

Clifton Family Church Open Council Meeting

10/14/2016

Attendance: Mr. Alex Beebe, Pastor Manoj Jacob, Mrs. Kathaleen Sato, Mr. Terry McMahon, Mr. Atsushi Takino, Mrs. Noriko Sprague, Mrs. Kyoko Andersson, Mrs. Naria McGee, Community members.

- Meeting was called to order at 7:47pm
- Opening prayer was given by Pastor Manoj
- CIG motto and Council mission statement was read

Agenda:

A. Pastor's Monthly Talk

Last month's focus was to mobilize many members for the Washington Monument event in DC. This week church staff have started discussing about what goals to make and accomplish for this year in preparation for vision 2020. In the next 3 months we want to make a clear plan. Dr. Kim and Balcomb have talked about HQ's plans and how we can achieve these goals. We have to layout our every day plans. The main focus right now is the WFWP National Assembly here in New Jersey. This is the first time they are having the assembly outside of DC. We want to show as much support as possible. It's not just about Women's Federation, but everyone in the movement. We are also holding a Blessing ceremony in connection to the WFWP event at the Clifton Church. One major focus for ILC is having congress members attend their event in DC. We want to become good stewards in our community and solve problems and work together.

B. LEDA Project-- Mrs. Toshiko Sato

This past month Mr. Nada visited Canada and parts of the U.S to talk about LEDA. In South America there is going to be a UPF event to bring political leaders together on Oct. 21-22. Sun Jin Nim will be attending this meeting in South America to discuss about solving world problems. At the LEDA farm the taro potato is a great success in order to solve the food problem. The Vice President of Paraguay was impressed and wants to help by giving equipment to help with this. The pig farming and sausage making is also becoming a success, but they need more people to help. There are only 5-6 people there and they are over 60 years old. Two people from Japan will be coming to help there.

--A community member suggested that syrian refugees could go to LEDA so they have more help and the refugees have somewhere to live.

C. Financial Report--Mrs. Kyoko Andersson

Tithing went down in August and is \$8000 less than July. Total tithing for August is \$29,212 from 141 general families, 12 2nd gen. Blessed families and 11 BC single youths. In the summer tithing typically goes down, but there were more donations given during True Father's Seonghwa and the Holy Grace Ceremony. 54 families donated \$8,771 total for True Father's Seonghwa, and 50 families donated \$11,480 for the Holy Grace Ceremony. Expenses have been about the same every month. For the month of August it was \$45,152. The building fund has \$27,000 collected total: \$10,000 prior to August 31st and \$17,000 from the beginning of September to today. There are plans to fix up the classrooms, make a parking lot and take down trees.

D. National and District Council/Witnessing--Takino

There was a 2 day National Council meeting in Texas. There are 12 council members representing the 12 districts. Dr. Kim and Balcomb attended for most of the meeting and discussion. Dr. Kim shared the vision 2020 strategic plan and education was emphasized. He share a story about True Father when a member asked him “ how do we build the kingdom of heaven?” His answer was “Just follow True Parents”. There will be a UPF event on December 1st. All church groups and organizations must focus on the goal of Blessing 1 million couples. The 3 pillars of the church are Blessed Family Ministry, Youth Ministry, Evangelism Ministry . There was a National survey for members. The 85% of the church finances are funded by members who are 55 and up.

--Community member asked how effective our local DP education is.

Witnessing Report: there was no one day workshop last month because the schedule was so busy, this month in October there will be a one day workshop. There will be a marriage enrichment program October 15th and would like to introduce the Blessing ceremony through this program. There was a tribal messiahship workshop 3 months ago and we need to review our goals from that time. Every week 10-15 people are witnessing at NJIT, but have not gotten any reports about progress and results.

C. BFD extended report--Mrs. Rany Jacobs in place of Andria Rogers.

Last month there was a parents seminar for leading their children towards the Blessing. We have many Blessing workshops for the children, but it's also important for the parents to be educated since they play such an important role in the children's lives. There was a positive response and people asked to have more workshops for parents like the past one. BFD is starting a marriage enrichment program. It's focus is to spread the Blessing to the community and is for Blessed members and non-church members. Mr. John Williams will be teaching this program and you can invite your neighbors and co-workers. There will be a Blessing ceremony on Oct. 21st, Saturday and Nov. 13th. After the Il Shim program there are no other programs about purity for our youth so there is an idea to have a workshop once a year for older 2nd gen.

