Generation Peace Academy Weekly Newsletter - November 18th, 2023

Akira Watanabe November 18, 2023



First Years and Captains

This week, the first-years, Captains, and 2nd/3rd-year CIG members gathered for the Pre-Winter Competition Workshop at Morgan's Ranch in Texas! The workshop started with time to reflect and share testimonies about lessons learned from the second fundraising condition and the Fall Training period. The workshop theme was "Know God's love for me to give God's love to others," which will be the internal goal for the Winter Competition. The workshop's content centered around the Fall of Man and the root of why it is difficult to know God's love and receive it joyfully, and content about what each person's responsibility is to improve their own lives and the lives of those around them to change history. The members participated in activities to help them repent for actions that separated them from God to show their dedication to their growth and strengthen their resolve. To end the workshop, the members spent time in their groups preparing for the competition and bonding with the brothers and sisters they will be supporting.



Cheon II Guk Missionaries

While the CIG 2nd and 3rd years have concluded their fall training and joined the rest of GPA in Texas, the 4th year CIG leaders have been investing into a special mission given by our North America Regional Chair and President Demian Dunkley on the other side of the world: Thailand! They are at their halfway point with three weeks left of their trip. So far, they have been visiting a local university and creating relationships with the students, professors, and the Dean. They hosted and supported Youth and Students for Peace (YSP) workshops at the Surin Center, where high school and university students learn about family values and the importance of maintaining purity. While visiting several classes at the university, they presented more about YSP and invited students to attend upcoming workshops and events. They hope to establish a YSP club on campus with the support of their new YSP members. Also, in the past month, the five of them split up and were invited to stay in the homes of local members in nearby villages to experience Thai culture and the heart of the people. They experienced harvesting rice, creating "holy desserts," and teaching English — all while witnessing and developing relationships with the families they were staying with! They are looking

forward to their Cambodia trip next week!



Heavenly USA

Another half week of planning has gone by, and the Heavenly USA missionaries are starting to implement their ideas. Both teams spent a lot of time meeting with the leaders of their communities, Rev. Juanita Pierre-Louis and Rev. Miilhan Stephens from Harlem and Pastor Diane and Ilya Hack from Atlanta. They've been connecting with pastors and ministers that the local churches have invested in and their HUSA relationships. The Atlanta team got to have lunch with Rev. Demian Dunkley, Rev. Mark Abernathy, and the Atlanta pastors. They talked about a greater vision for only Heavenly USA, and HUSA is trying to align with Rev Dunkley's hope. They have been brainstorming how to create a more significant and substantial impact through their program. The missionaries are starting in their current communities, leaning more into creating projects, events, and relationships that aren't just experiences but are stepping stones to greater works happening and concrete change.





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