

How we made Peace Starts with Me at Nassau Colosseum a success

Demian Dunkley
November 2018



The Chung Pyung-style workshops complete with ancestor liberation and ancestor blessing were part of the internal preparation that contributed to the success of the Nassau Colosseum Peace Starts with Me

Before the Chicago Cubs won the baseball World Series in 2016, they hadn't won it since 1908. How did the 2016 collection of players do something that no team of Cubs had done in 39,466 days? This was the longest slump in baseball history. A "slump" is when a player or team performs below their ability for some time. Even a great team might lose four or five games in a row, but recovering from any slump can be difficult.

The Cubs' organization hired Joe Maddon as the team manager after the 2014 baseball season ended. He was the team's third manager in four years. One factor Maddon understood was that he had to keep his players loose and not brooding over temporary slumps or mistakes. He did this in a variety of ways.

Generally, baseball teams play music in the team clubhouse before a game and after game, but only if their team had won the game. If they had lost, the managers wanted players to take losing seriously, to be self-critical -- so no music. One of Maddon's first deeds in Chicago was to hire a DJ to spin records in the clubhouse win or lose. Most famously, after long road trips when the Cubs had been the "away" team going from city to city, when they were due to take the long flight back to Chicago, Maddon ordered them all to wear onesies (one-piece pajamas) on the plane. Maddon called these "pajama parties." These millionaire athletes flew home in some spectacular onesies! Sports broadcaster Mr. Jesse Rogers quipped, "A shark, a Ninja Turtle and Superman walk onto a plane. The start of a joke? Nope, the end of a road trip for the Chicago Cubs."

Of course, the development of FFWPU is not comparable to the losing years of the Chicago Cubs. True Parents have led us from a small mud hut to the global level. We are now pushing toward Vision 2020. We are on the course of self-transformation. That is where the similarity lies, not in the long slump, but in the revolution. This article looks at some of the transformative factors as seen through the campaign for the Peace Starts with Me (PSWM), Heal the Nation event at Nassau Colosseum on November 12.

One in the spirit

"O God, thou art my God, I seek thee, my soul thirsts for thee; my flesh faints for thee, as in a dry and weary land where no water is." This is Psalm 63:1, which comes to us from ancient times but expresses the heart of believers from that time up to this present day. Many of us struggling in a hostile environment or straining to make some positive contribution to our communities or nations thirst for communion with God and so we pray.

Rev. Richard Buessing, president of FFWPU for a heavenly USA, encouraged members to pray in early August. "Brothers and sisters" he said, "this Sunday, we are beginning our first national prayer condition. It is called 365 Prayer, and it will cover every minute of every day for the next year, all across America." The prayer condition is internet based (To see the site, Google *familyfed 365 prayer*).

The website lists four national prayer points, goals that U. S. members are pursuing during the yearlong prayer offering. All the goals, begin with Glory to Heaven, peace on earth... 1) heal and comfort Heavenly Parent's suffering, wounded heart 2) unite with True Parents now 3) Korea, Japan America attend True Parents now, and 4) restore the material foundation now! You will also find goals listed for two U. S. subregions.

The national prayer condition beginning on Sunday, August 12, meant exactly three months of prayer preparation before Subregion One's PSWM event. The prayer points for Subregion One were "Glory to Heaven Peace on earth... bring absolute victory in the November 12, 2018 Peace Starts with Me rally, raise seventy heavenly tribal messiahs to expand God's lineage, bring 210 top John the Baptists to expand True Parent's influence and raise 120 young people to lead us into the future." Also listed on the site are the U. S. movement's 2020 goals as points to pray about and strive to achieve.



Ki Hoon Kim at the Chung Pyung events

A personal commitment

The first step in joining the 365 Prayer is to click on the Book a Time button. The site perceives your time zone and shows you available twenty-minute time slots. After you click on the time slot, essentially you volunteer to pray for those twenty minutes on that date. If you wish to pray at the same time each week, just click "recurring." You give your name, an e-mail address and a phone number. You need to indicate which of the five U. S. subregions you belong to (or simply wish to pray for).

You do this on your personal initiative, a bit like Moses, all alone climbing Mt. Sinai. As President Buessing put it, "It will be your individual responsibility. It will be your effort to connect to God, to our True Parents and to all the providential things we are doing to realize the kingdom of heaven on earth."

The tag line for the website is Glory to Heaven 24/7. If members select every twenty-minute slot of time and click to pray during that time weekly, collectively, they would be praying for the nation twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. The registration process is computerized; the spiritual and emotional elements come with your prayer.

