

Austrian Leaders Workshop, New Heavenly Tribal Messiahs

Elisabeth Cook
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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 Zohrer, 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. Dong Mo Shin, 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. Zohrer 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 messiah 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 Zohrer, 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 Zohrer 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. Zohrer 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.