

## **Japanese Fellowship Leadership Team Annual Report 2026**

Throughout this past year, we are deeply grateful that our church has been able to walk under the Lord's abundant grace and protection. Above all else, we offer our thanks and praise to God, who has faithfully guided us in all things.

We sincerely thank God that the Japanese-speaking and English-speaking congregations of Kalihi Union Church were able to unite as one and offer a generous financial gift in support of the high school evangelism ministry of the Japanese mission organization Hi-BA. Through this offering, we earnestly pray that the number of Christians in Japan will continue to increase for many years to come.

We would also like to express our heartfelt gratitude to the English-speaking congregation for installing a large roof covering around the Japanese Fellowship area and for further preparing an outdoor kitchen space. Being given sufficient space and facilities for outdoor meals and fellowship is a great blessing.

Within the Japanese Fellowship, the Ohana Bible Studies have been richly blessed. On Wednesdays, a group of about ten people—primarily seniors—gathers, and after Sunday worship, a large group of younger participants also meets for Bible study. The Bible study materials prepared by Pastor John are truly wonderful, providing each of us with deep insight, opportunities for repentance, and fresh perspectives. We are deeply thankful for this.

Throughout the year, we were blessed with many opportunities for fellowship and events, including the New Year's mochi-pounding celebration, Mother's Day and Father's Day luncheons, a Thanksgiving potluck, a Pastor Appreciation potluck, and a picnic. As we shared meals, laughter, and conversation together, we are grateful that the fellowship of our church was further strengthened.

We are also sincerely thankful that the English-speaking congregation graciously allowed us to use their sanctuary for the Kokoro ni Hikari o Christmas Concert, and that so many members of the English congregation served generously in various ways. We were greatly helped and supported. Thank you very much.

It was also a great joy and blessing to participate in the AHJCC Praise Festival, where we were able to lift high praise to the Lord together with many members, using piano, violin, and guitar.

In committee meetings, we shared devotional times together, received reflections from Pastor Jonathan, and discussed various agenda items. We then reported the outcomes

during Sunday worship, and when there were shortages in service, we were able to support one another and overcome challenges together. We earnestly desire to continue protecting and caring for this flock of the Lord.

As we look toward 2026, we pray that we may continue to seek God in prayer, receive His wisdom, join our strength with our brothers and sisters, and walk together as one family of God. We also sincerely pray that our families and those around us may be led to salvation.

With gratitude for all the blessings we have received throughout this year, I pray that it will be a year in which each of us lives out the Word of God in practice.

Kuniko Kino