

True Peace

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A Flower of Hope Is Blooming in Africa

By Cho Dong Ho



“From now on, our providence, True Parents’ providence is to search for a nation. With the world as the object, we should meet God with at least seven nations on a restored standard by 2020. Are you ready for this? Do not simply respond—show proof, show results. We have one goal. All our organizations should educate others about True Parents and guide them to develop into blessed families engrafted with new life through True Parents. In order to do that, we need to fulfill our responsibilities as tribal messiahs, which Father, at the end, requested us to do.” (September 17)

These are True Mother’s desperate words after all the events for the third anniversary of True Father’s ascension concluded. If you are a member, every one of you would hope to complete your mission as heavenly tribal messiahs who accomplish Cheon Il Guk by telling others about True Parents and witnessing to these people so

that they can be engrafted to new life.

The main location for our witnessing in West Africa is rural towns. In each town, there are about two hundred or three hundred young people. They are innocent and generous, and still have interest in and passion for new cultures. It is almost like the 1970s in Korean rural areas. In these small towns, God’s providence is being carried out as we teach them about the new word, True Parents’ Divine Principle, true families and true love. In the past, repression was rife in Africa, whose people suffered exploitation, pain and imported diseases. Nevertheless, their pure hearts have transmitted the heart of the origin of creation down through the generations.

The young people of Africa can feel our Heavenly Parent’s raw feelings of resentment, which moves and inspires them. In African country towns, members work in teams of two for forty days and can recruit more than a hundred people. All the members have united with our goal: Let all our members recruit twelve people by the end of 2015, thirty-six by the end of 2016, a hundred and twenty by the end of 2017, and four hundred and thirty by the end of 2018. Surprisingly, not even a year has passed and some people have already reached a hundred and twenty.

In step with this, the African regional headquarters is setting up a system to guide witnessing candidates. Based on the witnessing we have done from March to December, we are setting a strategy for January and February to focus on the blessing.

A strategic nation, Côte d’Ivoire, has chosen a thousand towns that have deep relations with us. They will bless a hundred and twenty married couples and more than thirty others. They have set a goal to give testimony to three hundred thousand people by the end of 2016. Their goal for 2017 is to establish good relations with three thousand towns, have four hundred and thirty heavenly tribal messiahs, and give testimony to a million people.

The Democratic Republic of the Congo is another strategic nation. They are like the heart of Africa as they currently have the most members in our region. On October 11, a new national leader took that post. All the members have united their resolve to recruit a million people by the end of 2017 and are preparing strategies in stages.

A flower of hope is blooming in Africa. We are prepared to complete Cheon Il Guk in at least three nations and dedicate our results to True Parents. This year is the fortieth anniversary of the arrival of our missionaries here in 1975. Forty years of indemnity have passed and forty years of new hope begins. Now is the time to speak with our results.

“Within True Parents’ ideology, whatever results one has and what responsibilities one fulfills are eternal. Those who have them can become true owners, pioneers. That is the path to becoming filial children and loyal subjects of our Heavenly Parent. We must focus all our attention on that. The church needs to grow in order to restore the nation. The growth of the church means that we need more families that are blessed. By doing this, ours can become a good nation, God’s homeland.”

As mentioned above, West Africa is doing its best to bring all our members together to realize True Mother’s words. Hence, we are going to speak out. We are going to tell everyone in the world about True Parents, complete our own families, restore our own tribes and successfully complete Cheon Il Guk. To do this I represent all our African member’s resolve and determination to do our utmost best with an attitude of true owners. 

Rev. Cho is our regional president of West Africa.

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God's Model for Absoluteness, Peace and the Ideal Is the Family and Global Kingdom Upholding Absolute Sexual Morality

True Father delivered this message on November 21, 2006, at the Korea International Exhibition Center, in Goyang, as part of the forty-seventh True Children's Day Celebration.

Today is a significant day in the history of God's providence. It begins the forty-seventh year since I declared Children's Day. To commemorate this significant day and renew our resolve, I would like to convey Heaven's message on today's topic. This is a summary of the message from Heaven that I delivered to the 6.5 billion people of the world over the past year intended to remind you again of your role and mission from the viewpoint of God's providence and of the importance of the age in which you are living.

God's purpose of creation

Respected leaders, what do you think God's ultimate purpose was for creating human beings? It was to experience joy through relating with ideal families filled with true love. What does an ideal family look like? When God first created human beings, he made Adam representing all men and Eve representing all women, with the intention that they become owners of true love. What was the quickest way for them to cultivate a character of true love? Simply put, it was to secure a parent-child relationship with God, whereby they could live in attendance to God as their parent

and form a model family embodying God's ideal of peace. They were to have followed the path of living as one family with God, experiencing joy eternally. God created Adam and Eve and established them as the first ancestors of humankind to form the model family and realize the ideal of peace.

Adam and Eve were to establish a model, peaceful, ideal family. God, the Absolute Being, created human beings as his children in order to instill in them absolute values based on an absolute standard. Thus, we have to follow the way of that absolute standard in keeping with the demands of the heavenly path. This means we must follow our destined life course in order to attend God, the Absolute Being, as our parent. In other words, for people to perfect themselves in resemblance to God and obtain the stature of people of character who can be called sons or daughters of the Absolute Being, they need to follow the path based on the absolute standard determined by God. The essence of this path is the standard of absolute sexual morality.

Absolute sexual morality

The first stage of absolute sexual morality is to maintain a standard of absolute

sexual purity before getting married. After we are born, we go through a process of growth. We pass through infancy and childhood in a very safe and secure environment formed by our parents' love and protection. We then enter the period of adolescence, which signals the start of a new and dynamic time of forging relationships on an entirely new level with the people and things of creation all around us. This is the time we begin to travel on the path of becoming a truly mature person, internally through the perfection of our character and externally by reaching adulthood.

Yet all people, no matter who they are, must meet one absolute requirement if they hope to grow to spiritual maturity. That requirement is to maintain their sexual purity. True love among true people is based on the model of absolute sexual morality. God gave this direction to his children as a preordained responsibility and duty necessary to fulfilling the ideal of creation. The only way to perfect the model of absoluteness in conjugal love is to follow this heavenly path.

What was the one and only commandment God gave to Adam and Eve, the first human ancestors, after he created them? It was the command-

ment and blessing to maintain an absolute standard of sexual abstinence until God's approval of their marriage. We find the basis for this in the Bible passage that indicates that Adam and Eve would surely die on the day they ate of the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. If they had refrained from eating and observed Heaven's commandment, they would have perfected their character and stood as equal cocreators with God, the Creator. Furthermore, they would have taken dominion over the creation and become lords of the universe, enjoying eternal and ideal happiness.

It was God's blessing that he warned Adam and Eve to preserve their sexual purity, so that they might marry with his blessing as true children, become true a husband and wife, give birth to true children and become true parents.

The second stage of absolute sexual morality applies to the relationship between husband and wife. More precious than life itself, this is the heavenly law of absolute fidelity. A husband and wife are eternal partners given to each other by Heaven. By having children, a husband and wife become cocreators of true love, true life and a true lineage, and the origin of that which is absolute, unique, unchanging and eternal. It is a heavenly principle that one person alone cannot give birth to a child, even in a thousand years. How can people who preserve their purity before marriage, and whom God binds together in a pure marriage as husband and wife, deviate from the heavenly way and go astray, following the wrong path? People are different from animals. If we understand God's purpose in creating us as his children, we will realize that the wrong path is one of unimaginable betrayal and defiance of the Creator and thus a path of self-destruction along which we dig our own graves. Resulting from the Fall, this path is outside the realm of the ideal of creation.

Absolute sexual morality is the greatest blessing that Heaven has bestowed on humankind. Without adhering to the standard of absolute sexual morality, the path to perfecting one's character and attaining spiritual maturity is closed. Furthermore, without securing the foundation of absolute sexual morality through perfected individuals in a true family, it is impossible for God to manifest his stature as a God

who is personal and incarnate in us.

In order for God, the Absolute Being, to have direct dominion over our lives and to live and share joy with us, we, whom God created as his object partners and his children, need to form perfected families based on the standard of absolute sexual morality, as he intended. Only by living within the boundaries of absolute sexual morality is it possible for a family to create life-long relationships based on the ideal model God originally intended for us. This model life includes the three-generational realm of grandparents, parents, children and grandchildren. Please understand clearly that God's eternal life and our eternal lives are possible only on this foundation.

Our mission

What kind of place is the kingdom of heaven? In brief, it is a world overflowing with God's true love. True love is its axis. True love is everywhere, in the outward expression as well as in the inward thought. True love fills everyone's life from beginning to end. In the kingdom of heaven, people receive life through true love, live in the embrace of true love and follow the way of true love until the day they pass on into the next world, the spirit world.

The kingdom of heaven is a natural world where all people live for the sake of one another. Consequently, antagonism and jealousy cannot be found anywhere in that world. Neither money, position nor power governs that world. In that world, the success of every person represents the success of the whole; the likes of every person represent the likes of the whole, and the joy of every person represents the joy of the whole. The kingdom of heaven is a world filled with the air of true love, where everyone breathes true love. Its life throbs with love, everywhere and all the time. All the citizens of that kingdom link together through their common membership in God's lineage. There, the whole world and its people connect in an inseparable relationship, like the cells in our bodies.

True love, the love that is God's essence, is the kingdom of heaven's only governing power. Accordingly, God also exists for true love. Our bondage to the lineage of Satan has caused so much suffering throughout history. Let us now boldly step forth to

sever it and graft onto the root of True Parents' lineage. Why would we foolishly continue to live and die as wild olive trees? A wild olive tree, even if it lives a thousand years, will only continue producing the seeds of more wild olive trees. Where can we find the path to escape this vicious cycle?

It is through the holy blessing. The holy Blessing Ceremony offers the grace of grafting onto the true olive tree. True Parents, who bring God's true lineage to humankind, have established this. Once you change your lineage to God's lineage, your offspring will belong to God's lineage naturally. We receive the holy blessing in three stages: rebirth, resurrection and eternal life. These marriages contribute to the enormous task of transcending the barriers of race, culture, nationality, ethnicity and religion, thereby creating one family of humankind.

I have said that in the Era after the Coming of Heaven we must recover the true lineage that was lost when Adam fell, by receiving the marriage blessing through the True Parents. Through five stages, the individual, family, tribe, people and nation, the providence of the blessing becomes perfect. In this way, let us fulfill our divine mission as blessed families in the Era After the Coming of Heaven by restoring and establishing the ideal three-generational family on the world level.

Please become true princes and princesses who live in attendance to God as your True Parent, for he is the peace king of the multitudes. Let us build the everlasting peace kingdom by attending True Parents, who have been enthroned as the King and Queen of Peace in heaven and on earth in the realm of eternal liberation and complete inner freedom, where there is no need for a savior, a messiah or a returning lord. Let us fulfill the dutiful way of filial children in the family, patriots, saints, and divine sons and daughters.

By following God's commandment to uphold absolute sexual morality, let us establish exemplary families, inherit True Parents' victory of restoring through indemnity the realm of three generations and perfect the world as it would have been without the Fall. 

This text has been edited for inclusion in TPmagazine. It is an excerpt from the fourth book, chapter 13 of Pyeong Hwa Gyeong.



Searching for the Root of the Universe

This was True Mother's Message at the Cheongpyeong Autumn Great Works on October 24, 2015 (9.12 on the heavenly calendar).

It is good to see you. Ladies and gentlemen, with what mind have you come here? Did you come excited to meet True Parents? The udambara, which you saw in the video, that miraculous flower, was discovered on October 4 blooming on a tomato in the vegetable garden next to the Bonhyangwon, True Father's grave. Even now, they are still thriving. Don't you feel Heavenly Parent's love as he gives his grace to you and to all humankind?

The title of my message today is "Searching for the Root of the Universe." Would you like to live in the original homeland with True Parents? I cannot find any hope in this world, given what is happening here, externally. Many people are dying right at this moment in every part of the world due to starvation, natural disas-

ters, religious conflict and ideology-based warfare. When you think about these things, every single person, every single family, is valuable. You must not be the only ones who enjoy these blessings.

God, who created the universe, had a purpose for creation. He had a hope. Yet what happened when human beings did not fulfill their responsibilities? This became a world in the realm of Satan's dominion, as it is today. You would not find such pain and anguish in a world under God's dominion. It would only be happy. However, the world today is not like that. The providential history of restoration through indemnity, covering six thousand years, as the Bible has it, is a sad providential history where a weary and sorrowful Heavenly Parent searched for lost human beings.

Human beings, as originally created, would fulfill their responsibilities. If you had grown in the way God hoped you would, you would be in the same position as God. The original human beings should have become the true parents of humankind. Those who leave God can only wander in Satan's realm. Nevertheless, because Heaven has a purpose for creation he cannot abandon human beings. Hence, he began the history of restoration through indemnity search for them. We can know he is doing this through the many religions we know of. God, who has endeavored to instill good in an evil world and has hoped for human beings to live truthfully, established a religion that fit each region.

However, human beings need to come in through the gate of the providential history that the creator, God,

has planned. What this means is, only Christianity spoke of the relationship of God and human beings as the relationship of a father and his children. They say "God the Father." The lineage of a parent and child needs to be one, but the Fall means that the lineage changed. Therefore, to come to God's side people need to pay indemnity.

