True Family, Three Generations
World Peace Tour

American Kick-off • see page 4
T

hrough the world speaking tours, Mother and I are setting a total indemnity condition. A total indemnity condition will bring the foundation of total liberation. Through that, humankind’s clan will be blessed. This will unite the national level, which should be combined with the Mongolian People’s Federation. The responsibility to connect the nations to the world level lies in the hands of the national messiahs. That will create world level messiahs. This is the destiny of God’s providence.

What the True Parents need to solve are the problems of Adam’s family: first, the problem of the lineage; second, the bloodshed between brothers; and third, the loss of ownership. To fulfill this all people with the Mongolian birthmark and all the other people on this earth should be brothers and sisters. And the bloodshed between Cain and Abel in the Adam’s family should be indemnified. All brothers and sisters should unite and serve the parents. It is not just the mother who should serve the father; the mother needs to unite with the children and serve the father.

In the Garden of Eden, Eve kicked out her husband, which means she kicked out the owner of the family and the nation. This is an unavoidable fate for us: we need to accept this and fulfill the responsibility to restore this and bring this world back to God. All nations will be in the position of total freedom and total liberation, and they will live with God and serve him as a parent. Above us there will be God; with us there will be united humanity. In that world there will be no sadness. It will be a truly liberated and free Heaven on Earth. Amen!

God created this world to be perfected in love, but because of the Fall everything was lost. He did not create a perfect world that God originally desired. If gears don’t match with precision, they will break. We need to be precisely matched with God. Right now Heaven and Earth are not turning the same way. If Heaven turns clockwise, Earth turns counterclockwise. Because Heaven and Earth are opposite, we need to oppose and object to the things that fallen people enjoy on this earth.

When the Israelites left Egypt to go to the Canaan they carried the most holy thing (the Ark of the Covenant) with them: whoever opposed the most holy thing perished. When God displayed his judgment, there needed to be a person who said, “Take me instead of my brothers and sisters.” Without that kind of person, there can be no settlement.

When Jesus was on the cross, his heart didn’t stop so a Roman soldier stabbed a spear through Jesus’ heart; however, Jesus still asked God to forgive all of them. We cannot save this world with the God of judgment. The God who can love the people, even in the situation of death, is the God who can save this world and create the peace kingdom. The God of judgment

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who would destroy humanity with power cannot save this world. Jesus, in front of the God of judgment, said he would die for his brothers and sisters. That is what is different between God and humans. At that moment God wanted to end fallen humanity, but Jesus came and asked God to save his brothers and sisters, even the people living today, and take him instead. You need to clearly understand the source of the motive to resurrect and save heaven and earth and create the kingdom of heaven on earth. We cannot achieve this by fighting. To be a Blessed member, you need to know both the God of judgment and God of love. All religious people know about the God of judgment, but the God of love is the God of the future who will be the owner of the heavenly kingdom. And blessed people know about the God of love who will rule the world in the future.

I went on the path of cross, and I faced lots of difficulties, even death. But I didn’t die. People should think me as the brother among all the brothers. The leaders and even kings of the world should support me. Until this becomes reality, total liberation and freedom will not come.

Because of global warming, people in tropical areas will not be able to stay in those hot zones. There will be massive migrations to cooler areas. Places that are now too cold for people to live will become habitable. The two poles will attract lots of visitors in the future. We are trying to build an eternal peace kingdom on this earth.

To achieve that, we need to focus on developing scientific technologies. Even though I am a church leader; I am focusing on these kinds of matters. We should achieve the eternal peace kingdom by using science and technology.
New York, September 3

The New York leg of the True Parents and Three Generations of True Family Third International Tour of the Universal Peace Federation was a great success.

New York was truly blessed to be with True Mother as she delivered her historic message at the majestic Manhattan Center’s Hammerstein Ballroom.

This ballroom was well suited to be the place to host this evening’s event. True Mother’s beauty, strength and confidence could be felt by all, as she spoke in her native tongue. The atmosphere was warm in response to the message and messenger.

The stage was set to receive the many gems that were to be displayed as over 2000 people came to support this leg of the 40 nation, 480 city tour of 3 generations of True Families.

Support for this event came from State Senator Ada Smith of the NY State Senate and Mrs. Vivian Cook, a member of the State Assembly. Congresswoman’s Senator Joseph Lieberman has been very supportive of the tours.

The evening began with Mr. Alan Inman, introducing “Han” a Korean Folk Drum performance, followed by the wonderful West Rock Family Choir, as always graced us with her beauty, grace and song.

There were a number of special guests, among them the Ambassador of Zambia, one of United Nations dignitaries who joined with others after attending an IPPW meeting with Karen Smith prior to True Mother’s speech.

The main program began with Rev. Dr. Michael Jenkins as the M.C., introduced the distinguished Archbishop Emmanuel Milingo of Zambia to offer the invocation.

One of the night’s jewels was to see Archbishop and Maria Milingo together; they have both been through so much to make True Parents historic blessing a reality in their lives. Archbishop Milingo could really sense the presence of the Holy Spirit at this event.

Senator Larry Pressler one of the most ethical and principled members of the Senate shared words of encouragement for the work of True Parents. He is such a natural, open and sincere son of our True Parents as he spoke warmly that only True Parents can consistently bring such diverse people together to work for a better world.

Dr. Yang as always spoke with dignity as a filial son, as he delivered Rev. Dr. George Augustus Stallings gave True Mother and introduction like no other; he gave Mother such joy as she walked onto the stage.

Mr. Hafta Farid a writer and film maker was together with Father in Danbury Prison and he recognizing the value of such a couple as True Parents by humbly presenting flowers to True Mother together with Evangelist Carolyn Younger Nolan of the Black Families International. Evangelist Nolan felt so strongly Mother Moon’s love when she proudly presented her family of 4 generations, along with many others who were gathered and were publicly recognized for living together with 3 generations.

It was for this reason that the Holy Blessing Ceremony officiated by Rev. and Mrs. Jenkins was meaningful as the audience shared in this communion of true love, true life, true lineage and true Family. These same words were chanted as we said goodbye to True Mother and bid her victory on this journey with True Family as they continue to travel throughout the world.

Minnesota, September 3

September 3, 2006, will long be remembered by many in Minneapolis, Minnesota as a day when God’s Ideal for true families became more than mere words or a distant hope. Over 500 people crowded into the True Vine Missionary Baptist Church of host pastor, Jessie Griffin, to hear from a number of remarkable people, but none more outstanding than J.Hye Moon, wife of Kook Jin Moon. You could hear and feel the passion of her message as she spoke to an overflow crowd that Sunday afternoon, relating the love and unconditional sacrifice of Rev. and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon. “Distinguished leaders, can you sense the intense heat with which we are taking up the world tour?” As Rev. Moon approached his eighty-eighth year, we do not know when or where he might collapse along the way. At this point, she could not conceal her emotions and briefly broke into tears, but quickly caught herself and moved forward to share God’s hope for mankind at this dark hour in human history.

As each listened to Mrs. Moon’s words, the way became clear on how humanity could finally break the endless cycle of war and violence. “You have the mission to teach the members of your families and clans that the inter-cultural exchange Marriage Blessing is the ultimate means to establish a peaceful ideal world here on earth.” She explained. Living in the prologue, everyone participated in dedicating their lives and marriages to God and True Parents.

Many who attended shared later that God had truly blessed them and their families that day. They may have come to the program as wild olive trees, but departed the program as sons and daughters engrafted onto the True olive tree.

One hour after the program had concluded, there were still dozens outside the church sharing and enjoying the fellowship of one another even though it was in the midst of a steamy Minneapolis. There was truly no need to be there.

Sceaucaus, September 3

Over 900 people gathered at the Crown Plaza’s Imperial ballroom to hear the message of True Father delivered by Jun Sook Nim. The event began with a VIP reception for 120 guests and members. After a brief introduction to the significance and history of this 3 generation family event, guests were escorted to the main Ballroom for the prelude. Rev. Ricardo De Sena was the MC, New Jerusalem Choir entertained us and we presented four 3 generation Certificates to, Rev. Dr. Jason Guice of HopeWelp Baptist Church, where True Mother and Hyun Jin Nim spoke last April 30th, Rev. Dr. Luke Davis of Greater Harvest Evangelistic Temple COGIC and Imam Ameer Pasha Salahuddin of the Islamic Center of Passaic and Paterson. All these leaders are Grandpas and engaged in service and educational activities in their various communities.

At the conclusion of the pre-program, True Family, Jun Sook Nim embodied Ideal for true families became more than mere words or a distant hope. Over 500 people crowded into the True Vine Missionary Baptist Church of host pastor, Jessie Griffin, to hear from a number of remarkable people, but none more outstanding than J.Hye Moon, wife of Kook Jin Moon. You could hear and feel the passion of her message as she spoke to an overflow crowd that Sunday afternoon, relating the love and unconditional sacrifice of Rev. and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon. “Distinguished leaders, can you sense the intense heat with which we are taking up the world tour?” As Rev. Moon approached his eighty-eighth year, we do not know when or where he might collapse along the way. At this point, she could not conceal her emotions and briefly broke into tears, but quickly caught herself and moved forward to share God’s hope for mankind at this dark hour in human history.

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Generations, World Peace Tour

beautiful crystal trophy was presented to Jun Sook Nim in appreciation for her effort to convey True Parents heart and message. As Jun Sook Nim departed, we all joined in our closing song, Amazing Grace.

Seattle, September 3

Seattle was exceptionally blessed to welcome Shiori Nim for this incredible event! The packed house truly felt her Holy Spirit; no one moved from their seats until after the closing song, and even then we had to encourage them to leave!

Mr. John Green, a candidate for the Washington State Supreme Court gave the special greeting. He greatly inspired the crowd as he spoke on the importance of strong family values to a healthy society.

Letters of congratulations came from Tom Anderson, Alaska State Representative, and Keith Cenzuruzo, former Secretary of State of Idaho.

Five Ambassadors of Peace were appointed, and three Families of 3-Generations in attendance were recognized.

