

# *Jim & Hydi* Peterson

## Country of Service

Japan

## Home Church

First Covenant Church  
Seattle, WA

## Birthdays

Hydi 1-25

Jim 6-3

## Next Home Assignment

October 2023–March 2024

## Social Media

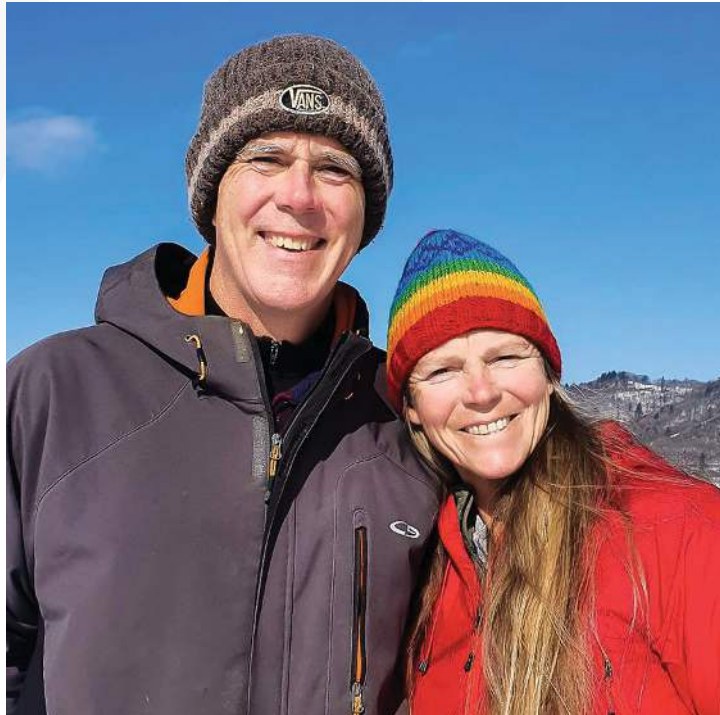
[https://www.facebook.com/  
groups/petersonsupport-  
group](https://www.facebook.com/groups/petersonsupport-group)

## Contact

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## Country of Service Address

c/o Serve Globally  
8303 W Higgins Rd  
Chicago, IL 60631



## MINISTRY OVERVIEW

Beginning in 1993, we have served in Japan alongside the Japan Covenant Church as part of the Covenant Missionary Committee Japan in a variety of different ministries. Since June 2014 we have lived at the Japan Covenant–owned Akagi Bible Camp. We manage the facilities and work as kitchen/cleaning staff during camps as well as occasional stints as camp speakers.

Jim preaches in different churches almost every weekend. These include both Covenant and non-Covenant churches. He also teaches a couple of classes at the Covenant Seminary in Tokyo. This school is owned and run by the Japan Covenant but has an interdenominational faculty and student body.

Hydi connects with a broad network of people through sports, primarily tennis, hiking, and running. These activities allow her to reach people who are unlikely to show up in church on a Sunday morning and to share the good news of Jesus



## **MINISTRY GOALS ACHIEVED:**

Our goal of resuming large scale camps at Akagi Bible Camp was partially achieved, but we still had some Covid restrictions that limited numbers. Jim's goal of reworking his seminary classes to encourage more meaningful interactions in the online format was successful. Students now seem eager to share from their hearts and interact with others even in the absence of in-person classes. Hydi's relationships with yet-to-believe friends have continued to deepen, and talking about spiritual things is becoming more and more comfortable and natural.

## **CHALLENGES:**

The ongoing pandemic has placed limitations on our ministries and forced us to find creative ways to do the things to which we feel called. Even now we continue to be prohibited from visiting long-time church members who are approaching death, and it has been disappointing not to be able to have these interactions, especially with the elderly. Akagi Bible Camp operated at about 60 percent capacity when we would have loved to have been back at 100 percent and growing, but this will continue to take time.

## **GOD AT WORK:**

Last year was encouraging for outdoor sports ministry opportunities in Japan. Hydi qualified for the second year in a row to go to the National Age Group Tennis Tournament on Kyushu Island for singles and doubles. She was excited to see that in the singles draw she would be playing someone from Kyushu, a woman

she had never played before. Hydi and Yunoki san enjoyed a three-hour match in the morning sun, and as the match progressed a friendship was born. Later in the tournament, Hydi needed to extend her stay one more day after winning in doubles and asked Yunoki san if she might know someone who would be willing to exchange some English conversation for a place to stay for a night. Japanese homes/apartments are notoriously small, and Japanese do not usually invite even friends into their homes so she expected the answer to be no. But Hydi spoke a prayer and was later introduced to Yoyo san. Yoyo san is single and a good friend of Yunoki san. When Yunoki san suggested that she allow Hydi to stay with her in exchange for some English conversation, Yoyo san was willing to take a chance! That night Yoyo san was going to her Tao gathering (it was Hydi's first time to meet someone who followed Tao), and Hydi enjoyed a quiet apartment and did a quick Google search to learn more about Taoism. She came upon an article about CS Lewis saying that perhaps the Way of Tao is actually the way of Jesus Christ and the God of Creation. The next morning Yoyo san made breakfast for Hydi, and they enjoyed a lively multi-hour conversation about their beliefs and faith in God! They have continued to stay in touch, and Yoyo san has told Hydi to never book a hotel in Kyushu again—she is always welcome to stay with her and continue their discussion!

## **MINISTRY GOALS:**

- For a smooth transition at Akagi Bible Camp during our six months in the United States.



- To continue to pray that we will find replacements to serve at Akagi Bible Camp when we retire.
- For Jim to continue to make positive adaptations to teaching seminary classes online.
- That Jim would be given Spirit-filled words to speak from the pulpits of churches he visits.
- For good connections with supporting partners and churches during our time in the United States.

### **PRAYER REQUESTS:**

- That we could have our itineration schedule in place prior to leaving Japan at the beginning of October.
- A safe and Spirit-filled camping season at Akagi Bible Camp.
- Enough volunteers and healthy relationships with all camp staff.
- For hearts to be open to hear the good news through sport ministry opportunities.
- We would also love to reach our support goal of being 100% financially supported as soon as possible.
- Travel safety for both Jim and Hydi who travel extensively in their ministries. That

we would find a reliable car to use during our home assignment.

### **SUPPORT LEVEL – 66%**

Thank you for supporting us financially this last year. We are grateful for your kingdom partnership. We still need to raise 34% of our support in order to continue our ministry.

Would you consider increasing your support by 5% to help us meet our goal? Your giving directly helps us with expenses related to community engagement, ministry, and salary.

### **PARTNER WITH US:**

Partner with us through prayer, financial giving, and in-person meetings during our time in the States. We continue to search and pray for new supporters to join our ministry team.

### **THANK YOU:**

We are deeply honored by and grateful for all our ministry partnerships. Without the fervent prayers and generous gifts of so many, none of the ministries we do would be possible. We ask for your ongoing support and look forward to seeing many of you during our upcoming time in the States.

### **TO SEND A FINANCIAL GIFT:**

Mail checks with a gift note for **Hydi & Jim Peterson Support** to

Evangelical Covenant Church  
PO Box 773420, Chicago, IL 60677-3420

### **TO GIVE ONLINE:**

[giving.covchurch.org/personnel-detail/JimandHydiPeterson](https://giving.covchurch.org/personnel-detail/JimandHydiPeterson)



The Evangelical Covenant Church