

FFWPU USA: Celebrating Chunk Sik Yong's Second Anniversary of in America

Naokimi Ushiroda
October 19, 2022



Photo courtesy of Dr. Yong

It's been two years since Dr. Chung Sik Yong embarked on a new mission as Regional President of FFWPU North America. Inaugurated in a virtual ceremony on Oct. 20, 2020, Dr. Yong has since gone on tours to revive the faith of young people and the spirit of America; launched the daily [Morning Devotion](#) online program; began co-pastoring the Clifton Family Church, and transformed the New Jersey community into a model church inspiring other regions nationwide.



Photo courtesy of Graeme Carmichael

"My family and I are eternally grateful to our beloved Heavenly Parent and True Parents for giving us this opportunity to serve and sacrifice in order to advance God's providence in America," Dr. Yong said during his 2020 [inaugural address](#). "With all my heart and sincerity, I offer deep gratitude and endless

appreciation to our beloved True Mother for entrusting me with [this] responsibility ... I am overwhelmed by the trust that has been bestowed on me."

Dr. Yong and his family relocated to the U.S. after spending 12 years overseeing the Unification movement in Asia. He has brought a wealth of knowledge, wisdom, and experience, having previously served as the regional chair of the Universal Peace Federation (UPF) in Asia for more than a decade and as the regional chair of UPF in Oceania before that.



A native of Korea, Dr. Yong received the Marriage Blessing with Mrs. Yoshie Yong of Japan in 1988 and together they have three children. Mrs. Yong has also invested deeply into the U.S. movement alongside her husband, recently concluding her own [national tour](#) in September. Mrs. Yong urged communities to keep core traditions and faith practices alive, discussed her approach to witnessing through 'home church,' and encouraged young Unificationists to share openly about their faith.



In the last two years, the couple's selfless heart for others and service-oriented nature has enabled them to

cultivate deep connections among national leaders, members, and guests, as they continue pioneering new initiatives for revival and growth in all Unificationist communities. Most recently, Dr. Yong led a "[Family Reunion](#)" Sunday service that honored the 10th anniversary of True Father's seonghwa and drew more than 800 attendees.



"Let us be Unificationists who love this nation more than anyone else," he said during the Oct. 2 sermon. "I believe that this is indeed a shortcut to inheriting the legacy of our True Parents. But in order to fully inherit from True Parents, we need to really unite with True Mother."

Dr. Yong and FFWPU USA leaders aim to [empower](#) families and communities as they "join in building substantial Cheon Il Guk," he said. "True Mother has set a 2027 goal of firmly establishing a heavenly unified world. Only by uniting with True Mother and working together can we form a heavenly unified world, and we will absolutely bring victory for God and True Parents."

You can receive daily updates from Dr. Yong through Morning Devotion [here](#)