So many positive comments came from the crowd. Some of them were:
- Bishop Donovan Rivers: Rev. Moon is just brilliant in everything. He set a new standard of marrying his grandchildren and sending them on public mission immediately. That is the right thing to do.
- Mrs. Yvonne Coolidge: I am touched deep in my heart when I see so many young people centered on God. It gives me hope.
- Mrs. Dolly Castillo (leader of group of 20 who attended from Filipino Community Center): Once again we witnessed how much work Rev. and Mrs. Moon are doing for world peace. You always give so much; next time we want to come back and perform for you!
- Evangelist Jennings: I am deeply grateful to be included in your circle. It was just beautiful. This young lady gave such an inspiring speech; she will remain in my memory as an inspiration.
- Somali Community Leaders: We want to invite Rev. Moon’s people on a peace mission to Somalia. You are the ones who will have a true affect on world peace!
- Rev. & Mrs. Dorsey: I don’t want to lose touch with this movement. I can see that you have a worldwide effect. We want to be with you on changing this world.
- Rev. Debra LaJumondiere: This young lady is so beautiful! It is great to see Rev. Moon’s family expanding and taking more of a world wide role.
- Mr. Prosper Ndabishuriye: I am speechless! I never met such an honest and selfless group of people. I am honored to be with you.

A number of the contacts in Seattle are ethnic groups, many of them refugees from war torn lands. One of our FPWPU members who has his own business donated 1,000 pounds of fish for us to give as gifts in our outreach efforts. It is a testimony to Rev. Moon - his people not only talk, but live by the words they preach of living for the sake of others.

San Francisco, September 3

The Bay Area Family Church was decked out in fine array creating a festive atmosphere for the special events to take place on Sunday - September 3rd 2006. The celebration of the establishment of God’s 3rd Generation family and the blessing ceremony was an occasion of joy and splendor. The church was packed with over 800 people in attendance covering every seat and overflowing into the corridors.

From the very beginning of the program joy was in the air. The joyful sounds of the Children’s Choir brought everyone into focus and the children’s innocence and purity was a sight for all to be uplifted by. The children’s choir sang two songs of joy and they received a rapturous and spirited applause for the audience. Next came the ever-popular International Choir directed by Mrs. Zita Perufo. The International Choir is made of representa-

tives of almost 20 countries and they sing with such power and vitality. The church was rocking to their music and the spirit was high.

MC Mr. Bento Leal, Northern California director of AFC started the program with welcomes and invited to the stage Pastor Brandon Reems of Center of Hope Church to give a rousing greeting in which he praised True Parents for their worldwide vision while inspiring people wherever they are to live lives of sacrifice and service to others. Pastor Reems led us in the invocation prayer.

Ms. Wafaa Aborashed who is Executive Director of Healthy Oakland and a very active member of Women’s Federation for World Peace and an Ambassador for Peace addressed the audience with charm and poise as she explained her joy at the work she has seen True Parents doing in the Middle East.

The Holy wine ceremony brought the deep spirituality and sanctification, which True Parents are offering to the world. The Holy Wine Ceremony was observed prayerfully and respectfully by everyone in the audience.

Pastor Kevin Thompson read the powerful message from Rev. Chung Hwan Kwak, chairman of Universal Peace Federation in which Rev. Kwak sets the stage for the main speaker to follow. Next we watched a great video introducing the work of True Parents, which opened the hearts of the audience to receive the guest speaker. Many in the audience were visibly impressed with the scope of the accomplishments for True Parents.

Mr. Hirotaka Otsuka, newly blessed in marriage to Rev. Moon’s granddaughter Shin Sook nim, and a student at Waseda University in Japan came forward to a thunderous welcome from an audience who were ready for the word of God. English is his third language and this is his first visit to America and yet Mr. Otsuka delivered the message with clarity and finesse beyond his years. The audience were inspired and completely supportive of the speech and showered their support to the speaker with their “Amen’s” and “Hallelujah’s”.

This brought a huge smile to Mr. Otsuka’s face and in turn brought the audience closer in heart with him. The message delivered from True father, Rev. Sun Myung Moon was a life giving and clear instruction manual for our lives in this historic occasion.

There was a quick preparation of the stage for the Blessing ceremony officiated by Pastor Kevin & Masako Thompson. With representative couples on the stage representing 3 generations and also some of our close friends Ambassadors For Peace and ALCCLC clergy the stage was set for a glorious and profound blessing. Based on True Parents victorious foundation. Everyone participated with a joyful spirit and gratitude to receive the blessing of heaven upon our lineages. Mr. Hirotaka Otsuka returned to
The Holy Wine ceremony was conducted by our MCC and Adruma and Family Victouria. With three representative couples. This couple beard with the spirit of rebirth from this ceremony.

Mr. Michael Marshall Editor-in-Chief, UPI read the Special Greeting from Dr. Chang Hwan Kwon Chairman, Universal Peace Federation. Followed by a beautiful Video Presentation "Blessed Family and the Ideal of Peace" showing the life and work of the UFP founders and their family.

The keynote address "God’s Ideal Family and the Kingdom of the Peaceful, Ideal World" was delivered by Dr. Hyun Jin Moon, President & CEO of UCI and President, Youth Federation for World Peace. He spoke elegantly and quickly receiving many applause and mentions.

The Blessing Ceremony Officials Rev. Randall and Rumiko Francis delivered the Blessing Vows to thunderous response of “YES” from the nearby 1,200 in attendance.

To conclude the ceremony, a woman was presented a beautiful silver cup by the District ALC. Representative couple Dr. Charles P. Johnson and his wife Senmie. They also read a prayer for the generational Blessed couple. All of the Blessing participants then posed on stage with Dr. Hyun Jin Moon for a group photo that was displaying all the colors of God’s people from around the globe and all cultures.

Ms. Patsy Casino then offered a string rendition of “To the Irresistible Dream” Dr Walter Fauntroy was moved to tears and joined Patsy in a duet of the final song to conclude the program as we honored those three generational families that were present.

Boston, September 3

The news of the September 3rd event was announced at the Boston First Family Church at the close of Sunday Service on August 27, allowing just one week for preparation. During the Sunday afternoon planning meeting, fifteen areas of responsibility were assigned, covering each aspect of mobilization and event preparation.

Each of the region’s outreach ministries (ALC, WFPW, Youth Ministry, Witnessing Center) developed a "mobilization plan" including e-mailed invitations, mailed invitations and person-to-person visits. An eight person ALC. Church Visitaton Team was lead by Rev. Bis marcere Kim. Following Rev. Kil Hwan Kim, former Regional Director, had briefly returned from Korea, and worked hard on the ALC Clergy Visitation Team.

The contract with Back Bay Events for Keynote address started Monday afternoon; by Tuesday morning, letters and flyers were sent out from each outreach ministry. A budget of $18,000 for the event was developed and a donation request was sent to each Blessed Family. Our mobilization was led by the newly appointed District Director, Rev Richard Buesing and hawaiian Marjorie. Our strategy was simple: “Each Family Brings Two Guests.” A regional reporting system for guest confirmations was organized through Mrs. Catherine Ono. She received periodic reports from each of our 13 Hoon Dok Family Church Groups, as well as from each Community and State Leader. The accuracy of the reporting system allowed us to know in advance that the hall would be full.

Dr. Kook Jin Moon arrived in Boston at about 1:00 PM on the day of the event. He met for about thirty minutes with Rev. Buesing, James Edgerly (Acting Regional Director) and Mike Myers (Event Manager). The event started at 3:00 PM with the room full of about 600 people, and quite a few guests standing at the back. Master of Ceremonies, James B. Edgerly welcomed the guests, officiated the Burning Ceremony and introduced three guest speakers: Maine State Senator Lois Snow-Mello, Former Massachusetts State Senator William Owens, and Imam Abou Antoun. All members in the shared the Holy Wine, following the direction of the Master of Ceremonies.

Maria Ferrante, a power Soprano soloist from Worcester, Massachusetts then sang an a cappella version of Aman grace. Chairman Kwak’s message was read by Rev. Richard Buesing. Following the video presentation, Former New Hampshire State Representative, Honorable Marjorie Buesing introduced Dr. Kook Jinping Moon as the keynote speaker. Her introduction included words from his speech recently published in Today’s World.

Dr. Kook Jin Moon received a standing ovation as he came to the stage to give the Keynote Address at 4:10, exactly on schedule. Dr. Moon read the speech with high intensity from start to finish, stopping only to acknowledge applause. Without question, all those in the audience remain still, following the spoken word. Rev Richard Buesing and his wife Mary Dr. Moon was presented the Blessing Vows to thunderous applause.

At the conclusion of the speech, Kook Jin Nim received a very genuine, heartfelt applause, certainly the largest audi-
enjoyed by the entire audience standing together singing “Pass It On” accompanied by a famous singer Clifton Hardy who sang “You Took My Heart By Surprise” and had the audience rocking in their seats.

The main program was opened by Iain Schrattenacker, the regional leader of FPWJU and Rev. Pete Sagarra offered the invocation prayer which led to the opening of the event. The audience enjoyed sharing the holy wine and Rev. Schrattenacker did a wonderful job of explaining the ceremony.

Rev. Michael Lamsen, the District Director of District 6 read Rev. Rok’s speech and it was well received by the audience. His speech was followed by the Video “Blessed Families and the Ideal of Peace”

Jin Hwa Yoshida was invited to the stage to give the keynote address. She looked so peaceful and very professional. It was hard to believe that this was the first time she had given the speech as she quickly won the hearts of those listening. Many commented after the speech about how beautiful she was and many were amazed by her English.

Rev. Michael Lamsen and his wife Wiveka conducted the blessing ceremony and Jin Hwa Yoshida returned to the stage to receive flowers and gifts from the grandchildren of the District. This was followed by a rousing Ok Manseil lead by Andre Reese. The program then continued with another musical selection followed by the film “On Common Ground” which lead up to the appointment ceremony of 5 new Ambassadors for Peace.

Next came the presentation of the Three Generational Certificates which were given to two families who came with members of three generations.

The event was really too wonderful to put into words or to show in a photo. You just had to be there to feel the unity and love that surrounded the hall and all those attending.

After the program local leaders went with Jin Hwa and her mother to our Japanese restaurant to share together a wonderful meal before departing to the airport.