On the same website, you can join their National Prayer Call. The national headquarters conducts these over Zoom conferencing software, which works on many types of computers, phones and tablets. It's not an audio call, but video. It costs nothing for meetings involving fifty or fewer devices. For larger numbers, only the host (in this case the US national headquarters) would pay a monthly or yearly fee. On the 365 site, you click on Join the National Prayer Zoom Call Now and download an executable file that allows you to connect to a prayer with other human beings every Wednesday at 9 pm U. S. Eastern Standard Time, which is the latest time of day for this prayer within the United States. The U. S. has six time zones. The Hawaiian–Aleutian time zone would be the earliest; the Prayer Call begins there at 4:00 pm. FFWPU national education director, Mari Curry, explained what takes place during these phone prayer meetings:

For the last year and a half, we have a weekly video prayer call that we do to pray for True Parents, our leadership, our members and the victory of Vision 2020. Before big events, like Nassau [PSWM November 12] it becomes a daily video call for forty days. We had, on average, 125 unique call-ins, many of which were done by groups or families so on average there were

close to 150–200 participants.

The general format took about twelve minutes and was as follows: 1) Greetings 2) A representative prayer 3) A brief update on progress of the event 4) unison prayer 5) A closing prayer Once a week, on Wednesdays, it would be a special, longer session that included Hoon Dok Hae reading as well as spiritual guidance from Dr. Kim, our continental director, and some more extensive prayer point recitation.

It is quite popular and useful, because it brings the nation together. It was helpful to spiritually protect our nation and our event; it brought about greater unity and it allowed for members farther away to contribute to the providence, support one another and connect to what was going on. It was a very special time especially since we have so many members that live far away from our communities.



Curtis Farrow, directed the choir and did much to make PSWM a great success.; Rev. Juanita Pierre Louis, national vice-president of WFWP, at an ACLC Prayer Breakfast; Rev. Luonne Rouse of UTS, a professor with a preacher's soul

Spiritual cleansing

On July 28 and 29, on the grounds of Belvedere, the True Family's home in America before the purchase of East Garden, members of FFWPU for a heavenly USA were inside a large white tent. This was the first stop on the 2018 American Tour, Hyo Jeong Chung Pyung Special Event.

For Unificationists, the Chung Pyung experience shares some similarities with sweat lodges, a religious ritual for some Native Americans. These are communal events; both Unificationists and Native Americans experience it in an enclosed space with others.

William Walk Sacred, a medicine man among the Cree people, of Quebec Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan Canada, refers to the sweat lodge experience as a marriage ceremony within oneself or a rebirthing. For both groups, it is intense and we emerge from it as if into a different world. As one young man said at Belvedere, "I did feel a lot of good energy here, a lot of high vibrational frequencies, which is exactly what it takes to change humanity. I truly believe it."

At the August 4–5 Chung Pyung workshop in Maryland, for the area including Washington DC, the nation's capital, Dr. Michael Jenkins observed, "This special workshop gives you a chance to take a quantum leap, up to another level because in a very short period of time, spiritual power comes. It can really cleanse us of all the attachments we have had to the past or things that are blocking us."

President Buessing explained, "We had presentations by Rev. Jin-hwa Chung and from In-pyo Moon; they provided practical and spiritual information that we needed."

One young man said, "I enjoyed the chanyang session and felt that it was liberating. For me, I feel like I am in a spiritual rut at the moment so it was uplifting and I could feel the good spiritual vibes." These Chung Pyung re-creations, which also took place in Las Vegas, October 27–28 and Chicago November 3–4, are certainly part of the national effort to realize Vision 2020.

The fruits of fellowship

Those in the music and religious spheres as well as many in the corporate world recognize A. Curtis Farrow as a director and producer of music-related events. He and his production company, Irving Street Rep Inc., have successfully produced both musical acts and musicals such as "Sophisticated Ladies," "Godspell" and "The Faces of Black History." He's best known for producing and directing, for close to two decades, McDonald's annual Gospelfest, for which he's won two Emmy awards. He had an earlier successful career at Wall Street investment firms, but his heart appears to be in God, in music, in other forms of entertainment and in helping people.

At Madison Square Garden, on July 15, 2017, he directed Hezekiah Walker and a choir of two- to-three thousand singers. At Nassau Colosseum, he directed a five-thousand-voice choir.

Despite his status in the entertainment and corporate world, there he was in mid-September 2018 wearing a pin-striped suit while hauling a backpack and ad-libbing lines for the US church's Weekly Update film crew as he made his way down New York City's Thirty-Fourth Street. "Hey Team! Today's word-for-the-day is 'activation.' November the twelfth is coming. [Pointing to his chest] We need to all put our little A's on there. You are a hero! You are a hero with an A on your chest, because we are going to activate. November the twelfth is going to be a rousing success! [Pointing his index finger directly at the camera lens] because of you, the activators! [Rapidly clapping his hands] Come on! Let's do it! [His right fist in the air] Activate!

