



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

Prayer Requests

- ✦ For John to finish the first draft of his book, *Seasons of Beauty: Resiliency and Legacy for Pastors*, by mid-January and to find a team to translate it from English to Japanese.
- ✦ For our ongoing partnership with Hokushin Calvary Church and the Ryozen church plant.
- ✦ For training events and mentoring opportunities in 2020.
- ✦ For Japanese churches to recover from the recent typhoons.

**Support needed:
\$800/month**

Send financial gifts to:

SIM USA Donor Care
PO BOX 7900, Charlotte, NC
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Make checks out to: SIMUSA
Houlette acct. #041675. Or
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our staff number: #041675

Multiplying Leaders in Fukushima and Greater Asia

Time flies! After nearly five months in the US we will soon be heading back to Japan. It has been a full and blessed time seeing many of you who have invested in our lives and ministry. We leave on January 6th.

In 2015, God gave me a vision to serve in Fukushima Prefecture starting with one church and one leader. In the past four years, God has allowed me, with your help, to mentor five pastors in the prefecture; train small group ministry leaders, teach a seminary extension class, assist with a church plant and help build a sports court at Hokushin Calvary Church. Two of the pastors I mentor are networking with others so there is potential for more pastors to thrive in ministry.

Next term I plan to further multiply leaders and assist with community outreach at Hokushin; continue to build a leader's network and assist a church planter with prayer walks in the prefecture.

Equipping leaders in Greater Asia is a growing passion. Last term I visited a South Asian country twice and the Philippines earlier this year. I have been invited to help train ten pastors in the Philippines March 10-13, 2020. A trip is in the works to South Asia as well.

Joy on Home Assignment

We have experienced many joys this home assignment. We spend time with our son Yutaka, his wife Amy and our twin boys Oscar and Arlo, nearly every other week. By the end of November, all of our three daughters, Jasmine, Christine and Jeweliann (and husband Mel) will have visited us from Japan! We have connected with nearly all of our 23 supporting churches and most of our 30 individual supporters. We have enjoyed living in the parsonage of one of our sending churches here in Monterey.

Investing in the Next Generation

I had the privilege to invest in younger leaders here in the US in September by teaching a class on pre-disaster preparation at the Humanitarian Disaster Institute at Wheaton College (pictured here). I also met with two pastors providing clergy care for pastors in Paradise CA, after their devastating fire last year.



Twenty by Forty Plus!

We look forward to returning to the task of church planting and leader multiplication in Fukushima and leadership development in Greater Asia, in January. As we anticipate this move, we are so thankful for those who have prayed and supported us for over 36 years! You have made it possible for us to continue in ministry.

Currently our support deficit is at \$800 a month which will impact our ability to do ministry. We are extending an opportunity to you to help us depart for Japan fully funded. We are inviting a combination of **20** churches and individuals to increase or begin supporting us at **\$40** a month. That new commitment would underwrite our total deficit. **Plus!** One-time gifts would help with transportation to Greater Asia and book publishing (see Integrity 2025 brochure included with this letter). Thank you for considering this opportunity.

John and Eriko

Fukushima Call

Looking back to how this all began: Phase One of Integrity 2025

In the aftermath of the 9.0 earthquake and giant tsunami in 2011, the name “**Fukushima**” has come to mean nuclear disaster. Meanwhile thousands of people uprooted and traumatized, in fear of radiation, have been overlooked in recovery efforts.

God’s call came to me in 2015. He gave me a desire, fueled by compassion, to encourage and multiply leaders—essential for true recovery in both local churches and communities. Since then, several doors have opened. I was able to help a church in crisis, I coached a young pastor on his own journey to serve in Fukushima, and **Eriko and I** now partner with Hokushin Calvary Church in Fukushima city, 50 miles south of our home and 55 miles northeast of the infamous nuclear reactor. In addition we’ve been given an opportunity to help plant a house church in Ryozen ten miles from Hokushin Calvary.

You have already joined us in this calling by funding the multipurpose sports court at Hokushin, completed in December 2018 and which we believe will be greatly used by local youth and children. Thank you for this investment and the hope it brings to Fukushima! There are more opportunities ahead to make a difference.



INTEGRITY 2025 PROJECT

Eriko and I have been encouraged by what’s already been accomplished. We are excited to introduce new opportunities in 2019-20 for **Phase Two**:

1. We are investing more deeply in the Ryozen church plant and leader development in Japan and Greater Asia. Transportation to two Asian countries, training materials: **\$3000.**
2. I am writing a book for pastors and church boards entitled, *Seasons of Beauty: Developing Resiliency and Leaving a Legacy*. Translation expenses: **\$5000.**

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online: www.simusa.org/give
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CONTACT US

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INTEGRITY 2025



John and Eriko Houlette
Sendai, Japan

*A continuing partnership of
faithfulness to share the gospel with
the unreached, equip next-
generation leaders to plant churches
and empower pastors to finish work*
—Integrity 2025

 **AsianAccess** | **SIM**
a strategic partnership for Japan





Saikyo Hope Chapel's 20th Anniversary

Integrity 2025

PHASE TWO

2019

2022

Church Planting

Fukushima house churches

Leadership Training

Mentoring next generation leaders
Church consulting

Therapeutic Ministry

Marriage counseling
Pastoral harp
(Prayerful presence through harp and song).

A FAITHFUL PARTNERSHIP

Investments mature over time—especially those for the kingdom of God. Many of you have given generously and faithfully for over three decades without the opportunity, for most of you, to see the impact of your investments. That speaks of your great trust in God and us, for which we are forever grateful. Eriko and I have endeavored to serve the Lord with integrity based on that trust and fueled by your prayers and financial gifts. We want to welcome those who would like become new partners as well.

We have been ministering in Japan and Greater Asia since 1983 with WorldVenture and now Asian Venture. We will highlight how God has ministered through you, and articulate the three phases of our strategy, **Integrity 2025. PHASE ONE** ended in 2018 (see Fukushima Call section). **PHASE TWO** began in 2019 and runs through 2022, with a focus on investing in next generation leaders. **PHASE THREE**, from 2023 through 2025, targets church development, church consulting and family ministry.



Seminary Extension class at Hokushin Calvary Church



Eriko presenting her disaster-related research

A Timeline of God's Faithfulness

Church Planting 1986 to

Church plants: 4, plus 2 daughter churches. Baptisms: 80. Total attendance: 130.
Leaders trained: 15. Church plants handed off to Japanese pastors: 2.

Field Leadership 2002 to 2009

Leaders empowered: 4. Ministries launched: 2. Publications: 2. Partnerships: 3. Strategic plans: 2.

Three Stream Ministries 2010 to

Leaders trained in Japan and Greater Asia: 300. Publications: *Stillness Tools*, articles.

Disaster Relief 2011 to

Leaders trained: 200. Churches rebuilt: 5. Disaster survivors served: 250.

20 by 40 Plus! An Eternal Investment Opportunity

I would like to support the ministry of John and Eriko Houlette in one of the following ways (circle an option and then check an amount):

Option #1. Give a one-time gift to support Integrity 2025 for publishing fees for John's book and transportation to the Philippines and South Asia for ministry meetings in 2020.

\$50___ \$100___ \$250___ \$500___ other amount_____.

Option #2. Increase my regular support. **Option #3.** Start giving regularly.

For the following amounts: \$40 a month___ \$500 annually___ other amount_____

Name_____ Email_____

Address_____

Send Gifts to: SIM USA Donor Care PO BOX 7900, Charlotte, NC 28241 Make checks out to: "SIM USA Houlette acct. 041675" Or for simple online giving:

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Thankful to God for you. John and Eriko