

ACLC Revives Peekskill, NY

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On Saturday, January 30, 2016, the New York ACLC held its monthly prayer breakfast in Peekskill in northern Westchester County. Forty people attended the program at the Peekskill Christian Center, including Cheon Il Guk Itinerant Worker Rev. Richard Buessing and FFWPU-USA President Dr. Michael Balcomb and his wife, Fumiko. Also in attendance were the FFWPU pastors of the New York District.

Rev. Levi Bond and his wife, Rev. Sandra Bond, were the host pastors for the event. In his powerful welcome, Rev. Levi Bond gave a stirring testimony of his love and appreciation for his wife of 40 years and emphasized the importance of marriage.

Rev. Daryl Clarke, pastor of the Brooklyn Family Church, was the master of ceremonies, and Rev. Esteban Galvan, pastor of the Bronx Family Church, offered the prayer for the breakfast. Then Rev. Edner Pierre-Louis, the FFWPU district pastor of the New York District, offered the opening prayer for the program. Ms. Nandi Bengu led the meeting in a congregational song and later performed two beautiful, uplifting solos.

Rev. Tanya Edwards, pastor of the New York Family Church, read the ACLC Statement of Purpose and the Mission Statement. Rev. Stephany Graham, the senior pastor of the Peekskill Presbyterian Church, enthusiastically led a responsive reading from Romans 8:15-39.

Father John Keane offered a wonderful prayer for the nation and the world. Father Keane is a member of the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement in Garrison, New York. He has traveled extensively and lived in Japan for 18 years. The Franciscan Friars of the Atonement order was founded in 1898 in an effort to bring unity among the Christian faiths, and Father Keane heads up local interfaith programs. He recently received the 2016 Martin Luther King Service Award from the Peekskill Area Pastoral Association

(PAPA). Father Keane knew Archbishop Stallings decades ago, when they both had ministries in Washington, D.C.

A video was shown depicting the ministry of the ACLC and the significance of the Marriage Blessing. The video featured many political and religious leaders known to the audience.



The keynote speaker was Rev. Jesse Edwards, ACLC national evangelist and founder of the United Pentecostal Church of Philadelphia. He gave a riveting, witty and transparent message about his love for his wife. He emphasized the need for a change in the blood lineage and stressed how the Marriage Blessing is God's vehicle at this time for changing our lineage from Satan's to God's. His presentation was well received by all.

Rev. Dr. Gilda Price of the Mywin Evangelistic Ministry in Laurelton, New York, commented: "Rev. Edwards' message with the theme of two becoming one was to the point, and he was living what he preached. He didn't have to think about what to say; he was feeling every bit of it. The host pastor, Rev. Levi Bond, was so grateful for us being there, and I appreciated his hospitality. He made me feel right at home. Today I learned something. Messages don't have to be long or particularly eloquent. What's important is whether or not they are on target."

It was an honor having the president of FFWPU-USA, Dr. Michael Balcomb, and his lovely wife, Fumiko, in attendance. Dr. Balcomb gave closing remarks and read some of Father Moon's testimony of his encounter with Jesus at the age of 16.

Pastor Lal Singh of the Holy Family Assembly in Jamaica appreciated Dr. Balcomb's remarks. "I was most humbled when Dr. Balcomb said, 'We have lost our first love.' It was thought-provoking to me in this new year. I want to renew my love and my service to God, be a humble servant and be all that God wants me to be," Pastor Singh said.