

## Powerful Experiences in Cheon Shim Won USA

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On November 12-13, over 540 Unificationists, American Clergy Leadership Conference (ACLC) pastors, Korean Clergy Leadership Conference (KCLC) pastors, and members of the Youth Clergy Leadership Conference (YCLC) gathered at the International Peace Education Center (IPEC) in Las Vegas for the opening of the Cheon Shim Won and for a Hyojeong CheonBo Special Event. Over 30 Christian Pastors nationwide attended, making an effort to invite KCLC pastors from all 5 regions of Heavenly Korea. Together, American and Korean pastors joined Unificationists in Ansu and Chanyang, ancestor liberation, and the ancestor Blessing ceremony. KCLC were attentive and sincere in their first experience learning about True Parent's CheonBo providence and went home smiling and with new friendships with ACLC members. Dr. Ki Hoon Kim, Cheon Shim Won, USA president and his team organized the special weekend events.

YCLC took the opportunity of so many gathered Christian and Unificationist pastors to hold their first national leader's retreat. They learned directly from the subregional directors and American clergy how to be transformational pastoral leaders who are able to revive America and become the next generation of pastors for Heavenly America and Family Federation USA. YCLC prayed at the Cheon Shim Won during that opening week developing their heartistic connection with our Heavenly Parent.

Since then, Cheon Shim Won prayer halls have opened in states across the United States including Belvedere Training Center in Tarrytown, New York; Clifton, New Jersey; Dallas, Texas; inside the Washington Times building in Washington, D.C.; Baltimore, Maryland; Triangle city and Durham city in North Carolina; Atlanta, Georgia; Miami, Florida; Chicago, Illinois; and in Los Angeles. Hundreds of members have attended 21-day all-night prayer vigils at their local prayer hall and hundreds more are currently participating in three 40-day Cheon Shim Won prayer vigils at prayer halls across America.

As prayer halls opened across America, Cheon Shim Won Heavenly USA hosted an HJ CheonBo Special Event at the Belvedere Estate in Tarrytown, New York on June 24. Unificationists numbered 824 parents and children from all over America. They gathered under a large outdoor tent to liberate and bless their ancestors and to hold a HJ Offering Ceremony. Members were filled with hope and experienced a spiritual revival and renewal. On June 25, following the CheonBo event, members gathered at the Belvedere Training Center for a national level Sunday Service. Several members shared revival experiences they had during the CheonBo event and others shared spiritual experiences they had praying at the Cheon Shim Won at Belvedere.



### Testimonies about spiritual experiences at various local Cheon Shim Won's in America

**Atlanta, Georgia:**

**Diane And Ilya Hack, Second Generation Couple And Co-Pastors, Atlanta Family Church**

On Sunday, June 18, As we finished our Morning Devotion, we stayed in the Cheon Shim Won and continued to sincerely pray before Sunday service begins. As we were praying, we had an inspiration from heaven to ask everyone to come pray in the Cheon Shim Won. When we received this inspiration, we hesitated as we thought that maybe people may not be ready to receive the power of the Cheon Shim Won; However, something kept telling us to ask everyone to go to the Cheon Shim Won and pray for 7 minutes after service; so with that mind-set, we accepted this inspiration and asked all of our members, including our guests and all second generation who were in the room, to go to the Cheon Shim Won after Service. We then all gathered in the Cheon Shim Won after service (There were about 60 members. This number includes 3 distant second generation and 4 consistent guests), and explained what the Cheon Shim Won is and its power. We ended up praying for more than 7 minutes all together. The most incredible experience happened after this prayer. Suddenly, 4 guests who joined us began to weep. One guest who came with his 12-year-old daughter held on to her as they wept together. All our members then gathered around and wept with them; including distant second generation who rarely come to church. The amazing testimony is that when we asked our guests how they felt in the Cheon Shim Won; here are a few things they said:

One guest said: "This is the deepest experience I have ever had. Being in that room, I felt something I have never felt before. Now I understand why your church is so different. I want to come to this room with my daughter and pray every single day. Can I do that?" (This is an amazing testimony because this guest has not even finished studying the Divine Principle but he had the deepest experience; even more so than some of our members). Another guest said: "My heart feels different and now something is telling me that I should learn more about the Blessing. Can I know more about the matching process? I feel it in my heart..." she then continued and said: "I would also like to be more involved in your church activities. if you need any help, let me know."

