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GPA



First Years and Captains

The teams have completed their second week of spring competition! The theme for this fundraising time is: Let's Love and unite together to bring joy to God and True Parents. The hope is that all teams can fully invest in this time to connect and lovingly unite with God and True Parents.



Here is a testimony from a first-year brother, Timmy Ojeda:

Pure Water

"I wanted to share this God experience I had during the last Blitz yesterday, and takeaways from the experience.

During the last Blitz, Ian & I split off, and I went to a bowling alley. The past few days I felt that one way I can do my portion of responsibility to have people donate is through my sincerity. I went in with the intention to really pour my heart into the people on behalf of God & True Parents. I also started to invest with the intention of having these people make an offering for HP after reading Kienyen nuna's testimony. I met this group of people, including a couple, a brother, and his cousin named Bianca. I gave my spiel to them, and they asked me about GPA, so I shared what we have been doing recently. They were all pretty drunk, so they were taking their time looking at the prints and talking. We talked about other things, and then the brother started sharing how he was surprised that I went up to them all confident and bright.

Bianca decided to get four prints, and while I was helping her donate with Apple Pay, she really started to share what was on her heart. She began to tell me how pure I am. She was getting the chills (goosebumps) and started tearing up. Bianca said ever since she was young, she has been spiritually open. Her meeting me gave her so much gratitude and joy. She then started to continue telling me how pure I am. This reminded me how True Mother has told us many times that we are like pure water. As 2nd generation, we understand that we were born without original sin, but how much are we able to experience how pure and precious we are to God? After 6,000 years, God finally has children connected to him more spiritually and deeply. This showed me how much of an impact and light we can have on people. It may seem like we are not instantly positively impacting people, but through the conditions we are making, we are truly giving blessings to these people (also restoring them and all of their ancestors!). When listening to Bianca, I pictured it as if God was speaking to me, and I felt so much of God's love through her. I leave this off with a few points that she told me. I hope you all can see yourselves from God's perspective (that we are precious and pure children of God) so that you can truly see others from God's perspective and give God's love.

- You came up to us with confidence and sincerity
- You are so pure, really pure. (She was saying this with goosebumps, and she was tearing up)
- God is always protecting and believing you
- "Despite what you do, you are a pure and precious child of God
- Just be yourself. Listen to your heart.
- Continue being genuine because it is what God will be looking for in the end

Let's keep pushing y'all!
See you soon, True Mother!"

T. Ojeda

And an exciting announcement: It has been decided that GPA will attend the Blue Dragon Pilgrimage in Korea! It is an amazing opportunity to attend

True Mother with the Next Generation of American Young Adults, and everyone is now preparing to be ready to meet her.

Heavenly USA

This week on HUSA, the three teams arrived in their area in Pennsylvania, an important state in the history of America. On top of that, they had a surprise captain fly in - alumni Terushi Nakaza! Also, that Sunday, they each chose a church to visit, keeping up their heart of witnessing and connecting to Christianity and sharing about our pilgrimage to Rome as well! One team in Wyomissing, PA, went to Wyomissing Church of the Brethren and connected to a Spanish service. Another team fundraising around Birdsboro went to Abundant Life Church, where a fundraiser got invited and decided it was God's will to go. Finally, the Philadelphia team went to Trinity Episcopal Church, joining in on their Evensong. It was exciting to see many different churches and experience different ways of praising.

God, all while sharing about themselves and connecting to all kinds of Christian brothers and sisters, getting new contacts along the way! It was quite an amazing first week of fundraising, so there's much more to come. All this is in preparation for Rome, where they will be going soon!



Cheon Il Guk Missionaries

Albania

Last week, the office had the Empower missionary team come from Fier! The members got to know each other and bonded, uplifting their spirits to

win the day. The CARP Talk theme this month is unity, and our movement is all about this. On that topic, 2nd-year missionary Kyungmi gave a beautiful talk on the unity of cultures and how the Blessing plays a role in world peace. 2nd-year missionary Jongpil gave a testimony on his personal experience of being raised by a Korean father and a Japanese mother and how they overcame differences and generational resentment to create a family. Visiting their Vlore team a second time, Rev. Shin came together with the vice-national leader of Albania, Billi. From the morning into the afternoon, he shared guidance on the essentials of our lives of faith to solidify the truth in each member's heart. They also held a workshop where three guests received the Second Advent lecture! In this week's "Melodia e pages" program, 3rd-year missionary Shawna gave a talk on the power of music.