October 19, 2022

EP 724 - GOD, WOMEN AND WORLD PEACE PART 8



October 18, 2022

EP 723 - GOD, WOMEN AND WORLD PEACE PART 7



October 17, 2022

EP 722 - GOD, WOMEN AND WORLD PEACE PART 6



October 16, 2022

EP 721 - GOD, WOMEN AND WORLD PEACE PART 5



October 15, 2022

EP 720 - GOD, WOMEN AND WORLD PEACE PART 4



October 14, 2022

EP 719 - GOD, WOMEN AND WORLD PEACE PART 3



October 13, 2022

EP 718 - GOD, WOMEN AND WORLD PEACE PART 2



October 12, 2022

EP 717 - GOD, WOMEN AND WORLD PEACE PART 1



October 11, 2022

EP 716 - WORLD PEACE AND THE ROLE OF WOMEN 3 PART 9



October 10, 2022

EP 715 - WORLD PEACE AND THE ROLE OF WOMEN 3 PART 8



October 9, 2022

EP 714 - WORLD PEACE AND THE ROLE OF WOMEN 3 PART 7



October 8, 2022

EP 713 - WORLD PEACE AND THE ROLE OF WOMEN 3 PART 6



October 7, 2022

EP 712 - WORLD PEACE AND THE ROLE OF WOMEN 3 PART 5



October 6, 2022

EP 711 - WORLD PEACE AND THE ROLE OF WOMEN 3 PART 4



October 5, 2022

EP 710 - WORLD PEACE AND THE ROLE OF WOMEN 3 PART 3



October 4, 2022

EP 709 - WORLD PEACE AND THE ROLE OF WOMEN 3 PART 2



October 3, 2022

EP 708 - WORLD PEACE AND THE ROLE OF WOMEN 3 PART 1



October 2, 2022

EP 707 - WORLD PEACE AND THE ROLE OF WOMEN 2 PART 5



October 1, 2022

EP 706 - WORLD PEACE AND THE
ROLE OF WOMEN 2 PART 4



September 30, 2022



EP 705 - WORLD PEACE AND THE
ROLE OF WOMEN 2 PART 3

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National

National Tour: Mrs. Yong Shares Guidance on Faith and Outreach



Photos courtesy of various local FFWPU USA communities

Throughout September, Mrs. Yoshie Yong, wife of FFWPU North America Regional President, Dr. Chung Sik Yong, has been on a national tour to share her guidance on witnessing and raising families of faith. With a background in counseling, and many years of connecting with CARP guests and doing home church, Mrs. Yong met with Unificationist communities across the country to encourage and uplift them in their faith and public outreach efforts.

“She covered ‘home church,’ which is her approach to witnessing,” said Rev. Miilhan Stephans, pastor of the Manhattan Family Church, as he detailed her visit to New York in a recent report to FFWPU USA leaders. He shared about the discussion topics of Mrs. Yong’s visit, including personal approaches to public outreach; effectively sharing about faith as a couple; supporting and inspiring other community members with outreach; encouraging young Unificationists to share openly about their faith; and strengthening the ability to share about True Parents and the *Divine Principle*.

“She talked about how the Word itself is more powerful when it’s embodied,” said Rev. Miilhan. “When we become the living Word, that’s when we become a natural witness ... and the more action we take, then we realize there is no problem that we can’t solve.” Mrs. Yong shared that the family is the greatest witnessing tool, and

Yong shared that the family is the greatest witnessing tool, and possessing love beyond societal boundaries, including race and culture, inspires people and opens the door to their hearts. “We should be able to listen very closely and carefully to each family’s situation and really try to help them,” said Rev. Miilhan.

Mrs. Yong also recommended sharing the *Divine Principle* with guests when they are ready, and to do it as though we are testifying to True Parents. “It’s better to build relationships,” said Rev. Miilhan, “but when [guests] are ready, then we share everything with 100 percent sincerity and devotion.” Engaging young Unificationists one on one in an environment that is uplifting, such as a church camp or event, helps them to feel spiritually supported as well, he said.



Additionally, including children in everything – from cooking to other household activities – ensures a healthy family dynamic in fostering faith, shared Mrs. Yong. She advised keeping core traditions alive, including *hoon dok hae*, Sunday service, and family pledge. And when faced with challenges, Mrs. Yong said, “think before criticizing ... go beyond issues by moving with your heart.”

Mrs. Yong then traveled to the West Coast to meet with Unificationists in the Bay Area and Los Angeles from Sept. 4 to 9. She toured local holy grounds, as well as historic places like the Golden Gate Bridge. “We had a wonderful time together,” shared Rev. Kevin Thompson, FFWPU USA West director. Mrs. Yong held a Q&A session with the community, addressing inquiries about the movement and its continued growth and development.

“She answered every question with grace and honesty, and really moved the hearts of people,” said Rev. Thompson. While sharing personal anecdotes, Mrs. Yong said Unificationists can support

leaders by bringing “substantial results.” “She gave some great advice to CARP, Kodan, and our young people on how to prepare themselves for marriage and invest ourselves in faith,” said Rev. Thompson.

Mrs. Yong also visited Arizona, where she saw the Hoover Dam and Grand Canyon, before heading to Texas to meet with community members there. Rev. John Jackson, FFWPU USA South director, noted the inspiring example of the Yong family’s multi-generational household, stating, “It’s an incredible heart of service that Dr. and Mrs. Yong live to God and True Parents.”



