

Unification News

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BLESSING '99



The Cosmos as One Village

by Dr. Tyler Hendricks—NYC

It blows you away every time at a stadium event: the moment you enter into the sunlight.

From the outside, a stadium is a formless, too-big-for-any-use massive gray monstrosity. You park miles away. You struggle to find the right gate. You pass through the dark cold tunnel, seeing in front of you a television screen's worth of green and light and brightly colored seats. Then you enter and gaze upon a new world. A private sky is captured for you and only you by the tremendous bowl.

You feel the energy from the hum of activity on the field in preparation for the event, an event that is drawing multitudes, an event that is worthy of a stadium. The world of the event opens up before your eyes. New sounds, new colors, a world enclosed unto itself for a time. On February 7, 1999, at the Seoul Olympic Main Stadium, some 150,000 people shared that illumination of a stadium entrance. I am quite sure the stadium had never held so many, because even the Olympics did not have thousands of people on the field.

American in Seoul

I was part of the American contingent. We were housed in a lovely hotel, the Tower Hotel on Namsan Mountain, due to the foresight of Rev. Joong Hyun Pak and the sacrificial work of Go-World Travel. We were a scant 15 minute drive from the Olympic



Main Stadium on a Sunday morning. We had attended the rehearsal the day before, arriving early. Because we were the only participants there early, the staff allowed us on the stage, where we took many photos and revelled in the sunlit atmosphere.

That evening we gathered in a restaurant on Itaewon. In front of a big window looking out onto the sidewalk, we had the best holy wine ceremony I've ever been part of. We had the St. Petersburg directors, Rev. and Mrs. Jeff Tallackson, with us, who had come with their daughter who was part of the second generation blessing. They officiated and gave good guidance. Also Mrs. Tate, whose son was in the second generation blessing (blessed with the daughter of "General" Chang Song Kim), assisted. Despite the secular environment, the atmosphere was sanctified. Word and sacrament together always bring the Holy Spirit.

Sunday morning, the day of the Blessing, we departed our hotel at 10:30 a.m. and were engulfed in the flow of buses arriving from across the Korean peninsula. They had left their homes far away as early as 2 a.m. and 3 a.m. to be there on time. We heard that the church leaders of Korea who prepared the event expected some 3,000 buses to converge that morning. We found our parking place and indeed, rivers of people, literally rivers, flowed past us. These were hardy country folk, taking on the several hours in the frigid weather with a

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HSA KOREAN CULTURAL DEPARTMENT



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INTERRELIGIOUS AND INTERNATIONAL INAUGURAL

by Rev. Sun Myung Moon

Given February 6, 1999 at the Hotel Lotte, Seoul, Korea

Distinguished leaders from every walk of life: It gives me great pleasure to host this Inaugural Assembly of the Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace (IIFWP). Although it was last year that I made the official proposal for its founding, in my heart I have been preparing for this occasion for decades.

The purpose of the various ecumenical and interfaith activities and organizations I have been developing over the past forty years has been the realization of a world of peace that God and human beings have been longing for. A vision for peace is the heart of any interfaith activity.

In the 20th century humankind has suffered two devastating world wars, and experienced confrontation and conflict for seventy years under the

oppression of the atheist communist ideology and the Cold War era. When that came to an end, the world drank a toast in celebration of peace, albeit briefly. All too soon we came to learn that the end of the Cold War era did not lead automatically to a time of peace. Violent conflicts continue to occur throughout the world today. Even now, massacres are being perpetrated in Yugoslavia, the Middle East, Sudan, South Asia, and elsewhere. It is common knowledge that many such disputes have behind them deep-rooted religious conflict. These are only some examples that awaken us to the importance of dialogue and cooperation among religious orders.

Often, in the modern era, religions work toward the realization of their ideals while keeping a certain distance from the realms of worldly power. This is generally accepted as the norm. I believe, however, that it is time for those international organizations that serve the cause of world peace to re-examine their relationship to the world's great religious traditions.