--Community member suggested we find out the percentage of Blessings that are successful and that have broken in the past 10 years.

The Council will find out the answer by the next open council meeting.

D. YUM--Joe Leonard

There will be a Project Phoenix on Oct. 28-29 at the Clifton Church. It's difficult to explain what it is, but from experiencing the workshop it brings together the 1st and 2nd generation and opens up conversations and working together. The cost of the workshop is \$60. YUM has started a DP forum on the Wednesday that YUM is not happening. On Sept. 24th there was a Culture Wars workshop that talked about the political and philosophical aspect to understand providence. 40 people attended and there was great feedback. There is a video and report about the workshop available for those who couldn't attend to see. Ask Joe Leonard.

E. Youth Ministry-- Yasutaka Ozawa

There was staff training this last month. Last week there was the first GO meeting. 80 youth have signed up, last week 65 people attended. We want to encourage BCs to invite their school friends and create a safe environment for everyone. There will be a survey asking about what they would like to learn and be addressed. We don't want to put DP too heavily in GO if we are

invited outside members. The goal is to have a couple workshops that are more focussed on character development and possibly a 7 day DP focussed workshop for our youth in Gloucester, MA. there is still a plan to have parents involved in the GO activity at the end of every month. There probably won't be one this month in Oct., but next month. We would like to have a Halloween party with the Clifton, Elizabeth and KEA church youth on Friday, Oct. 28th.

--Mr. Zeth Bell suggested to collaborate with CARP in the youth activities

F. Golden Age/ SeongHwa Ceremony Committee--Eriko Endo

The Golden Age Club Dinner will be on Dec. 11, 2016

SeongHwa Ceremonies were held for:

Raquel Chibuishi 2/17/2016

Michael Yurechko 10/13/201 Won Jeon Ceremony 10/23/2016

G. UPF--Tony Vozza

UPF is focussing Nationally on the ILC. Locally we are meeting with the middle eastern community in mid NJ. Every month is a UPF meeting that 5 people come to regularly. 3 more people have recently joined. We would like to focus on a specific place, such as Little Ferry, where there is a large concentration of families who can come together to meet and plan to do something and meet with city officials. UPF's goal is to connect political leaders to True Parents. There will be an ILC meeting that True Mother will be speaking at in the beginning of Dec.

--Community member asked if the youth can get involved because they often ask about how to apply the principle in everyday affairs.

--Mr. Terry McMahon mentioned that many Clifton City officials will be here at the Clifton church at 7pm on Oct. 20th.

H. ACLC--Hitoshi Onishi

Yesterday he met with a minister that received the Blessing and had bought the Cham Pumo Gyeong and couldn't stop reading it until 3am. Next month there will be a prayer breakfast on Nov. 5th with a registration fee of \$10. The community is invited. We are making a prayer list of 430 ministers and want to develop better relationships with them and reach the goal of Blessing 1 million by 2020.

I. Ocean Church--Terry McMahon and Branch Gaarder

Ocean Festival was held on Oct. 1st at the Little Ferry Ocean Church Center
This month there is a 21 day fishing condition from Oct 10-30th. The tradition is to prepare for True Parents coming to America and finding out where the fish are and have the boat ready. Members are welcome to come fishing during any of the days. Please contact Capt. Branch Gaarder or just show up at the Ocean Church at 7am on any day.

J. Camp Sunrise Committee—Alex Beebe

Camp sunrise is officially closing for the season tomorrow on Oct 15th. The GO staff had a retreat and the NY church had a district service there a few weeks ago. In the last report the Camp had \$52,000 in the negative. We haven't received the revenue from the NY service yet. To help offset the debt, there is a plan to ask Dr. Balcomb and HQ to help with some of the costs and there will also be a meeting to decide whether to keep camp sunrise for next year. It takes \$150,000 to run Camp Sunrise for a year. There were some outside groups who used the camp as

but the revenue from these is no more than \$3000-\$5000 per program. The fact that there are not as many young BCs in this generation as in the past plays a role in the camp attendance and revenue declining.

--A motion was made to make a decision about camp sunrise at the next Open Council meeting after getting feedback from the community and announcements about it to make the community aware in the next 4 weeks. All for: Unanimous

Meeting closed in prayer at 10:55pm by Mr. Alex Beebe

Secretary,
--Naria McGee