



a missional partnership for Japan



John and Eriko Houlette

*Leader Care and Church Development
in Japan and Greater Asia*

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Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. Isaiah 43:19

Gospel Baton

Ministry is not a marathon, but a road race. We run our section, passing the gospel baton to those who do not know the Savior. We also mutually exchange the baton between multi-generation leaders so we each may run our race with gospel hope, wisdom and humility. I want to share a few recent baton exchanges with you. I have been witnessing to **Harumi Seino** for a few years. He is 76 and on dialysis. He comes faithfully every week for a 9:30 Bible study then stays for the worship service. He is drawing closer in belief. His major concern is what to do about his family funeral lot, which is a major issue for people in Asia to come to faith. **Mitsue Kanno** has taken the lead in the Bible study.



Earlier this month, I facilitated a retreat for leaders who are over 60 years of age. It was a fun time of laughter, teaching, reflection, sketching scripture, hot springs and good food. In August, I led a seminar on rest through Second Level Ministry for Japanese leaders in L.A. They are serving in strategic ministries.



I was blessed to visit my mentor of ten years, **Dennis Ahern** and his wife, **Denise**, at Selah Glen, their retreat center for missionary and pastoral couples.



The amazing dynamic of the gospel baton, is that when we pass it on, we receive another one to share!

PRAISE

1. For a blessed time visiting 17 churches and dozens of individuals during our home assignment.
2. For six workshops, and retreats since August.
3. For wonderful times with our children and grandchildren in the US and Japan.

PRAYER

4. For Harumi to be saved.
5. For me as I begin mentoring seminary student Tomonari Kitsunai from January.
6. For John's counseling and mentoring ministry.
7. For our daughter Jeweliann. Her first child is due in early January.

DAY OF PRAYER

My Day of Prayer for our supporters is the first of every month. Please send me your requests!

Integrity 2025 Update**♦Resiliency-Based Leadership Development**

Mentoring, pastors and missionaries. Ten Mentees. Five events with Second Level Ministry and RJC in 2023.

♦ Finishing-Well Consulting Helping pastors and church boards to thrive in ministry and transition into retirement. Over-60 Retreat.

♦ Fukushima Church Planting Helping Hokushin Calvary Church connect with their community through Kids's Cafe, Orange Cafe and sports outreach. 50-60 kids, 20 adults attend the Orange Cafe.

♦ Leadership Development at Hokushin Calvary Church Mentor church leaders and train members. Collaborate with pastor Kuba and seminary student Kitsunai.

♦Marriage and Family Counseling Encourage couples and families through the hope of the gospel. Two couples and two individuals. Completed fifth course from CCEF. I have two more classes scheduled in 2024.

Exciting Future Developments!

♦I have been invited to be a mentor for the Lausanne Young Leaders Gathering in March, 2024, for 300 Japanese.

♦Church on the Hill, San Jose, is sending a team in July to connect with youth through our multi-purpose court outreach.

♦In 2025, I will launch a marriage counseling service and a sabbatical ministry for Japanese pastors.

Eriko and I thank the Lord for your faithful prayers and support. We wish you a joyous Christmas!

Immanuel,

John and Eriko,

Send financial gifts to:

SIM USA Donor Care 14830 Choate Circle, Charlotte, NC 28273

Make checks out to: "SIM USA Houlette acct. 041675" Or for simple online giving:

www.simusa.org/give locate "Give to an SIM worker," and type in Houlette.

An Opportunity to Invest in Integrity 2025

I would like to support the ministry of **John and Eriko Houlette** in the following way: (circle one)

1. Give a one-time gift. 2. Increase my regular support. 3. Start giving regularly. (Check amount below).

\$50____ \$100____ \$250____ \$500____ other amount_____

Name _____ Email _____

Address _____

Send Gifts to: SIM USA Donor Care (**NEW ADDRESS**) 14830 Choate Circle, Charlotte, NC 28273 **Make checks out to: “SIM USA Houlette acct. 041675” Or for simple online giving:** www.simusa.org/give locate “Give to an SIM worker,” and type in Houlette.

Thankful to God for you! *John and Eriko*