God's preparations

During a long period, four thousand years, God established the Israelites as the chosen people. God's hard work for the past four thousand years, since the Israelites emerged, is indescribable. God said that when the Israelites had formed a nation he would send the Messiah.

Therefore, the Messiah came. God said that the Messiah was his only begotten son. He said that though there are many fallen people in the world, this is the only son, his only begotten son, with whom God could have a relationship. The fallen people should have attended God's only begotten son. Yet, what happened? Did the Israelites, the Jews, those close to Jesus; or Mary, whom God had prepared for Jesus, fulfill their responsibilities? They did not.

Jesus had no alternative but to die on the cross. What did he say as he died? "I will come again!" What did he say he would do when he came again? He said he would hold the marriage supper of the Lamb. That meant he would marry. God's hope and humankind's hope is to meet True Parents. Only then can human beings, who have fallen into Satan's realm, be reborn, be resurrected, return to God's side. Yet they lost that opportunity.

Through history, we know how many hardships the Israelites had to go through. At the time, the Roman Empire was so powerful that it was a gateway to the world. The Israelites were also under Roman rule. If they had united and attended Jesus, they would have absorbed the Roman Empire and gone out to the world. If that had happened, the good sovereignty, the good territory, centered on God, would have been secure. Yet they lost that opportunity.

The all-knowing and all-powerful God cannot simply wait. Therefore, with resurrection over the two-thousand-year history... That is the history of the Holy Spirit. What you

need to be aware of is that this was the foundation to search for the only begotten daughter of God. Do you understand?

Christians today do not know this. They do not understand that God's providential history unfolded clearly and scientifically. Thus, I am going to explain to you briefly, based on humankind's historic civilizations after Jesus, what responsibility those living on the Korean Peninsula must fulfill.

The history of civilizations, speaking broadly has spread from a continent to an island nation through the peninsular culture. Therefore, it will return to a peninsula. Christianity began on the Italian Peninsula. Isn't that right? Didn't it move across the European continent and arrive in England? What did the English used to say? They confidently said, "The sun never sets on our empire!"

Beginning around the seventeenth century, many believers were able to read the Bible in English in the King James's translation. The Christian church became corrupt at that time. In the name of their institution, they tied up God and human beings. Hence, Puritan movements broke out among



True Mother's signature on a photograph of the mystical flower

Christians who wanted to attend God genuinely. They moved to the continent in search of freedom of faith where they could attend God freely. They were the Pilgrim Fathers, the Puritans that went to the American continent. Therefore, the United States was in a position to lead the world as a Christian and a democratic nation.

God had prepared that foundation for the Messiah to come again. God launched the democratic sphere so that God's painful history, such as at the time of Jesus Christ, would not be repeated due to human ignorance. Freedom of faith was the foundation on which the people could be prepared to welcome the advent of the returning Lord. On the other hand, as I mentioned before, that Christian foundation was the means to search for the only begotten daughter of God.

Why does our nation have the name, Korea? If you study our history, a brilliant part of it was the Goguryeo kingdom. The next kingdom to be established was Goryeo, the name of which is based on Goguryeo. The Joseon Dynasty, under the Lee tribe, took its name from Gojoseon. Accordingly, this shows that Korean history had times of brilliant civilizations. Isn't that right? You have much to study. However, sadly, Korean history as it is taught today has been distorted and omitted because of worries over whether China or Japan would complain.

God's providence includes a search for the only begotten daughter of God. Would God, who brought forth his only begotten son through the Israelites' four-thousand-year history, not prepare his only begotten daughter? Before Jesus was born, the Dongye race (800–400 BC) ... Do you know the Dongye race? The Dongye race is a bit different from the Chinese. The Korean kingdom of the Han tribe came from them. It was a brilliant kingdom. *The Book of Odes* mentions that that dynasty fell to the Wiman, and then crossed the sea. This means that it spread to the Korean Peninsula and Japan.

But this is not what is important. Could Heaven give birth to the True Parents, who would be the last Messiah, the Second Coming of the Lord, in any sloppy nation? Wouldn't God have searched for such a people or nation that would have pride as a confi-

dent cultural people inside of Satan's realm? In conclusion, Korea produced the Second Coming of Christ and the only begotten daughter of God....

Only we know

All religions should go to the place where they attend our Heavenly Parent, who is the root as their own parents. Out of all the religions in the world only the Family Federation for World Peace, the Unification Church does this. I spoke about the history of humankind's civilizations, but even England did not fulfill its responsibility. Therefore, the Christian cultural sphere had to cross over to the American continent and find Asia. Christians would have to come to Asia, cross Japan and come to the Korean Peninsula and settle in Korea. Thus, I often tell you that you need to know how important our responsibility is.

True Parents have completed God's amazing providential history, the six-thousand-year work of restoration through indemnity. True Parents have opened a new era. That is Cheon Il Guk. Right? However, while True Parents are alive, the center that humankind and Heavenly Parent have yearned for has been revealed. Seven billion people do not know True Parents. Isn't this your responsibility? Do you agree or not?

The world's population was three billion in the 1960s. Just fifty years later, it has reached seven billion. Because they have a conscience, those people have also put a lot of effort into searching for God and trying to be good and kind. Yet, the situation is not resolved because the environment is unable to improve within Satan's realm. Only through True Parents can everyone unite. Our people have experienced this through the Korean War. However, they do not even understand. Even now, they do not know that God's providence is unfolding or what our future will be like. This is very sad. Neither politicians nor people of the religious world know. Only we know.

What should we do? You must shout to let them know. You must let the world know of True Parents' manifestation. You need to save the lives of those pitiable people who are dying forlornly. Don't you agree? If they live and die without knowing True Par-

ents, they will have difficulties even in the next world, and they will leave the indemnity to their descendants. Hence, what should those who know do? All of you need to invest everything you have.

Live with True Parents

It is quite interesting. Korea is a nation that God had to choose; he had no alternative. There are many difficulties externally and politically. Yet you need to help these people become aware of the center. If you look at the location of Cheongpyeong on a map and compare it to a human body, its position is that of the womb. Isn't that interesting? The womb is where the conception of new life takes place.

Cheongpyeong is a place that can make fallen human beings, wild olive trees, into true olive trees. All the people of the world should rush to come here. Therefore, we need to save lives, renew them. People need to know that True Parents will accomplish the providence, not some other individuals.

Therefore, where is our eternal homeland? Isn't it our dream to be where True Parents are and to live with them? That is why God and True Father have shown us a substantial, genuine udambara flower, which they say only blooms after three thousand years. Only we know the truth. Only we are aware of God's providence.

Thus, we need to bring it to light. We need to proclaim it. By any means possible, we need to make it so that there is no one that can say they did not know True Parents. If you do that, you no one will complain about you later. You should not be criticized through questions like, "If you knew, why didn't you teach me?" Hence, what do you need to work hard at? You need to complete your responsibilities as tribal messiahs and restore your nations.

The president and other politicians are not the owners of this nation. Who is? True Parents! You must understand that only when this nation becomes God's fatherland, a nation that attends our Heavenly Parent, will it avoid the enormous indemnity like that which the Israelites in olden times had to pay. Do you understand the title of this message now? Are you going to do it? If you are, please all rise. Let us sing "Song of Unity" together. 



Become People Who Will Succeed

I am happy because I could hear your forty-day workshop report and see your natural, cheerful, young faces today. God had an ideal, a dream, a dream that he has waited to see realized ever since the time of the Creation; this dream could not become reality without me. Thus, I received God's summons. How difficult has it been that it took four thousand years to establish a

standard for an individual, a family and a nation that God could relate to in the fallen human world?

What happened, when after four thousand years, God sent the Messiah? As has happened so often, human beings committed an unforgivable sin that caused pain, anguish and suffering to God. However, Jesus said that he would come again as he died on the cross. What did he say he

was going to do when he returns? He said that he would hold the marriage supper of the Lamb. This refers to the two-thousand-year providential history of Christianity after Jesus Christ, in search of the only begotten daughter of God.

When I was sixteen years old, I received God's summons and immediately made a decision. If I did not do it, this wearisome providential history

The Asian Top Gun workshop, part of a course to raise future leaders for the victory of Vision 2020, took place in Cheongpyeong from August 31 to October 9. True Mother invited its 115 participants to Cheon Jeong Gung on October 9 to conclude their Top Gun experience. This is an extensive excerpt of True Mother's message to the Asian Top Guns on that day.

of restoration through indemnity, which was full of resentment, could not end. Thus, I resolved to succeed without fail. That was 1960, the year of True Parents' Holy Wedding.

You learned this in your lectures. Isn't that right? You probably heard about True Mother's seven-year course in the Principle. This seven-year course was my path to prepare a foundation of victory, by which the six-thousand-year providential history that Eve had lost could be restored through indemnity. If I had been unable to complete this, God's Day could not have been established. Do you understand? True Mother's victory is God's victory. No one can replace True Mother's history. Therefore, I took initiative and set an example of fulfilling what I had to do providentially.

Foundation Day was on the 13th [2.13 in 2013 by the heavenly calendar]. You know this. We have God's Day. Why did we establish Foundation Day on the 13th? Thirteen is an important number. Searching for the lost number, thirteen, is part of True Parents' providential history. Because of this, I bore fourteen children, which is one more than thirteen, in one lineage, with my own body.

In the ages of history, especially in

Old Testament providential history, many numbers appear. As the True Mother, I united this. I made them one. This is also one of Mother's great achievements. Please understand this. I was your age, twenty-four, when God's Day was proclaimed.

Two people have come up here today and expressed their determination, but I hope that all of you become True Parents' children who can say, I will succeed without fail!

From that point of view, you are blessed people, chosen people, and happy people. Those who have everything should share. In that way, you will receive more blessings. This means that you need to raise many people, give life to them and encourage them to be like you. Moreover, whatever mission you are given, you can become those who fulfill their tribal messiah responsibility to bless more than 430 families and take the lead in restoring your nation!

Please be aware that in the place where you take action with determination and with True Parents at the center, in this blessed time, miraculous and amazing providential deeds can happen. Though I had Father, I fought alone because I had my own responsibility to fulfill. However, you

have many brothers and sisters—120 of you! This is your allied army. Take care to remember that when you unite and go forward with one goal, you have nothing to be afraid of, nothing is beyond your capacity and nothing guarantees that you cannot succeed!

You probably have many questions for me, but I believe I have answered everything. You have achieved the Four Position Foundation centered on True Parents. Among the True Children, Hyo Jin nim and Heung Jin nim are sons who have completed their duty as true filial sons and loyal subjects in front of you, in front of humankind and in front of True Parents. They are your elder brothers.

If you live on the front lines with a heart that we are always with you, we will become a wellspring that can work with you and give you strength spiritually and physically. Thus, attend True Parents every day and we will accomplish one world centered on Heavenly Parent without fail. One world is heaven on earth. Heaven on earth is the completion of Cheon Il Guk. Please become great Asia Top Guns who will bring this day quickly. Think of this with pride, fill yourselves with courage one-hundredfold and be victorious! 



Cheongpyeong Great Works



True Mother dedicates Chinhwa Park, near the water of life at Cheongpyeong.



True Mother planting a commemorative tree in the park



True Mother, Yeon Ah Moon, various Korean leaders and Wonju McDevitt listening to a briefing about the park



True Mother with the Japanese leaders at the Cheongpyeong Lake outlook platform



True Mother giving a message to Cheongpyeong workshop attendees



True Mother joins those in the audience for a photograph



Become Great Autumn Supermoons

Sun Jin Moon, the FFWPU international president, delivered this keynote address at the Inauguration of the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification in Japan on October 12 at the Makuhari Event Hall in Chiba Prefecture.

For me to be here with you today celebrating the inauguration of the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification in Japan is a tremendous honor. This is a joyous and momentous victory for Japan and for our worldwide movement. It seems especially meaningful that this victory came at the time of the third anniversary of True Father's ascension. What a blessing! This wonderful advancement fills us with a spirit of hope as we look ahead toward the third

Foundation Day, which we will celebrate in February 2016.

Just before coming to Japan, I had an amazing and inspiring experience with True Mother and other members of my family. As you know, there was an autumnal supermoon this year. With this in mind, True Mother called us together at Cheon Jeon Gung along with three generations of the True Family and blessed central family members. Being so close to this supermoonlight made us all feel Heavenly Parent's and

True Father's warmth, true love, and wisdom.

To be in the presence of this radiating, glorious light as it lit the night sky and illuminated our path as we walked was moving. To be with True Mother on this unforgettable night was truly special. Along the way, we sang songs of love and devotion to Heavenly Parent, True Father, our ascended family members and ancestors.

We each made a wish in the presence of this luminous autumn moon.

Toward the end of our walk, we made our final stop to visit with Anju and Jeongju, the two beautiful North Korean dogs, a male and a female, given as a gift to True Parents from Kim Jong Un, the North Korean president for True Parents' 2012 Birthday.

One dog is named Anju, after True Mother's hometown; the other is named Jeongju, after True Father's hometown. True Parents looked after and raised Jeongju and Anju with hearts yearning for unification. Since the dogs are siblings, they cannot breed. Hence, Anju is allowed to breed with Uri, a pure bred *poongsan* dog donated by former president Kim Jeong Il to former South Korean president Kim Dae Jung on the condition that if Anju gives birth to puppies, one of them should be given to Uri.

