

CARP Las Vegas: Congratulations Events for 2021 Graduates

Makiko Watanabe
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On a very hot Saturday afternoon, young adults and their families gathered at the Cheon Hwa Gun to celebrate the high school graduates, Classes of 2020 and 2021 and to send them to colleges and Generation Peace Academy. Since there hadn't been any big gathering for young adults during the Covid restrictions, everyone seemed extremely happy to see each other. By 6:00 pm, over 50 gathered to join this celebration, including several people who just moved to Las Vegas.

Led by our newly appointed co-pastor Jonathan Jesper and assistant pastor Makiko Watanabe, Las Vegas community young adults and parents volunteered to prepare the food, set up, and decorate the sanctuary. A very special thanks to our Rev. Ken Doo and co-pastor Gregg Smith for grilling chicken, and Pastor Jonathan for smoking BBQ pork!

After the delicious dinner, all the Class of 2020 and 2021 graduates were invited to the stage with their family members. The graduates shared their goals and what they planned to study and received gifts cards from Mrs. Doo, Pastor Gregg, and Pastor Jonathan. Next, four young adults who were joining the Generation Peace Academy came up to the stage. They received gift bags full of items handy for the GPA lifestyle. It was not the original plan but Pastor Jonathan also recognized the recent GPA graduates as well as college graduates. This just reminded us all of how great and talented our young adults were!!!

Inevitably the evening went longer than expected, for everyone - the graduates, the parents, and friends - felt the love in the air and enjoyed each others' company. We were all so happy to be there, and we all felt truly it was a taste of Holy Community.

Sincerely,

Makiko Watanabe
Assistant Director, CARP Las Vegas
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