



May 11,2008

Dear Reverend Wayne Irwin and Congregation of Centenary United Church:

I cordially congratulate you on Centenary United Church celebrating the 140th anniversary of the dedication of its building.

Our school Toyo Eiwa Jogakuin was founded by Miss Martha Julia Cartmell, your church member, through her earnest prayer and devoted work 123 years ago. Miss Cartmell was appointed as woman overseas missionary at the annual meeting of Woman's Missionary Society of the Methodist Church of Canada, held at Centenary United Church. She was sent to Japan and founded Toyo Eiwa. Hamilton and Centenary United Church are the source of Toyo Eiwa. I am moved to know the church where she prayed and made her lifetime decision still thrives and that you celebrate its 140th anniversary.

Miss Cartmell served God and people as well through her belief in human truth. The missionaries after her had a great influence on teachers and students through practicing Christian love and faith. Our school motto is "Reverence and Service." Miss Cartmell and other missionaries lived our school motto.

Centenary United Church is nothing but the source and mother church of Toyo Eiwa. I am pleased that two of our staff are honored to join the commemoration service and join praising and thanking God for His marvelous work.

I am very grateful that you warmly welcome 30 high school students from our school who visit your church every summer on their language study trip.

I believe that keeping in mind the spirit of a founder is necessary to confirm any organization. I wish that we can strengthen the spiritual bonds with Centenary United Church, the source of Toyo Eiwa and that I will make sure what Toyo Eiwa should be.

I heartily congratulate you on your anniversary. I pray from Japan, across the Pacific, that God's grace may be on Reverend Irwin's valuable missionary work and on Centenary United Church.

Sincerely Yours,

Morio Ikeda
Chairman of Board of Trustees
Chancellor
Toyo Eiwa Jogakuin