Uri and Anju attempted to mate on several occasions without success. However, miraculously, during True Father third seonghwa memorial, Anju gave birth to two healthy, adorable puppies.

The first puppy born was given to Uri as promised. This puppy was moved to an animal shelter managed by the Korean government. After taking a good look at the second puppy, True Mother named it Jeongpal. The Chinese character for "jeong," comes from True Father's hometown, Jeongju; the second character, "pal," is from the character symbolizing perfection or eternity.

As we held and played with Jeongpal, we felt as if we were embracing True Father's hometown and his dream of unification for our homeland, Korea. It was as though the ideal of peace for the entire world was alive, almost real, as we experienced the gift of life in this small puppy. Also, in the glowing light of the sphere of the supermoon, we could see and feel the full circle of life from birth to death.

We all felt gratitude for the amazing gift of life, knowing that through our lives we have the esteemed honor and opportunity to make the world a better place, before we pass to the spiritual world. In this moment, under the supermoon, with True Mother, and True Father's puppy, we felt purely blessed. Our hearts united



President Moon delivering her commemorative address

as we hugged each other as one family, with eternal love and gratitude to True Father and our other family members who had ascended.

According to some, the autumn supermoon and its cycle are believed to give off energy for growth, liberation and new beginnings. The fact that the supermoon phenomenon includes an eclipse suggests that it marks the end of one era or period and the beginning of a new one.

It is a time for growth, balance and centering. On this magical night, centered completely as one family under our Heavenly Parent and True Parents, we welcomed this new era of joy and greater blessings. This very special day was during Chuseok, a time of thanksgiving when we gather as a family to honor our ascended ancestors at the *wonjeon* and share a feast of the autumn harvest.

We reflected on the lives of our loved ones who had passed away, knowing that each one had their own hopes, dreams and aspirations for peace. Recognizing this, we each pledged to live and work to fulfill their hopes and dreams. We felt deeply the preciousness of life and of each breath we take. Life is a blessing.

True Mother spoke to us during our Chuseok luncheon. She encouraged us to strive to achieve full completion, like the supermoon; we should each feel hopeful and joyful,

knowing that we have been blessed by True Parents with true love, life and lineage.

Here are some words from True Mother at the luncheon:

When I look at the round moon, I think about our lives. During our earthly lives, I hope that our responsibility does not falter; we should be like the round moon, growing bigger every day. To complete the will of the providence, I, my family, the church and the nation must fulfill our responsibilities while True Parents are on earth. I have wondered, How many full moons must pass for that day to come?

Everyone, what thoughts did you have? First of all, standing in front of True Parents, the priority is that we fulfill the 2020 Vision. You must fulfill this responsibility. Your achievement will demonstrate to others and to the world that victory is possible. Isn't that so? Can you do it? If you do that, seven billion people will attend Heavenly Parent and they will advance toward the happy day when they can share gratitude and love, just like what we experienced today. Just like the round moon, your efforts and devotion will determine whether a lot of time or a shorter time is needed.

Beginning with the individual, when all members and families fulfill their responsibilities and attend the Heavenly Parent with one heart, one will and one devotion, we will be able to show the people of the world the way to build a united world where we can attend the Heavenly Parent and celebrate together with True Parents.

I wanted to share this experience with you in hopes that I could bring to all of you some of our True Mother's joy, love and wisdom, especially as we celebrate the victory of FFWPU-Japan. Truly we are coming much closer to fulfilling True Parent's will that we become one global family under Heavenly Parent, making this ideal a peaceful, loving reality for the whole world! Aju!

As I stand here today, I am deeply humbled; my heart is filled with profound gratitude and respect for each one of you, especially when I reflect on the heroic and sacrificial course that you have followed throughout your lives, in attendance to Heavenly Parent and True Parents. Without your sacrifice and your unchanging dedication, we would not be celebrating this victorious day. Thank you, brothers and sisters. You shine like stars in the heavens. You are even brighter than a supermoon!

Certainly, for all of us, centering on the third anniversary of True Father's ascension, we have come to know the clear, absolute, path of victory that our True Parents completed. I think especially of the recent publication of the *Chambumo Gyeong* and the completion of the three Holy Scriptures. We have been given renewed hope and grace, allowing us to overcome negativity and resentment so that we can follow the path of light, love, hope, faith and goodness.

This is possible because we have been engrafted to True Parents as the true olive tree, whereby we can become their filial children. With our True Mother here on earth and True Father in heaven and strengthened by their words of truth, we can move forward toward the fulfillment of Vision 2020 and the realization of Cheon Il Guk.

Of utmost importance in fulfilling

both of these goals is the tribal messiah mission. As we carry out our responsibility, we honor our True Father. Along the way, we can achieve harmony and oneness with all living beings and bring True Parents' truth to the world's seven billion people.

As we usher in this glorious autumn and celebrate this joyous victory for FFWPU Japan, let us reflect on True Father's words, as he speaks about the significance of the shift from the era of the Unification Church to the era of the Family Federation:

The Family Federation for World Peace and Unification was established to gather the mothers, the sons and the daughters, who had fallen short in Adam's family, and lead them to the blessing. From the family age of the blessing, we move now to the tribal age. The age of HSA-UWC was for the sake of finding Adam's family. Now we are in the course of uniting Adam's family and building the tribal-level foundation. After inter-connecting the tribes, we can build a national-level foundation and finally a world-level foundation. We are now in this time of great change, so the Unification Church is transforming into the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification.

The Unification Church has completed the foundation on the individual level, and after establishing the family, tribe and people, we need to settle one nation, the nation of the united world. If the Unification Church can help guide the United Nations, everything will be done. It is important to achieve the unification of North and South Korea, and also to unite the Adam and Eve nations. That time will come.

When you receive the blessing, you must join the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification and take responsibility as tribal messiahs.... At this time, centering on the True Family, we can connect to the realm of direct dominion. We are becoming complete with True Parents as the center Accordingly, in the Unification

Church, we have been performing the Blessing Ceremony centering on true love, true life and true lineage, thereby connecting everything to God.

The God-centered family is the place in which all religions are fulfilled. Religions emerged in order to seek the family that was lost in the garden of Eden. This was to clarify that the original ideal world as envisioned at the Creation comes not through religion but, rather, through ideal families.

I believe these precious words from our True Father help us understand the significance of today's gathering.

Restoration history

As each of you knows, the way of salvation is a difficult course of restoration, a course of reversing the Fall, so that humanity can reunite with Heavenly Parent. There is no magic wand for salvation. In fact, the course of restoration is marked by the sacrificial path taken by our True Parents along with all of you.

True Parents revealed to us the true loving heart of our Heavenly Parent, the true nature of the Fall and the principles of restoration. They revealed to us the patterns of providential history and showed us the way to reverse the Fall, reversing the world of darkness, and building a new world that is within the direct dominion of Heavenly Parent's loving light. Heavenly Parent created human beings to be object partners of true love.

Restoration occurs as we create relationships of true love. With this in mind, we understand that True Parents cannot fulfill the providence of restoration all by themselves; they needed to create a family, a True Family that reciprocates with absolute true love, faith and obedience. We have all been engrafted to True Parents as object partners, with the mission and responsibility to become their filial children.

True Parents were able to achieve victory at each critical stage in the history of restoration because of the genuine, absolute, loving, and sincere devotion and effort of our filial True Family members, and all our

precious brothers and sisters around the world, especially here in Japan. True Parents have not only raised their own children, they have worked tirelessly to establish a global family of sons and daughters, brothers and sisters in every corner of the world, all within their lifetimes. They expanded the realm of the blessing to every continent and every nation and to people of every race, religion, nationality and culture.

That is why they established the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification as a global movement of blessed families. Our mission is to build on their foundation and expand the realm of the blessing to the world's seven billion people. When I look at your faces today, I can feel that Heavenly Parent, True Father in heaven, and True Mother on earth are very happy.

Japan, the Eve nation

Without True Mother's devotion and her life of absolute sacrifice to Heavenly Parent and True Father over many decades in the providence of restoration none of us would be standing here today. Because of her absolute true love, faith, and obedi-

ence we are here to inherit true love, true life and true lineage from our beloved True Parents. Together with True Father, she completed Heavenly Parent's original ideal, the three blessings, and the original four-position foundation.

This is the root of our movement. Now that True Father has ascended, she has worked tirelessly. She has triumphed in securing the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification. She leads us forward toward the fulfillment of Vision 2020 and the completion of Cheon Il Guk, so that our entire movement can eternally thrive and prosper.

Her course has not been easy or simple. She has said that her life has been like a deep ocean; so many difficulties and unfathomable sacrifices she had to overcome lie beneath the surface.

We must honor her love, sacrifice and victory while she is on earth; True Father in heaven wishes nothing less than for his children to live with love, oneness and joy with our eternal True Parents. I know in my heart that you beloved Japanese brothers and sisters have also followed a path of total sacrifice.

For this reason, you can understand True Mother's heart. Like True Mother, you have maintained a standard of absolute love, faith and obedience as the mother nation. This level of devotion and hard work enabled you to receive the blessings from True Father and opened your hearts to offer support to not only the father nation but to all nations giving salvation to all the lost children of the world.

When we celebrated the third anniversary of True Father's Ascension, our Japanese members performed a musical that displayed the passion and depth of True Father's love. Wasn't it wonderful? True Mother was so inspired!

We witnessed the history of True Father's unchanging will to embrace and bring salvation to the world, even at the risk of his own life, by loving and forgiving Japan, which had been viewed as an "enemy" nation at that time. We cried as the performers portrayed True Father's tortuous and humiliating path of suffering, never failing to love his enemies, winning their hearts through the practice of true love and grace. True Father set the standard of true love, a standard



A festive end to the celebration of the beginning of the Family Federation era in Japan



The Japanese movement can finally fly the Family Federation flag.

Let's support True Mother

As you know, True Mother has reassured and promised True Father in Heaven that she will carry on their providential mission here on earth. True Father has stated the importance of expanding True Parents' blessing to other families through our effort as tribal messiahs.

When you receive the blessing, you must join the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification and take responsibility as tribal messiahs.... By connecting to the nation and becoming one with God and True Parents, we transition from the realm of indirect dominion to the realm of direct dominion. This is the course we must take. This is how unity is achieved" *Chambumo Gyeong* Book 12 Chapter 1

True Mother has been very encouraged with the rapid expansion of tribal messiah Blessing Ceremonies in countries like the Philippines, Nepal, Thailand and highlighted the need for a national level of heavenly victory. I know that True Mother has high hopes for FFWPU Japan; you are the mother nation. I know that the Japanese brothers and sisters will unite wholeheartedly with True Mother and support her.

To show our united support and eternal love for True Parents, let us all join hands, feel the power and warmth of this collective loving energy!

With one heart, one mind, and one united spirit, let us pledge our full and sincere determination to complete this tribal messiah mission, realizing Vision 2020 and establishing Cheon Il Guk!

Let us feel the limitless energy of being one united family, and let us offer our commitment, like a great autumn supermoon, to usher in a new cycle, a new era of victory and the completion of our True Parents' dreams for worldwide peace and unification.

May all our collective wishes and dreams be fulfilled and bring victory, love, peace and unification to all life and creation.

May Heavenly Parent and True Parents' blessings and love be with each one of you and with your precious families always. *TP*

we are called to embody.

This path that we all are called to take was paved with True Father's absolute, devout passion to unite all divided entities and restore all beings and things back into oneness with our Heavenly Parent. When we deeply reflect on True Parents' sacrificial course, we understand that they went that way for our sakes, so that we could receive the blessing and build a world where such indemnity and suffering are no longer necessary.

As this autumnal season is a time for reflection, growth, and renewal, please meditate and open your hearts to appreciate Heavenly Parent and True Parents. Let us think of what we can offer in return for all the gifts of true love, true life and true lineage that we have received. The principle of give and take action calls for reciprocity.

We have each received salvation, the blessing, the vision 2020 of one family under our Heavenly Parent, and the glorious honor of ushering in the realization of Cheon Il Guk! We have received a glorious, eternal truth, the path of true love and unlimited grace. Knowing this, how should we respond? True Father, before ascending, gave us the answer. He anointed all blessed central family members with the tribal messiah mission.

Just as True Parents sincerely offered their lives for the sake of the

providence of restoration and emerged victorious, we should do the same through our tribal messiah mission. Our hearts should be overflowing with gratitude and love as we stand on their foundation of victory. As their children, let us joyfully strive each day to create loving families at home, as well as fulfilling True Parent's vision to return all the children of the world to our Heavenly Parent.

As we usher in the FFWPU era in Japan, we affirm the victorious lives of our True Parents, who are the absolute unified center, as a true husband and wife. All life born from them or engrafted to them through the blessing can be fully restored. This is a joyous moment in history of our Japanese movement!

Because True Mother and the Eve nation, Japan, completely united with True Father and endured a course of absolute sacrifice and restoration, the providence could go forward, assuring victory. True Mother, with the Eve nation, established deep roots on a global scale and gave rebirth and new life, through the blessing, to millions of people all over the world.

