

National Witnessing Strategy Meeting at East Garden

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Twenty-two representatives from across the nation met at East Garden for a national witnessing strategy meeting this past weekend from July 17-19, 2015. A joint project of the national ministry team and National Council, this gathering was an effort to promote dialogue and further discuss ways to better fulfill True Mother's desire for the good news of True Parents to spread around the world.

Among the participants were Dr. Ki Hoon Kim, Continental Chair of the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (FFWPU) North America, Dr. Michael Balcomb, President of FFWPU USA, members of the national ministry team, National Council representatives, pastors and experts from the field of witnessing.



Despite a tight schedule, participants delved into deep discussions, received spiritual guidance, prayed together and discussed the amazing and unique things that the Unification movement has to offer its guests and members. They also touched upon matters such as the Unificationist identity, what services to provide to best reach people, and other thought provoking topics.

Meeting participants had the special opportunity to tour both East Garden and the nearby Belvedere. This was a truly moving experience for all the participants, as they were able to see the places where True Parents prayed, planned, studied, laughed and cried. They all sat in the room where True Father had held countless leaders' trainings. Being a part of this history and physically seeing the foundation on which they were all standing was breathtaking. The weekend culminated with an amazing sermon given by Pastor Justin Okamoto of the WestRock Family Church.



The witnessing strategy meeting was significant in that it was a cooperative effort that brought so many people from various backgrounds to the table to share and to develop a mutual understanding. Everyone came away with comprehensive ideas and future action steps in regards to witnessing, communication, tool development and outreach. An avenue of communication was paved for future meetings and plans, and it was clear that all those involved were focused on developing relationships and communication in the future.

The national ministry team hopes to create more avenues to work together with Unificationists around the

country. Stay tuned for future opportunities and initiatives!

