who need child-care with us, the child-care supporters. Hatae has already met with three groups of parents and children. In all cases, grandmas live in other prefectures, so they relied on her like their family. It left her a strong impression when she met Mrs. N. She had some challenges/ problems



at home, and she was seeking the Lord. Although N. family has moved out of Chuo ward in the end of March, Hatae was glad to introduce an Evangelical Free Church which was close to their new home. Hatae is in awe how God leads and guides all the encounters with families through the program. Although this activity is currently suspended due to COVID19, she would like to pray for them and eventually invite these families to kids' gatherings at TCC.

### Prayer Request

- May God touch the people who participate in the worship service online.
- While praying for the complete end of COVID 19, we would be able to do our best in the Lord right now.
- We are seeking for people who are interested in hearing the gospel. Please introduce your friends by email.

To [akiyashimomura328@gmail.com](mailto:akiyashimomura328@gmail.com)

- Please pray for the health and the relationship with the Lord of Pastor Akiya & his wife Hatae.

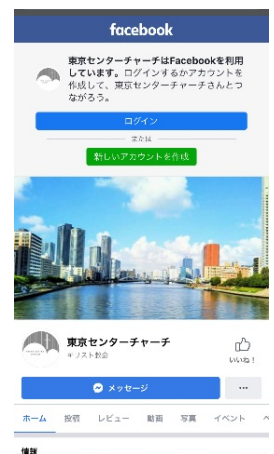
### Financial support

US\$75,000 is needed in the fiscal year 2020, including rental fee for the service space. Please pray for all the needs to be met. If you would like to support us as a church or an individual, please proceed the transaction as per following bank account information.

- Bank Name : Mitsubishi UFJ Bank (Tachikawa Branch)
- Name of the recipient : Tokyo central city ministry Takahashi Hidenori
- Account Number : 227-0998877
- Recipient's address : 1-3-7-201, Kashiwa-cho, Tachikawa-shi, Tokyo, 190-0004, Japan
- Bank address : 2-13-3, Akebono-cho, Tachikawa-shi, Tokyo, 190-0012, Japan
- Swift code : BOTKJPJT (or BOTKJPJTXXX)

### New account on facebook

We have launched TCC Facebook page for online worship services. The photo is the actual Sumida River in Chuo-ward, with Tsukiji on the right and Tsukishima on the left. There are already about 300 people who have connected to this Facebook page with "Likes". It is a great blessing to be able to name these people on our prayers. The members of the church are still in single digits but the Lord entrusts us with many souls behind them. Everyone is in the threat of COVID19 and it feels like an endless battle. May the Lord have mercy on this land. We would also like to serve faithfully as an "intercessor of the central city". We look forward to your continued support and prayers.



*So the sisters sent word to Jesus, "Lord, the one you love is sick." (John 11:3)*