

Youth-and Key Leaders' Meeting in Gafrenz Jan 5-8, 2023

The meeting was prepared by David Wurzer & Antto Hassinen.

On the first day, Antto introduced a strategy framework and guided the group in defining a vision and key objectives for our communities. He involved all the participants in the process, which was very motivating for them. The vision the group formulated is: We want to build „An embracing, family-oriented community centred on Heavenly Parent and True Parents that impacts society by living for the sake of others“.

On the second day, the national WFWP – and UPF Leaders were invited.

In order to stimulate the young leaders to think about working with WFWP or to inspire someone among their age group, WFWP leaders Renate and Irmgard explained the purpose and activities of WFWP. They also made suggestions about how a young sister could start to work with WFWP: by doing an internship for three months, studying WFWP's vision and programs and joining the local activities.

UPF President Peter Haider gave insight into UPF's vision, goals and activities. A suggestion was made how to start UPF activities in a city – by inviting one person or organisation to give a presentation, be it cultural or a lecture, and then build on that small foundation.

On the afternoon of the second day, Tony Cook gave a presentation about a future Peace Embassy in Vienna, showing a possible draft of how it could look. The participants were enthusiastic about it, so we want to develop the idea further.

Elisabeth Cook gave a report about the Vienna community's activities last year, which showed that a big part was done by the young generation.

Finally, Antto, together with all participants, continued defining our main and specific objectives.

In the evening the program was „Story telling“: the workshop participants told funny or interesting stories about themselves.

All together 12 2nd gens participated, among them two young families with their children. From the first generation two community leader's couples and the National leaders' couple took part.

On Sunday, January 8, 2023, a Farewell Sunday Service for Josef & Avanir Schenkermayr was organized. They had been looking after the workshop centre for 25 years. Now they are moving to South America to join their daughter's family.

The Upper Austrian Community organised the service, with a sermon by Maria Pammer on the topic "Bringing God back to Europe". After the service, members of the community expressed in their testimonies gratitude and respect for Josef & Avanir's service at the workshop centre, wishing them Heavenly Parent's blessings and protection for the future.

The workshop centre is gradually being renovated in order to serve as the spiritual home for our brothers and sisters and to host many gatherings and workshops

Concepts of vision, goals, strategy







