

January 15, 2012

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ across the globe,

Happy New Year! I pray for God's blessing upon you in 2013.

Nearly two years have passed since the great disaster of March 11 in East Japan.

With the coming March being the two year anniversary we at the United Church of Church of Christ in Japan East Japan Disaster Relief Projects would like to share the following with you so that our partners throughout the world can share with those of us here in Japan in this Memorial Month.

1. We hope that churches will chose one of the Sundays in March to lift up those who have been impacted by the earthquake and tsunami of 3/11 either in the sermon, in prayer or in the announcements. Also, if possible collecting offerings for the ongoing response to the disaster could also be made.
2. Even though nearly two years have passed since the disaster, the road to recovery will continue to be long as there are tens of thousands who continue to struggle in temporary housing. We hope that the news of their plight can become more well known.
3. The radiation contamination in Fukushima continues to be a problem for those who live in the vicinity of the troubled nuclear power plant. In particular, this affects children. We ask that you lift up their needs in prayer. Especially pray for the protection of their health.

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We currently are supporting four programs that are addressing these issues.

- ① Volunteer relief workers in Sendai, Miyagi Prefecture.
- ② Volunteer relief workers in Ishinomaki, Miyagi Prefecture.
- ③ Volunteer relief workers in Kamaishi, Iwate Prefecture.
- ④ Short term care for children affected by radiation in Fukushima Prefecture.

In order to continue these efforts in 2013 we need to receive contributions both from here in Japan and from our friends across the globe. If you are interested in getting a deeper understanding of our work please view our DVD which we sent to you last year. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Information on how to make donations can be found below.

Again we pray that God continues to guide and bless you in all of your work in this New Year.

Yours in Christ,

Makoto Iijima

UCCJ East Japan Disaster Relief Projects, Director