Thank you to God, our True Parents and all the restored absolute good spirits for helping us to have such a wonderful event to offer heaven.

Atlanta, September 3

The keynote address was given by Mr. Shin Bok Hong, a pastor of a church in Atlanta attended the event under the blessing Movement. This was his first encounter with the movement. He asked if we could help buy a marial reedification in his church. The Second Generation members who attended were very encouraged to see Shin Bok Nim. Many pastors were impressed by a what a good job Shin Bok Nim did.

Attending the event were two candidates for the U.S. Congress, and a City Councilwoman. Several bishops participated. And there was strong support from the ACLC ministers and Ambassadors for Peace.

Rev. Jean H. Kasongo was the Master of Ceremonies. Rev. Tom Cuts and Mrs. Angelika were the officiating couple. (See attached program.)

After reading Rev. Rok’s speech where it mentions the August 28 blessing of the True Parent’s grandchildren, we felt so blessed to have Shin Bok Nim come to Atlanta.

Dallas, September 3

The event came together in such a short time and yet the turnout was very encouraging (more than 600 people in attendance). The crowd was extremely multi-cultural and multi-ethnic. The event was blessed by performances of 2 diverse groups arranged by AFP members that truly lifted the spirit of all who attended the event. One was a Cheyenne Wicha Tribe Wedding Drum song performed by Chief George Acoen and 7 other Native American drummers and singers. Against the background of spreading God’s Love to all those in attendance, his speech was followed by 2 dances by a performing group she directed with a moving prayer with three grandchildren which lead up to the blessing ceremony and the Blessing Ceremony.

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Nim, though at first he apologized for his lack of fluency in English, delivered the speech with great clarity and sincerity. He evoked heartfelt responses and spurt filled proclamational affirmations of encouragement from the attendees throughout the speech. Sitting in the front row, first lady Sharon McGriff, much as she had done last September when True Father visited and spoke, let her voice be raised in great support.

The event was also amazing because the assistant event coordinator, Shin Chun Lee (parents are 430 couples), is a long time friend of Lee Hyung Jin Nim. It made Lee Hyung Jin Nim feel free and relaxed.

Within just a few days, we were able to obtain 2 proclamations with the help of our AFP. Please see them for their outstanding contents. One was from the Senate of the State of Texas and the other was from the City of Irving, where the event was held.

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**Toronto, September 4**

For the 1st tour we had 3 months to prepare, for the 2nd tour we had 2 weeks. But at midnight on August 27, I received a call from Dr. Jenkins stating that the tour was coming to Canada on September 4th to speak in 12 cities on the same day. I could not believe what I heard and asked, “What did you say?”

Twelve cities were identified for these events – Quebec City, Montreal, Ottawa, Cobourg, Toronto, Hamilton, Sudbury, Windsor, Saskatoon, Edmonton, Richmond, and Vancouver. This was Monday morning. All we could do that day was to locate venues for the speeches in each city which were to occur the following Monday. We actually could not start promoting anything until we had venues. Then we made flyers, put ads in the newspapers, started making phone calls and visits. We also had to print speeches and banners, but we had no speech or banner design to print.

True Mother arrived in the morning of September 4th at 10:10 am with Shin Bok Nim, just one week after we first heard about the rally plan. We greeted her at the airport and brought her to the Westin Prince. During lunch True Mother got a fish bone catch in her throat. Dr. Jenkins and I went to the emergency rooms of two hospitals to try to find a place where she could receive quick care. However it was a holiday. All clinics were closed and the emergency rooms were packed. Mother Moon instead of going ate bread and tried to endure it speaking that night with a bone in her throat.

The program went very well. At the beginning the room was about 1/3 full but shortly filled up. We had about 320 people. It was small but considering we had 12 cities and only 100 member families across the 5000 miles of Canada, we were spread very thin. Of the 100 who in speeches of the past could be comfortable behind the efforts of a few found themselves facing the cold reality that they had to do something. We felt showered down with love while at the same time stirring our bones to take responsibility for this nation.

Mitch Dixon served as Master of Ceremonies. Qamrul Khanson gave the VIP welcome, Anil Shringi and Mrs. Quereshe presented flowers. Dr. Auckbaraullee and Terry Wickers, Korean War Veterans presented gifts. Four appointments for Ambassadors for Peace were made – Councillor Suzan Hall, Bert Picotte KVV, Mr. Jun Kyung Suh, Korean Cultural Foundation, and DeGaulle Katema Sambao.

**TOUR from page 7**

Nim, though at first he apologized for his lack of fluency in English, delivered the speech with great clarity and sincerity. He evoked heartfelt responses and spurt filled proclamational affirmations of encouragement from the attendees throughout the speech. Sitting in the front row, first lady Sharon McGriff, much as she had done last September when True Father visited and spoke, let her voice be raised in great support.

The event was also amazing because the assistant event coordinator, Shin Chun Lee (parents are 430 couples), is a long time friend of Lee Hyung Jin Nim. It made Lee Hyung Jin Nim feel free and relaxed.

Within just a few days, we were able to obtain 2 proclamations with the help of our AFP. Please see them for their outstanding contents. One was from the Senate of the State of Texas and the other was from the City of Irving, where the event was held.

**Toronto, September 4**

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by David Eaton

HALELU: Cantata for Peace Is Recorded in Israel

by Dr. Ghislaine Sarrazin, IPSF

Unification News

October 2006

Since 1992, the Religious Youth Service (RYS) has been active in promoting peace in Sri Lanka. RYS was co-founded by Dr. David D’Or from the US, an interreligious program of service and leadership training. Working to build trust and cooperation between the Sinhalese and Tamil ethnic groups, the RYS creates a level playing field. Promoting intercultural and interfaith programs is central to its mission. Over the years, the RYS has helped to bring together communities with similar interests and values.

In 2005, following the disaster of the December 26th tsunami, the RYS and IPSF alumni in Sri Lanka to end the 25-year civil war of this country which has ruined the lives of many. The RYS/IPSF Alumni linked together with the religious leaders from the three Abrahamic faiths of Christianity, Judaism, and Islam.

The ‘Aspiring Youth’ youth organization provided by Namal Rajapaksa, the eldest son of President of Sri Lanka, HE Mahinda Rajapaksa, together with the Interreligious Peace Sports Festival (IPSF) and Asian German Sports Exchange Programme (AGSEP) set up an Interreligious Peace Sports and Recreational Centre in Tangalle.

The estimated cost of the initial buildings including a standard swimming pool would be around $250,000. This would be a tsunami project and major portion of funds would be raised by the AGSEP members and from well wishers in Europe. Already, there are two similar Sports and recreational centers in Nattandiya (Western, Sri Lanka) and Muttalattu (Northern, Sri Lanka), which are in function at the moment. Sports Centers in Neeavel, of Trincomalee district (Eastern, Sri Lanka) is still under construction. The proposed centre in Tangalle would be the Southern center.

The tsunami waves on December 26 2004 washed away fear of water. The swimming pool could be used for the children to learn swimming and get into competition and compete on behalf of the different communities.

After the tsunami most children developed a deep connection with the water. The swimming pool would be a place for them to express their emotions from which peace and healthy lifestyles can thrive.

For Mr. Eaton, David D’Or’s original musical themes represent a deep connection to past musical traditions: traditions rooted in liturgical concepts—Western, Oriental and Middle Eastern. He was a musical Ambassador for Peace and a National Level. By 2006 Mr. Eaton traveled to Tel Aviv to record “Halelu” with the Ra’anana Symphony Orchestra and members of the Philharmonic.

David D’Or, the Ra’anana Symphony Orchestra and members of the Philharmonic in Jerusalem.

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David D’Or, the Ra’anana Symphony Orchestra and members of the Philharmonic in Jerusalem.

The recording session was a fantastic juxtaposition of several traditions. It was a very much a fusion of musical elements from the Orient, the Western world and the Middle East, which was inspired by the efforts of the Middle Peace Initiative (MEPI) and consists of ten movements, several of which are based on the melodies of Bach, perhaps the greatest of the church composers. It was deep spiritual music and evoked the spirit of the most honored musical expressions of that particular culture. Other themes were evocative of the modality of the Hebrew and Arabic traditions.

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Montana’s 9/11 Memorial Service

by Pastor Mike Yakawich and Paul Dilorenzo

On Monday, September 11th, 2006, the 5th Annual September 11th Memorial Service was conducted at the Yellowstone County Courthouse Lawn in Billings, Montana, at Noon. There were over 150 people who participated in this annual event, co-sponsored by the American Clergy Leadership Conference of Montana, the All Nations Christian Fellowship Church, the Marine League Corps Honor Guard, the Family Church, the Chapel of the Diamond Heart, and the American Family Coalition. Many other community organizations and leaders all made this event very successful.

In the weeks leading up to this event, a variety of groups, churches, and organizations pledged their support. The Marine Corps Honor Guard, who has consistently supported this event each year, was the first to step up to encourage this event to take place. One World War II veteran, former Junior Vice Commandant Bill Van Wieren, was surprised and honored to be included in this annual event and coordinated his team of about ten Marines. Also attending was a delegation of twenty soldiers from the National Guard 66th Infantry Unit who just arrived back from Iraq.

As our event began, we had a wonderful bagpipe melody by Greg Holt. We then had the presentation of colors by four members of the Marine Corps Honor Guard. They then led in the Pledge of Allegiance and there was a prayer by Chaplain Doisitile. The Native American Four Dance Youth Drummers played flag honoring songs on their ceremonial drum. The entire program was prayerful and uplifting as we remembered all those affected by the Sept. 11, 2001 tragedy, reflected, reconciled and made new determinations to move forward. It was indeed a celebration of life!

The mayor submitted a letter in advance to redact the program by Paul DiLorenzo. Our mayor shared, “As you gather today to remember and pray about September 11th, 2001, let this anniversary strengthen our faith, our patriotism and resolve to treat one another with respect and love as advocated by all faiths.”

Our ACLC ministers came out in full force. Evangelist Eunice Terry and Dr. Dennis Briggs were key organizers and supporters of this event. They both offered some very inspirational prayers throughout the program. The All Nations Christian Fellowship Church, the Marine Corps Honor Guard, the Family Church, the Chapel of the Diamond Heart, and the American Family Coalition. Many other community organizations and leaders all made this event very successful.