Austria

Over in Austria, the team held their 5th Peace Talk on Thursday, and four guests attended. Since they were guests who had become more accustomed to their culture, it was a warm and comfortable atmosphere. Team leader Geoffrey Quilates gave a presentation about acts of service. Participants enjoyed the activity, which was about expressing gratitude to one another. This week, some second-generation Unificationist members and some guests from three countries, Croatia, Slovenia, and Austria, participated in a workshop together. 2nd-year missionary Josh Burgei, gave testimony about his faith and how he grew up in a holy community. It was a great opportunity for all of the participants to get to know each other and recognize the importance of heavenly culture.



Poland

In the beginning of the week, the Poland team heard a demonstration from their center assistant Igor on how to deliver an hour-long version of the Introduction to Restoration, Providence of Restoration, Parallels, and 2nd Advent in light of True Father's words, "We should be able to convey Principle at any length." The team also listened to a speech from True Mother not long after True Father's passing and Hurricane Sandy, and they could catch her urgent heart to advance the providence and complete God's will. They want to take this urgency and seriousness of True Mother to do their part to help her in their time in Poland and with the Ukrainian members. This week, they also had a filming session with NWET to share the news of Americans being in Poland on their platforms. They filmed at Złote Tarasy Mall, and everyone was pushed a little out of their comfort since they filmed in public! They also had a few visits and meetings with several leaders and community members, such as a visit from the national leader of Ukraine, another visit from Martin Masner, who works at European headquarters and oversees international missionary activities, and an online meeting with elders of the Ukrainian community. In these meetings, the team could go witnessing with them and share their experiences of their mission so far.



Romania

On March 13th, the Romania CIG missionaries partnered with their local Youth and Students for Peace (YSP) for a mental health marathon program discussing the topic of depression. On March 15th, they held their first Japanese culture night. The event aimed to invite people to experience an environment filled with love, culture, and joy, introduce them to CARP and ask them to study the Divine Principle. The event consisted of a presentation of CARP and its founders, an activity about interesting facts about Japan, and a traditional Japanese dance performance from the CIG missionaries. The night continued with rotations of stands with different activities. This included learning Japanese calligraphy and origami, trying onigiri, and having the opportunity to try on kimonos. The outcome of participants was double as anticipated, as many previous guests brought friends with them. The environment was filled with excitement, curiosity, and new connections. Many of the participants expressed immense gratitude for the experience and the effort that went into preparing it. The missionaries, as well as local CARP members, felt a spark in witnessing efforts. The hope for the future is to personally contact the new participants and connect them more to CARP. The local Women's Federation for World Peace (WFWP) hosted a Women's Day celebration the following day. The purpose of the event was to celebrate the importance of motherhood. They concluded the night with food and music.



Sweden

Over in Sweden, they held their weekly Thursday event where 3rd-year missionary Rica gave a talk on "What is True Love?" There were many intriguing conversations between the guests who were able to come. Eight guests attended. The team was invited for lunch by a blessed family living in Gnesta, a little south of where they are located in Sweden. They enjoyed nature and shared testimonies on their witnessing experiences so far. Although they originally planned this week to be their recuperation and relaxation week, it was actually filled with several meetups! To prepare for the new condition, on Monday, the team took the day to connect more deeply and connect with God. They did some sharing between different team members, strengthening their bonds. They also took time to make vision boards for their future lives! They ended the day with some praise and worship. They have also been giving presentations on their witnessing updates to the Swedish community every Sunday, which has inspired the members present. The church members have also been able to join their Thursday events and Saturday seminars, which has brought excellent spirits!



Zambia

Over in Zambia, the team started their witnessing efforts to students and guest care once again after a whole month of solely investing in the CIG CA participants. The team was so happy to see their guests again and study the Divine Principle with them. The team also hosted a one-day workshop on Saturday on the topics of Principles of Creation and the family, which is the school of love given by 2nd-year missionary Yoomi and young adult missionary Tiger. Fifteen guests attended together with the CIG CA participants. On Sunday, the CIG CA participants had their closing ceremony to conclude the 21 days of their kick-off workshop. The program included opening remarks from leaders, acknowledgement of the participants, and performances. The Shin Top Gun missionaries (HTG) and Hyojeong Rang Africa joined the ceremony to acknowledge the CIG CA participants' accomplishments. Afterward, they had their Sunday Service and participated in a prayer gathering with all the youth, including, HJ rang, CIG CA, and HTG to pray together, listen to a testimony by a HTG member, and connect with one another. It was a memorable time for everyone where all the young generations from all across the world gathered together in Zambia.



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