

Report: CARP Germany vision meeting

Background

Since the number of over 18-year olds has risen dramatically in the last two years and there are statistically about 400 blessed children in the age group of 18-35 in Germany, the Tongil-Gyo leadership and the old CARP committee has been thinking of hosting a vision meeting for quite a while now. Giving young adults of Tongil-Gyo the possibility to share about CARP and Tongil-Gyo and to develop a common vision and strategy for the coming years.

CARP vision survey

To get a picture of what the young adults of Tongil-Gyo (CARPIes) think and feel we developed a vision survey in which everyone was given the opportunity to write their own opinions and to speak up about positive and negative aspects of our movement.

Since the participation rate was quite high (59 CARPIes), the survey gave a good foundation for discussions and reflection at the vision meeting.



About 20 CARPIes participate



Group picture after prayer at the holy ground



Presentation of Group discussions

Vision meeting Friday 22.06. – Sunday 24.06.2012

20 CARPIes from all over Germany used the opportunity to participate at the vision meeting. After a, for some, long journey to our workshop center in Bad Camberg we used Friday evening as an opportunity to watch the quarter finals of the German football team and got a lot of inspiration from their teamwork and clear victory.

Saturday morning started with some spiritual (HDH, inspiring video, morning service) and physical food (breakfast), after which we started directly with the first session of our vision meeting. First we had an inspiring and motivating welcome message, which gave us a good foundation for the coming sessions. The next step was the presentation of the CARP situation in Germany and other countries. With this the participants received an understanding about the current situation of CARP. To end the session we had a presentation of the survey results and the participants were given time to reflect and read the detailed answers.

In the second session we had the opportunity to analyse the current situation. Here the participants were given the task to think about the strengths, weaknesses, chances and risks of CARP Germany and afterwards discuss it in small groups. The results were collected through clusters on the walls and were then evaluated through a point system.

In the third session we deliberated about the possible stakeholders and target groups of CARP. To end the session we then had a panel discussion about the themes: "Where do we see the future of Tongil-Gyo?" and "Cooperation of 1st + 2nd Generation".

After a nice lunch break we then started with our vision finding session, in which participants had the opportunity to meditate on their vision for CARP, key areas that CARP should work in and the target groups we would like to focus on. After this a brainstorming session was conducted to bring together the different opinions. Through summarizing all the points the following vision statement was assembled:

CARP ...

... is a network to promote exchange among the young adults of Tongil-Gyo.

... has as its goal and path the alignment with God and True Parents.

... is a platform that gives CARPIes the opportunity to develop, realize and share their talents, potentials and interests.

... helps CARPIes to find, strengthen and share their faith.

... encourages its members to live a life for the greater good and become a role model for society.

Key areas for the work of CARP: Inreach/care taking, Outreach, service, studies+faith, Media/Arts/Music, Sports, International Relations, UPF/Politics/society, HARP, regional carp work



Nice snacks and lots of fun



Our risks



Community

Afterwards the participants had the opportunity to meet in the different key areas and to discuss about possible activities and actions.

Then we discussed about the organisation of CARP structure and gave the participants to take ownership in the CARP committee and key areas.

After a delicious dinner we had one last session in which we collected possible activities to support our CARP vision.

To conclude the day we then held a closing prayer at the holy ground, where everybody was given the opportunity to direct some personal words towards our heavenly father.

The day ended with the chance to watch the quarter final match or do sports.

Sunday we also started with spiritual food (HDH and an inspiring video of Hyo Jin Nim at the Berlin wall) and a rich breakfast. The first session was used to introduce the newly formed CARP committee, which had been put together after long talks through the night: Gabriel Lindemann, Martin van Kampen, Anna Bentele, Hyoson Yamanaka and Kyung yun Yoo.

Afterwards we had another session with the themes of Inreach and Outreach, in which participants had the opportunity to discuss and share their ideas in these areas.

The last session was given a chance to ask questions in an open round about church, CARP, faith, etc. and to be answered by other participants.

In summary the meeting was a success as the development of a CARP vision was accomplished and everyone had the possibility to give his or her own individual input to the accomplishment of the meeting.

Reflections by participants

"This vision meeting was my first time to participate at a national event of CARP and I am very happy to have been able to be a part of it. We were very productive and discussed a lot of questions about our church and it gave me a lot of hope for the future, that we can learn from our mistakes and better develop our potentials. I find the opportunity to find a common vision important and to share with each other, giving us the ability to better work together in the future for God and True Parents."

“The vision meeting was two very intensive days, full of talks, discussions and development of future plans. It was a very productive time and I think, that we were successful and could plan a lot. CARP Germany is steadily growing, so it is important to work on a common vision, giving us a goal to which we can work towards. I was glad that Dieter and Ana Schmidt were also part of the meeting with a lot of good advice. After this meeting I was motivated and inspired on my way home and look forward to the new year.”

“Unbelievable, that we have not had such a meeting before. I was happy that so many people came and wanted to work with CARP Germany in the future. But I still feel sad, that because of the short notice, not more CARPIes could participate. It is wonderful, that so many participated in the survey, giving us a lot of valuable content to discuss about. I had a lot of informative talks and I am glad to have invested this time with my brothers and sisters.”