An exceptional highlight of this year’s program was to have our U.S. congressman be our keynote speaker. It was a great honor to have our congressman in person present some inspirational words of his experiences being in Washington D.C. on September 11th, 2001. Building upon the spirit of a need for more love to address the evils of this world, Pastor Mike was able to read part of the speech “God’s Ideal Family and the Kingdom of the Peaceful, Ideal World.” We truly felt the presence of the Holy Spirit and deeply connected to the Universal Peace Fellowship Church choir sang a wonderful song “You Got To Move” that brought tears to our eyes. The ACLC leadership carried the day.

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Our county commissioner did an excellent job in leading all in the Lord’s Prayer and compassionate words of healing and reconciliation. He said, “That day drew Americans together and what we saw was community.”

It was indeed a wonderful sight to see our ACLC ministers sitting with the congressman, county commissioner, representatives from the Senate along with other chaplains, U.S. Marines and the Native American youth drummers. It was a great coalition of races, cultures, religions and political affiliations, bound by a love for our country.

We had the New Life Church pastor Lester Hall offer closing prayer. Then, the Marine Corps offered music with two trumpeters on different ends of the park performing “Echo Taps”. Meanwhile, some of the youth, led by five year old Anna Dilorenzo, released red, white and blue balloons into the air symbolizing all of us sending our prayers to heaven for all victims of 9-11. Then everyone mingled and talked as homemade cookies and refreshments were enjoyed. The weather was great and the spiritual atmosphere very high.

The spirit was very high. Gerald Thiessen, Yukiko Yakawich and Riniko Dilorenzo worked very hard behind the scenes setting up chairs, tables, canopy and refreshments for all those in attendance. One mom, Anke Thiessen, even baked ten dozen cookies plus cupcakes for this event. They were vital support for this event’s success. We felt the healing love of God, Lord Jesus and our True Family in our gathering, and we are so grateful for Rev. Larry Krohnke’s and Rev. Gerhard Wiesinger’s prayers, guidance and support of this annual event.

CANTATA from page 9

Monia Chorus of Israel, the country’s leading professional chorus. The editing and mixing of the recording sessions was done in May and the CD of “HaLehi” is due for release in the summer of 2006.

A concert premiere of “Halelu” is being prepared in Jerusalem for later this year. The concert, with the New York City Symphony, will be conducted by David Eaton, who shares the desire to use his talent as an artist in this project, Linda Feher, Toko Yoshida, Davetquis van DeMark, The Pro-ject. The CD is due next year.

Singer/composer David D’Or is one of Israel’s most prominent performing artists. He has appeared with orchestras throughout the world and has performed for numerous heads of state as well as having performed at Vatican for Pope John Paul II. In 2004 he was voted Israel’s “Singer of the Year” and was his country’s entry in the 2004 Eurovision competition.

David Eaton has been the Music Director of the New York City Symphony since 1985. He has appeared as a guest conductor with orchestras in Europe, Asia, Canada, Central and South America, Ukraine and Russia. A highly sought after composer and producer, he has scores of original compositions to his credit and his works have been performed in prestigious venues including Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts and the United Nations.

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One Heart Camp 2006

I 2nd generation can unite with ONE HEART then they will become like a laser beam and can change the world,” said Rev. Tim Hendricks. “At morning service and everyone there could resonate with the truth of that statement.”

In 2 weeks, at Middle School and High School workshops almost 500 2nd generation with all of their energy, passion and creativity brought a powerful spirit to Camp Seeley in the San Bernardino mountains. The mountains were ringing with the life and work of Bishop Milingo and the concept of married priests and nuns.

Then as Dr. Hendricks headed back to his mission at UTS in order to prepare for the coming academic year, Bishop Ki Hoon Kim, new Chicago District Director Rev. David Rendel and the Chicago minister outreach task force joined Rev. Daugherty for a stimulating and exciting discussion centering on how to best bring America’s clergy together from sea to shining sea.

The numbers for the High School workshop grew ever larger. This year we were filled to capacity and turned away more kids. That many kids in one place takes a tremendous amount of work to organize the food, transportation, structure, medical needs, registration, lectures, counseling and a million other details. The staff worked for months in advance in what was truly a labour of love.

As the time everyone arrived and had been assigned cabins and groups the atmosphere was already rising. Coming on the foundation of leadership and Middle School workshops it didn’t take long at all to pull together spiritually hundreds of High School students and make the kind of atmosphere for lives to be touched, friendships to be created and education, fun and joy to prevail.

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The program started at 4:00 PM by a prelude played by Father Wade Fahnstock from St. Thomas Old Catholic Mission. I met Father Wade when I visited the First Christian church in Lake- land, where he is the music director. National Anthem was sung by Stacey Rosin and the pledge of allegiance was performed by Boy Scouts Gabriel Chapman (the Chapman’s have 12 children that nine of them are adopted) from the latter Day Saints Morman Church.

The master of ceremony was President Karl K. Sneevy from the Latter Day Saints in winter haven. Highland Park Nazarene Church performed the welcoming praise songs which were awesome and high created a very high spiritual atmosphere. Their high quality performance moved the heart of our audience and it even aroused some of our black audience to standing worship and adoration.

Rev. Dean Rucker, senior pastor of lakeside Baptist Church, offered invocation and the key note address. Rev. Jeddie king made the opening remarks. Pilipino youth folklore, from Pilipino Christian International Fellowship, a group of 10 to 16 years old school age kids that won the heart of audience by their skill full performances.

Honorable Mayor Ed Smith of Lake Alfred and Vice mayor Howard Wiggs of Lakeland presented proclamations from their cities and honored their Outstanding Participants. Student, Teacher, Outstanding employee (Polk County Sheriff Grady Judd, send in five nominee forms – two of them were selected to be honored). Sheriff Grady Judd has been involved in many charity organizations and his leadership had improved the crime and theft in the community and he is very well loved and popular sheriff in the Polk County, he send his full support for the Parents’ Day.

The program continued by the serving of refreshments. The program ended by a postlude and we had a group picture. The Group picture (not includes everyone) was taken by Mr. Walter Garcia and Mr. Parker. The program followed by the serving of three hundred people at the program.

The atmosphere was spiritually very high, the participants were mostly leaders, white, black, Christian, Jewish and Orientals from Police department, civic leaders, political leaders, public school, pastors and ministers and their families. Many youth were head by their church leader for the purpose to perform on the stage. The participants were of high quality and well mannered, well informed, well educated and all respond to what God asked them to do to show up for the event and they all took the pure love pledge and holy wine.

I truly believe that the audience was hand picked by God for this great opportunity of receiving the grace and love embodied in the holy wine.

The event was an astonishingly a victory for God and True Parents and the region. It was a miracle to bring almost three hundred people of leadership quality good quality, best quality participants in such a short period of time and by the efforts of one person. This victory was the hard work of Heavenly Father and True Parents, Lord Jesus and the spirit world.

I planned this project in November of 2005. Since then I had visited numerous churches and traveled to many cities to meet with the city officials. I send many letters and long distance phone calls and faxes. With my little income, lack of man power and lack of finance, besides the second generation kids. Every one of the participants received Holy wine. Celebration cake was cut by Martha and Mak Morda and was distributed by second generation kids (led by Blessed central family Nina & Michael Magan)

The program was performed by performances of cello by the Jewish family of Sedliff. They gathered on the stage as mom, dad and their kid to play a Jewish classic song. The quality, best quality participants in such a short period of time and by the efforts of one person. This victory was the hard work of Heavenly Father and True Parents, Lord Jesus and the spirit world.
Unification News

ACLC Teams Up with Summer In the City in Denver

by Rev. David Kaskow

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erend Kirkland shared how she started the church with a small group of people in her home and how God blessed them as their ministry grew with new and talented members, several of whom were introduced. Pastor James Robinson gave the invocation at the beginning of the service. Following breakfast Rev. Robert T. Hendry, a project was planned for landscaping the front of their church with plants, shrubs and flowers. ACLC donated shrubs and helped organize the effort. Our pastors and I were so inspired by the work of these young people coming into the city to help out. It is exactly ACLC’s vision in Detroit to have young people from the suburbs volunteering to come into the city to help restore and serve. And, members of St. Mark’s youth group worked side-by-side with the SIC young people. As they worked together and got to know each other we could see that this was a formula that was good for everyone.

And, the SIC leaders were inspired by ACLC. They said they have, until now, only recruited in schools. Next summer they plan to expand to recruit young people from churches to come out and help as well. This will add a spiritual dimension to their work, which will enhance it further. We have already talked with them about some possible projects for next summer.

From right to left, Rev. David Kaskow & Rev. Mack Vincent of ACLC, Ms. Tanya Morris of AHFOMI CCLC, Minister Linda & Pastor Larry Smith of New St. Mark Baptist Church, young people from Summer in the City (in bright yellow shirts) and young people of New St. Mark Baptist Church.

by Rev. Tom Corley

Appropriately 80 people gathered at the Church of the Living God on Saturday, August 19th, at 205-15 Jamaica Avenue, Queens, for New York’s ACLC monthly prayer breakfast hosted by Rev Ebeny Kirkland and Pastor Bruce Kirkland. After a warm welcome from Rev Kirkland, Bishop Margie de la Rosa of the Christ Family Church was introduced and gave a short introduction to the founding of the ACLC and its goals. She made everyone feel at home by leading us all in the song “Love Lifted Me.”

Our ACLC host Pastor and emcee Rev. Bruce Kirkland shared how she started the prayer breakfast by Rev Ebeny Kirkland and Pastor Bruce Kirkland. After a warm welcome from Rev Kirkland, Bishop Margie de la Rosa of the Christ Family Church was introduced and gave a short introduction to the founding of the ACLC and its goals. She made everyone feel at home by leading us all in the song “Love Lifted Me.”

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District Director’s Conference
Washington, DC
September 20
True Family
Third Generation
Matching in Korea
I am pleased to announce that the Korean government has relaxed the restrictions a little on Cheongshim International Academy (CSIA), admitting totally foreign students for the 2007 admissions. Last year it was only 2%, and so it was a very limited opportunity that was also clarified very late.