Along with our glorious True Parents, you are all heroes and champions; true filial children, patriots and saints, who after having paid so much indemnity and having overcome countless difficulties, can share Heavenly Parent's grace, love and truth with the world.

FFWPU Japan Launching Ceremony



On October 12, members of the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification in Japan (FFWPU-Japan) hung up a banner with the slogan at the Makuhari Event Hall in Chiba Prefecture stating, "Japan, Which Throbs with Happy Families, Will Bring the World We Hope to Live In." Ten thousand people, senior members, peace ambassadors, ministers and woman leaders from around the nation had come to this event.

As reported in our last issue, at the end of August, the Japanese Unification Church changed its legal name from HSAUWC to FFWPU. This event took place to commemorate that auspicious change, which members feel represented the passing from the era of individual salvation through religion to a new era of achieving world peace through substantially making ideal families. We broadcast this event live over the internet to celebrate this new beginning with all of our Japanese members in Japan and in a wide variety of other nations as well as with non-Japanese church members throughout the world.

The launching ceremony began with a performance from the South

Tokyo District seonghwa students and our Sunhak Choir. After a viewing of the commemorative video, Japanese Church President Tokuno introduced True Mother's resolution at True Father's third ascension anniversary to complete the will and exhorted the members "to inherit a similar heart and advance hopefully toward achieving Vision 2020 without fail."

After introducing the guests, the national seonghwa student and university student president, Sano Tadakuni, gave a "Hope Presentation." He expressed his resolve—for the sake of those in our second generation—to take the lead in realizing the dream of one world family where all children smile. The president of the Blessed Family Associations in Japan, Rev. Song Yong Cheon, testified about True Father who sacrificed his entire life for God and humankind. He urged the members to play major roles in achieving the event's theme and to re-create the nation as the model nation in which they hope to live.

The FFWPU international president, Sun Jin Moon, gave the keynote address, in which she testified to True Mother's love and comforted the

Japanese members. President Moon said, "True Parents were able to achieve victory at each critical stage in the history of restoration because of the genuine, absolute, loving and sincere devotion and effort of our filial True Family members, and all our precious brothers and sisters around the world, especially here in Japan." She also said, "It is our mission to build on their foundation and expand the realm of the blessing to the 7 billion people of the world."

After her keynote address, Sun Jin Moon and her husband presented an FFWPU flag to President Song. President Song then passed it to President Tokuno. During the finale, Japanese members performed part of the musical, *He Who Loved Japan the Most*, which members had invested strenuous effort into preparing and performing at the third anniversary of True Father's ascension. At the end, all the audience members stood to sing "A Cheering Song for God's Will" and "Saranghae" to express their determination to embark on a new beginning. The Japanese CARP president, Mr. Motoyama Katsumichi, then led everyone in four cheers of *og mansei*. 



Korea CARP Festival and National Joint Service

The Korean College Association for the Research of Principles hosted the 2015 CARP Festival and National Joint Service in Cheongpyeong October 3–4. FFWPU, YFWP and the Cheongpyeong Heaven and Earth Training Center sponsored it.

We held a sports festival, a special lecture by Professor Yeon Ah Moon, the president of WFWP International, and a worship and prayer session on the first day.

First, 384 CARP members came to the Seolak Sports Park under a bright autumn sky for the sports festival. We chose for the event the theme “United CARP! Cheers for Unification!” We split the large group into four teams: Daedong (from the Seoul, Chuncheon, Gangwon Districts), Dangyeol (Sun Moon University 1), Hwahap (SMU 2) and Tongil (the Gyeonggi, Incheon, Yeongnam, Honam Districts). Each team competed in various games including soccer, kickball, dodgeball, tug-of-war and a relay race.

The teams competed against one another until a team won the finals. As their team names suggested, everyone stood together and united with their teams throughout each game. They finished off the festival by posing for a group photograph, while shouting out for the deep-seated hope of our loving True Parents—Korea unification.

Following the sporting competitions, President Moon, of WFWP In-

ternational, gave a special lecture at the Heaven and Earth Training Center in the Chinhwa Building. President Moon said, “I hope you live a life of faith with True Parents’ heart.” She concluded her lecture encouraging us, by saying, “Discover an area that you can enjoy studying, become a professional, and become CARP members who can develop alongside your brothers and sisters.” She spoke for two hours and joined us in a group photograph all together and by team. Everyone expressed their gratitude toward her and gratefully ate the bread and cakes provided. They concluded the day with a worship prayer session, which Sun Moon University

CARP had prepared.

On the second day, our schedule covered hoondokhae, a Tongil Foundation job fair and a joint service. During morning hoondokhae, we read about unification. Through those words, we were able to reflect once again on the depth of our resolve to achieve Korean unification. Next, a representative from the Tongil Foundation spoke about the various institutions and organizations affiliated with the Tongil Group and briefly spoke about the 2015 employment situation.

In order to achieve success, we offered a national CARP joint service during the second semester for universities. Many leaders attended, in-



Sun Jin Moon welcoming CARP members



Professor Yeon Ah Moon giving a special lecture

cluding Sun Jin Moon, international president of FFWPU; In Sup Park, vice-president of FFWPU International; Yeon Ah Moon, international president of WFWP; Lee Ki Seong and Lee Myung Kwan, chairman and vice-chairman of the Cheongpyeong Heaven and Earth Training Center; Cho Song Il, secretary-general of the International Headquarters, and Im Dong Seong, secretary-general of World-CARP. The Cheongshim Band performed their Sound of Miracles Music grand prize winning song, "Cheongshim." From Sun Moon University, they gave a performance that had as its theme, Korea reunification. Shinmyung Band, from the central District, led the congregation in song and then the service began with a representative prayer by a CARP member from the Yongnam District.

Next came testimonies on some of the member's experiences during summer CARP activities. A student from the Changwon CARP center talked about his business challenge in studying, doing church activities and visiting China to equip himself with economic power. A student from the Seoul District spoke about the summer devotion team. A student from the Chungcheon District gave a report titled "From Mt. Baekdu to Mt. Halla," which was about Korean reunification. A student from the Central District gave a summary on all the activities that happened since the beginning of the school year until then. The participants were able share with one another about their activities and reflect on how to best begin the next semester.

Sun Jin nim and her husband presented awards won through the

sports festival on the previous day. Team Dangyeol was first, team Dae-dong was second and Tongil and Hwahap tied for third. Following this, Sun Jin nim gave a welcoming speech. She began with complimenting CARP for following True Mother's instructions to five hundred people in order to have a successful workshop and for the CARP's revitalizations of their bands. She concluded her speech with, "I love how Korea CARP members are hopeful that they can achieve unification. Unification between North Korea and South Korea is Heavenly Parent's, True Parents and the world's dream. I hope that the next semester becomes a new beginning for unification." [Note: Her speech was not recorded. Her remarks here are translated from Korean.]

The Cheongshim Band and the Kangwon band, N Over 1, performed the main worship songs, which were followed by a speech from Korea CARP president, Moon Sang Pil. He said, "The 2015 CARP Festival was a time to reflect on the past semester and resolve to begin with a new heart. How are we going to respond to True Parents calling through this festival, under the theme "United CARP! Cheers for Unification!"" We need to show them stronger passion, preparedness and real transformation." He continued, "I hope that as proud CARP members, you become those who are successful in your own environments," and closed with a prayer.

After a song offered by Shin-myeong Band, all participants were given time to offer passionate prayers to promise Heavenly Parent and True Parents that they would fulfill their goals during the second semester. They then sang "Song for the Day of Unification" and finished with three cheers of *og mansei*.

During the two-day program, over four hundred Korea CARP members gained confidence in dreaming about and initiating Korean reunification. We are grateful to Heavenly Parent and True Parents for this time and we promise to develop and be successful in many activities for unification domestically and internationally. We hope to give glory, joy and fresh hope to God. 

Korea CARP contributed this article.



All-out exertion during a tug-a-war



Musical performances brighten the atmosphere.

Searching for Traces of True Parents Part I

By Heo Yang

Heo Yang joined the church in 1965; he has been a leader in Korea and other nations. From 2010, he accompanied True Father as a special assistant.

June 30: Today, the official commemoration of the third anniversary of True Father's ascension is exactly two months away. Kim Young Hwi, a Cheon Il Guk Parliament Member, whom I respect very much, has asked me to visit some of the places where True Parents stayed before the memorial period begins. Rev. Kim Young Hwi, Kim Byeong Ho and I set off on a four-day tour. We planned to visit locations around Yeosu, including Geomun Island and Blue Sea Garden, where True Parents offered deep devotion. The first destination was Ocean Cheon Jeong Gung on Geomun Island. We boarded a ferry at the Yeosu Port and finally arrived after two hours.

When I say "Yeosu," my whole body trembles as if I have been electrified. That place is like my second homeland. This is because the geographic features and the members are familiar to me from having worked there for many years. I was deeply moved and my footsteps were light at the thought of visiting my "homeland." The KTX train, which departed at 8:53 a.m. sped across the country for two hours and forty minutes. The trip used to take five hours from Seoul, but when Yeosu held the Global Ocean Expo for three months in 2012 (on the foundation of building projects True Parents had initiated in the area) Yeosu was seen as one of the top sea-ports in the world. It thereby qualified for high-speed rail service.

Shim Wan Seok, the director of Il-sang Ocean Development had heard that some elder members were coming, so he came out to greet us



The writer on Geomun Island

warmly. Director Shim traveled with us throughout the entire four days. We were able to visit, without burden, all the locations where True Parents had been, due to his kindness. He even drove us until we departed.

To summarize the characteristics of this area, True Parents blessed this area as the center of the opening of the Completed Testament Age and invested many resources into developing it.

Koreans of moral influence and the citizens residing in Yeosu are grateful to True Parents for their investment both materially and spiritually. This is because numerous unemployed people in Yeosu receive

relief support from them and the small city of Yeosu, with a population of only three hundred thousand, made a great leap globally thanks to True Parents. Heaven has chosen the south coast of Yeosu for the sake of our descendants and the future.

Before the anniversary of True Father's ascension, we were able to reflect on our own failures, for not having fulfilled our responsibilities during True Father's lifetime. Thus, we each resolved to do our duties related to filial piety and set off with a mind-set as if we had changed into sackcloth, covered ourselves with ashes and begun repenting for our dreadful sins.

Day One

After we ate lunch at a restaurant near the passenger terminal, we boarded the ferry for Geomun Island at 1:40 p.m. as the boat horn sounded. We arrived around 4 p.m. The ferry we boarded could carry three hundred people. Because True Father had purchased this passenger ferry, we could feel True Parents' deep love from the moment we boarded until we landed.

Geomun Island, covering twelve square kilometers, has a population of three thousand. Geomun is actually three islands abutting one another, Dong Island, Seo Island and Go Island. Ocean Cheon Jeong Gung sits at the foot of Mt. Eumdal in the Dado Marine National Park, facing Yurim Beach. Marble was the main material used in constructing Ocean Cheon Jeong Gung, so that those who look upon it have a feeling of peace and calm. I am reminded of a line from a poem, "The owl must have been crying sadly from early spring in order to cause this chrysanthemum to bloom." True Father chose Geomun Island as a holy

ground for the future and for our descendants. In order to make this blessed pathway, on January 15, 2004, he got on the Cheonseung Ferry, which he had personally built, so he could look around Geomun Island and Baek Island. He then emphasized the importance of constructing the Geomun Cheon Jeong Gung.

I cannot calculate the number of times True Parents came here before the dedication ceremony, but they visited twenty-four times after the dedication (September 12, 2011) until their last visit (July 24–27, 2012) before True Father's ascension. They would usually commute by helicopter. At other times, they would travel to Blue Sea Garden and then sail to Geomun Island by ferry. This was all to offer devotion for the Geomun Island Ocean Cheon Jeong Gung. Even when I, who am ignorant about geomancy, look at it, it seems to be a location that has good symbolic fortune from the mountains on the east, west, south, and north.

As soon as you enter the main entrance the words, "Wonmo Pyeongae

Foundation," which True Father wrote in calligraphy on the day of the dedication ceremony, come into view. On August 18, 2011, in America, in the city of Las Vegas, True Parents' launched a boat called "Wonmo," which has a special design. On that day, Father proclaimed the founding of the Wonmo Pyeongae Foundation, which would signify the need to eternally preserve True Parents' value and honor their ideologies of peace and their achievements for the common prosperity of mankind. Incidentally, he wrote those words at the Ocean Cheon Jeong Gung.

Moreover, on May 2, 2012, True Father called twenty-five Japanese district church leaders to the Geomun Island Ocean Cheon Jeong Gung. He gave them each a fishing gift set and for two days spoke to them and trained them on the ocean. He also spoke to them about the Chinese characters, "Wonmo Pyeongae Foundation," in detail saying, "It is the overall settlement of my accounts over my entire life. You must preserve and promote



Ocean Cheon Jeong Gung, which was designed to resemble the United States' Capitol



The logo on the Ocean Cheon Jeong Gung lobby floor

this [organization] as an eternal peace foundation. You must provide nourishment to this foundation. Only by it playing a main role and being a flag [a symbol] of the people and the fatherland will the nation of Japan never disappear.”

