



Update from Wayne and Miho Jansen

August 2020

First, we want to thank all of you brothers and sisters for being such wonderful support as partners in mission with us for nearly three decades! We are blessed as our fellowship through the Holy Spirit has used you to help spread the gospel in Japan as we continue to teach at Tokyo Union Theological Seminary and Ferris Girls' School during a challenging time in our history. We pray for God's blessings on all of you as you also may be challenged by the need to attend worship remotely or in other ways.

Hope is the word I wish to share with you during this hot August in Tokyo. It's a word that the year 2020 has largely failed to bring to our minds. I share no photographs with this letter because there are times when we need to be aware of what is happening deep within ourselves, especially with the Adversary is hard at work trying to convince us that all is vain and that there is no good to hope for.

We have all seen the images of people suffering, medical personnel overwhelmed and hospitals running out of room, riots from protests for freedom in Hong Kong to justice in the United States. These are painful images that can cause us to lose hope and succumb to fear as the Adversary works against our faith in the love that Jesus Christ brought to us.

At Tokyo Union Theological Seminary, we are teaching remotely over the internet. There are challenges in not sharing a classroom where we can freely talk and exchange ideas, but we are also given a new opportunity to be creative, and a new awareness that it is possible to learn in new ways. Hope has never disappeared. It has been realized in different and diverse ways for which we are thankful.

It's going to be a long road as medical doctors, scientists, and lab technicians around the world work diligently to develop better treatments for the virus that threatens our lives at present. But hope has never been diminished. Let's praise God for the commitment of these people and continue to pray for them.

The experience of 2020 has heightened our understanding that we all need to be united as one body of Christ to bring love to a broken world. By praying together with the hope that is in Christ Jesus, we will find life.

In Christ,
Wayne and Miho

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