

East Japan Disaster Relief Projects Report



At the Welcoming Celebration by Tohoku District.

If One Member Suffers, All Suffer Together

~ Visit to Japan by Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Taiwan ~

On Saturday March 9 Rev. Pusin Tali moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Taiwan arrived in Japan to express their solidarity with the UCCJ and the people of Japan on the occasion of the second anniversary of the Great East Japan Earthquake. On the day of his arrival he attended a charity concert at Asagaya Church sponsored by the West Tokyo district of the UCCJ where he gave his greetings from the PCT. Following that he went to Sendai where on Sunday he preached at the Sendai Kitanbancho Church and spent some time visiting the disaster area. On Monday morning, the day of the anniversary, he visited both the Asian Rural Institute and Uwamachi Church in Utsunomiya. Later in the afternoon he gave a speech at an anniversary gathering at Uwamachi Church at a gathering which was put on by the Kanto District of the UCCJ. It was a very full schedule with little time to relax for Rev. Tali.

The response to the 3/11 disaster has served to deepen the bonds between the PCT and the UCCJ. One of the ways in which this deepening was manifested what in the *UCCJ Moderator's Statement on the Occasion of the Third Year of the Accident at TEPCO Daiichi Nuclear Power Facility* issued by Rev. Hideo Ishibashi and the response by the General Secretary of the PCT. The result is that the UCCJ and PCT walk hand in hand as together they work to bring the termination of operation and decommissioning of nuclear power plants in both countries. Another example of this was Rev. Tali's visit to Japan and the moderator of the UCCJ Rev. Ishibashi's visit to Taiwan in March where he attended anniversary services of the disaster in Taipei, Hsinchu and Changhua. The third example can be found in the numerous local congregations throughout the PCT which have made special offering campaigns to raise funds for disaster relief in Japan. At present over ¥80,000,000 has been received by the UCCJ from Taiwan which makes up more than one third of the total funds which have come in from overseas for the disaster relief and now there are even plans to initiate new fund raising for the relief.

The title of this article comes from the greetings that Rev. Lyim Hong-Tiong, the newly appointed general secretary of the PCT, made at the UCCJ General Assembly last October, "If one member suffers, all suffer together." In its continued solidarity with the UCCJ, the PCT has made translated these words from First Corinthians into tangible actions.

(Makoto Iijima, UCCJ East Japan Disaster Relief Projects Director)



Visiting the Asian Rural Institute in Tochigi.



Preaching at Sendai Kitanbancho Church

Total Domestic Giving

(through March 11, 2013)

¥ 504,336,023

Donations can be sent to our account at Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC) (SWIFT:SMBC JP JT) Takadanobaba Branch(273) 2471703, for US dollars 3291280, for other currencies