As a result of this prayer in the Cheon Shim Won, 2 of our guests are now witnessing together with our members weekly. One mentioned that he wants to spread the Divine Principle to his friends so they experience the spiritual environment he felt. We wanted to share this story because we now see that NOTHING is IMPOSSIBLE in the Cheon Shim Won. Although we feared having our guests pray in the Cheon Shim Won, God was already preparing an atmosphere that we were not aware of. These experiences and testimonies have shown us that once we unite with the inspiration, heart, and spirit of the Cheon Shim Won, our communities will have an incredible physical and spiritual rebirth.

#### **Dallas, Texas: John Monestere**

Dear True Mother, thank you for the Cheon Shim Won in Dallas. Honestly, I did not intend to attend the grand opening as I was unprepared to offer prayer papers and had other concerns which make leaving my wife and disabled child alone difficult to justify. However, once I decided to go, although I still struggled about it, I resolved to offer prayer papers to resolve the most important issues for our family. As I brought the prayer papers into the room I felt overwhelmed and already tears came as I bowed and presented the papers into the box. When we began to pray in unison my tears flowed as I found myself unable to focus only on my own prayer requests. I also prayed for the brothers and sisters there that their prayer requests would be fulfilled and I realized that I would have to change so I prayed more to be a better husband and father than anything else. I filled my handkerchief with tears as I repented and prayed together with brothers and sisters. I expect to have more testimony as these prayer requests will/must be realized but there is one thing I feel strongly I can now have Cheon Shim Won with me when I sincerely pray at home or anywhere. This morning, after my wife and I prayed, I felt and said to her: "I feel as if I brought the Cheon Shim Won home with me!" Now, I cannot help but pray in tears with the feeling of seeing from Heavenly Parent's point of view and not from my own limitations! The children of God who I am most responsible for should/must all be Blessed and for that to happen I must change to be united in heart with my wife, my children, and my Abel. All must be saved by the grace of God, Jesus, and True parents. Thank you again True Mother.

#### **Washington, D.C.: Arlene Candelaresi**

I just want to say the opening ceremony of the Cheon Shim Won in Washington, D.C. yesterday was miraculous. When the candles were lit and prayers said, the Holy Spirit filled the room and I could feel the high spirit of the good spirit world so close here and I still do. It reminds me of the time in Jardin when one could ask Heavenly Parent questions in prayer and the specific answer would come, often immediately. Later, on the day of the opening ceremony, I returned to the Cheon Shim Won with a friend to pray. As we prayed I felt the spirit was not the same as it had been. I didn't feel the closeness of Heavenly Parent. I mentioned this to my friend and she agreed. We looked around and noticed the candles were not all burning. We lit them and immediately we could feel the atmosphere of the room change. I am sure that by praying at the Cheon Shim Won, brothers and sisters will find the ways to reach out to people and change America with love, to solve their own troubled situations, and to overcome our own fears and doubts. Thank you sincerely. Love and smiles.

#### **Washington D.C.: Libby Jo Henkin**

Yesterday was a very special blessing, to receive our Cheon Shim Won in Washington, D.C. I was looking forward to it with great yearning, because I long to be one with God, to experience God, more directly than ever, to even see the Face of God. This has been my longing my whole life. So, when I heard we would get our own Cheon Shim Won here, I prayed deeply every day to meet God there. And during our 21-day prayer condition, I prayed desperately. I wanted to go to the prayer room early yesterday to sit there and prepare to receive God and meet God. When I came, Rev. Randy Francis asked me to come upstairs and unexpectedly took me into the leaders' luncheon with Dr. Ki Hoon Kim on the third floor. I was the only non-leader so I felt a little out of place, but accepted this gift. I felt that because I prepared my heart and arrived early, I was able to be in the prayer room when it was "settled" as our Cheon Shim Won. During unison prayer, I thought, "These are loud words. When will I feel that these words are reaching God?" Soon my loud words hit a zone where I felt there was power going through these words to God, but there was not, I thought, something miraculous in that. Toward the end of the prayer, suddenly a gold cylinder came down from heaven and encased me, alive and shimmering and separating me in my place from everyone else. With my eyes closed, I looked up and saw the gold passing from heaven to me and back and forth. My eyes welled up with tears, in ecstasy. I was a little surprised, because the feeling was not of power that can move mountains but of pervasive love that radiated out and spread throughout the room and throughout the world. Pervasive, simple love that embraces absolutely everyone and everything, and I knew that is True Parents' love and what moves mountains. It was an experience of God I never knew before. I am so grateful to True Mother for the conditions she made and for her love to give us the Cheon Shim Won right here in D.C. I know it is a gift, so that we can begin again, and now fulfill our responsibility. These accomplishments will be my future prayers at our Cheon Shim Won.