This coming year will allow 10 students in first grade of High School (equivalent to 10th grade level) and 10 in first grade of Middle School (equivalent to 7th grade). These students have to have both parents with non-Korean passports as well as the student him or herself also to be non-Korean. This will be about 10% of the new admissions.

For those parents where one is Korean there are other categories for these students to apply. The details are published on the Korean part of the website http://www.csia.hs.kr/

There will also be details of the applications on the English part of the website from September 8th, which is the beginning of the week for MS applications. There is only one week "window" so it can be a bit of a panic to get everything in. (You need transcripts and recommendation letters from previous schools, a letter of introduction by the parents and one by the student). There will be a selection of about 400 candidates from the applications, and then a special "interview camp" from October 12 - 14th to make the final selection of students.

The HS internet applications begin October 2 and end October 19, and the examination is on October 22 at the Sunwha Arts HS within the Little Angels complex near Achasan subway station in Seoul. An admission ticket is required for the candidates to enter. Announcement of successful candidates will be on CSIA homepage from October 26th. The first meeting of successful candidates will be on November 18th, 2pm. The semester begins around March 1st, 2007, though there will probably be an "English & School Life Camp" around January, 2007 for all candidates.

I can send an admissions guideline by mail to any parents interested. Please e-mail me your address individually at gabbglobal@cheongshim.com to request the brochure. I will also scan the brochure so that I can send you the files by e-mail so that you can study or print them yourself.

As a parent who has already experienced one son at CSIA for the first year, I would just add that this is a "Korean school" and the pressures are very much similar to other Korean schools. 8 subjects are studied throughout all six years of study. Often there are two teachers for one subject, therefore there is potential for 12 pieces of homework per week! Each student is expected to study one musical instrument, become at least the first Dan in martial arts, study a third foreign language, as well as self-study for AP exams in HS. Even as a teacher here there are no guarantees of admission of my children at all. The Korean law requires every student in HS to pass through the same rigorous exam process. The MS is particularly competitive, though this year they have to pass an interview process rather than an exam, and even as a native English & Korean speaker, my own middle schooler was not successful last year due to the advanced Math that was expected. Every student runs from 7 pm to 10:30 pm for MS and up to 12 midnight for HS.

HS Students are then allowed to study until 2 am if they require it. All students have to be up by 6:10 am for morning martial arts for 40 - 50 minutes. This is 5 days a week, then there are classes every other Saturday in the mornings. HS can travel home at the weekend once per month, MS twice a month. Sports are only done in "spare time" such as after lunch or dinner or at the weekends, except in the gym class which is usually once a week. Several of the classes are run in Korean only.

Such as Korean language, Korean history, and technical education, and the same exam is given to all students regardless of ability in language. The Korean government guidelines. Day attendance only is not possible, all students have to board in the dormitory.

I want both students and parents to be clearly aware that this type of school is not for every child, academic pressures can run very high, that is unfortunately "normal" for Korea. The goal of the school is for the majority of classes to be taught in English only, however the reality is that some complex subjects such as Math and Sociology have to be explained in both languages in order for students to fully comprehend.

Thus it is important for both parents and their child to be aware what they will be "jumping into." The number of BC’s is limited (about 10%), not by design, but because the academic competition is extremely high (1,600 applicants for 200 places last year). The school is not a religious UC school, it is private school open to all religions which teaches a broad universal religious education touching on all religions. The school encourages altruism through community work and behavior attitude in school life but does not have organized religious services at the school site. Student clubs or religious groups may be initiated by students in the future, and the school plans to offer buses to attend different religious services. The BC’s can attend the UC service that occurs every Sunday, just next door at the Graduate Theological Seminary.

Having said all that, it is obviously an amazing privilege to be at the first International Boarding school created within less than 1000 meters of the Original Palace. It is an amazing privilege to be at the first International Boarding school created within less than 1000 meters of the Original Palace. It is an amazing privilege to be at the first International Boarding school created within less than 1000 meters of the Original Palace. It is an amazing privilege to be at the first International Boarding school created within less than 1000 meters of the Original Palace. It is an amazing privilege to be at the first International Boarding school created within less than 1000 meters of the Original Palace. It is an amazing privilege to be at the first International Boarding school created within less than 1000 meters of the Original Palace.
The Spirit World that Follows Good

by Dae Mo Nim

True Parents often speak of the completely unified spirit world. I often wondered what they meant. I also asked God many questions.

I will speak to you about the kind of changes that are taking place in the spirit world now. In the past, having a conversation was not possible in hell. In the spirit world, you would see a very good world, then a world a little lower than that, then another world a little lower than that, creating different levels of worlds all the way down until you reached the evil world. Therefore, the spirits only knew the world that they lived in. They never even thought of seeing or asking about a world besides the one they lived in.

Then, one day, True Parents removed the boundaries between these levels of worlds. However, the barriers of the heart among the spirits still existed. For example, if a husband and wife have a fight, even though they may be living in the same house, their hearts will have barriers against each other. This was the state of the spirit world.

The spirit world used to be pitch-dark, but now, it is dimly lit with the light of the spirit world. However, the light of the spirit world is not so strong.

In the spirit world, you would see a beautiful family who live a beautiful life on this earth. It is because our life on this earth is a preparation and a training ground to go to heaven. At every closing ceremony of the 40-day workshop, I see participants crying and pledging, 'I must live a good life from now on.' But the minute they step out of the gates of the Training Center, they forget everything.

Our life after the Cheongpyeong 40-Day Workshop is very important for you to participate in the 40-Day Workshop, but the life you lead after the workshop is more important. When you go home, you must make effort to unite your family. Your family is most important. This month, Hoon Mo Nim gave a testimony about her own family, her, I can be transformed and go to heaven. It has become a world in which barriers of hearts are completely removed. That is what True Parents mean by the spirit world being unified. It was very difficult to search for ancestors and bring them back before, but now it is not so. With the 280 billion Absolute Good Spirits, anything can be done in the spirit world now, and that is why True Parents say that 'The spirit world is already unified.'

A Life in Preparation for the Spirit World

Our life on this earth is the problem. Spirits can see each other in the spirit world and therefore understand that 'They can be saved if they follow this person,' but since we cannot see even our own sin and fallen nature, we become lazy, not realizing the state of our spirit in the spirit world.

Our life span is short on this earthly plane. When you go to the spirit world, you won't even notice your physical life on this earth. It is because our life in the spirit world is everlasting. That is why we must become wise people who live a beautiful life on this earth in preparation for our life in heaven.

I'm sure when you came to Cheongpyeong, you started to think about where in the spirit world you will go to, and what kind of life you will lead there. At every closing ceremony of the 40-day workshop, I see participants crying and pledging, 'I must live a good life from now on.' But the minute they step out of the gates of the Training Center, they forget everything. If you have not left the spirit world with listening to some beautiful music with your wife, if you do not leave this place, you must think 'Oh, this is such beautiful music and atmosphere; I must make sure to bring my dear wife here.'

Again, if you go to a restaurant and experience some delightful cuisine, you must write down in your notebook, 'You must not leave this earth without experiencing some beautiful music and atmosphere.' This is the kind of culture we must create.

It is the same with the husband. You must give beauty back to your husband. Love, 'Beauty.' and 'Interest' is included in 'Beauty.' When a wife can love the husband like a mother, an elder sister, a friend, and a charming younger sister, when this kind of love and beauty exist together, this family will be a happy family. They will go to heaven together.

You must understand that our life is a preparation and a training ground to go to heaven. Only when you create a family who live for one another, love one another and are always united on this earth, can you live like that in the spirit world. You must also attend your church leader well after finishing the 40-Day Workshop. Please attend your church leader well, be proud of God and True Parents, and witness for three hours a day.

We must grow. When the family grows and the church grows, we can create peace on this earth, just as God and True Parents have told us. Please bear this in mind and don't fail to live a beautiful life.

Unification News

Scholarly Writers Wanted

Help save the world.

Make a few bucks!

Become a part of a thrilling academic and literary enterprise. All fields of expertise are welcome. We are also making a special call for philosophy scholars. If you can work a computer online, you can do this. We will need your cv or resume and a couple of writing samples.

Please contact Managing editor at robert@encyclopediaproject.net and get the process started

The Encyclopedia Project

The Encyclopedia Project is an exciting new project for developing a compendium of knowledge uniting values and facts. On May 1, 2005, Reverend Kuak approved an online inter-university encyclopedia that moves forward the union which has been a long-time goal of Father Moon, including substantial pioneering work on the project in the early 1990s.

The current editorial team is now working extremely hard to generate a body of work that will provide the most comprehensive, authoritative, and up-to-date information on all aspects of the history, philosophy, and culture of the Unification Church. The project will provide an academic resource for all those interested in the Unification movement and a tool for education at all levels, from high school to graduate school.

Please contact the Managing Editor at robert@encyclopediaproject.net for more information on the project, including how to contribute and how to get involved.

Journal of Unification Studies

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JOURNAL OF
UNIFICATION STUDIES

FOURTH QUARTER 2006

THE DREAM COULD BE REACHING PROTOCLES

BY DAENE ALBERS

This issue of the Journal of Unification Studies features articles on a variety of topics, including the future of the Unification Church, the impact of the Unification movement on society, and the role of the Unification Church in the world. The articles are written by scholars and practitioners who are working to promote a deeper understanding of the Unification movement and its potential for creating a more just and united world.

Unification News
August N. Carolina ACLC Prayer Breakfast

by Rev. Burgi Hutcherson

Tuesday, Tuesday August 8th, 2006, we witnessed another miraculous ACLC Prayer Breakfast at the Cornerstone Baptist Church, where Rev. John Winfrey is the pastor. It was a great day in the ACLC history of North Carolina because another man of God witnessed the love and grace of God in the united efforts of our religious leaders to Rebuilt the Family. With Minister Linda Martin, she is a great woman of God and founder of “Gods Own Ministry”, which is a food and clothing ministry. She has fed already 20,000 people since her ministry began one year and a half ago.

