## **Outreach activities in California and Haiti**

Michael Balcomb January 13, 2015



## Guests Feel like Family at West Coast Divine Principle Retreat

The Unification community on the West Coast held a Divine Principle retreat on Saturday, January 10. Three guests attended this "One Family Under God" spiritual retreat, and all were inspired and positive to hear about the Divine Principle in the context of a loving, community environment filled with praying, singing and group discussions.

Rick Joswick from Los Angeles, California said, "If we are to fulfill True Mother's vision for 2020 and witness, it's good to bring our guests, friends and contacts to hear the Divine Principle in a spirit-filled environment. That is the purpose of the One Family Under God Spiritual Retreat. Even if you don't have any guests, you can be reminded of the power of the Divine Principle."

This family atmosphere caused even the Unificationists attending the workshop to reflect back on when they first heard about the Divine Principle, and how its straightforward truths, alive in the people around them, inspired them to become Unificationists.

## **Inspiring the People of Haiti**

Rev. Jeddie and Rev. Elma King from Kissimmee, Florida, first visited Haiti in June, 2012 to teach the Divine Principle. This was the first time for many to hear about the Divine Principle and they were on fire to hear more.

"The people received us as their long lost family members," described Rev. Elma King. "Our lives were changed, and we wanted to change their lives as well. When we returned home to Florida, I wrote many articles about Haiti. We bought blocks of land and hired people to start a foundation there for a center; however when we returned in June, 2013, we found no foundation. We felt the pain of loving, but still, we taught the Divine Principle. Some of these seeds will grow."

Many lives have been enlighten by the work that the Kings have done there, even those of other Unificationists inspired to work with the Kings. Rev. Claire Daugherty provided lanterns for the churches and schools, and connected with Rev. Theodule Paul in Port-au-Prince to be able to help in other ways.

"Rev. Theodule Paul in Port-au-Prince sends us pictures of the families that are benefiting from our intentional acts of love," said Rev. Elma King. "When we see their faces smiling, it makes us want to continue to give, because giving lights up our world even more. Together, we can keep the light shining there, until all the dark places are no more."

For updates on this project, visit haitifamily restoration.com.