

JEN-977
Box 4
PACKET 23

~~JOHANSEN, POUL E.~~
Johnson, Paul C.
1925-

336 Paul E. Johnson

Individual Questionnaire for

Biographical Record of Ministers

of the United Evangelical Lutheran Church (in America) and its parent synods:
The United Danish Ev. Luth. Church, The Danish Ev. Luth. Church Association
in America and The Danish Ev. Luth. Church in North America.

(Compiled for the Synodical Historical Archives)

Personal Data: (Please give all information you can)

Full name:

Born when: where:

Baptized when and where:

Confirmed when and where: by whom:

If immigrant, date of arrival in America: located where:

Date of ordination: June 22, 1952 where: Albert Lea, Minn. by whom: H.E. Jansrud

If not in above synods, when and where accepted as member pastor of our synod:

Retired from active ministry when: why:

Located where: occupation:

If dead, what date: where: cause:

Buried where: date:

Marriage: (1) to whom: date and place:

Wife's birthdate and place:

Her parents: location:

If wife is dead, give date

(2) Second wife (if any; give same information about her).

336 Paul E. Johnson

Christmas

Greetings



"Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable Gift,"
II Cor. 9:15

Christmas 1955

Once again it is our joy to greet you from Japan. May the Joy, Peace and Love of the Christ child fill your hearts this Christmas Day.

This Christmas sees our family settled down here in Chiba. We have been in Chiba City since the first part of March. Five days before we moved here from Tokyo, our youngest, David John was born (March 2). As if he does not do enough damage by crawling, he is eager to walk so his days of destruction will be even more fruitful. Timothy Paul (27 mo.) tries to keep his little brother in line, but finds he has more than he can handle keeping himself out of mischief. His vocabulary is most interesting. Some words are always said in Japanese and others in English, but he expects American and Japanese alike to understand him. Mother remains busy keeping all her men healthy and happy. Between Bible Classes and sermon preparations Dad finds time to enjoy the whole family.

Again this Christmas we are thankful and happy that through your prayers and support we can bring the Word of Light to these people in darkness.

*Paul and Joyce
Tim and Dawn*

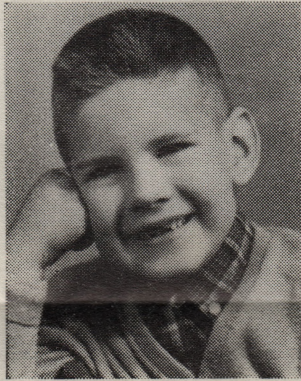
74 Kasuga Cho
Chiba City, Japan
March 1961

Dear Friends,

Since we didn't send pictures along with our Christmas letter, and because we so thoroughly enjoyed receiving so many pictures of your families, we are devoting most of this letter to ours.

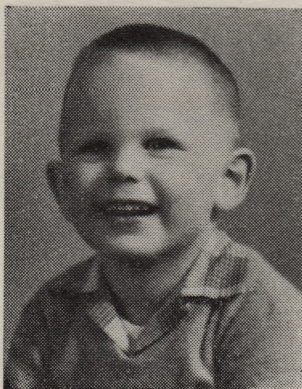
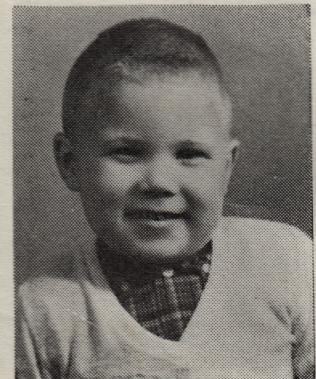
First, we all want to say many, many thanks for all the thoughtful ways you folks sent us Christmas greetings. (They keep coming through February.) We scotch-taped all our greeting cards on the window cornices and on the living room door, so all who came could enjoy them with us.

Then, the boys especially want to thank all those who remembered their birthdays with cards or letters. No doubt your children get the same beam in their eyes when they receive mail all their own. These are always displayed for nearly a month on our mantel.



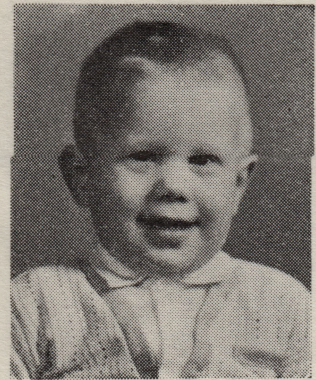
Our toothless Tim has just turned 7½. We find that half-year to be just as important as the 7. Tim looks every day for those teeth to push through, but they are poky. He is a big second-grader, and is holding his own, though both he and his teacher (mother) have their ups and downs. He also has learned the desirability of having money of his own, and willingly does "chores" for a weekly allowance. These consist mainly of feeding canaries and the dog, running errands, and helping to take care of his little brothers.

