

God's Hope for America Bus Tour - Washington, DC

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Washington DC. We are at the halfway mark in the tour, the 25th and 26th Holy ground. The pressure is on and I keep getting flash backs to the many events that took place here in our nation's capital.

This morning our bus complement includes Bishop Kim and Mrs. Balcomb. We get a very early start and head "down to the Holy ground". Bishop Kim came directly from being with our True Mother in Korea. He received a phone call from True Mother asking: what are you doing? He told her he was waiting for an airplane to meet the God's Hope for America Pilgrimage tour. She sends her greetings to us.

True Father built two headquarters in the US, one in DC, and another in NYC, like two pillars. He knew the importance to educate leadership in America and to bless this country. When Father's auto biography was being released, Father insisted that it to be in Washington DC. True Father sent a signed copy of his biography to President Barak Obama. This was the theme though out the day as we were reminded how many events were hosted here in DC.

The first stop is the Holy ground in the middle of the lawn, west of the Capitol Building (chosen by Father to remind the leaders to pray before important decisions). We are joined there by Rev. and Mrs. Jenkins, Rev. Oliver, Rev and Mrs. Dougherty and several other representatives from the DC family. Rev Dougherty reminded us that when Father spoke in 1976 the audience was so surprised and moved that a man from the orient could speak so passionately about their country. He (Rev Dougherty) also testified that Rev. Moon is the returning Christ, however as a couple, as True Parents. He also mentioned that we are blessed central families with the responsibility to bring other families to the blessing.

The next stop is the Holy ground located in the direct center of the Ellipse, an elliptical-shaped field directly south of the White House. We are met there by a large contingent of families and friends.

Our sisters Agelika Selle and Patsy Casino shared their testimonies, about their very personal and intimate relationship with Father Moon and Mother Moon.

Back on the bus again we are on the way to our historical church that was originally built by the Mormons and purchased by True Father (It was said that when the angel Moroni came down from the steeple the Messiah would be on the earth which was when True Father purchased the building).It is currently under major restoration. Matthew Goldberg joined us on the bus, and gives a running narrative of the historical sites on the way. At the church we are greeted by a host of children who later entertain us with a wonderful song. The brothers and sisters at the church prepared a wonderful lunch complete with entertainment.

The plan for the evening is a Welcome Banquet held at the Washington Times. The banquet hall is packed to capacity with brothers and sisters, employees of the Times, friends and members of the clergy. Tom McDevitt spoke about the many exciting changes in the paper and that by 2015 the paper will be financially independent. Testimonies of both Lan Tsubata Lee and Dottie Chiquelo are hard hitting and to the point. Michael Jenkins outlines the fact that businesses have to be financially independent or as per True Mothers directive, must be fixed, closed or sold. The final speaker for the evening is Bishop Kim who starts his talk sharing about his recent experiences with True Mother. He also emphasizes that our True Father spoke about forgive love and unite. Also covered was Father's meeting with President Eisenhower how a 5 min meeting turned into 40 minutes. He concluded with Remember; Revive; Reimagine!