While the meal came to a close Sam Levy Daugherty officiated, and Joe Taylor’s prayer at the end testified to Laura’s efforts to bridge black and white in her blessing to Lorman Lykes. Though Laura lived a beautiful life, it is a beautiful way to pass on from August 2nd – August 5th. Although Rev. John Winfrey delivered the word for the day. He shared that his appointment as Ambassador for Peace was a serious commissioning from God for him. He wants to take his mission very seriously. He said:

“We are the peace-makers of this society. We are in a seemingly peaceful street, but there are bank robbers, drug dealers, strippers and murder and violence along this street. I am living in a real world, but we keep feeding and loving them. It is about God, not about us. We have to stand as his faithful servants. Be angry for God. We need to get angry and love. Righteousness, God has called you. Go beyond your comfort zone. We have to lift people up. We have to restore people. Bishop Willie Davis, Jr. is my brother. I need my brother. I have never been at his place when he was not doing something for somebody. He is living for the sake of others. Rup (Local outreach minister) is also good. Mother There-sa is a great role model. She was singing with her whole heart a song about Jesus.

The atmosphere was ready to receive Bishop Willie Davis, Jr., who read the Goals and Objectives of ACLC. It clarified the 3 legs of ACLC and the calling of Father Moon by Jesus Christ at the tender age of 15 on a mountain-side in Korea. Ministers could see the hand of God in this worldwide work. I added my personal testimony from the Bahamas conference, which was held in 1998. I thought some rich man and asked for some money to support children. The rich man said, she was not interested and then Mother Theresa stretched out the other hand and asked for support. We have to learn from her fearlessness and determination. We have to be people like her and make a righteous stand. Let’s pray with the people and for the people.”

After this powerful message Bishop Willie Davis, Jr. presented our dear Brother John with a love offering from all who were gathered. We continued with questions and answers and announcements. One pastor who came for the first time shared his personal testimony and expressed that he wants to join ACLC. He was looking for something like this and he is grateful to have found ACLC. He felt the Holy Spirit guiding him and speaking to him. We were delighted to see the hand of God.

Rev. Jimmie Bonham, Pastor of the Pitts Memorial Baptist Church, concluded our gathering and reminded us that we departed filled with God’s love and spirit.

Although the breakfast gathering was small, it was a victory! One new pastor could see the glory of God with us today. We were 6 religious leaders and 3 FWPU participants, making a total of 9 people.

Hallelujah! God is real. He is alive!
October 2006

Unification News

Cleveland OH Prayer Breakfast

by Rev. Joel Lindstrom

Our August Prayer breakfast was hosted by Mrs. Ethel Pye and led by Rev. Joel Lindstrom in the beautiful chapel of the Fairfax Place Nursing Home. Rev. Lindstrom gave a warm welcome and began with a reading from World Scriptures. After announcements the ACLC Statement of Purpose was read. Songs were offered by the young people and the Japanese sisters.

Mrs. Linda Haibara shared her experience from her family’s trip to Japan and Singapore. She was impressed by how clean and peaceful the people of Singapore were even though they practice different religions. Dr. Thelma Johnson spoke of her uplifting experience in the Bahamas ACLC Conference as well as the joy of meeting so many people and sharing Divine Principle during her travels to and from the event. Rev. Lindstrom gave a True Family Values Power point presentation. “A Vision of God’s Plan for Your Life”. This served as a fine preparation for our main speaker, Rev. Dorothy Burton. She spoke about “Living as Gods Family”, saying it is important to have a pure lineage and the necessity of always taking a personal inventory of ourselves. Rev. Burton works with many suffering families and her tearful sharing helped all in attendance to be more focused and determined to work toward the ideal.

At the end, Mrs. Pye, a world traveler, spoke again on the topic of the beauty of Singapore, encouraging young people to take more responsibility in keeping our neighborhoods clean. It was a powerful moment, hearing these words from an 89 year elder who did so much for Cleveland. Mrs. Pye was the first black police woman in our city and of course she established the wonderful facility where we were meeting that day.

Deacon Edward Walton introduced us to Pastor Igor, a friend who is part of a church group centered on reaching out for Christ, to Russian members of the Jewish and Muslim faiths in the east side of Cleveland. As we have a very large Russian community in our area. It was a small gathering this time, yet all races and age groups were represented. We continued sharing our hearts together long after the program ended.

Thanks go to all who helped make it a beautiful morning.

An Ideal Marriage: Seattle Prayer Breakfast

Minister Ray McCready emceed Seattle’s August prayer breakfast which took place at the Northwest Landing Restaurant, Seattle - August 19, 2006.

The reading of the ACLC Goals and Objective brought excitement from the crowd. The social action and community empowerment programs were received well, with excitement expressed about the potential of the ACLC community activities.

Selections on the topic: An Ideal Marriage were read. Selected were passages from the 7th chapter of Ephesians. Also selected were words of wisdom on this topic from Dr. Thelma Johnson, Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon.

A thought provoking discussion ensued, beginning with Bishop Donovan Rivers expressing his observations of Rev. and Mrs. Moon and the bond seen and humility expressed between them. Various personal testimonies and bits of wisdom were shared. A sampling:

- As religious people we have to lead by example. Even though we have faults and our spouses have faults we must show absolute love. We cannot budge one inch in the areas of right and wrong, yet we can’t judge or accuse others. We must proclaim the shining way with love.

- We must be big enough to go back and admit our mistakes and apologize. When our children see this trait in their parents, they can see Christ. Have I led my children to Christ?

- In public you can put on a façade, but not to your spouse. It is both precious and crucial to have a husband or wife who will love you in spite of your faults. Try to see your spouse from God’s viewpoint and find in him or her what it is God wants you to utilize.

- After 54 years of marriage I can say that it isn’t always easy. Be with your wife: be with your husband. Always say “I love you.”

- Rev. Anglin closed the discussion by saying it is important to have a pure heart to that ultimate goal.

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Pastor Wanted

A brother or sister to fill the paid full-time position of pastor of the family church in the Mid-Hudson Valley, a part of the New York District. The person and their family will move to or already live in the Red Hook/ Kingston/ Barrytown area. The pastor will be able to give inspiring sermons and lead effective worship every Sunday. A video or audio tape of a sermon would be appreciated. We are looking for someone able to provide pastoral care, facilitate small group ministry and encourage personal ministry.

Please submit your resume, references and a short Vision Statement for Ministry and why you feel called to this post to the Search Committee in care of: Rev. Michael Akpan at iseokpan@yahoo.com or Tyler Hendricks at fml@ufts.edu
Under the chairmanship of Dr. L.M. Singhvi, the Universal Peace Federation of India held a half-day seminar under the theme, “Character Education Based on True Love and Service.” Seven-ty distinguished participants from a cross-section of India’s rich religious and academic heritage held lively discussions at the India International Cen-
tre, New Delhi, on Sunday, July 2nd. At the conclusion of the event, nine new Ambas-
sador for Peace awards were given.

A. K. Rajan chaired the first session. He noted with sadness the recent debate in India whether there are 5.2 million people living with HIV/AIDS or, as the United Nations claims, the figure is 5.7 million. The difference is not just numerical; the higher figure places India at the top of the charts, above South Africa, in terms of the absolute numbers of HIV/AIDS victims.

To begin the first part, Dr. Robert S. Kittel, the Director of UPF-India and International Education Advisor, acknow-
ledged the sincere desire on the part of everyone to help our children. But indi-
cated that good intentions must be accompanied with sound, effective pro-
grams. He then pointed out two concerns: 1) the incorrect identifi-
cation of the root of the problem, and 2) the futility of pedagog-
ic instruction in curricula design.

The Bicchu Maathu School AIDS Education Program (B M S A E P) was presented. (B M S A E P) believed, "The main reason for the spread of HIV/AIDS is the lack of knowledge on sex, sexuality, reproductive health, HIV/AIDS, and STI prevention." [p. vi] Based on their hypothesis, the authors assumed, "Adolescents and youth need information in order to make such responsible choices in terms of sexual behavior."

However, Barbara Daise Whitehead, one of the leading experts on marriage and family in the United States work-
ing with The National Marriage Project at Rutgers University, sees the root cause of the problem very differently:

Research does not support the idea that early sex education or frank com-
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Father Moon Awarded Doctor Honoris Causis Degree by Leading Venezuelan University

by Michael Balcomb

R

ever Dr. Sun Myung Moon, founder of the Universal Peace Federation, was awarded on Sept 12 the degree of Doctor Honoris Causa by the Universidad Santa María, Caracas, Venezuela, in recognition of his work life for peace, education, human rights and religious freedom. The ceremony was conducted by University Vice President Dr. Carlos Enrique Pena, who traveled from Caracas for the occasion. The degree award was the culmination of a day of celebrations for the first anniversary of the Universal Peace Federation, founded Sept. 12, 2005 at the Lincoln Center in New York.

"When I learned about the life and work of Rev. Moon," said Pena, "I felt that it was the sacred duty of our university to offer our highest honor to recognize an extraordinary contribution to the field of human rights.”

Such decisions are not easily made at Santa María. Moon is one of only three African American citizens to receive the Honors Causa degree in the last three years, according to Pena. The last recipient was Dr. Mario Villarreal, then president of the International Red Cross.

The venue was the newly dedicated Cheong-Jeong Goong Peace Palace, situated high in the mountains about 50 km northeast of Seoul, well on the way to the 38th parallel and the border with North Korea.

Putting an end to the continuing division of Korea after 60 long years remains one of the 80-year-old Moon’s final goals. "Who will bring Kim Jong Il to embrace peace?” he asked 1,000 countries gathered for the anniversary. "And how can it be done? There is only one way and that is to truly love the enemy until he becomes a brother.”

Since UPF was founded, Dr. Moon and his family have visited more than 180 countries on two world peace tours, and a third tour, featuring Moon’s children and grandchildren, is currently taking place in 40 countries and 480 cities.

It was Dr. Moon’s repeated call on tour for the rights of the individual and of the family, an end to war, and greater religious freedoms, which drew the attention of the Venezuelan school.