Husky Dave had his 6th birthday not long ago, which means he will finish Japanese kindergarten this month. Since the school year here begins in April, those who are a full 6 are ready to begin first grade. Dave will join Tim in the "bedroom school," finishing his Calvert Kindergarten course before summer. Both Dave and Tim are studying Japanese reading and writing a couple of hours a week, which makes life more interesting for them. They all do well with conversation (both Japanese and English).



Eric, better known as "Ricky," is now a grown-up 4 year old. He carries his pack (lunch) on his back every day to "yochien," and tries very hard to be just like his friends. When not in school he can usually be heard singing at the top of his voice, and seems magnetically drawn to any music anywhere. He still isn't quite sure how independent he wants to be, and has days of being Daddy's or Mommy's boy. He has just about caught up to Dave in height.

And then there's Mark. He'll be 2 in July. What a busy little boy he is! We were quite safe until he learned to turn door knobs, and now we are resorting keys. They work only if you lock the door, remove the key, and put it out of sight. He's a jabber box, but uses a language of his own. Paul tells the Japanese people that Mark speaks Danish! He folds his hands to pray, but always keeps one eye open, just to be sure he isn't missing anything. Naturally, he's the pride and joy of the whole family.



We have lost a member of our family this month. Yoshiko-san, the girl who has been living with and helping us for 5 years, is being married on March 15th. We will miss her very much, but are happy that we will see her each summer. She is marrying a wealthy farmer who lives near Nojiri, where many of the foreign community vacation. Her fiance is not a Christian, as she is, but she says he is not against Christianity, so we pray that she may be a witness for her Lord.

Our plum trees have been blossoming for some time, and the cherry tree buds are getting nice and fat, ready to burst. So we know Spring is here. With this new season of the year comes anew the thrill of the resurrection of our Lord. We wish you all a most blessed Eastertide.

We hope to hear from you soon. We promise to write again before too many moons.

Sincerely,

The Johnsons

About Paul's 4 children

米
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*Lutwick Agell
90 Rev. Pl. In.
Blair, Neb.
USA*



Paul C. Johnsen
74 Kasuga-cho
Chiba City, Japan



Rev. P. C. Jensen
Blair, Nebr.
U.S.A.

74 Kasuga Cho
Chiba City, Japan
July 12, 1961

Dear friends,

In the midst of the summer we want to greet you from Japan and send on this letter that was printed by our mission out here. We feel it is self explanatory and above all it gives you food for thought and material for urgent prayer for Japan.

As we send out this letter we are all awaiting the arrival of Grandma and Grandpa Johnsen from Fremont, Nebraska. They arrive on July 20. This jet age brings many interesting occurrences. For instance, the folks leave Los Angeles at 2:15 in the afternoon of the 19th. They arrive in Hawaii at 4:30 the same afternoon and here in Tokyo at 9:00 o'clock the same evening (local time of course) and yet it is the next day by calendar. Going back home they will arrive in the USA several hours before they leave Tokyo.

If you look hard on the picture on the first page (also on the second page) you will see yours truly fifth from the left in the back row.

A special thanks to all of you who have generously remembered us with letters, cards, etc.

May God grant you all a rich and blessed summer.

In Hlm.

Paul & Joyce Johnsen
Paul and Joyce Johnsen

The Japan News Letter

April, 1961

This is one of a series of letters sent from the mission fields to all our friends who are in the co-partner plan or who are supporting our missionaries.

Dear Friends,

“You also **must help us by prayer**, so that many will give thanks on our behalf for the blessings granted us in answer to many prayers.” II Cor. 1:11.

“The need of sufficient prayer is a serious problem for our church”, said pastor Masaru Oka when he spoke at the Study Conference on Japan held at Karuizawa from October 31 to November 4. Representing the Japan Evangelical Lutheran Church and the Board of Foreign Missions about fifty delegates, pastors, missionaries, and Board members from New York assembled for the bi-lingual deliberations.

Because of the importance of this meeting which was described as an historic event of epoch-making significance, and because of the great amount of thought and prayer which were used by the participants in preparing their contributions, it seemed good to present to you some of the problems which we face in our Lutheran Church here in Japan. You may not be able to contribute a large sum of money toward evangelism here, you may not be able to come and work here beside us, but **you can pray**. Therefore, we present the following as material for your intercessory prayers.



We work together for God's glory here and now.

Pray for those who search deeper.

