Welcome to Higashi Diocese! * Bridging · Joining *

~Let's sing a new song to the Lord \$\(\sigma \) We bear a strong will to convey messages. We are sure of the importance of memories. So we, sisters and brothers, go along praying through activities of "bridging and joining." Feeling the Lord refreshes our lives every day.

[Presidents' meetings & women's gatherings ①②③④⑤⑥⑦⑧] Women's groups in the diocese held a gathering at each venue two times a year, in spring and autumn. We visited the following six churches and held gatherings: in 2015 spring/①Den'enchōfu Church · autumn/②Ōmori Church, in 2016 spring/③St. Paul Church · autumn/④Tokyo Church, in 2017 spring/⑤⑥Musashino Church · autumn/⑦⑧Hongō Church. We are grateful for their hospitality and their preparations for the meeting and sharing with first-time new friends as well as reunions of long-time friends.

[Women's gatherings in Kōshin area: held every June@@] Sisters and brothers of Kōfu Church, Iida Church, Matsumoto Church, Nagano Church, and Suwa Church gather together and have a fun interchange party. Come and join us in Shinshū area this year again~.

[ACWC one-day workshop@@ · Love · Live side by side@] They raise meaningful subjects every year, @we learned about "Commitment to children's cafeteria" this year.

[Visit to Tokyo Nursing home] After helping the residents work, we together greatly enjoyed playing hand-made instruments, singing Japanese songs and hymns in sign language, and country dancing \triangleright . We are grateful that we received a very favorable review about hand-made small presents we handed the residents.

[Children's camp · One-day seminary@@@@] @At summer camps boosted by Japan Lutheran College every other year, both adults and kids can behave naturally! @@At a booth of the One-Day Seminary every autumn, a selection of goods from many women's groups gather. @Oyaki (Japanese-style bun) specially made by 23rd group! You can taste the delicacy which came secretly from the Kōshin area.

[Hoshikuzu no kai (Star dust group) [20] At San'ya, Minowa, Tokyo~We cook rice, make rice balls, chop ingredients for miso soup, cook miso soup, and hand them out. We share the work.

[Lecture@] Recovery from DV: noticing people who are suffering and communicating with them is a big help to heal them.

[World prayer day in 2018@@] Organizing Tokyo area. Messages from Suriname will be presented by Missionary Carol Sack. Encouragement will be made by Ms. Tomoko Yamato. We hope many sisters and brothers will be able to gather (at present in February).

[Newsletters: Letters from Rose of Sharon®] Sisters and brothers, we are sending messages both inside and outside of the church. Will you look forward to the newsletters next time, too?

We pray that people created by God can meet and understand each other and join...with thanks, always.