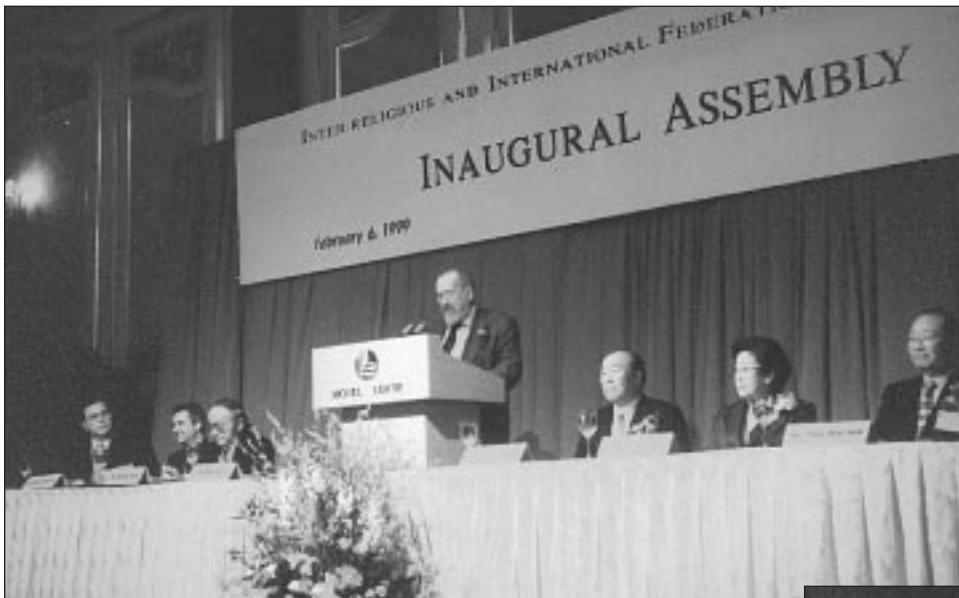
Perhaps the United Nations, more than any other international organization, serves as a good example. Many regard the UN as the institutionalized organization of the human ideal for world peace, and set their hopes upon it. At the UN, representatives of all nations combine their efforts to solve the world's problems and to promote peace and human prosperity.

However, these efforts by the UN to realize world peace have always met with serious obstacles. While its accomplishments cannot be denied, one can observe that the UN could be improved in many ways. The time has come when cooperative and mutually supportive relationships among the world's statesmen and religious leaders is desperately needed.

Originally, human beings were meant to live with their mind and body united, responding to the complete love of God. It is because human beings were created to be God's son and daughters, resembling Him, that their mind and body should not fight. Instead, they should create true unity. God's mind and body are not in conflict: Almighty God could never have any conflict within Himself.

The human ideal of unified mind and body is realized when a person is fully possessed of the true love of God. The words, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God" (Matt 5:9) also premise that the ideal of unity of mind and body is to be attained on the basis of relationship with our Heavenly Father.

It was due to the human fall that people lost the standard of unity and



GRAEME CARMICHAEL



C A L E N D A R

FEBRUARY

- 5 Shin Yul Nim's 5th Birthday (lunar)
- 8 1800 Couples' Blessing (1975)
- 10 Jun Sook Nim's 31st Birthday (lunar)
- 11 16 Couples' Blessing (1978)
- 12 Shin Gil Nim's 11th Birthday (lunar)
- 16 Hoon Sook Nim's 36th Birthday (lunar)
- 18 Yeon Jin Nim's 18th Birthday (lunar)
- 20 In Jin Nim & Jin Sung Nim's Blessing (1984)
Heung Jin Nim & Hoon Sook Nim's Blessing (1984)
- 21 FATHER'S 79TH BIRTHDAY (lunar)
MOTHER'S 56TH BIRTHDAY (lunar)
74 Couples' Blessing (1977)
- 22 Choongmo-Nim's Ascension (lunar)
430 Couples' Blessing (1968)

MARCH

- 3 Shin Jung Nim's 16th Birthday (lunar)
- 10 Kwon Jin Nim's 24th Birthday (lunar)
- 27 Shin Won Nim's 11th Birthday (lunar)
- 31 Hyun Jin Nim & Jun Sook Nim's Blessing (1987)