Other people from the entertainment world made appearances on the Weekly Updates, available at familyfed.org, such as Kadeem Alston Roman, the choreographer and director of Full Force Dance Repertory, who helped the dancers at PSWM rise to a professional level. He demonstrated some steps and explained where dancers could go for live rehearsals.

The American Clergy Leadership Conference (ACLC) held several rollicking prayer breakfasts. At the one on October 26, Rev. Ki-hoon Kim, chairman of the North American Regional Group, explained, "Today over two hundred pastors and our second gens came together at the New Yorker Hotel Grand Ballroom for the sake of this coming rally, November 12."

Mr. Farrow was behind the podium that day and to great applause he announced, "Mother is coming to America!" He would go on to say, "The Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church: I called the first lady [the pastor's wife] and said, 'I need some voices.' By that evening, she called me and said, 'I need twelve buses.' She had six hundred voices!"

That same morning, Bishop Laurence Edgerton, said, "When I had to get out of the box to understand Mother Moon, I understood it [her objective] was not only peace in the house, it was peace in the world! She's talking about peace in my America!"

FFWPU Vice President Dunkley would later give a sermon in Bishop Edgerton's Chambers Memorial Baptist Church in East Harlem, New York. Rev. Levi Daugherty, founding member of ACLC, said of the bishop "this man of God... really loves our True Mother, loves our True Father, loves the great work that we are doing."



Bishop Edgerton, who led many in his flock to Peace Starts With Me; The Christian Times carried an article about Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon

How to create winning

Finally, Kaeleigh Moffitt and Tasnah Moyer (once with a supporting cast) performed in skits highlighting Youth and Young Adults' Ministry PSWM-related activities, including a contest with a \$1,000 prize for the best "Unconditional" dance video. The videos were all good. Meanwhile, Rev. Dunkley, Karlsun Allen, Kana Suzuki, Yoshie Manaka and others performed with credible acting skills in various "advertisements" promoting events and ticket sales or choir participation that showed great ingenuity and were well produced. Some were amusingly unrealistic, a kitschy reminder of filmmaking in the silent movie era.

In an online video titled, "Joe Maddon Explains Why Culture Creates Winning," Maddon states, "Chemistry will follow winning, but what if you aren't winning? How do you create winning? You create it by creating culture (or chemistry) first. How do you do that?... Build a relationship with the fellows." The US movement has been doing that.



August 12, 2018 - August 12, 2019

Join us for a 24 hour 365 Prayer Chain Condition. Spend time channeling into the moment with all of our brothers and sisters joining together all around the world to set the conditons for the movement.

[Book a Time](#)

National Points

1. Glory to Heaven, peace on earth, heal and comfort Heavenly Parent's suffering, wounded heart.
2. Glory to Heaven, peace on earth, unite with True Parents now.
3. Glory to Heaven, peace on earth, Korea, Japan America attend True Parents now.
4. Glory to Heaven, peace on earth, restore the material foundation now!

[Other Prayer Points](#)

Subregion Points

1) Northwest

3) Midwest

Personal Points

5. Glory to Heaven, peace on earth, Tribal Messiahship related

(Ex: Glory to Heaven, peace on Earth, save one soul today, Revive our church now)

6. Glory to Heaven, peace on earth, Family -----

7. Glory to Heaven, peace on earth, Personal

(Ex: Glory to Heaven, peace on earth, Holy Spirit, holy power come to me now, reborn myself)

Days Remaining on Prayer Condition:

236

DAYS

12

HOURS

40

MINUTES

10
SECONDS

[Book a Time](#)

[Share Your Testimony](#)

[Submit a Question](#)

Book your time with God!

Returning? [Log in](#)

1. Select your timezone
2. Select the time you desire
3. If you would like to set up a recurring time for multiple weeks select "Recurring"
4. Enter your information and complete the appointment

1 Choose

20 min Prayer Slot

20 minutes

YOUR TIME ZONE

[MORE TIMES >](#)

TODAY Wednesday December 19	TOMORROW Thursday December 20	Friday December 21
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7:40pm

12:00am

1:00am

8:20pm

12:20am

1:40am

8:40pm

12:40am

3:40am

9:00pm

1:00am

4:20am

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	9:20pm
	9:40pm
	10:00pm

2 Your Information

3 Confirmation

Now that you have a personal prayer time

Join the National Prayer Call

Every Wednesday at 9pm EST

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android:

<https://zoom.us/j/7968362462>

iPhone one-tap: US: +16465588656,,7968362462# or +16699006833,,7968362462#

Telephone: Dial US: +1 646 558 8656 or +1 669 900 6833; Meeting ID: 796 836 2462

Join the National Prayer Zoom Call Now