He explained the round logo on the lobby floor of Ocean Cheon Jeong Gung. The round circle symbolizes the earth and the blue colored lines, which resemble a bent wire, symbolize the waves and ripples of the ocean. The waves cause emanations as they travel around the five oceans and the center point is Ocean Cheon Jeong Gung.

In the logo is what looks like rays of sunlight. These represent the ocean’s energy and True Parents’ energy spreading out across the five oceans and six continents. In the very center is a pair of sea horses. Since olden times, sea horses have symbolized dragons of the sea. Father’s name at birth was Yong Myung. The characters for Sun Myung mean the ocean, land, sun and moon. Therefore, sea horses symbolize True Parents. True Father would often say that if we think of these things while we pray we would receive the ocean’s energy and True Parents’ energy—in other words, heavenly fortune. He said that if you were to set conditions and pray on Geomun Island, everything would be materialize because it is a place where the sky and land meet.

This is a place of refuge, where forgiveness of sins can occur. Father disciplined all of us to ruminate on

our lives and clear them up here before going to the spiritual world. He said that the place with the strongest energy to pray and receive an answer was in front of that logo. On November 13, 2007, during hoondokhae at East Garden, True Father said that the character for island (島) in Geomun Island (巨文島) should be replaced with the character with the same pronunciation (道), which means “the way,” to indicate “a place where the great Moon tribe builds a nest and cultivates itself.” He emphasized that as a place of refuge, no matter how great one’s sins are the person can receive forgiveness. Thus, we should build Ocean Cheon Jeong Gung well. The meaning of a refuge as he used it is as the Bible describes in the Book of Numbers 35:9-15.

As soon as we arrived, we prayed deeply in front of the logo. President Kim, in his representative prayer, conveyed his sorrow for True Father’s hardships as Father liberated the God of resentment and devoted himself to the salvation of humanity. Rev. Kim resolved to lead the remainder of his life in accordance with the word. Just as in the spirit world, where the True Children, leaders and other blessed members residing there are united centered on True Father, he prayed for Cheon Il Guk to be quickly visualized by the True Children, leaders, and families united centered on True Mother on earth.

We followed the guide to see various rooms furnished with refined

furniture that True Mother had prepared. I had a meaningful experience, feeling True Parents’ presence in places such as the education room, group discussion rooms, counseling room, coffee shop, hoondok room, living room and bathroom. Emotions of admiration flooded in as beautiful memories flashed through my mind: attending True Parents every day and reading their words, watching sports broadcasts with them, reading reports to them from all parts of the world, and praying or singing when True Father called my name. I

could not stop the tears from streaming as I thought, “Father, where are you? Please let me hear just one sound of your breath, your footsteps or even a cough!” I became keenly aware of how great was the space True Father had vacated.

I remember what True Father repeated so often, “Make the best education facilities, educate leaders and ultimately connect them to the Cheongshim Peace World Center, where you can produce thirty thousand or three hundred trainees at a time. When are you going to save all seven billion people?” True Father continued to emphasize this as he directed building projects around Ocean Cheon Jeong Gung.

If Cheon Jeong Gung in Cheongpyeong resembles the US Capitol, Ocean Cheon Jeong Gung resembles the White House. True Father directed the design to be so. In other words, they symbolize a man and a woman.

That night, all three of us sat in the Ocean Cheon Jeong Gung Baekdo Lounge until late into the night reminiscing about True Parents and days when we received their love. Our eyes teared up, even as we laughed aloud clapping our hands, breaking the peaceful, still night. I felt as if I could endure anything if I interacted spiritually with True Father and immersed myself in devotion. (To be continued...) 

Rev. Heo is currently guiding blessed members as a Cheon Il Guk special touring evangelist.



True Parents' teachings influence diverse cultures in our Asia region

Asian Leadership Conference 2015

FWPU and UPF hosted the fifteenth Asian Leadership Conference in Bangkok, Thailand, from September 17 to 21. The twenty-eight participants from six nations covered a wide range of ages, religions and professional backgrounds. Some were religious leaders, some worked in the Ministry of Social Affairs, others were and part of the largest organization for Muslim women in Indonesia, some worked at schools, at universities, at NGOs, or as advocates, journalists, military personnel or as students. At the Opening Session, Dr. Chung Sik Yong, chairman of UPF Asia, Dr. Robert S. Kittel, education director of UPF Asia, and Mr. Pasit Sirimalai, deputy secretary general of UPF Thailand, introduced the conference theme "UPF's Principles of Peace: The Foundation for Global Peace and Sustainable Development."

The conference was a five-day Divine Principle seminar to educate these prominent members of society about public-mindedness, marriage, family

and the value of the blessing. There were twenty-eight participants from six Asian nations: nine people from Nepal, seven from Cambodia, three from Pakistan, two from Bangladesh, and one from the Philippines.

At the end, participants happily took the Pure Love Pledge. They not

only promised to keep purity before marriage and fidelity within marriage themselves but also committed themselves to propagating these ideals within their communities. They promised to work together to build families, communities and a nation of True Love after returning home.



An audience member voicing his views during the conference

Conference Schedule

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
	Thursday 17-Sep	Friday 18-Sep	Saturday 19-Sep	Sunday 20-Sep	Monday 21-Sep
7:00 AM	ARRIVALS HOTEL CHECK IN REGISTRATION	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
8:00 AM		Opening Session: Why Do We Need Principles?	Special Presentation: Dr. Chung Sik Yong	Session IX: The Life, Vision and Legacy of UPF Founders, Father and Mother Moon	DEPARTURES
9:30 AM		Tea / Coffee Break	Tea / Coffee Break	Tea / Coffee Break	
10:00 AM		Session II: Dual Characteristics of God and Creation	Session V: The Root Causes of Evil and Human Suffering	Session X: The Pure Love Pledge and Interfaith Family Peace Blessing	
11:30 AM		Break	Break	Closing Session: Graduation, Reflections and Certificate Distribution	
11:45 AM		Session III: Give & Take Action and Purpose of Life	Session VI: Consequences of the Misuse of Love		
1:00 PM		Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	
2:15 PM		Group Activity	Group Activity	Free Time & Shopping	
2:30 PM		Session IV: Human Growth and the Existence of the Spiritual World	Session VII: The Meaning and Value of the Interfaith Peace Blessing		
4:00 PM		Tea / Coffee Break	Tea / Coffee Break		
4:30 PM		Special Presentation: Dr. Chung Sik Yong	Session VIII: UPF Activities in Asia - Interfaith Family Peace Blessing Festivals		
6:00 PM			Dinner	Dinner	
7:00 PM	Welcome Dinner	Free Time	Free Time		

Reflections

UPF's contribution is beyond praise—mostly in the field of the unification of all human beings in the world. The motto of UPF that the whole world is one, not two, is great.

—Tiwari Shiva Dutta, Nepal

Throughout the conference, I learned many things that actually existed within me and my surroundings that I did not realize before. I have also learned the importance of purity and being faithful to your spouse from the aspect of my religion (i.e., Islam), but

through this event, I could learn other perspectives that help broaden my mind.

—Patimasang, Indonesia

After participating in this workshop, I feel that Father Moon is like a God who came to earth to save human beings from sorrow and suffering and to prevent war in the world. He came to bring peace and reconciliation.... I regret he departed from this world.

—Khin Bandrith, Cambodia

I have learned so much about real and true love, only with your wife after marriage. Premarital sex, which some people practice, is very harmful and breaks down the strong love relationship with your wife. We have to educate others and implement this in every area and village to reduce divorce and false love.

—Bhagwan Das, Pakistan

Really, this program changed me a lot. Before this program, I was firmly determined not to marry. But now, I firmly determine to marry, not only for myself but also to be a model for my society.

—Imran Ahsan, Bangladesh



Robert Kittel and Ursula McLackland flank the group that completed the conference.

After this conference, I think I will be more confident to talk and speak before a bigger and higher-level audience about the same topics we learned.... Given a soft copy of all the lectures, I can echo and re-echo the lessons that I have learned to a bigger professional group.

—Dr. Felicitas V. Sicam, Philippines



The Family Federation booth at the Parliament of the World's Religions

Where People of Faith Seek Unity

This article describes an initiative in the late-nineteenth century to bring religions together. FFWPU or some of its affiliated organizations have taken part in two similar efforts done in the spirit of that original event.

Chicago is a US city that arose in the midst of a rural landscape. For much of its early existence, features of farm life remained in the midst of the growing metropolis. One humorist wrote in 1880 that residents of Chicago's Northside "consist of men, women, children, dogs, billy goats, pigs, cats and fleas." He added that among those residents, fleas had the largest population.

In 1871, a massive fire, which burned for two days, utterly destroyed a vast area at the heart of the city. Photographs of the aftermath look less like a fire had struck and more as if the city had been bombed from the sky. The conflagration began in a barn owned by a Mrs. O'Leary. One theory of how the fire started was that Mrs. O'Leary's cow had kicked over an oil-burning lamp. That Mrs. O'Leary was

keeping a milk cow in a farm building—although she lived in the city, not far from the business district—was well known. Many families in the neighborhood depended on the milk produced by Mrs. O'Leary's cow.

Despite the extent of the devastation from the Great Fire, Chicago had recovered completely by 1893 when it hosted the World's Fair. In a city that had suffered terribly from the use of fuel-burning lamps, one innovation introduced at the World's Fair was electric lighting. Virtually none of the twenty-six million visitors to the fair had ever seen an electric light bulb. More than two hundred thousand bulbs lit up the fair grounds and all the buildings during the six months that the fair remained open. Writer Eric Larson described the effect of electric lights in this way: "[W]hat visitors

adored was the sheer beauty of seeing so many lights ignited in one place, at one time. Every building... was outlined in white bulbs. Giant searchlights—the largest ever made and said to be visible sixty miles away—swept the grounds and surrounding neighborhoods... it "was like getting a sudden vision of Heaven."

World's Parliament of Religions

In the same way that electricity was illuminating the world's fair, religious figures in the city wished to bring spiritual illumination to their city and the world. The World's Parliament of Religions was the brain child of a local attorney whose personal faith was strongly influenced by the writings of the Swedish theologian Emanuel Swedenborg (1688–1772) whom our own Divine Principle de-



The Cheon Il Guk Holy Scriptures displayed at the Family Federation booth



Members who staffed the booths

scribes as “a renowned scientist whose spiritual senses were awakened; he began a systematic investigation of the spirit world and discovered many of its secrets.”

The planning committee for the world’s parliament comprised fourteen prominent Protestants, a Roman Catholic bishop and a Jewish rabbi. Several historians have interpreted that the planners had intended to show the superiority of Judeo-Christianity and to renew the effort to convert those of other faiths all over the world. That seemed a natural fit with the World’s Fair, which would highlight the advancements of the United States, over which the overwhelming religious influence (in those days) was Judeo-Christian. Unlike today, Eastern religions had virtually no presence in US society in 1893.

If the planning committee’s intent had indeed been to cause religions from the East to look backward by comparison with Judeo-Christian faiths in a modern US setting, they did not enjoy much success. Their own “side” did not cooperate. Several

powerful orthodox Christian organizations declined to take part in the parliament. Among Christians that participated, some petty-minded audience members heckled even Christian presenters for not being orthodox enough. These audience members became particularly incensed when presenters from Eastern faiths from overseas criticized the heavy-handed practices of Christian missionaries in the speakers’ countries.

Meanwhile, several of those non-Christians speakers made a deep, favorable impression that went far beyond the audiences they spoke to in Chicago’s recently constructed Art Institute building, where the parliament took place. Shaku Soyen (1860–1919) a Zen Buddhist monk described Buddha’s teachings on the law of cause and effect. This had strong appeal to scientific minded Americans that heard him speak.

A 1998 retrospective article in the New York Times described the presentation of Hindu reformer Narendranath Datta (1863-1902), also known as Vivekananda. “A thirty-

year-old monk from Calcutta took the podium at the World’s Parliament of Religions, an unusual interfaith gathering in Chicago, and declared that the faith he followed emphasized toleration and accepted all religions as true. His handsome face, saffron turban and flowing coat may also have affected members of the audience, because they greeted his first words—‘Sisters and brothers of America’—with a standing ovation.”

During the parliament, the New York World described a man who lectured on “The World’s Debt to Buddha.” He was a Sri Lankan leader of the Theravadin school of Buddhism. “Mr. Dharmapala was one of the most interesting personages at the parliament. Always dressed in spotless white, his hair parted in the middle and curling in the back, his face gentle and refined, he seemed just like a familiar portrait of Jesus.” The St. Louis Observer also described Mr. Dharmapala admiringly. “With his black curly locks thrown back from his broad brow, his keen clear eyes fixed on the audience, and his vibrant voice, he looked the very image of a propagandist at the head of a movement to consolidate all the disciples of Buddha and to spread the ‘Light of Asia’ throughout the civilized world.”

Our movement’s involvement

Following the 1893 World’s Parliament of Religions, a planning committee formed to prepare for another parliament at the Paris World’s Fair, in 1900. This did not happen. A hundred years passed before the parliament, under a slightly different name took place, again in Chicago. In 1988, figures in the Islamic, Buddhist, Hindu, Baha’i Zoroastrian as well as Protestant and Catholic faith communities formed a planning committee to hold that centennial memorial of the landmark original event. (By 1988, Eastern religions had indeed established themselves in the Western world.)

