

Generation Peace Academy Weekly Newsletter - February 3rd, 2024

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February 3, 2024

GPA



First Years and Captains

The teams have successfully completed the main portion of the Super Challenge Condition and have begun the Pioneering Period. During this time first-years have been put in teams of three to four members and were dropped off in towns in Texas. They will stay there for four days with the goal of investing into the town through service and sharing about True Parents. Each team has a list of challenges to complete and the goal is to help them practice ownership over their life of faith, and be True Parents' representatives to the town. Throughout their time the members will rotate who is leading for the day and will be responsible to lead HDH and give a morning service to help the team have an internal focus for the day. Pioneering is an exciting time for members to have deep experiences and breakthroughs with God and True Parents and to practice leading others!



Heavenly USA

Harlem

Starting off on the East coast in the cultural crossroads of America, New York City, Heavenly USA's Harlem team has been making many investments into the Harlem community. They started off their first Sunday getting right into it, visiting their most recent contact Dr. Rev. Kahli Mootoo, and his church for the first time, and absolutely bringing down the Holy Spirit, changing the entire service completely! They also visited longtime friend Bishop Samuels church, and received an amazing service from Rev. Diane. The next few days were absolutely packed as well, starting with volunteering at the thrift ministry run by a beloved aunt figure Rev. Jennifer Miller (aka Mama Jenny). The next day they visited L. Ron Hubbard's house, the founder of Dianetics and the Church of Scientology. They got to learn more about him as well as meet with a wonderful young man named Myles, who takes care of the house, and in the evening they attended Pastor Milhan's chess ministry, and understanding his vision with this ministry and the power of chess. On the weekend, they paid respect to the sister of Dr. Tanya Edwards, who had recently given her time and heart to HUSA. Finally they ended the week with a day of connecting to guest, Sophia, showering her with a lot of love and studying an overview of the Principle of Creation and the Fall with her. This month is panning out to be a very exciting one, so stay tuned!



Bay Area

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Cheon Il Guk Missionaries

Albania

Over in Albania, the team hosted a CARP Talk where 2nd-year CIG participant Jongpil gave a presentation on what is CARP is like in America. A total of 8 people attended! 2nd-year CIG participant Kyungmi shared:

"CARP is an international organization that can connect so many people from around the world, and no matter where one is, we still share the same beliefs and we can even learn from another as well. It feels nice to be a part of a big change!"

The team also went out fundraising together, which was the first time for each of them to fundraise in a new country! Even with just a short script to go off and the language barrier, the team felt encouraged to connect more with the country. During Sunday service, they heard another sermon by center leader Albijona on the topic "Faith is All About Sharing". She shared about the importance of believing in a faith first before sharing it with others and how sincere interest in another person can move their hearts. Later on, they held a team meeting to share about their past week and redetermine for the next.



Austria

The Austria team witnessed for the first time in their mission country where they split into three pairs and witnessed to people in three different areas: at a university and two parts of the Old Town in Graz. They attended a CheonBo event where CheonBo Europe representative Rev. In Pyo Moon came and together with the Graz community, joined a prayer night vigil connected to Korea which included testimonies, guidance, and prayer. Afterwards, Rev. Moon shared on the power of prayer through his and others' testimonies.



Poland

This week in Poland, the youth missionaries started daily lecture training sessions with two different versions: simple, 5-minute presentations where one person picks up after as well as a challenge where a person is picked to give an entire presentation while others act as audience members and even asks some hard-hitting questions. While they have found it challenging, they also saw it as a meaningful practice to fight for the Divine Principle. They also joined in partly for a youth workshop all ran by young staff and heard a testimony on True Parents by a local youth Barnaba Czyszczon. After a busy week, their older brother and pastor of the Peace Embassy, Vlad, spontaneously invited them to enjoy some McDonald's and they had a fun time comparing their experience to the ones in America. They've also been incorporating morning exercise by playing basketball together at a nearby park and it has been a great way to let out their competitive spirit!



Romania

This was the first full week of witnessing for the Romania team! Their goal was to experience joy and discover love and excitement for their new mission country. As a group, they became more familiar with the environment, culture, and the people of Romania. They have been starting their mornings at the Peace Center, where they hold their daily witnessing activities. 3rd-year participants Joshua S., Jeong-Sook L., and Jonathan D. took turns preparing a morning service to guide the team to focus and practice one determination throughout their day. The educational focus this week was on "Life of Attendance through Gratitude" and the team felt this brought brighter spirits within each individual. On Friday, together with CARP members, they organized a Hoon Dok Dae discussion event where they focused on the topic of friendships. 21 participants were in attendance

and many wanted to stay all night! Young adult CIG participant Natalia Tadin, shared her experience of guest care:

"This week, I was able to meet up with Sara three times with our country leader, Joshua. We went up to 'The Fall' lecture with her. I'm really grateful to God for bringing this sister to CARP. She teaches Sunday School and knows the Bible in a very deep way. Whenever she hears a lecture, she mentions more Bible passages that deepen her understanding even further. What I find so amazing about her is not only her ability to understand Principle, but her heart. The first time we met up, she bought us Romanian fast food. Last time, she showed up with a tulip for both of us. She's just a genuinely kind and loving person. She was able to experience our Hoon Dook Hae reading event and expressed how amazing the environment is for her own growth. I'm eager to see her continue to learn the the Principle and even just to spend time with her."



Sweden

Last Friday, the Sweden team went on a tour of a local Swedish Island called Gamla Stan (which means "Old town")! They explored the island and learned of its rich history with the help of a free tour guide. As for witnessing, they've had a couple of meet-ups as well as a CARP event on Thursday. Debriefing at the end of the day, sharing honestly and vulnerably with one another has helped them create a warm familial environment. Last Sunday, they also met and bonded with the Swedish church community. Lastly, they started Testimony Tuesdays and so far, they've heard from their center leaders Felix and his wife Nina. The team was inspired to hear about how their experiences on STF helped build their faith and prepare them for the Blessing!



Zambia

The Zambia CIGs started their week with hearing internal guidance from leaders and members who experienced witnessing in Zambia and discussed their plans for witnessing and a workshop this week. For three days, the team went out witnessing at a nearby campus and on the streets to invite people to their Saturday workshop. The team also went witnessing with local young Unificationists, which for some was their first time! The team supported them to understand and develop their confidence in outreaching. They also participated in the local community's midnight Cheon Shim Won prayer vigil and Sunday Service in person, where they could connect with the community more. At the end of the week, the team hosted a workshop focused on Divine Principle and introducing True Parents for guests. CIG missionaries Jacob S., Tiger R., and Audry T. gave three lectures on the Principles of Creation, the Human Fall, and the History of Restoration. It was a victorious experience for the team as more than 12 guests attended and many were moved by the teachings and the beautiful atmosphere which was created. Lastly, the team also took time for guest care by learning martial arts and its movements from one of the center member's guest! As packed as it was, this week was a fun and fulfilling experience for everyone.



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