

REMEMBER HIS MARVELLOUS WORKS THAT HE HATH DONE; Psalms 105:5

Remembering back over thirty years to the beginning days of the Sapporo church brings so many warm memories. The street meetings on Tanuki koji street where the large crowds gathered – the meetings in the store-front room on Minami 2 jo Nishi 11 Chome – The first special evangelist meetings with Pastor Kashima when so many decisions were made for Christ – the summer tent meetings – the gatherings in the missionary home to introduce the new people to the church. All these in the are times we will never forget.

Even that first year we felt God was leading us to locate the church on the west side near the Soen area. After months of searching, we were sure that God had lead us to His appointed place when we found the house at Kita 6jo, Nishi 20 Chome. BUT, we had to have money to pay for it. By quickly selling a small house in Karuizawa we had purchased with our wedding gift money, we had 3/5 of the amount needed. Then a letter arrived from Janet's parents saying God had spoken to them to give 1/5 the amount needed and that they would loan us the other 1/5. How we praised the Load!

BUT, the exchange of foreign money was slow, it took more than a week to get a Mitsubishi Bank Check. The date had been set for the negotiations on Saturday afternoon. The owner refused to accept the bank check. He wanted cash. The bank was closed. I had just re-turned home when the realtor came to the door with the shocking news. Someone else had paid money down on the property. It was gone. Our hearts were heavy. How could this happen when we knew this was God's will. Pastor Kei Koganei put an advertizement in the local newspaper saying we were looking for property in this area. Two days later we received a phone call from a man who had just put down-payment on a house but was unable to pay the remaining amount. You guessed right. It was the same property. It came back into our hands like a confirmation that this was surely where God wanted us.

Our dreams for Sapporo Shinsho Kirisuto kyokai to reach out to this area of Sapporo with the Gospel began to materialize. By the next summer we were having weekly meetings in both Toyohira and Kotoni. God's blessing was upon the church. Students had been sent from the church to Chuo Bible College. All this in just three short years.

Now after 30 years, the dreams and visions God gave then, are still alive in our hearts. “That Sapporo Shinsho Kirisuto Kyokai will reach out with the Pentecostal anointing to evangelize Sapporo.”



宣教師ハイムス師と
牧師黄金井師御一家
1955. 冬

---- 教会創立30周年記念誌より R.ハイムス先生寄稿 ----