The planners formed the Council for a Parliament of the World’s Religions. The Inter-religious Federation for World Peace (IRFWP), one of the unification movement’s providential organizations, was a cosponsor of the Parliament of the World’s Religions and as such held a two-day symposium at the parliament on “World Scriptures: Learning

from Other Traditions.”

Whereas the 1893 event had religious leaders describing their own faiths and worldviews, the intent of the planners of the 1993 event was to encourage dialogue between religious people. This parliament took place at the Palmer House Hotel in the center of Chicago. Those who had registered early paid a \$200 fee; late registrants paid \$350. Whereas four hundred delegates had attended in 1893, the 1993 event attracted more than six thousand people. Even though registration for the event closed early, twice as many people had registered than the planners had expected. It was crowded.

Hundreds of speakers gave presentations. Seminars, workshops, performances, events and films were included in the itinerary. The Dalai Lama took part, as did Minister Louis Farrakhan of the Nation of Islam. In the November 1993 issue of *Today's World*, Dr. Thomas Walsh explained our movement's direct participation as follows:

The Inter-religious Federation for World Peace had an exhibit, including the display of World Scriptures, Dialogue and Alliance, and numerous other publications; videos showing such activities as the Religious Youth Service, the Assembly of the World's Religions, and the recent IRFWP Delhi Congress were also presented at the exhibit. The exhibit attracted thousands of visitors, and kept our staff busy from morning to night answering questions and handing out literature.

Following the centennial event, the Council for a Parliament of the World's Religions held events in South Africa in 1999 and Spain in 2004 before this year's parliament in Salt Lake City, Utah, in the US. It attracted ten thousand people from eighty countries. Fifty different religious traditions took part. They held it at the Salt Palace Convention Center from September 9–19. Imam Mujahid, chairman of the Parliament Board of Trustees, explained the importance of interreligious events by saying, “At this juncture in human history when hate, fear and anger is rising in America and across the globe, it is important that faith communities, rise with loving, caring relationships, even if we do not agree on some issues.”

People of faith flocked to the convention center. When Dr. Kim Ki Hoon, president of the North America region, visited the conventional hall, he ran into an old friend, Don Garrick, a co-founded of the Orange County California Interfaith Network, who is

a prominent Mormon. The Family Federation had a booth on the convention floor. On the day that Shinyoung Chang, a woman who has invested her effort over the past several years in improving our movement's media outreach, visited, the US church president, while he was manning that booth. Dr. Balcomb told Ms. Chang, “I have been telling people about Father's tradition of marriage as a means of peace. People are very interested in that.” Ms. Chang spoke to various people including one man working a booth, who said, “Our message is that there is truth in all religions.” She responded, “I love that; I totally resonate with that.”

Throughout its various incarnations, the Parliament of the World's Religions remains a meeting point for those who abhor religious hatred and seek harmony among the world's many faiths. 

A TPmagazine staff member contributed this article.



The UPF booth



Interfaith choir performance

Days of Blessing in the United States

On Saturday, October 3, America celebrated the marriage blessing in churches and congregations all around the country as 123 couples rededicated their marriages before God and True Parents and began their journey in marriage as blessed couples.

A major celebration took place at the International Peace Education Center in Las Vegas, Nevada. There, thirty-six couples, including three newlywed couples, participated in a marriage rededication Blessing Ceremony, in the presence of hundreds of their friends, relatives and fellow community members. Dr. and Mrs. Ki Hoon Kim officiated the program.

The involvement of both civic and religious leaders created an exciting dynamic during this universal ceremony for all faiths. All resonated with the theme of reclaiming marriage in God's image.

The Blessing was followed by a gala luncheon on the second floor of the IPEC. During the luncheon, all the civic leaders and many of the religious leaders were able to share their impressions of the program. Many were so inspired by the day that they held Blessing Ceremonies in their own churches.

Northern Virginia

The Northern Virginia Family Church

hosted over a hundred people, including twenty guests, for a Blessing Ceremony. A young Unificationist couple and another couple, pastors of the Bible Way Church in Fairfax, Virginia, received the blessing. Participants enjoyed a wonderful dinner, congratulatory remarks and a remarkable ballet performance by a young Unificationist from the Kirov Academy of Ballet. The entire day was a beautiful tribute to Heavenly Parent and True Parents.

Berkeley, California

At a house used by True Parents, two couples received the Blessing on October 3. With a backdrop of the Golden Gate Bridge, surrounded by family and friends, Gabriel Pugnoli and Molly Adshead, and Hyojin Light and Kairene Posas, committed their lives to God and each other and to building true families in service to the world. "Thank you, True Parents, for making the Blessing a possibility for myself and Kairene," said Hyojin Light.

It was a lovely, simple ceremony, but with the same dignity as if True Parents were physically there. Forty guests welcomed and cheered on the couples. "I felt as if God smiled down in contentment," said Satomi Adshead, Molly's mother, "watching the lineage continue and feeling so much hope for the future."

Detroit, Michigan

Two couples participated in the Holy Wine and Blessing Ceremonies in Detroit. The whole congregation enjoyed the day and had a wonderful experience. The next day, Rev. Willie Downer of Greater Love Missionary Baptist Church invited Detroit Unificationists to conduct the Blessing Ceremony as a part of his church service. After Rev. Downer's sermon on the coming kingdom of heaven, he turned the service over to Rev. David Kasbow, who opened with a reading of Gen. 1:28. After explaining God's original desire to bless Adam and Eve, he spoke about the basics of the Fall and how Rev. and Mrs. Moon had initiated the Holy Wine Ceremony with Jesus' guidance to "reverse the curse." After he demonstrated how to take the communion of Holy Wine, all the married couples drank the Holy Wine. Following the Blessing Ceremony, a Unificationist choir sang "Song of the Banquet."

Seattle, Washington

On a beautiful Sunday morning, October 4, Seattle Unificationists celebrated a marriage rededication ceremony at the Day Star Baptist Church in Renton, Washington. Rev. Donald Ward Sr. gave a wonderful Divine Principle-centered sermon on the family titled "The Enemy of the Families," in which he talked about five enemies of churches and families and encouraged all married couples to be transparent with their belief in their daily family life. A simple ceremony followed in which six couples rededicated their marriage.

Clifton, New Jersey

Two couples participated in a Blessing Ceremony at the Clifton Family Church in New Jersey. Dr. Michael Balcomb, President of FFWPU USA, and Mrs. Fumiko Balcomb, officiated the ceremony and gave a congratulatory message.



A view of the Blessing Ceremony at the Las Vegas International Peace Education Center

Baltimore, Maryland

A Blessing Ceremony took place in Baltimore, Maryland, on October 4 at the Rehoboth Church of Christ Apostolic. Ten couples rededicated their marriages. The service was officiated by Rev. James and Matilda Steward, pastors of the Baltimore Family Church. FFWPU District 1 Pastor, Rev. Ernest Patton, was master of ceremonies. Rev. Keith G. Allen and Mrs. Paulette Allen had received the blessing in Las Vegas the day before and returned to lead their congregation through the Blessing Ceremony there.

Sioux Falls, South Dakota

One couple in Sioux Falls, South Dakota received the Holy Marriage Blessing. Rev. Dennis and Mayuri Hoffman officiated the ceremony.

Chicago, Illinois

On Sunday, October 4 at the Christian Unity Pentecostal Church, Pastor Maxine Williams hosted an event at which thirty-four people, one-third of whom were married, received the Holy Wine. Rev. Ken and Kazumi Murray officiated the ceremony, and all couples enthusiastically affirmed "yes" to the four vows and affirmations of purity and true love. Everyone exuded happiness, high spirits and gratitude toward True Parents. Pastor Williams closed the event with a prayer.

Gladstone, Missouri

Kingdom of Faith and Restoration Church in Gladstone, Missouri hosted a Blessing Ceremony. Juan and Lay Choo Acosta officiated and Bill Dellinger coordinated the event. Pastor Dean P. Scott gave a powerful sermon about family. "Everyone's faces were shining after his sermon," said Rev. Acosta. And Rev. and Mrs. Acosta blessed the pastor and his wife first, then offered them flowers and asked them to bless the congregation. The spirit was bright and prayerful.

Louisville, KY

On Sunday, October 4, the New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church in Louisville, Kentucky held a Blessing Ceremony at their Sunday worship service. Pastor James Elliott opened with a talk about the many experiences he has had with the American Clergy Leadership Conference and True Father.

At the close of Sunday Service, fifteen couples and thirty-six single people attended the ceremony. Rev. Elliott called the married couples, single people, widows and divorced members of the congregation. Rev. Elliott and his wife, representing True Parents, administered the Holy Wine, recited the vows for married couples and for single people and gave the blessing prayer.

Lakeland, Florida

On October 3, thirteen couples, members of the clergy, went through the Blessing Ceremony in Lakeland, Florida at the First Baptist Institutional Church, answering the call for a national, interfaith revival of the institution of marriage and families centered on God. Rev. Isabelle Davati officiated the ceremony, asking couples to take a public stand for God-centered married couples and individuals.

Winter Haven, Florida

One of the pastors attending the Lake-

land Blessing Ceremony, Rev. George Bing, liked it so much that he invited Rev. Davati to come to his church the next day and perform a Blessing Ceremony for his members. She Blessed eight couples at the Abundant Life Ministries International in Winter Haven, Florida.

Los Angeles, California

The Holy Spirit showed up in an incredible way at the Blessing of Marriage and Family on October 3 in South Central Los Angeles. Four couples and several single people preparing for a blessed marriage, met under a large tent in the parking lot of Mt. Pleasant Hill MBC for a Gospel Peace Festival and Blessing Ceremony.

"I felt such a sense of reconciliation, closeness and family between all who attended," said Unificationist Carol Tahkar. "We are building a strong foundation for peace and love."

Yonkers, New York

On October 4, 2015, 35 people in the Yonkers First Arabic Baptist Church held a Blessing Ceremony.

Mrs. Julia Okamoto welcomed everyone warmly and introduced the co-pastor, Rev. Emma Loftin-Woods, who greeted everyone and thanked everyone for joining this service. Rabbi Sarah Hadassah, Founder of Lion of Judah Hebrew Saphardic Union, rendered a prayer, bestowing grace and blessings to everyone in attendance. Kyoko Tachinaka of the West Rock Family Church sang beautifully, the historic and meaningful "Song of the Banquet". Through words, prayers and song, the atmosphere lifted to receive the message given by Rev. Jesse Edwards, ACLC National Evangelist, fresh from Las Vegas where another Marriage Blessing Ceremony had just taken place.

Rev. Jesse Edwards encouraged everyone to think beyond the conventional understanding of the life and death of Jesus. His sermon was a collection of questions that very few of the faithful ever really considered. "What if Jesus didn't die? What if he had married?" "What if they had a child—would that child be sinless?" These were some of the challenging questions posed to the congregation. Rev. Bruce and Debby Grodner then officiated the Blessing Ceremony. 



Happy couples in Los Angeles, California

Europe United: Toward Vision 2020



The following is a report on the European Leaders' Meeting, held from October 2 to October 4, in Neumühle, Bad Camberg, Germany.

Under the title "Europe United: Toward Vision 2020," more than sixty leaders, from all areas of our European movement, met at Bad Camberg, Germany, for their first meeting since the third anniversary of True Father's ascension. Beginning with a light supper on Friday, October 2, and finishing with lunch on Sunday, October 4, participants came to hear several messages of inspiration and support. During hoondokhae on Saturday, Dr. Pak No Hi, our special emissary, spoke about his visit to Korea.

In Session I, Mr. Jack Corley gave a short welcoming address as he led his first European Leaders Meeting as the new regional president. He was followed by the former European regional president, Rev. An Yong Shik, who is now the international vice-president of FFWPU and also the special representative to Germany and Austria.

The seating arrangements were for small groups around tables to facili-

tate closer discussion and communication among the participants. The first two sessions looked at issues related to FFWPU, such as the state of our blessed families and communities, asking how we might improve our ability to respond to True Parents' expectations for Vision 2020.

Session III, led by David Hanna, director of Education, Blessing and Youth, covered the areas of his responsibility. These included Yoshiko Pammer and Gani Rroshi reporting on the Global Top Gun workshop in Korea; William Haines explaining a survey conducted on our European youth situation; Deborah Cali, director of Special Task Force, reporting on STF Europe and Martin Alexey reporting on European Second Generation Department programs. Director Hanna reported on Blessing Department events.

In Sessions IV and V, participants divided into four groups to discuss all the major areas of our work. The discussion on FFWPU was divided into

two groups, which Heiner Handschin and Matthew Huish led.

Jacques Marion led the Universal Peace Federation (UPF) discussion and Carolyn Handschin conducted a discussion on Women's Federation for World Peace (WFWP).

Saturday, October 3, happened to be the twenty-fifth anniversary of the formal reunification of Germany. During the evening program, Dieter Schmidt, national leader for Germany, gave a report on events surrounding the fall of the Berlin Wall and a look at the process of reunification. During the evening program, we also heard a report on the goal and activities of the Universal Peace Academy (UPA) from its president, Dr. Kim Dong Woo. The evening finished with all participants joining in a candlelight prayer at the nearby holy ground.