Without Father Moon, the World is in Danger

by Rev. Walter Fauntroy

Thank you, Dr. Walsh, for affording me the opportunity to come behind the appoint- ment of seven new Ambassador for Peace. It’s a real pleasure for me to be present on this part of the 40-nation, 400-city tour for global peace and conflict resolution being put on at this critical moment in world history by the Universal Peace Federation, and the joy that you gave me in welcoming you to our nation’s capital. You could not have chosen a more relevant or powerful city on this entire planet to bring this message of profound significance, the profound significance of the human family and the nuclear family, and the importance of seeking peace through nonviolence.

I bring you greetings as one of the African American citizens of this, our nation’s capital. We remain a majority of those here in the nation’s capital, and I bring you greetings from that part of our family because we have reflect- ed in our experience the greatest drama in the history of the world. It was a slavery based on the destruction of the family. Uniquely in human his- tory our slave forefathers were separated from their children, fathers from their sons, brothers from their sisters, never to see one another again. It’s little wonder that when a black child came himself on a plantation somewhere and you asked him who he was, whence he had come, where he was headed, he had to cry out, I’m a poor pilgrim of sorrow. I’m lost in this wide world alone, with- out mother, without father. Sometimes without child. The most cruel form of slavery in the history of the world.

And we can take instructive exam- ple from how we overcome the destruc- tion of the family. At the end of slavery in this country we had zero families because we were not allowed to live together as brothers and sisters. How did we overcome that? I’m glad you asked that question. We found that when we got here, without mother, father, sister or brother, that God was our Father. And therefore, every man, every woman, every boy and girl is our brother and our sister. That old black man over there wasn’t just an old black man. That was Uncle Remus. And that old black woman wasn’t not just an old black woman. That was Aunt Janie. And we are families and we must care for and protect and defend one another.

And we can take instructive example from how we overcome the destruction of the family. At the end of slavery in this country we had zero families because we were not allowed to live together as brothers and sisters. How did we overcome that? I’m glad you asked that question. We found that when we got here, without mother, father, sister or brother, that God was our Father. And therefore, every man, every woman, every boy and girl is our brother and our sister. That old black man over there wasn’t just an old black man. That was Uncle Remus. And that old black woman wasn’t just an old black woman. That was Aunt Jane. And we are families and we must care for and protect and defend one another.

That is why, from the moment I met Father Sun Myung Moon, my first moment on Capitol Hill, when he came from Korea here with a two-fold message, a message for family and a message for peace, I lined up with him. And I’m so glad to see his son, Dr. Hyun Jin Moon here carrying the work on today.

For it is related not only to my her- itage as an African American but also to my work for the single most impor- tant man with the most important mes- sage for the most violent century in the history of mankind. That man was Mar- tin Luther King, Jr., and his message was simply this. Either we learn to live together as brothers and sisters on this planet, or we will perish together as fools.

This tour is on time because never has that message been more meaningful and more significant than today because we have so many people who fail to hold with the principles of their religion, and the principles of our gov- ernment.

I love America. Martin Luther King, Jr., loved the American dream. If you
Amazing Journey and Discovery, IRFF

by Paul Byrne

August 26, 2006

This past summer, I was fortunate enough to be able to lead a service project with the International Relief Friendship Foundation (IRFF) in the southern African country of Zambia. The project, titled "Discover True Friends Tour", took place in the Mackenzie Community of the city of Ndola. From July 24 to August 8, while most students were enjoying their freedom from school, my group of nine high school and college participants were giving selflessly of themselves in a multitude of ways as they embraced the people and the culture of Zambia.

From the beginning, our project had multiple purposes, but it quickly expanded even further as we spent time in Mackenzie. The first mission was to construct an extension to a school that IRFF had built in the Mackenzie community several years ago. This school is the only one in the community and does not charge its students tuitions, unlike the public schools of Zambia. It is staffed by three teachers who volunteer their services to the community, receiving no salary. These dedicated teachers serve almost 350 students in grades 1 through 4, many of whom are orphans whose parents have died of AIDS (Zambia, a nation of just over 11 million people, has approximately 600,000 orphans whose parents have died of AIDS - a staggering number).

Under the guidance of professional builders from the Mackenzie community, our group worked tirelessly to construct the needed addition to the school. We quickly learned that supplies were not as easily accessible as we might have expected. Instead of buying cinderblocks, we had to make them from cement and sand ourselves. Instead of power saws that cut cleanly in a matter of seconds, we labored over the wooden beams for the roof with hand saws and chisels for hours. Despite the trying labor, however, I was amazed to hear hardly a word of complaint from my group. Instead, many of them pushed themselves at their work until I had to force them to rest for a few minutes, then quickly rushed back to help wherever they could be of use.

The second mission of the Discover True Friends Tour was to build personal relationships that transcended the common barriers of national borders, skin color, religion or language. To accomplish this, each IRFF participant was matched up with a "True Friend" from the Mackenzie Community. The purpose was to expose both our participants and the people of Zambia to each other on a personal level, creating friendships that would contribute to the building of an international culture of heart and peace. Again, I found myself astonished by my group, as they did not wait to be paired up with someone, but almost immediately went out of their way to create genuine friendships with the many young people who stepped by our worksite to help out or just to meet us. While I had initially been concerned that some of the relationships might be forced and not completely genuine, I was happy to see each of our participants develop real and authentic friendships, most with many different members of the Mackenzie Community.

As part of the experience, each participant took a day off from the building and spent it with their friends and their families, joining them in their daily activities. Without exception, this experience proved to be a powerful and touching one for our group as they had the chance to experience a small taste of everyday life for their peers in Mackenzie. They cooked, ate, worked, played, danced and simply shared with their friends and their families. In doing so, they developed an appreciation and an invaluable understanding of the intricacies of another culture.

Aside from these major missions of the trip, secondary projects developed - before we departed, some spontaneously in the middle of the project. Due to a generous donation that IRFF received, we were able to give a stipend to the three teachers, their helper and the groundskeeper of the Mackenzie Community School. We were also able to start a new program, called "Supporting Success", through which we provided ten $150 scholarships to students who were completing the fourth grade at the school, allowing them to continue their education at a nearby public school.

The New Voices of Our Generation has now been running successfully for half a year and the editors at UNEWS would like to thank all those who contributed an article to this section. Spread the word, communicate, and link yourself to the rest of America by subscribing to the paper and submitting your voice at newvog@gmail.com for this section. We are looking to fill this section of the paper with the following submissions: articles written by our first and second generation focusing on second generation – that includes ALL second gen’s!

Please submit ads at newvog@gmail.com for upcoming events, ads for products you have created that are for sale; ads for educational materials/workshops/events and anything else pertaining to education; original works of writing (or excerpts of writing) in all forms including short anecdotes, opinions, comments; write ups on events such as workshops, getaways, and initiatives done by and for second gen; inspirational and thought provoking testimonies.

If you have an idea for submissions to this section, please let us know at newvog@gmail.com and send something in. If you would like to send original artwork, please note that they will appear in UNEWS in b&w. All submissions must include name, contact info, relevant dates, etc. Please send all submissions for this section via email to: newvog@gmail.com. Submissions sent in hard copy (cd’s, photos, etc.) will only be returned if accompanied with a self-addressed return envelope. Spread the word, subscribe to UNEWS.
Amazing Journey from page 22

I will not forget the sincere gratitude expressed by the teachers of the school for our small contribution, and the parents (or more often guardians) of the students who received the scholarships - many of whom, though they had virtually nothing themselves, came with small gifts of corn and peanuts to show their appreciation. I will always remember the grandmother of one scholarship recipient, who, with tears streaming down her face, told me that she herself had never been able to attend school and thanked me for allowing her granddaughter the opportunity for at least one more year of schooling. This woman had to use a thumbprint to sign her name on the forms, as she could not write at all, yet she was deeply inspired by her hope for the future of her granddaughter. As a teacher myself, I was also moved and inspired by the dedication of these teachers who were willing to give of themselves to the children of their community, with no expectation of compensation, and touched by their gratitude and appreciation for our token of support. I personally, of course, believe very strongly in the power of education and was honored to be asked to be the coordinator for "Supporting Success". I am looking forward to expanding it in the future, within Zambia and in other countries that IRFF works in.

My co-coordinator for the project, Mr. Mikio Yoshida, was, himself, inspired to start his own project in Mackenzie. He was deeply affected by the young children of the community, especially those in the school choir, named the Mackenzie Little Angels. He decided to begin a chapter of his "Hibiki Music Ministry" ("Hibiki" is Japanese for "Resonance") there and spent the majority of his time training the choir and teaching them new songs, including one that he wrote in the local language, Bemba, entitled "Ichikalamba", or "Dream Bhg". Watching him pour himself out to these children to the point of exhaustion was a touching experience. Before leaving, Mr. Yoshida, in a true demonstration of his commitment, gave the choir a gift of his personal guitar and promised to provide them with uniforms for future competitions.

One other project that our group was introduced to was the Micro Finance Project that IRFF has been running in Mackenzie. The purpose of this program is to empower families, especially women, by providing them with small loans at low interest rates to finance their personal businesses. Along with the loans come periodic business training and character education. Through their businesses supported by this program, participants have been able to earn enough to send their children to school and to even build new homes for their families. The Micro Finance Program is just another way that IRFF promotes sustainable development to those who desperately need support.

Our time was not all spent on work, however. IRFF is committed to providing a comprehensive experience to its participants, and so, at the end of our project, the group took a trip to the majestic and impressive Victoria Falls. For our last few days in Zambia, we soaked in the beauty of one of our world's seven natural wonders, marveling at the beauty of God's creation. We crossed the river at the top of the falls and swam in a pool at the very edge. We took a jetboat ride up the Zambezi and then swam in its clear, clean water. Our fun climaxed with an exhilarating bungee jump from a bridge that spans the gorge between Zambia and Zimbabwe, just down river from the falls.

