

UPF presents "Young People of Character -- the Hope of the Nation" in Indonesia

David McLackland
March 20, 2015



Middle school students in Sumatra in a character education class

In Indonesia, we have been focusing on supporting the Indonesian government in their focus on national character building. Thus, we teach young Indonesians the importance of developing their own character to become future leaders with a heart and mind-set of serving the nation instead of just looking for a lucrative career or personal enjoyment. We want them to realize that there is a deeper level of happiness and satisfaction when we serve others and help others to find happiness in their lives.



Collecting trash for disposal

On March 20, an ambassador for peace, Mr. Agus Mulyana, welcomed the UPF team to the prestigious Djuanda University in Bogor, about sixty kilometers south of Jakarta, the nation's capital. Students and lecturers responded to the UPF presentation on "Young People of Character -- the Hope of the Nation" with penetrating questions and expressed their desire to join the upcoming International Youth Convention (IYC) at the University of Indonesia on the same theme. This was the first of many upcoming programs in preparation for the IYC for the purpose of training volunteers and giving orientation to students regarding the benefit of attending this international event.

Mr. David McLackland, the education director of UPF Indonesia, traveled with three W-CARP members from Medan to Pematang Siantar, the second largest city in North Sumatra and the hometown of Juan Tobing, president of W-CARP Medan. Within a day, they arranged to conduct three school programs the following day.



Indonesia UPF leaders with the staff of a school at which they gave character education

To their surprise, principals and teachers of the SMAN 3 government school and the local Methodist school immediately took up their offer to provide free character education to their students. All of the two hundred students responded with great interest and are eager to participate in further W-CARP and UPF activities.

Besides their witnessing activities, the W-CARP members also went out to raise funds and enjoyed the natural surroundings in Juan's hometown.