

2014 BUILDING FUND CAMPAIGN GIFT/PLEDGE RESPONSE FORM

PURPOSE: To retire an outstanding loan of \$188,000 by a three-year pledge plan.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ **CELL PHONE:** _____

EMAIL: _____

With God's help, I/we will make a monthly pledge in the amount of:

- \$50 \$500
 \$150 \$ _____ per month
 \$250 beginning on ____/____/20__

Donation of:

- Real estate Automobile, truck, or boat
 Stocks or bonds Other _____

Or a one-time gift in the amount of \$ _____

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR RESPONSE.

Kindly mail in your pledge response and/or check payable to **JEMS** at 948 E. 2nd St., Los Angeles, CA 90012. For more info, please call 213-613-0022 or email info@JEMS.org. You may also go to www.jems.org/support.



I will lift up
my eyes to the
mountain ...
my help comes
from the Lord.

PSALM
121:1,2

HISTORY OF THE JEMS OFFICE BUILDING

On January 17, 1994, a devastating 6.9 earthquake rocked the Los Angeles Basin that brought pain, sorrow, and great loss. Although the JEMS office building was previously retrofitted, it was not spared. It was severely damaged beyond repair. After weighing our options, it was the desire of the staff and Board to rebuild in the same location and be centrally located for our staff, volunteers, and Asian-American churches.

Exactly three years later on January 17, 1997, JEMS had a ground-breaking ceremony on the original JEMS site. We were the first tenants in the area to construct a new building. The city officials believed this was the beginning of the rejuvenation of the area. The FEMA program negotiated free demolition for the building's used bricks. This saved us about \$50,000! Then the Small Business Administration approved a loan for \$800,000 under FEMA at a very low interest rate! Then Rick Abe and Rick Tsushima (architects), Wes Ohye (structural engineer), and the Hazama Corp were providentially brought into the project. They provided us a

customized plan to meet our ministry and staff needs. In addition, the JEMS team of Rev. Sam Tonomura and Tommy Dyo watched over the daily activities. God guided and protected us throughout the process.

Our challenge today is the remaining mortgage balance of \$188,000. We would like to eliminate this debt, so we may fully concentrate on the task of reaching the Japanese in Japan, South America, and here in the United States, and the Asian Americans on our college campuses and anywhere else God directs us.

The original theme chosen for the building project is "I will lift up my eyes to the mountain ... my help comes from the Lord." God has given us faith and hope to trust him fully. We believe with God's help and God's people, we will continue to serve and partner with churches to bring God's kingdom to Asian Americans who need to hear the message of the Gospel.

Our
PRINCIPAL BALANCE
as of April 29, 2014:
\$188,582

To pay it off in
ONE YEAR
we need:

320 SUPPORTERS	<i>to pledge</i>	\$50 /MONTH
160 SUPPORTERS	<i>to pledge</i>	\$100 /MONTH
80 SUPPORTERS	<i>to pledge</i>	\$200 /MONTH

What staff and board members have to say about the JEMS building:



REV. DR. RICK CHUMAN
JEMS Executive Director

Although my home is just a building, it's more than that. Lives are nurtured. Relationships are grown. Memories are made. I want to let you know about another "home" that I go to Monday through Friday. It's a building which is "home" to all the various ministries of JEMS. Just as a home is valuable to a family, equally it is important to us who work at JEMS. Our building is truly a gift from God.

Our building was rebuilt in 1994 after the Northridge earthquake. Since that time, our staff has a place where they can call "home." From their office or cubicle, they are able to have a place to concentrate and fulfill the ministry that God has given them, be it providing necessary internal support for our missionaries or AACF staffer, to hosting Mount Hermon and other evangelistic events, etc. Our second floor has been used numerous times for short-term mission's training, as well as hosting a few church plants that needed a place to meet on Sunday mornings. We also partner with the Business Improvement District so they will have a place to meet and discuss concerns in our area.

