

Colorado Family Church's December Highlights

Michel Hentrich
January 9, 2019



Dear families,

Last month brought the year of 2018 to a close. It was quite the year in so many different ways. Here are a few highlights from the month.

At the beginning of the month, we received a visit from Mr. Justin Fleischman. Together with his wife and children, he had been a missionary in Senegal back in 1975 and continues to find ways to support our church's efforts there. As part of their "Senegal Awareness Tour", Mr. Fleischman visited our community on December 9.

That same weekend, our older Sunday school class had their annual church sleepover. The children had a wonderful time and could be rewarded for their hard work to help prepare and clean up from the Thanksgiving Lunch.

On the weekend of December 16, we had our annual Christmas Party. There were many highlights of this year's party, including Santa Clause, a fantastic hot chocolate station, live Christmas music, the baking contest, and the ginger bread house contest. [We have lots of photos online if you missed them.](#)

Then unexpectedly, our community experienced the loss of our brother Roger Wise. Although it was a huge shock to our whole community and everyone that knew Roger, it was beautiful to experience everyone coming together to remember and celebrate Roger's life at his Seonghwa (Memorial) service. [Here is the full album of photos.](#) Thank you Viki Eagle for taking them.

We want to welcome the newest addition to our community. Sungduk and Christi Morales recently became parents and gave birth to a healthy baby girl, Kira, on December 31.



To finish the year, we had a gathering at the church on New Year's Eve. Even though the weather was bad, many of you came out to pray and celebrate with us, which we were so grateful for. It felt great to take the evening to offer our year to God and seek his guidance for our church and family in the new year.

Lastly, you may recall from our previous monthly email that Rev. Buessing had called us and asked our community to offer a donation to support the recent Peace Starts with Me Rally in New York. We asked the council to discuss an amount to give and to consider any potential concerns there may be from the community. Out of this discussion, we gave a donation of \$21,000 from our business account. We were grateful for their support in this matter, and [an open letter from the council with full details of the deliberation and donation can be found here.](#)

We are already excited to share about January, as we have already had some great experiences from our newly developed membership class, new ministries beginning, and much more. We will

share about it all next month.

Sincerely,

Pastors Mike and Adonia

The Request:

The President of FFWPU in America, Rev. Richard Buessing, reached out to Pastor Mike and Pastor Adonia and requested that a donation be made to HQ to help cover the unexpectedly large expenses from the recent Nassau Coliseum Rally. Our pastors stated that they would partner with the Council to decide on what to do.

Thought Process of the Council:

Attend True Mother & Connect Vertically:

Before deciding on any specifics, the Council was unanimous in its desire to want to support in some way. Although this event did not directly help grow or evangelize our local community, the opportunity to support True Mothers efforts in America directly, could not be overlooked. After all, it was an event where our American leadership invited True Mother to speak. And as you can imagine, that invitation took a lot of courage, trust and faith! Bishop Kim also remarked that True Mother felt the event was highly successful. So, connecting vertically and aligning to Heaven through our attendance to True Parents, is why we want to support this event with a donation of some kind.

Valid Concerns, Considered:

Even though each council member wanted to support, there were some valid concerns over making a donation like this. For example, if we say “yes” does this mean that we are opening the floodgates to many more requests for financial support? Another concern is that our community is experiencing positive growth in the form of increased tithes and attendance. Will a donation like this create any negative emotions from our local community? Will our members question why their tithe is being used for a national event and not the local community? The Council is very sensitive to these potential concerns.

The Pastors and Council have been diligent in continuing the efforts to be good stewards of the tithes and donations made from the local community and they were sensitive to how a potentially large donation to HQ would impact the community as a whole.

Setting a Condition for Future Growth:

As stated earlier, the desire to connect vertically to True Parents was strong within the Council. However, we were concerned with how to justify a donation from our Operating Account (*this is the account that holds all of our tithes/donations*).

Coincidentally, earlier this year, the Council setup a separation between our Operating Account and our Business Account (*this is the account that holds all of our business related income*). Although these accounts have been separate for years, the Council had created boundaries under what each account could be used for. Primarily, the money in the Business Account is to be used for income producing ventures and the money in the Operating Account is used for all church growth and activities.

The money in the Business Account has been accumulating over the years and because of efforts to be fiscally responsible, we have seen this account flourish. One of the original intentions of separating this account was so that if, one day, HQ had an event in our community or needed a large contribution of some kind, we would be able to accommodate without depleting our operating account or asking additional donations from our members. This was initiated by our longtime member Duc Duong who led a financial committee with Roger Wise and Peggy Yujiri (*who is the current chair of the finance committee*) and we are deeply grateful for their stewardship over this money during their time in this position.

Taking into consideration the cost of the event and based on other communities contributions, which varied between \$5,000-\$40,000, the Council decided to make a donation of \$21,000 to HQ using money from the Business Account. The Council did this with the heart of attendance to align vertically to True Parents, to “plug in” to the blessing and merit of True Mothers direct activities in America. With the strong determination to set a powerful condition for Heavenly Spirit World to help guide us in our efforts to invest and grow this account and see its impact on the Colorado Family Church.

This was an exceptional donation and it represents the first time the Colorado Family Church, under Pastor Mike and Pastor Adonia, have spent any money from this account outside of the standard repairs, maintenance and capital improvements made to the rental properties and church.

Our Pastors and Council are proud that one of the first real expenses from this account during their time as Pastors, is done for Heaven and True Parents! We feel this plants a solid foundation for Heavenly Spirit World to bless our local community and it shows Heaven that our priority will always be with our True Parents.

Setting Up a Fund for Future Donations:

Although this is an exceptional donation, the Council anticipates the possibility of future requests and opportunities to support other national initiatives. With this in mind, the Council will be setting up a fund to support these possible future donations. The specifics are not yet clear, however we anticipate that a set percent or dollar amount will be set aside from our Business Account each month so that there is a “ceiling” under which any future donation is made. This also creates an environment in which we can speculate how long it will take to replenish the fund if/when a donation is made. Based on our current income from the Business Account, \$21,000 represents a little less than half of the net income expected for the whole of 2018. United We Stand. Together We Receive Heaven’s Blessing:

Our deepest desire is that our community understands the heart and strength behind a donation like this and that our community will stand together as advocates of this decision. We are also excited about the opportunity to deepen our relationship with the leadership team in HQ, as we anticipate the possibility of partnering with them in the future on various projects we are planning, locally. We welcome any comments, questions or concerns and look forward to a prosperous new year!

Respectfully, With Love & Deep Gratitude,

Pastors,
Michael Hentrich
Adonia Hentrich

Your Elected Council,
David Stein
David Heppell
David Mahardy
Jeri Tamayo