HJ Foundation for the Unity of the Sciences - Awakening a Love for Nature

Naokimi Ushiroda September 22, 2021



"We experienced great success engaging young children through a fun educational process that led to a creative solution for the local bird population," said Unificationist Gregg Jones, who is the outreach director of the Hyo Jeong International Foundation for the Unity of the Sciences (<u>HJIFUS</u>) founded by Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon and the late Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon.

Since 1970, North America has lost 30 percent of its bird population due to environmental degradation. Jones spearheaded the nonprofit's recent environmental service project to build birdhouses while educating young children and families.

Unificationists from Capital Heavenly Parent's Holy Community (CHPHC) partnered with members of the Mid Atlantic Community Church (MACC) in Gambrills, Maryland, where more than 50 people joined the service project held on MACC's sprawling property August 24.

"Community members including youth, young adults, parents, and other guests met on the 42-acre church grounds to address the issue of declining native bird populations," said Jones. "Faced with such calamities [like depopulation], parents are looking for environmental education projects that will awaken in their children a love for nature."

The group, which had some 28 elementary school children, was given an introductory lesson by Jones on the relationship between God, our Creator, and human beings and the natural world, all of which is

centered on love. Jones also shared about a 2014 study in the social and behavioral sciences journal, <u>Procedia</u>, where professor Elif Alaydin, an environmental education researcher, said teaching children about nature at a young age is key.

"Environmental education changes the learner's knowledge, skills and behavior to the environment," wrote Prof. Alaydin. "Young generations, especially primary school students, are the most important target group for environmental education because this education teaches how to learn about their environmental issues, and to make decisions about how they can take care of the environment."

HJIFUS was started with the mission of solving environmental problems in the world and living in harmony with nature. The founders, who developed a range of initiatives and annual conferences dedicated toward this effort, expressed that in order to find success in restoring nature people have to clearly understand that "the whole universe is like one body in which human beings are inseparably connected to our Creator and the rest of creation," states the HJIFUS website.

In spring 2021, HJIFUS launched a new online environmental magazine, <u>The Earth and I</u>, followed by the outreach department headed by Jones. "People of the world need to develop a loving heart toward nature and work together centered on the three principles of interdependence, mutual prosperity, and universally shared values to restore the earth," he said.

Participants were shown how to build birdhouses (nest boxes) that provide safe and secure shelter for birds. Parents and children enjoyed working together to build housing for a range of native species, including Baltimore orioles and bluebirds.

"I really appreciated how the education that was provided related to the project that we did," said one parent.

"My three kids loved the activity and learned a lot," said another parent. "We will certainly attend other [HJIFUS] events!"

Each child signed the bottom of their birdhouse and took a family picture alongside them once they were set up in an area with the best chance of survival for the hatchlings. "Through this activity, and their ongoing care for the nest boxes, these families will continue to practice loving and caring for nature," said Jones.

MACC Children's Director Chloe Leonard said she was inspired by how the service project brought together different groups in support of a shared goal and that she hoped to collaborate more in the future.

"I am very happy to see the number of people that participated and grateful to see the birdhouses set around the property," added MACC Pastor Joe Heinrich. CHPHC Pastor Achille Acolatse and youth pastor Melissa Manor also shared their gratitude for the opportunity to care for nature in such a unique way.

You can learn more about the Hyo Jeong International Foundation for the Unity of the Sciences here.

HJIFUS (USA)

ABOUT ACTIVITIES

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WHO WE ARE

The Hyo Jeong International Foundation for the Unity of the Sciences (HJIFUS)



Overview

HJIFUS deals with Environmental Preservation and Regeneration.

The Hyo Jeong^{*} International Foundation for the Unity of the Sciences (HJIFUS) engages in research on the environmental ailments of Earth. As the Foundation has connections to many world level organizations, it is well-positioned to spread innovative ideas and best practices to leaders. HJIFUS institutions around the world work together to cosponsor international conferences and projects. Furthermore, HJIFUS is open to environmental solutions based on traditional science as well as some new science. More than anything else, HJIFUS promotes a unique perspective of the natural world that we believe can reconcile human beings and nature. This website shows the activities of HJIFUS (USA), a nonprofit, charitable, tax-exempt research foundation registered in Washington, DC.

Let us actively take true ownership of and responsibility for our Earth to make it the best it can be for generations to come.

Hyo Jeong* (孝情) means "filial heart"

"Temperature rise to date has already resulted in profound alterations to human and natural systems, including increases in droughts, floods, and some other types of extreme weather; sea level rise; and biodiversity loss – these changes are causing unprecedented risks to vulnerable persons and populations...."

—From the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change 2019 Report

"The massive abuse of fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides has modified the soil and the plants that animals eat. These destructive agricultural practices have altered the food we eat, chemically influencing our microbial flora and microbiota. Consequently, there is an alarming proliferation of not only chronic neurotropic diseases but also cancers that especially affect the younger generation, specifically because of changes in the microbiota."

—Prof. Luc Montagnier, ICUS XXV, February 14, 2019

President's Welcome

Welcome to HJIFUS. In the global effort to solve environmental problems, we are contributing through the research and implementation of innovative technologies and the development of educational materials on the environment. I can confidently say that one of the greatest things HJIFUS has to offer is a viewpoint and rationale that elevates human consciousness and human attitude towards nature and the Creator, God. Let us all work together as proud caretakers of our planet and create a world in which we can enjoy nature's beauty while enhancing the quality of human life.

—Dr. Douglas DM Joo, President, HJIFUS (USA)



Vision

We envision a world where humanity and the natural world coexist in harmony. Such a world would be one of interdependence, mutual prosperity, and universally shared values.

LEARN MORE



Mission

To protect and restore the environment, we need to address environmental issues through various approaches such as scientific research, policy making, and education, and we need to promote a new understanding that will uplift human consciousness and awareness on the value of nature.



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SUBMIT



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