Although there were countless amazing experiences to be remembered, I am quite certain that the defining memory for all of us will be the children of Mackenzie and the impact that they had on us. The children, who were so content to give us in their community that they would spend their whole day hanging around the school, watching us, playing with us, helping us, encouraging us. The barefoot and raggedly dressed children, who so often have to do without the things that we take for granted most in our lives - nutritious food, good health, even clothing. Children, who lack so much, yet were so quick to give us what they did have - their smile, their laughter, their attention and affection; who would visibly light up when given the littlest bit of our time. Those amazing children, who were in need of so much, yet were happy to be given so little will remain in our hearts and minds as a reminder of why we participated in this project, why we stepped outside of our comfort zones and did the little that we could to bring this world together. Those children and the people of Mackenzie will never be forgotten by the participants of this IRFF project; we will always be grateful that we had the opportunity to spend some time with them, to get to know them, and to serve them.

Despite these many projects that we completed in Mackenzie, the gifts that we gave, and all that we did for the community, the final impression that my group and I left with was not of giving, but of receiving. The Mackenzie community welcomed us so warmly, and throughout our stay there continued to embrace us so sincerely, that we all left feeling that we had been given a rare and immense gift, and extremely grateful for the experience.

IRFF is committed to continuing the True Friends Tour and these amazing experiences each year in a different region of the world. We are committed to projects that promote sustainable development in communities that are underserved and disempowered. Just as important, we are dedicated to building relationships that unite people, nations and cultures. It was an honor for me to be the coordinator for such a project, working with such a wonderful group of volunteers for such amazing people. I learned an incredible amount from this trip, was deeply inspired from all that I experienced, and am already anxiously awaiting next year’s project.
The 2006 Educators Conference

The fifth Educators Conference is just around the corner and the UNEWS editors would like to make sure the word is out! This year, the conference will take place October 13-15 at its usual venue, the Unification Theological Seminary in Barrytown, NY. Along with what is becoming the traditional Educators Conference format of a series of breakout sessions, this year there will be a newly added, Pre-Conference One-Day Certification Workshop for those Sunday School teachers throughout the movement who wish to develop a strong and effective program. The pre-conference training program has been under development and planning for several years now and for those of you who feel you are in need of training for basic teaching skills, don’t wait too long to register for the workshop! The training received here will be well worth your while.

The theme for the fifth Educators Conference is “My Vision and Mission as an Educator.” Dr. James Garbarino, a well-known educator and writer in the field of youth and family education will be the keynote speaker for the first three general sessions. He can be googled for more background information for those interested in knowing more about Dr. Garbarino before meeting him personally at the conference.

For those of you who have heard of the conference, but have never been able to participate, take this opportunity to visit www.centerforeducation.net and read up on the various subjects and issues that will be covered this year in the break-out sessions and to read up on the Educators Conference’s from past years. Speakers and presenters for each session are listed in the conference description. Among them, are professional educators with years of experience as well as individuals who have invested a great part of their life to education and who have insights and ideas to offer their fellow educators, young and old.

A CD compilation of recorded break-out sessions will be available at the UTS bookstore after the conference. If you haven’t already registered, go to www.centerforeducation.net and learn about individual and group rates. These conferences are usually full to overflowing, so don’t wait too long to register or to at least put you and your friends down on the registration list for an available spot.

Put it in your calendar, next year’s conference will be October, 2007!

Knowing Korean is the Beginning Point for Establishing the Absolute Culture

“Centering on the absolute love of God, the absolute man and woman must build the absolute culture. In order to establish the absolute culture, above all, we need a unified language and alphabet. That is why I am over and over again emphasizing that you must learn Korean language and its alphabet and that the creation and development of the culture are built by the unified language and alphabet.” (True Father, 1985.11.12)

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While the essence of the Principle remains the same, its contents have been presented in various ways according to the readership to which it is addressed - be it adults or youth, university level or younger students, or the very young. It is recognized that the Principle content needs to be organized in ways that make for easier reading and study. This two volumes, were prepared in particular for people in their mid teens. Younger people – and indeed anyone wishing to systematically study the core precepts of the Principle – will no doubt find this book beneficial too.

Efforts were made to avoid an over abundance of information, without omitting any core areas of the Principle. The books particularly seek to light the way for those from the younger generation of our Unificationist community, so that they may lead their lives based on True Parents’ guidance.

Father’s words are therefore juxtaposed to the relevant text from Exposition of Divine Principle as additional materials for greater understanding. Each chapter has a page of exercises that prompt reference to the original texts and also deeper thought. It is hoped that the reader will find much to inspire him or her to live an exemplary life, and, as a young leader of the future, to be well positioned to play a substantial role in shaping a world of hope and peace in the new age now unfolding.

Dear Reader,

To understand the God of heart, and True Parents, who are advancing the providence of restoration on the earth in God’s stead, we must inevitably pass through the words of Divine Principle. Published as a manual to help younger people to grasp the inner workings of the Principle, Principle of Heart and God of Heart can be a solid stepping stone for them in the quest to understand God and True Parents.

I am very happy and grateful that these meaningful volumes could be published in English at the time of the commemoration of True Parents’ Day, 2002. In conclusion, I would like to offer my deep gratitude and give glory to God and True Parents who have cared for us unceasingly with loving kindness up to the present day.

A Change in the Atmosphere

by Marlo Starr

Emerging from the subway terminal, I was welcomed to the first day of school by a gust of cold air. I walk the two blocks across campus to my class, thinking all the while of how quickly the summer had disappeared.

I find the room number and I watch him do this until the professor finally enters, ten minutes late, passing out the thick stack of syllabi. He drops his worn, black brief case on the front desk without apology. He is a little skeleton of a man with an oversized head matted with thin white hair.

As young people, we are about to step into a world that has been pre-made for us, carrying the weight of so much past darkness. But, it dawns on me, we also have the power to re-create that world.

The boy next to me wears board shorts, revealing scraped knees, and he digs his ball-point pen into the cover of his notebook, etching the shape of a skateboard deeper and deeper into the cardboard.

I watch him do this until the professor finally enters, ten minutes late, and drops his worn, black brief case on the front desk without apology. He is a little skeleton of a man with an oversized head matted with thin white hair.

‘Good morning, class. My name is Professor Perfezhiu,’ he announces while passing out the thick stack of syllabi. He makes a short introduction, listing all the books required for the semester, Joseph Conrad’s Heart of Darkness being the first, and then goes directly into lecturing.

‘Marlow, the main character, is deeply confused, and you will be too when you read this story.’ His voice is dramatic, filled with intonation and placing special emphasis on the word ‘deeply.’

Professor explains that Marlow narrates his voyage through the Congo in the 1800s, a time when European-colonialist rule would kill an estimated 10 million Congolese.

As he speaks, I steal glances at my classmates. Even the skateboarder is faithfully taking notes.

‘Marlow witnesses man’s potential for evil… But Marlow also knows he has a dark side himself.’

Time seems to freeze for a moment. The forty or so people in the room, Muslims, Christians and Jews, with ancestry stemming from every part of the globe, listen silently to the story of humanity’s ‘heart of darkness.’

I think about how we share a common history and a common origin. As young people, we are about to step into a world that has been pre-made for us, carrying the weight of so much past darkness. But, it dawns on me, we also have the power to re-create that world.

The class finishes, and I walk down the stairs and out of the building. A cool breeze stirs the leaves on the sidewalk; a change is in the atmosphere.
by Jim Stephens

True Love

1. Love is learned and grows gradually. While chemistry or infatuation may initially attract you, real love grows over time as you get to know this person in many ways and in many contexts. You don’t need to rush real love.

2. Love makes you more likely to do what you know is right. Love will not ask you to do things you are morally unsure of or are not ready for. It brings out the best in your character.

3. Love is honest. You don’t have to pretend to look or act the way you think this person wants you to. You can speak your mind freely.

4. Love involves the totality of person...not only physical attraction and looks. Love admires personality and character traits as well. You are turned on by this person’s character, personality traits, interests, and mind - not just looks.

5. Love, because it is patient, can wait for proper timing. You know that if your love is true, it will last and that you don’t have to stake your claim to keep from losing this person. Love is learned...gradually over time.

6. Love is steady and unshakable, an attitude, not just a feeling. It is knowing that you care about someone through all the ups and downs. Feelings can change as quickly as the weather, while love lasts with realism and energy.

7. Love gives you the security to reach out and explore what life has to offer. Love is freedom.

8. Love involves trust. It brings security. With love you feel more confident and sure of yourself, because you know that you are loved and worthy of being loved.

9. Love does not expect you to compromise your values. In fact, love deepens as you discover that you share basic values. Love will live and grow in a climate of respect and truth.

10. Love treats the other person as a person, not as a status symbol to be used to make you look good to others.

Infatuation

1. Infatuation is very focused on looks and attractions. Without the thought or experience of sex or physical involvement, things get pretty dull, even boring.

2. Infatuation always needs a mirror to make sure you look and act the way you think he or she wants you to. It makes you afraid that if this person saw or knew you as you really are, he or she might not love you any longer.

3. Infatuation seems to happen all at once, often before you even know each other very well. It usually disappears just as quickly as it began. This is especially true when replaced by another "instant" relationship.

4. Infatuation might lead you to do things you don’t really think are right just to keep the relationship. Or, even more devious, it will talk you into trying to think something is right even when you know deep down that it is not.

5. Infatuation is jealous, mistrusting, and uncertain. It makes you wonder and worry that you will be dropped when he or she is friendly with someone else.

6. Infatuation is "in a hurry." You can’t wait to go steady, for sex, or even for marriage. It sometimes makes you plunge in head first, long before you know the person. You are afraid that you will lose this person if you don’t act now.

7. Infatuation covers up what does not fit. You have different values and find yourself disagreeing with how he or she does things or treats others. But you overlook your nagging doubts because this person is the one who matters.

8. Infatuation is an emotional roller coaster, often making you sad or moody for no reason. Your day is made or broken by whether or not the phone rings. You do a lot of daydreaming about how perfect and ideal your life would be if...if...

9. Infatuation often makes you feel trapped. Your whole focus is on him or her. You feel you are missing out on other things and other people.

10. Infatuation can wear another person as a trophy. If you are honest you will admit that if this person were not as popular or good-looking your feelings might not be the same.

"Watch your thoughts: they become words. Watch your words: they become actions. Watch your actions: they become habits. Watch your habits: they become character. Watch your character: it becomes your destiny." – Frank Outlaw

Useful Internet Addresses

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- Special Task Force (STF)
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