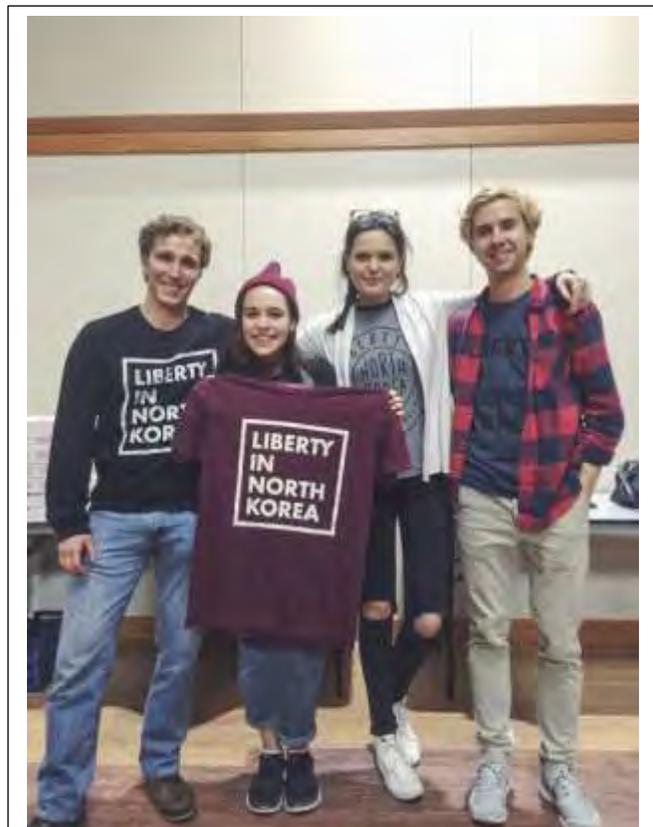


Liberty in North Korea (LiNK) event at the University of Northern Iowa

Alan Jessen
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Sam Roche, a Unificationist student at the University of Northern Iowa (left) is pictured with LiNK Nomads, Madison (of Missouri), Anka (from Romania) and Richie (Texas).

They call themselves Nomads. They travel as small teams in a large van with California license plates, zig zagging across the county raising funds and raising awareness of the plight of the people of North Korea. Much like the year of service programs for young Unificationists, these young people are filled with energy and a vision to end human suffering.

Their organization is LiNK—Liberty in North Korea—and their cause is helping refugees from communist North Korea to resettle in the west, through a 3,000 mile treacherous journey from China to Southeast Asia and further westward. In August, Unificationist pastors across the country were contacted by LiNK inquiring whether they would be able to host an event where LiNK could speak to at least 50 people.

Fortunately, Unificationists in Iowa had a natural ally in Sam Roche, a senior student at the University of Northern Iowa and president of the Korean Language and Culture Club there. Sam jumped at the chance, and together with local Unificationists hosted a public event at the Maucker Student Union on the night of October 6. Over 100 persons attended, the largest group so far for this Nomad team!

Their presentation is a moving story of the dangerous journey to freedom for persons fleeing North Korea, their struggle to settle in a new world, and the hope it brings for change to come to North Korea. With more people successfully escaping and being re-settled in South Korea and elsewhere, more information and resources are coming back into North Korea. With organizations like LiNK and others committed to this cause, freedom and hope for the North Korean people seems more to be a matter of time. As the team left Iowa, LiNK member Richie said he would like to learn more about the Unification community and faith. They happily gave him a signed copy of True Father's autobiography.

Anyone wishing to learn more, host an event, or to pledge \$5.00 per month to support LiNK's cause may contact them at www.libertyinnorthkorea.org.