Technically our "home," does not belong to us, but God. We know that we need to be good stewards of this 10,000 sq. ft. building. I can't think of a better way than doing what we do to accomplish our vision statement of "Jesus to every Japanese, Jesus every day." JEMS has a home that helps create memories, change lives, and most importantly, proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Thank you for your partnership.



REV. DR. SAM TONOMURA
Director of Men 4 Missions and Sr Ministries

Knowing the history of the JEMS headquarter building from the time of the earthquake of Jan. 17, 1994, it is a powerful witness of God's grace

and providence. These days with high tech, we can have virtual office and work from home to do the assigned ministry without much drawbacks. However, being able to come to the JEMS headquarters where we can interact with fellow staff members makes our individual ministry more effective, dynamic, productive and enjoyable. Also, a first-class building conveys strength and stability of an organization.



LARRY KUROMIYA
JEMS Board of Directors - President

We are fortunate to be able to hold our board meetings in such a comfortable central location and are blessed by so many who have sacrificed in the past so we may use this building for His glory. The board is grateful that

the Lord has raised up such a fantastic staff and along with it a wonderful place where they can work effectively. We believe the next step in our journey is to retire our mortgage so we can free up more funds to go into our ministries. Thank you for your past contributions to JEMS and for prayerfully considering how you can partner with us as we share Christ with more people. And may the Lord continue to bless you each day.



**JESUS TO EVERY JAPANESE,
JESUS EVERY DAY**



DONNA MUKAI
JEMS Board of Directors - Member

The JEMS building is a great place. It houses nine staff offices, a music ministry studio, a staff's lunch room, a Board meeting room and a large multi-purpose room with a kitchen for JEMS special events. These things are necessary to insure JEMS can house a variety of activities for their ministries and the community.



MARY TABUCHI
JEMS Office Administrator

After the earthquake, we spent several years confined to a one-room loft next door to the construction site of the new JEMS building. Our desks were separated by file cabinets and portable

partitions. It was impossible to hold large meetings and training in our space. It was difficult to identify your phone when it rang and preparing the mailing of the 8,000 JEMS Journal was a big challenge! However, from our loft, staff was able to "supervise" the construction from the perfect view from the third story window of our temporary office. God as the project manager guided us well! The sale of the bricks from the old building paid for the demolition of the building, the earthquake loan made the construction possible, and a great construction team was formed to partner with our staff.

The old building and loft were not designed for our diverse ministries. The new building was perfect for our ministries and allowed us to share our building with church committees, community meetings and start-up groups of new churches. The JEMS project was the first new building in the area which the City of Los Angeles recognized as the 'new beginning' for the area. The new housing and commercial buildings that surround us have brought back a "walking community" to Lil' Tokyo and civic center.



REV. MELANIE MAR CHOW
AACF Campus Minister

It's so wonderful to be close to Little Tokyo and Japanese American history which connects to our mission statement, "Jesus to every Japanese,

Jesus everyday." We are central to much of the Asia American community. It's nice to have an office that has easy access to host others in the area and be where we can learn about the historic roots of Asian Americans.



JOEL NAGATOSHI
JEMS Board of Directors - Member

I love JEMS. Through my involvement with the JEMS Mt. Hermon youth camps, I've been so blessed by seeing God changing the lives of so many of our youth. The staff and volunteers

at JEMS tirelessly devote themselves to the spreading of the Gospel. Paying off the mortgage would free up valuable resources to be invested back into our ministries.



DARRYL WONG
Mission Administrator

The office is an important place to connect with the field missionaries locally and in Japan. With Skype and email, I am able to assist JEMS long-

and short-term missionaries with their personnel and deputating process, field training, and the distribution of prayer letters to their supporters.

The second floor is a vital part of the JEMS Journal mailing process. We are able to have over twelve volunteers come at one time to prepare the 10,000 JEMS Journal mailing (615 lbs of mail) while six other volunteers are preparing the Nichigo "Jiho" newsletter that is mailed out each quarter.