

News from the FFWPU-Oceania Region

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The Vanuatu Rainbow Preschool which was severely damaged in a recent tropical storm

New Zealand's Three Day Internal Guidance Workshop

During the October school break in Auckland, New Zealand, we held a three-day internal guidance workshop for those in our younger generation, from the age of thirteen and below, at the Parnell Peace Embassy. We did this in an effort to continue educating the younger ones on how to live a life centered on loving Heavenly Parent and True Parents. Rev. Julius Gicole, the director of FFWPU-New Zealand, gave lectures covering the Divine Principle. Andrew Halim, one of the full-time staff members at the Peace Embassy, gave some biblical background to topics covered in the Divine Principle.

All the full-time staff members provided support for the workshop, including Filipino missionaries, Aimie Odal and Rosalea Samillano; our youth pastor, Johannes Junior Anae; and Rev. Gicole's wife, Jasmin Gicole. To understand the Divine Principle better, Andrew Halim gave a short presentation of the three ages that the Old Testament, New Testament and Completed Testament cover. The young people then watched an animated video on Abraham's life course, which they appeared to find deeply interesting.



Cleaning bottles to use for lemon juice, used to raise money for the workshop.

A little into the afternoon, Rev. Gicole gave presentations on the three great blessings, during which he introduced some exercises, which the group of children divided into two teams to complete. Once they had gathered in their teams, he gave them the task of creating a list of questions to ask the opposing team. As both teams asked and attempted to answer each other's questions, they gained points correspondingly as an incentive for learning. After a team had answered a question, Rev Julius took time to provide a deeper explanation from the Principle's perspective in order to give better clarification to the young people. Through this exercise, he created an environment for sincere learning of the Divine Principle.

The following day was Sports Day, which included basketball and soccer. This was a good opportunity for the workshop participants to take some time to absorb what they had learned the previous day and to focus on working together as a team at the same time. We invited two boys from the local neighborhood to join in the fun. The workshop ended on a Sunday.



Donating crayons to the Rainbow Preschool

All the young participants gave encouraging testimonies of what they had learned. Each of them expressed appreciation and gratitude to the staff members, with some saying that they had decided to live a more love-centered life. With a renewed interest in learning the Divine Principle, we hope that we may do our part to nurture and take care of members of our younger-generation and raise them to become the future leaders we feel they are destined to be.



The students were excited to see foreign visitors

Vanuatu

On October 8, five young people sent by the Missionary Department within Korea's FFWPU national headquarters, two Korean staff members from Sidney and two local members did volunteer work at the Rainbow Preschool on Erakor Island, which is one of sixty-five inhabited (and fifteen uninhabited) islands that make up the island nation, Vanuatu.

Cyclone Pam, when it struck in March, had damaged this preschool. Owing to the government unfortunately having to cut financial assistance, the preschool urgently needed help.

The missionaries arrived to a warm welcome from about thirty children who entertained them with song and dance. In return, the volunteer team handed out crayons, out of which the children made necklaces. They also rolled up pieces of colored paper and stuck candy on them to give to their friends. This was to encourage them to take care of one another during this time of difficulty.

The missionaries and the preschool staff members agreed that they could feel God's love and True Parents' grace through the children. About the emotional aspect of the work, one missionary, Yaguchi Naotoshi, said, "I am happy and grateful that I could represent God and True Parents and share love there, where the local people had expressed indifference."

The Vanuatu Family Federation and another group of Cheon Il Guk young missionaries regularly visit and support the Erakor Island Rainbow Preschool; they last visited in May. They plan to do volunteer activities continuously there to spread Heavenly Parent's and True Parents' love.



Cleaning bottles to use for lemon juice, used to raise money for the workshop.

Solomon Islands

From July 6 to 27, we held a twenty-one-day workshop for members in the Solomon Islands.

We call this type of workshop a Center- Life Experience and Education Program (CLEEP), which allows participants to experience formula-course activities and to better understand True Parents' and Heavenly Parent's providence. Four participants from the last seven-day workshop, which we held from June 28–July 5, have decided to attend this twenty-one-day CLEEP. The program started with Rev. Christopher Bokabule, president of FFWPU Solomon Islands, giving a week of lectures on internal guidance and True Parents' life courses. In the second and third weeks, we focused more on formula-course activities with two days of raising funds and three days of witnessing. On Saturdays, we held one-day Leadership Development workshops. The twenty-one-day CLEEP participants expressed their hearts about how the formula-course activities have wrought changes in their lives in just three weeks. We frequently heard participants say that now they are able to communicate freely with people. Spiritually, their faith is growing and they express greater willingness to participate in frontline providential activities.

They tell us that they are also looking forward to receiving the blessing from True Parents.



Three-day workshop participants, Solomon Islands

Marshall Islands

The Republic of the Marshall Islands celebrated the fifteenth anniversary of True Parents' visit to their island nation. The visit occurred October 15–19, 2000. True Parents came as state guests, invited by Kessai H. Note (president of the Marshall Islands, January 2000–January 2008).

In the restaurant at the Marshall Islands Resort, we held a commemorative event, which now-Senator Note attended with several of our members.

At the event, Rev. Ito gave a PowerPoint presentation about True Parents' visit. He

described in detail True Parents' schedule and explained the internal and external significance of that visit. Senator Note expressed his personal first-hand impression of True Parents during their visit fifteen years ago and spoke of his deep respect for their vision for world peace.

A number of other people also expressed their hearts during the celebration dinner.