In the Midwest, Mrs. Yong connected with Unificationists in Chicago on Sept. 11, where a special Sunday service was organized to welcome her. Two Q&A sessions were held, in the morning and afternoon, that became a five-hour program, said Rev. Kazuo Takami, FFWPU USA Midwest director. “We had people come down from other states like Wisconsin, Michigan and Indiana,” he said. Some 300 people attended the Chicago Family Church that day – the biggest turnout of the year, he said.

From Sept. 16 to 19, Mrs. Yong traveled to Washington, DC, where she met with Unificationists at the Capital Family Church for a special Q&A session and Sunday service. “[Mrs. Yong’s] depth of heart and knowledge of reading young [Unificationists] is profound,” shared one local participant. “She gave tremendous guidance to all the young families.”

Stay tuned for more updates from Mrs. Yong’s national tour.

National

Empowering Families: A Mission and Vision



A consolidated outline of the 2022 mission, vision, objectives, goals and strategies of FFWPU USA were presented in a special report by President Rev. Naokimi Ushiroda on Sept. 20. “Our mission is to advance world peace by *empowering families* to develop their four realms of heart and establish the blessed family culture through True Parents’ teachings,” he said.

Focusing on the four realms of heart – children, sibling, conjugal, and parental – has helped clarify all the different types of education provided by the U.S. movement, Rev. Naokimi said, and underscores the primary mission to empower families. “When we fulfill our mission, we will see our vision emerge of a peaceful world where every family embodies God’s true love,” he said. “This is something that True Parents brought to us that we are still responsible to manifest in our own families and in all families throughout the world.”

Rev. Naokimi identified in his report four main objectives, or ‘long term pillars,’ that circle back to relationships: Empowering individuals to develop a personal relationship with God and True Parents and fulfill the three great Blessings; empowering couples to create a God-centered marriage through the holy Marriage Blessing;

empowering parents to raise their children with love and the *Divine Principle*; and lastly, empowering tribal messiahs and community leaders to expand the blessed family culture and create a unified, peaceful world through community service.

"All of our activities related to [FFWPU USA] should fall under these four categories," he said. "We also have short-term goals that fall under our immediate providential focus." By April 2023, Rev.

Naokimi said U.S. leaders aim to go to Korea with the substantial offering of a breakthrough in church growth. "This is something that has really been on True Mother's heart, and she has guided us since May of this year to focus on our local church development. We're focusing all of our resources toward breaking through in this particular area."

Over the next seven months, leaders aim to have at least 3,000 members regularly attend Sunday service nationally, read the *Divine Principle* one-hour manual a hundred times each, have at least 400 new FFWPU USA members, increase tithing by 50 percent, and prepare 210 singles from America for the next Cosmic Blessing.

"Each of our subregions have committed to a certain portion of the goals," said Rev. Naokimi before explaining that, aside from California – which has the Bay Area and Los Angeles – the major city in each region would be responsible for their results. He said past outreach campaigns, like the Online Holy Communities (OHCs), have been successfully evolving and will continue on that trend.

"We actually achieved more than 120 new signed memberships during the New Life Campaign that was started earlier this year," said Rev. Naokimi. This goal was slated for the August anniversary of True Father's seonghwa. "That was a great victory," he said. "By April 2023, we can get to 400 or more."

The Clifton Family Church in New Jersey, where Rev. Naokimi and Dr. Chung Sik Yong pastor, was highlighted as an example community where "small group care training" – through the Dare to Care workshop and Achieve program – has been used to increase Sunday service attendance. "We had more than a hundred people come and receive training and education with a newfound

come and receive training and education, with a newfound commitment to invest in a handful of other people ... and really invite them to participate in our community," he said.

Large quarterly services akin to a 'friends and family day' have also proved successful. And new programs celebrating eternal love and married couples, as well as a "clear track" to FFWPU USA membership have created an uptick in community participation, too. Rev. Naokimi concluded by emphasizing the importance of clarifying a new member's commitment and what that entails.

"These are the things we have developed to focus on growth in our local churches," he said. "This is what we're working on in Clifton, and it can be implemented by all the other regions across the country."

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