The final session before lunch on Sunday, October 4 included reports from the chairs of each discussion group and words of gratitude from the regional president. 

Austrian Leaders Meeting for the Future Providence

By Elisabeth Cook

The leaders of the Austrian unification movement had a two-day meeting in a picturesque village close to the city of Salzburg. The program for the first day was a workshop on “New Heavenly Tribal Messiahs.” Peter Zöhrer, Austrian national leader, gave the first presentation, a summary of events during the third anniversary of True Father’s ascension in Korea. The main topics were “tribal messiahship” and “future leaders.”

Elisabeth Cook gave the second lecture on the topic, “Proposal for Tribal Messiah Revitalization,” based on lectures of Dr. Shin Dong Mo, regional president of our South American region and “A Brief Study on Global Standards for the Completion of the New Tribal Messiah Mission,” by Dr. Yoon Do Young, a professor at the Cheongshim Graduate School. After the lectures, the audience took time to reflect on the material in small discussion groups.

In the afternoon, Mr. Zöhrer gave a presentation based on a lecture by Dr. Paul Carlson, “Tribal Messiahs: A Western Perspective,” which was again followed by discussions in groups. The topics in the groups were how to improve existing tribal messiahs activities and how to implement new ideas. Members also shared experiences and testimonies.

In the second part of the afternoon, Johannes Stampf, who had participated in a Blessed Family Department seminar in Korea about married life and how to improve it, spoke about what he had learned there. Everybody followed his report with great interest.

Mrs. Gaby Zöhrer, Austrian Blessed Family Department representative and Kurt Sattlbergers, reported about the European Blessed Family Department meeting in Camberg.

The topic of the second day, Sunday, was “Raising Young Leaders for the Future.” Seventeen young people, most of them blessed members, but some single members of our second generation, participated. Peter and Gaby Zöhrer had met most of these young people before to prepare them for this meeting. The goal was to create a transition committee in order to prepare those in our second generation to lead the nation.

In the first session, Yoshiko Pammer and Oswin Wolf, who graduated from the Top Gun Workshop in Korea gave an impressive report about the workshop, which moved everybody deeply. At the end, they mentioned that they would like to create such a workshop in Europe as well.

After this report, Mr. Zöhrer explained that he had made the decision in May, during True Mother’s visit to Vienna on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary celebration of the unification movement in Austria and throughout Europe to established a national leadership transition committee. Furthermore, he explained that the rationale for having the committee was that young people should gradually take on more responsibilities,

should be included in every important national decision-making process and should meet regularly.

A session followed with the young people discussing among themselves as well as meeting with the national leader and his wife. The theme of this discussion was “Vision 2020 and Beyond—How Young Unificationists Want To Create the Unification Movement and Save the Nation.”

In the meantime, first-generation leaders discussed the international conferences that WFWP and UPF-Austria are organizing. These would take place in Vienna on October 10–11 and October 29–30, 2015.

The last session was a report by the young people about their meeting. They decided that their name would be the Austrian Transition Committee (ATC) and that they need more time to organize themselves properly. They asked the leaders to describe their responsibilities, so that they understand clearly what the situation is and what support the leaders need.

We all agreed to do this within three weeks. The atmosphere was open, positive and hopeful. We are looking forward to the next meeting, at the end of November. 





Special Feature: Central America

By Kim Sang Seuk

On August 3, 1492, Christopher Columbus set off across the ocean, with Queen Isabella of Spain as his sponsor, in search of a passage to India. Three months later on October 12, he arrived on an island among the Bahamas in the West Indies. He named this island San Salvador.

Though scholars now acknowledge that other Europeans and indeed people from continents other than Europe reached the Americas before Columbus, we generally identify Columbus as the first European explorer to have

done so because the great migration of Europeans to the Americas began after his “discovery.” Columbus himself died believing he had reached India. The navigator Amerigo Vespucci was the first to recognize that Columbus had discovered “a new world.”

Following Columbus’ landing in the Americas, Spain sent many fleets and the history of Spanish expansion of territory in Central America and South America, including the Caribbean Islands, began. In 1519, Hernán Cortes cast his anchor near the island of Veracruz in the Gulf of

Mexico. In 1521, he executed the emperor of the Aztecs, Moctezuma I. Cortes was at the head of those who utterly destroyed the Aztec Empire. In 1537, he executed Inca’s last emperor, Manco Capac. Thus, these native empires in Central America and South America became nothing but history.

The Spanish conquests began a miserable history for the native people. As Spain conquered Mayan lands during the 1520s, they expanded their territory to the south from Mexico to Costa Rica. Estimates of native peoples’ pre-conquest population vary so widely as to be unreliable. However, that only relict groups of native people remained not long after the Spanish conquest (and mostly to this day) is widely accepted.

The independence of Central America, after three hundred years of exploitation, began with the white social class born in Central America, also known as the *Criollo* people (Creoles). The war for independence to break away from Spain began in Mexico, in 1810. Within a quarter century, twenty-four nations became independent.

Geographically Central America seems to be part of North America, while culturally it seems to be part of South America. From whichever perspective we look from, it is an impor-



Reverend Kim with some key members of the Central America region

In this issue, we will introduce the providential aspects of Central America as a special feature. Though True Parents have often spoken of Central America as being important owing to its location geographically bridging North America's Christian foundation and South America's Catholic foundation, this role is not widely known among our members in other parts of the world. Thus, we hope to observe the roots of True Parents' true love and teachings deep within our Central American church communities, which are progressing toward building Cheon Il Guk.

tant area. Beginning on May 16, 1995, True Parents traveled to the major nations in Central America on speaking tours. Five hundred years had passed since Columbus arrived on the continent. The True Parents of Humankind healed the history of slaughter and devastation by giving true love and true life.

By connecting North America, which had a foundation in Protestantism, with Central America and South America, which were mainly Catholic, they strove to achieve religious cultural harmony. True Parents' eight declarations, which began at the New Hope Farm in Jardim, Brazil, were the result of their sweat and tears shed for the Americas.

On that foundation, on May 8, 2014, True Mother tied twenty-one Central American nations together including the Caribbean Islands and urged them to harmonize with North America and South America and restore their nations. Since last year, Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic are strategic nations in Central America. This year, in commemoration of the third anniversary of True

Father's ascension, Nicaragua became our third strategic nation.

In truth, the established religion in most of the nations of Central America is Catholic. No matter where you go, you find that Catholic culture has a foundation. In other words, preparation exists for restoration of these countries as God's nations, because whenever we hold a Divine Principle workshop, participants can easily understand and accept our theological revelations. The Divine Principle is

our greatest tool.

Wherever our members go in Central America or South America, they can feel True Parents' sweat, their tears and the touch of their true love. To that extent, True Parents have loved these nations and have invested everything into these areas. Hence, the victory of Vision 2020 through restoring these nations is our destiny. 

Rev. Kim is the regional president for Central America.



Appointing a vice-presidential candidate as an ambassador for peace



The Central America Leaders' Assembly participants



Costa Rica's Vision and Objectives

By Daisy Salas Peña

For providential purposes, we divided Costa Rica into nine regions—San Jose A, San Jose B, San Jose C, Alajuela, Cartago, Heredia, Limon, Puntarenas and Guanacaste. In order to achieve victory in Vision 2020, we are concentrating our efforts on activities in the most developed regions, San Jose, Cartago, Alajuela and Heredia.

The strategy adopted to achieve success in Vision 2020 is the home group vision, one-to-one Divine Principle teaching and witnessing through the *oikos* system. [*“Oikos”* is a Greek word. In Greek Bibles, the word refers to a building with people living in it or descendants, or all the people in a family. As a witnessing system, an *oikos* system emphasizes developing deep relationships and introducing religious teachings only after a deep bond of heart exists with the person one intends to witness to.]

Home groups

In San José region, where the headquarters is located, there are seven ongoing homes groups, four groups in Cartago, three groups in Heredia and six groups in Alajuela, what makes a total of twenty groups.

Testimony and teaching

To develop a culture of one-to-one Testimony, we established a group of twelve people at the national level, to practice and promote this witnessing strategy, in order to have a model of internal and external conditions for members so they can achieve the first goal of finding two spiritual children every three month and proceeding from there.

Internal education course

After a guest completes the education in Divine Principle through the one-to-one teaching method, he and his spiritual parents develop a deeper re-

lationship through the Home Group activity or through the *oikos* witnessing method. The guest attends one day, three and /or seven day's Divine Principle workshop, participating through this process at different levels in internal education (courses).

Vision 2020 workshops

To strengthen our home groups and to take care of them in each of the four regions, we conduct Vision 2020 workshops, home groups, one-to-one and *oikos* witnessing, heavenly tribal messiah efforts, regular Divine Principle workshops, internal education courses, intermediate courses and seminars on True Parents' life courses.

We conduct internal education courses according to the needs of the population. Currently, we hold two courses weekly, on Saturdays and Sundays, at our national headquarters. Regular Divine Principle workshops of



Costa Rica's second Home Group Festival, which took place in 2014

one, three and seven days for guests coming through one-to-one witnessing activities and home groups are held in San José, our capital city, on the first Sunday of the month, and in Cartago city every two or three months.

Through our Office of Heavenly Tribal Messiahs, blessed members feel motivated to achieve success in their missions through home visits, seminars and workshops on the importance of mission accomplishment.

In November, we will celebrate a National Home Groups Festival. In December, we have scheduled activities to encourage heavenly tribal messiahs outreach.

Efforts in Cartago Province

Besides the nationwide strategy mentioned above, the movement in Cartago Province has additional goals to acquire its own city headquarters building, to hold internal guidance educational programs that affirm our identity as owners of Cheon Il Guk, to take responsibility rather than being mere spectators, and to consistently hold Sunday services. They will also increase the number of local Vision 2020 workshop, centered on strategies that allow them to attract prominent members in society. They have home groups that are involved in social service, but members there will increase their participation in society. Finally, they will set up a committee to achieve victory in the Vision 2020 mission. With regard to the province of Alajuela the local leader affirmed, "We have been working at home, celebrating two Family Services a month for the last five years. Recently, a request has come that we hold these every Sunday, which we are in the

process of setting up. We will likely begin in 2016. Our main work is also focused on meeting more members, visiting them, sharing with them in their happy moments as well as in difficult situations and explaining the direction we should take from now on.

We are conducting home groups and one-to-one witnessing activities to fulfill our mission as tribal messiahs. Actually, the work was progressing very slowly but we keep our

position and persevere until today, looking forward to continue it as long as we live. We are conscious that we have much to do and there is little time, so we pray to fulfill our true responsibility toward Heaven and receive with a great victory the year 2020. We offer repentance and determination to bring better results" 

Ms. Salas Peña is the vice-president of the church in Costa Rica.



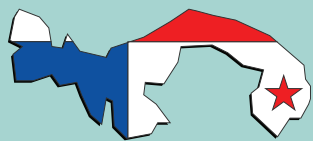
A seven-day Divine Principle seminar



Opening a new CARP center



Participants at a home group event



Hope Emerging in a Multiracial Nation

By Gustavo Giuliano

Providence is brewing; a glimmer of hope is growing in a place where various races and cultures have integrated as a nation, making this country a gateway to the world. From Panama emerges the Hisao Lee Academy, made up of “men and women of light,” who day after day study the Divine Principle.

The men and women of light or warriors of light, formed under the spiritual guidance of Grand Master Fabio Perez. While still young, *Soke* Fabio met two oriental teachers, who taught him karate and kung fu. These teachers came with the mission not only to teach their style but to evangelize and train people for peace. *Soke* Fabio received a prophecy that from him would begin the generation of the *unshida* (men of light) but in the future they would meet other men of light that would come from the other side of the world and *Soke* Fabio and

his people should prepare for this. Those other men and women of light are Unificationists.

Hisao Lee Academy is essentially a spiritual and much disciplined group. All Panama talks about them; they are considered the guardians of the country. Today, the Ministry of Education and Culture entrusted them with training students in seventy-nine public schools.

Four hundred instructors are part of a Civil Defense group formed to take action against any disaster that occurs in the country. This group is constantly in motion. The interesting thing is that it comprises many professionals, young people who in the past did not have a clear future or had lost their families. *Soke* Fabio invited them to his academy and inculcated values in them, which aided their transformation into professionals.

The academy has a place of praise and evangelical preaching. Every Fri-

day night, hundreds of them come to hear the word of God. You feel a holy atmosphere. The designated pastors, who are also martial arts instructors, take turns preaching and make time to listen to Divine Principle lectures or study one-on-one with our and national messiah missionaries, Regis and Nancy Hanna.

The Hannas, our national leader, Toribio Jose de Lora Jeannette, Angela De Lora and members of the Family Federation in Panama have developed an extreme determination that this group be dedicated to serve our Heavenly Parent and True Parents. They have gone through many difficulties, atonement and tests as blessed members, making prayer conditions early in the morning for the hundreds of instructors and administrators of the fourteen schools under the academy. Additionally, a group of Hisao Lee Academy members formed a Home Group; five couples attend this group regularly to deepen the lives of faith. Recently, I had the opportunity to participate in one of their Home Group meetings. I found their reflections to be of the highest quality and depth, yet they surrender to the logic inherent in the Divine Principle. It is as if they have found the lost map to return home.