Again and again we must take a careful and critical look at our work. As Rev. Charles Dawkins says, “The conventional methods do not at the present seem to be effective. It was David's sling shot that toppled Goliath and surprised the people. Maybe it is that we have not yet found the suitable method for coping with this oriental situation. We perhaps need to closely re-examine our approach.” Pastor K. Hirai adds, “It is inevitable that in facing up to certain of these problems

there is a measure of contact with the non-Christian religions. Therefore the relationships that can and should prevail between Christianity and such religions must be studied and clarified. In this connection the new Christian apology is an urgent need of our time."

Remember us with our specific problems.

Although the work of making Christ known to all men is nowhere an easy task, we ask that you pray for strength for us in meeting the obstacles as outlined by Professor Seiki Tasaka. "The evangelization of Japan—Japan permeated with Buddhist and Confucian thoughts, Japan with relatively high culture, with its unique history and civilization established in the isolation of over 1,000 years, Japan under the strong influence of modern materialism and nihilism, and the Japanese so obstinate with strong self-conceit."



Plenary session, seeking for the answers.

Pray for growth in Christian Education.

As God's call comes to the whole man and he is completely changed, so it is necessary to give guidance and training. Although in the past the Christian churches sought to escape the matters of the world, observes Pastor Seigoro Ushimaru, "The Churches in Japan have realized that it is nothing but Christian Education that can change the senses of the Japanese people from premodern to modern, and make them stand on the strong basis which gives life to democracy."

Matters of finance call for direction.

Pastor Atsumi Tasaka indicates that, "...one reason why Japanese pastors are not well thought of by Japanese society is the low level of their economic position." and "The problem of raising pastors' salaries is related to the problem of self-support. This is not a simple problem and needs much study." One can realize the seriousness of this when one realizes that, as Mr. Yoshiaki Ushijima says, "...there are only 24 self-supporting churches out of 110 churches and preaching places,..." "This calls for a well-planned stewardship program at the congregational level," concludes Paster David Vikner.

Pray that these personnel needs may be met.

In addition to the general consensus of opinion which stated that a much more courageous and forward effort on the part of the laymen is an absolute necessity, the following specific needs were outlined.



Seminar group, positive plans for the future.

1. Full time professors in Old Testament and Practical Theology.
2. Professionally trained missionary social workers.
3. Missionary experts in religious education.
4. A specialist in radio broadcasting and programming.
5. Trained writers of materials for church use.
6. Experts in evangelism to the blind and the mute.

Give thanks for advances.

Both literature evangelism and radio evangelism are reaching many with the message of Life. There are at present over five hundred books of an evangelical nature in Japan. Pastor T. Nakao gives a picture of the Lutheran Hour, "The Lutheran Hour with its easily understood 30 minutes of live drama, music and preaching was presented in such a way that even those living in the most conservative places in Japan came to a better understanding of the true spirit of Christianity."

Support our leaders, especially those who are just beginning.

For every Pastor, Christian worker, missionary, and lay leader let us together pray to God, remembering specifically those newly ordained, S. Utano, Y. Kawashima, Y. Ishibashi, N. Utsumi, S. Kaku, K. Kashiwada and K. Sato and those missionaries who have joined us during the past year, Miss Valeria Gerlt, Mr. Richard Solberg, and Pastor and Mrs. Paul Winemiller.

What will be the outcome of our prayers ?

As Dr. Chitose Kishi looks ahead he sees the church of the future, "An indigenous Church will be created by God, when the Gospel is correctly preached and the sacraments are rightly administered. The Church should not be like a flower arrangement but should take root deep into the soil, in order to bring forth good fruit that abides."

Perhaps the thoughts of all of us could be summed up in a paragraph written by Mr. K. Kawase, Principal of Kyushu Gakuin. "While looking over our long past and into our future, we are reminded at this time of the Grace of God which has guided us in the past and we are thankful for the prayers of many, not only in Japan but in other parts of the world. We hope that we can live up to the prayers and be worthy of this Grace which has been given us."

Sincerely in Christ,
Your Co-workers in Japan

ITEM INVENTORY LIST

JEN-977-4 Jensen, P.C. (1977)

Item#: 2 Sub-item# : i
 Biographical Record of Ministers-Johnson, Paul C. Includes lists of churches served and dates of ordination for the pastors listed.

Letter ID#	To	From	Postdate	Origin	Destination	Language	C/L/E
	Jensen, P.C. (Peder Christian)	Johnson, Paul C.	07/12/1961	Chiba City, Japan	Blair, Nebraska	eng	1/e
	Jensen, P.C. (Peder Christian)	Johnson, Paul C.	03/01/1961	Chiba City, Japan	Blair, Nebraska	eng	1/e
		Johnson, Paul C.	12/25/1955	Chiba City, Japan		eng	1