### **Las Vegas (IPEC): Achille Acolatse, Southeast Subregion Senior Pastors**

I would like to sincerely thank Heavenly Parent and True Parents for opening Cheon Shim Won in America. Praying in the Cheon Shim Won is truly special. We have been praying and offering devotion in the Cheon Shim Won in Las Vegas during the rebirth workshops with Dr. Ki Hoon Kim and President Demian Dunkley. In one of our prayer sessions, I felt a strong presence of the Holy Spirit. I felt my spirit was rising up. I felt as if we were in the Upper room as the disciples of Christ on the day of Pentecost. The feeling was overwhelming and it was the conclusion of 5 days of President Dunkley sharing True Mother's deepest heart with us. During this prayer, I felt we were all united with True Mother as the substantial Holy Spirit and we were all ready to go out in the world and testify to True Mother as the Only Begotten Daughter of God. When I returned to Washington D.C. after the rebirth workshop in Las Vegas, while joining online the Chung Pyung Cheon Shim Won prayer vigil on a Friday, I had another profound experience with the Holy Spirit. While a sister was praying in the Cheon Shim Won in Korea, all of the sudden I felt an electricity flowing through my body from my head to my toes. I also felt someone touching my head although there was no one actually touching me. Then I could not stop my tears; I started to cry uncontrollably. The experience was so powerful and I felt I should do whatever it takes to comfort True Mother's heart. I can testify there is a special spiritual atmosphere in the Cheon Shim Won. When I pray in the Cheon Shim Won, I feel I can do anything. I can feel Heavenly Parent's presence and that Heavenly Parent is receiving my prayer. My confidence is boosted and I feel so encouraged and determined to do God's will and fulfill my responsibility as True Mother is asking now to do. Cheon Shim Won is the key to our victory in this new era. Aju!

### **Las Vegas (IPEC): "I Had A Dream" Jim Boothby, Capitol Family Church, State Leader, West Virginia**

Upon the plane trip to Las Vegas to hear Rev. Dunkley deliver Mother's most recent message, I prayed to meet a uniquely good persona and on that flight, I met and extensively reviewed lecture content with the best, young, most eager "prospect" for Divine Principle I'd ever encountered. I thought, hmmm... wow, and realized something "new" seems afoot. In Las Vegas, upon sitting down in the Cheon Shim Won, quietly praying in True Parent's house, I was surprised and completely overcome with emotion, even shedding tears as I prayed and contemplated True Parent's situation. The atmosphere and mood in the Cheon Shim Won held a trove of purified spirit. In the last of 3 days, there was time to offer Wish Papers.

Despite my normal mode of asking only "public-purpose-minded questions," this time, in addition to mission questions, I offered a \$100 wish paper asking a personal question about some urgent Boothby family financial concerns. Then I ran off to the airport.

Three days later back in Maryland, I awoke with a start on Monday morning from a powerful, ultra-clear dream. In the dream, I was hiking alone on a mountain trail. Out of nowhere, 3 clear plastic refrigerator-type gallon food bags, half buried in the mountain trail appeared. Inside the bags were funds, documents, plans -- the exact answers to the finance questions I had asked. The contents were rather stunning. Next, the dream shifted to a large office with my old friend and long-time boss and central figure, Tom McDevitt, sitting at a desk (representing, perhaps the "Word" from above, and the "authority figure"?). A similar set of bags and contents sat on his desk and further explanation and guidance was offered by Tom. I have to say, I was quite heartened. My astonishment at this remarkable once-in-a-lifetime type of dream answer is still lingering 3 weeks later. I've never experienced such a dream. Seemingly this is going to be typical of the real-life, real-time Cheon Shim Won answers to prayers we can access through Mother's "merit of the age gift to all" of the Cheon Shim Won.