

New Zealand Ambassadors for Peace Meet

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Parnell, New Zealand - UPF-New Zealand held its monthly meeting Nov. 1, 2014, at the Parnell Peace Embassy for Ambassadors for Peace. It was a simple but memorable gathering of about 50 participants including 35 Ambassadors for Peace, aiming to foster unity in pursuit of the founding ideals of UPF. The meeting generated promising ideas for future activities and developments in New Zealand.

The meeting was opened by Mr. Geoffrey Fyers, secretary general of UPF-New Zealand, as its capable host. Recently appointed Ambassadors for Peace were then invited to take the stage to share their ideas and visions of peace. Through these speeches, everyone present was able to feel their sincerity and devotion towards their community and the vision of peace as a whole. The different professions, races, religions and communities that they each represented provided the audience with a fresh and unique outlook with regards to peace and what can be done to achieve it together.

The microphone was then passed on to Rev. Julius Gicole, director of UPF-New Zealand, who invited everyone to spend some time learning to know one another. He then presented UPF's core foundation and driving force: its values, goals and ideals; including many initiatives that have already established around the world. He re-emphasized the need for people from different races, religions and backgrounds to live as one family under God; that only when we start viewing each other as brothers and sisters will we be able to break down the barriers and walls of differences that continue to plague us with misunderstandings and conflicts. It was then followed by appointing five new Ambassadors for Peace.

The participants were then split off into several groups to discuss possible initiatives for UPF-New Zealand to adopt, develop and put into action. Through the discussions, many innovative plans were proposed, giving rise to plenty of enthusing possibilities for continuing to meet up and be a part of efforts born out of their own initiatives.

Finally, a good meeting would be imperfect without the sharing of love, joy and peace; be it through the food that participants shared for one another or the accompaniment of talented musicians.

Simple as they may be, such meetings and sharing of people from different races, religions and backgrounds are invaluable in promoting peace and harmony.