

Parents' Day Celebration in Washington State

Ray McCready

July 24, 2016



Seattle, WA – Over 130 persons gathered at the Windermere Mansion overlooking Lake Washington, in NE Seattle last Sunday, July 24th to celebrate “Parents’ Day in Washington State 2016”. It was an ecumenical event to be sure, attended by folks from many backgrounds and nations.

The weather was warm, and the atmosphere warmer in conviviality as we proceeded through our program, including the singing of America the Beautiful led by local singer Brian Granstrom, our invocation given by Mr. Bert Caoili, an Ambassador For Peace and past District Governor of the Lions Club International, District 19-B. This was followed by some notes on the history of Parents’ Day in the USA by UPF WA State Executive Director Ray McCready, including the part played by Dr. Hakja Han Moon and the American Family Coalition, and then a stirring speech by an Ambassador for Peace and Parents of the Year awardee in 2015, Mr. David Rogers. The title of his speech was “The Vales that True Parents Show and Share”. His speech included 21 points on the value to society, our nation and world of parents and parenting.

Our able emcee, Mrs. Emma Herron, an AFP and local political activist, kept us on beat and shared a wonderful poem highlighting parenting. Two choirs offered songs, which attendees joined in with.

We culminated our event by presenting Parents of the Year awards to 6 couples and their families. These included 2 couples married over 50 years, another couple married 47 years, a couple from Nepal, a couple from Japan and a couple from Kenya, who works with the Youth Education Network there, and runs an academy for orphans and disadvantaged youth in rural Kenya.

Following the taking of group photos, we enjoyed a delicious Bar-B-Q, put on by volunteers from the Seattle Family Church. With a great view of Lake Washington, Mount Rainier and the great weather, it was a thoroughly enjoyable time for all in attendance.