We had the opportunity to teach them about the formula course. On the one hand, it shocked them to see the many parts of the formula course process that they practice but that without True Parents they could not achieve blessed marriages. Thus, they could never walk toward ultimate perfection.

During the month of October, this year, I had the opportunity to teach



Gustavo Giuliano presenting Divine Principle to members of Hisao Lee Academy, a prepared group



During a Question and Answer session



Hisao Lee Academy members were pleased to be photographed with Divine Principle books.

the Divine Principle to selected groups in the Hisao Lee Schools. As Soke Fabio says, “The study of the Divine Principle is like going through Bible school or graduate school or a Ph.D. course; not everyone can understand.” Those who came to participate in the study generally are practicing Christians that have read the Bible and practice open-mindedness. In addition, he says, “The Divine Principle reveals the mind of God.”

Soke Fabio pushes those in his academy to understand all religions, to have an opinion about them, as well as about all other areas of human activity, such as politics, environmental protection, or business. Fundamentally, he urges them to form good families, because Hisao Lee is a large extended family.

The studies consisted of the following methodology: In a group of forty instructors, we divided the students into pairs to read the Divine Principle, the red and blue part. We chose a theme (for example, the Principles or Creation) and the students read four pages from the first chapter. Then the speaker called them and formulated questions to ascertain their level of understanding. He then reinforced that with a thorough explanation.

Divine Principle Study Material: First Part

- Principles of Creation: How do we realize the kingdom of heaven, which is the object of God's joy? (Reading: five pages)
Created beings undergo a growth period, that includes indirect and direct dominion. (Reading: five pages)
- The Human Fall: Section II: The Motivation and the Process of the Fall (Reading: six pages)

- Sin and Characteristics of Fallen Nature: (Reading: four pages)
- Consummation of Human History: The Meaning of the Last Days (Reading: four pages)
- The Last Days, the New Truth and Our Attitude (Reading: four pages)
(We also scrutinize Chart 1, the Unfolding Manifestation of God's Word in the Creation of the Universe and the Providence of Restoration.)
- The Mission of the Messiah: Did redemption by the cross accomplish the providence of salvation?
- Resurrection: The Biblical Concepts of Life and Death (Reading: five pages)
- How God Carry Out His Work of Resurrection? (Reading: three pages)
- Predestination:
Section I: The Predestination of God's Will. (Reading: five pages)
- Christology: Is Jesus God Himself? (Reading: three pages)
- Section IV: Rebirth and Trinity. (Reading: five pages)

Divine Principle Study Material: Second Part

- The Principle of Restoration Through indemnity (Reading: four pages)
- The Foundation to Receive the Messiah (Reading: five pages)
- The History of Restoration and “I” (Reading: two pages)
- The Providence of Restoration in Adam's Family (Reading: four pages)
- The Foundation to Receive the Messiah—Abraham's Family (Reading: five pages)
- The Third Course of the Worldwide Restauration of Canaan (Reading: two pages)
- Why and How the Providence of Restoration is Prolonged (Reading: eleven pages)

- We then scrutinize Chart 3: The Progress of History as Guided by the Providence of Restoration.
- The World Wars (Reading: twenty-one pages)
- When (one page), How (five pages) and Where (thirteen pages) the Second Coming will occur

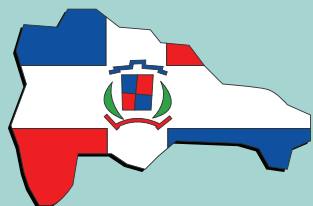
The speakers' explanations reach levels of depth that could explain what actually occurred in the days of the Messiah Jesus. The students appeared to esteem highly the material and eventually wanted to pose for a photograph while holding *Exposition of the Divine Principle*.

A light of hope has been in this wonderful country, Panama.

Professor Toribio de Loria, his wife and other blessed members are doing a great job supporting the Hannas in the task of witnessing. It's like they have a people on hand to take them the message of salvation of True Parents.

Dr. Hanna says, “If you want to have spiritual children await them.” Now we have fifty blessed couples with fourteen children comprising the second generation of Panamanian Unificationists. Many have already listened to Divine Principle lectures and are in the process of receiving the blessing. The Hannas' prayer room lit every night to accommodate intensive prayer for the great men and women of light prepared by Heavenly Parents at this time, so that they could approach the hearts of our Heavenly Parent and True Parents. 

Professor Giuliano is the director of Tong-Il Moo-do for Latin America and the Caribbean.



Preparations and Activities to Restore the Nation

By Leonidas Belliard

The providence in the Dominican Republic in last two months has focused on three important areas, opening a new CARP center, establishing a training center and conducting character education in schools. Thanks to the enthusiasm and determination of Rev. Hong Dae Hee, our special envoy, we could open a new CARP center next to Universidad Autónoma de Santo Domingo (UASD), the main university in the Dominican Republic. The center has a living area and space for education.

Japanese Cheon Il Guk missionaries and some second-generation members are living in an apartment and witnessing every day. Mr. Bernardo Cruz, a blessed member and father of three, and Mrs. Tamara Gomez, a second-generation member, are national directors and leaders of

CARP. They accepted their appointments to this holy mission recently.

Students come by group, but the main program is one-on-one teaching. Already we have twenty-five students studying the Divine Principle at an advanced level. Our goal is to have fifty new core members by next Foundation Day.

The most important thing is for the students to have a very good impression of the Divine Principle. The members, who did not have a good system for witnessing before, experience reinvigoration every day in the witnessing program.

Right now, we are in a forty-day witnessing program to develop the CARP center. Members formed groups of six families each and are fasting twelve hours a day, offering forty bows, devotedly doing hoondokhae and praying. Each team goes to the

UASD every day from 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm to invite students to visit the CARP center. The main goal of this witnessing condition is for each person to commit to and care for one candidate until the person becomes a member. In addition, we are preparing a seven-day Divine Principle workshop in December for forty new students.

Harmony Farm Training Center

Headed by our special envoy, Rev. Hong, all the Dominican members are working to establish the Harmony Farm Training Center in Piedra Blanca for international training and education as the Center for Peace and Harmony. True Mother donated money for the purchase of this farm in February 2015.

The vision of this center is to train and educate future leaders. We hope that these leaders will guide this country and that they develop the ca-



A new CARP center; the writer, who is the national leader of the Dominican Republic, has child on his lap.

pability to work on an international level. Therefore, programs held here will contain elements that cover character education based on moral values, Divine Principle lectures and workshops, until we can confirm the virtue of the participants.

Until now we have been longing for a training and education center which could inspire hope not only to educate youth to become future leaders in the nation but also to be a place where we could teach members how to be financially independent. We wish to inculcate skills in how to earn money through fish farming, agriculture, cattle rearing and more. Our member's economic situations are difficult. Thus, we hope to provide them the opportunity to work together and gain prospects of making a better living while working for the restoration of the Dominican nation and accomplishing heavenly tribal messiahship.

The project vision

Our focus is on building additional infrastructure at the education center for Divine Principle and educational workshops, on the same farm, with wood from of locally grown trees. This construction will provide spaces for education, administrative offices, a dining room, bathrooms, a storage room, a kitchen and a leisure area on the second level.

At the top of the property, we plan to build a house for True Parents, which will contain special spaces to teach and educate prominent figures, bedrooms, a special prayer room and a place to meditate and reflect. We will use this building for special

guests such as ambassadors for peace, dignitaries and international visitors. The main attraction of all these buildings will be the natural wood used, the pure air and the view of the cordillera toward the valley.

We will dedicate a large area to the construction of cabins to accommodate eight to twelve people, for families and groups attending seminars and workshops. We will build five twelve-person cabins and five eight-person cabins to house a hundred people. These cabins will follow the same model of using natural wood, which will provide an unforgettable atmosphere for sleeping and an incomparable overall experience.

Moral instruction

On this September 12, UPF Dominican Republic founded the School for Character Education. The board, made up of five prominent teachers, started its first program called the "Diploma of Character Education," after five

months of hard work. Twelve participants enrolled in this program, which began September 12 and will end on November 27. We have dedicated this program to cultivating professional teachers, especially in orientation areas. Included in the twelve participants are two school directors. The School for Character Education is an academic institution designed with the purpose of preparing educators to teach moral and ethical values to their students based on universal principles. When applied to human conduct, these principles are capable of producing a gradual change in daily behavior. The graduates of this character education course will be able to embody these values and practice them with their students, resulting in substantial improvement in the quality of life in the educational institutions where the educators work. 

Rev. Belliard is national leader of our church in the Dominican Republic.



The house for True Parents is at the top; the cabins will feature locally grown specialty wood



Home group participants



Concluding their home group meeting with a cheer



Barbados Seeks the High-Noon Standard

By Peter Oscar Phillips

Being only a hundred and sixty six square miles (415 sq. kilometers) in size, Barbados is a small island in Caribbean with a population of 270,000. Primarily a people of African descent, over time, as others

have made it their home, diverse races have helped make a wonderful blend of various cultures. Our main industries are tourism and sugar farming.

Our FFWPU headquarters is located on the southeastern side of the

country. We have approximately fifty members, mainly young people, in our second generation. We have two centers set up in the homes of two blessed couples. I am the national leader and my wife, Jacqueline Kennedy-Durant, is the deputy national leader.

We gave Gary and Gail Veith, returning members, responsibility as community leaders for the southwestern part of the island. Over the years, we have had five national leaders, and many missionaries as well as International One World Crusade (IOWC) visitors.

Inspired by the arrival of the first Unificationists in 1975, from Japan, Germany, and America, young men and women accepted the Unification Church teachings. Soon a steady growth in membership occurred as these foreigners spread their message and beliefs across this little island. Unfortunately, many people who joined then did not stay very long, as fears of the unknown overwhelmed them at that time.

Yet the sun setting in the far distance beneath the Atlantic Ocean's horizon, as night approached, could not prevent the new recruits from laboring in their pursuit to win souls day after day. Lightening flashed and the thunder roared. However, without fear, they traversed our communities teaching the word in spite of the persecution and rejection from the prominent churches. The determined members continued with greater zeal to preserve the quality, the standard and the traditions of the organizations, especially during turbulent times.



The Barbados FFWPU community after a Christmas program



UPF Barbados donated money to the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (A ministry representative is in the front row.)

A strong island

We have embarked on a weekly lecture program, and we have introduced a midweek service. Home churches have been set up throughout the country in three locations and we conduct Sunday services at varying times. We participate in interfaith gatherings at which much debate and interfaith dialogue occurs. Some small churches invite us on special occasions for fellowship.

Additional seminars are held on conflict resolution, anger management, bullying and true family values. There is a youth gathering at one home center on Fridays, bringing together young people of other faiths as they share their beliefs and expound on challenging matters facing them as young people and that are effecting the wider society.

We have introduced new measures as we seek innovative ways to increase church membership. I have given some people specific responsibilities, especially in an outreach forum we are part of. We have established community leaders and have identified prospective young leaders.

We utilize music and dance along with poetry and crafts to attract young people.

The younger people coordinate projects to raise funds and they carry them out, which affords some opportunities for them to visit engage in activities such as undersea exploration or to gaze into the galaxies.

Inner-community projects

On May 17, 2015, Barbados commemorated the fortieth anniversary since the arrival of the first missionaries to its shore with an interfaith service at the Long Bay headquarters.

We collaborated with other organizations to celebrate the International Day of Peace and we planted trees at a school for Arbor Day.

FFWPU is closely working with the Hindu community as we seek unity between our two faiths. The local arm of the Universal Peace Federation (the Barbados National Peace Council) works closely with many NGOs and certain figures in our national parliament with whom we have a good relationship in finding solutions to many problems on the island.

The drug trade has become prevalent. Many of our youth have gone headlong into this dangerous practice, which has led to many crimes, shootings, stabbings, robberies, vandalism and murders.

These things have led to an increase of promiscuity, especially expanding prostituting. The legalizing of same sex marriage, in America especially has a very strong effect on the island. Therefore, proponents of what used to be closeted behavior are highlighting and promoting it, giving FFWPU and UPF additional headaches in working with youth. The worldwide economic downturn has strenuously influenced our youths' thinking as they struggle with



Planting trees at a school on Arbor Day

stark realities. Nonetheless, we are determined to educate our youth on the fundamental principles of one heart, one love, one people, one God, and one family under God.

In the final month of this year, we will be having a Blessing Ceremony in conjunction with the practices of FFWPU as well as having married couple renew their marriage vows under the auspices of FFWPU. Therefore, we are on a promotional journey, sending out flyers and using whatever medium we can to spread this message of blessings. Our main Korean leader, and the national messiah and his wife will be joining us as they take responsibility for the Blessing Ceremony. We are hoping as well to be graced with a visit from our regional president on this our special occasion on December 13. This date was chosen by the Korea national messiah to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the only Visit of our True Parents to Barbados during their 120-day world tour fifteen years ago.

The goals for Barbados over the next five years are to have bi-yearly Blessing Ceremonies and to teach people the fundamentals of FFWPU. We will grow in membership and instill absolute love, faith and obedience in the minds and heart of our people, while living a high noon standard as an exemplary nation in the region. Barbados home to cricket, calypso and renown cuisine, is a big-hearted island even though small in size. 



Our church in Barbados celebrates a significant anniversary

Rev. Phillips is the Barbados national leader.