APRIL

- 4 Jin Sung Nim's 37th Birthday (lunar)
- 7 42 Couples' Blessing (1989)
138 Previously Married Couples' Blessing (1989)
57 Single Blessing (1989)
- 10 1265 Couples' Blessing (1992)
- 11 Un Jin Nim & Jin Hun Nim's Blessing (1986)
- 12 36 Couples of the 2nd Generation Blessing (1986)
- 13 Shin Chul Nim's 7th Birthday (lunar)
- 16 Kwon Jin Nim & Hwa Yun Nim's Blessing (1995)
Sun Jin Nim & In Sup Nim's Blessing (1995)
- 17 TRUE PARENTS' DAY (lunar)
Sung Jin Nim's Birthday (lunar)
- 26 Shin Hwa Nim's 11th Birthday (lunar)

FEDERATION FOR WORLD PEACE

ADDRESS

harmony of their mind and body, and has thus been living in self-contradiction and conflict. Moreover, the battle of the mind and body within the individual has expanded to the level of the family, society, nation and world. Cain's killing of his younger brother Abel originated from this. All the conflicts and wars that the world has witnessed since the beginning of history have been, in essence, the battle between the Cain side, which is relatively on the side of evil, and the Abel side, more on the side of goodness. The struggle between the Cain and Abel sides should be terminated and everything restored to its original state. Likewise, the confrontation between our mind and body should be brought to an end, and harmony and unity regained.

We have to apply the principle of individual mind-body unity the global level. For this purpose, I established the Interreligious Federation for World Peace representing world of the mind, and the Federation for World Peace representing the world of the body. Together, they embrace the total concept of world peace.

It is now the time for religion to exert genuine leadership in the world. I believe that religious people should feel responsible for the situation of humankind, and for resolving the various inequities of this age. Profound

self-reflection is surely prerequisite to this. Religious people have failed to set an example in the practice of love. Now is indeed the time for them to repent for not having exerted themselves fully for the sake of world salvation. Instead, they have been absorbed with the pursuit of individual salvation and denominational interests. Mere belief in love is not enough. It must be accompanied by its practice.

God is calling the leaders of society, but in particular the religious leaders. He wants us to challenge the injustices and sins of the world and establish true love in their place. All religious people should become one in heart, representing and carrying out God's aspiration for all people.

World peace can be realized through the synergy of the statesmanship and measures taken by politicians who represent the body and the secular world, and the wisdom and efforts of the world's religious leaders, who represent the mind and the world of the spirit. The time has come for us to seriously reflect even on such a matter as restructuring the United Nations. Might it not even be possible to imagine the UN as adopting a two-house structure?

What is the existing United Nations comprised of national representatives serving in one house that speaks for national interests? Then a religious council or UN senate could be established, comprising distinguished religious leaders and in the those fields of society pertaining more to the heart, for example, culture and education. As a body representing a global per-

spective, this religious council would have to address the interests of all people, transcendent of regions or nations.

Through mutual respect and cooperation, these two houses would be able to contribute enormously to the realization of world peace. The political wisdom of the world's leaders could thus be effectively completed complemented by the wisdom and vision of the world's most prominent religious leaders.

I am

religious leaders worldwide took the lead in suggesting that all religious people donate money of an amount based on the number 7, and thus pioneer the creation of a fund for world peace. Individuals and nations have different economic circumstances. For some, seven rubles would be a lot to offer but then someone else might offer 7 million dollars. If all religious people of the world were united in heart, they would be able to not only raise funds, but also use the money to effectively to promote the ideals of true love and the value of raising exemplary families.

Respected leaders, we should work together to implement a system through which the highest expressions of religious wisdom are brought to the table at which the world's most serious and urgent problems are being addressed. Such a system can be achieved by creating a council of religious leaders within the framework of the United Nations. Today, I would like to ask you to establish the IIFWP as a first step in realizing this goal. In addition, it is my sincere hope that you will generously offer your own experience, wisdom and effort as we work to realize these highest of ideals.

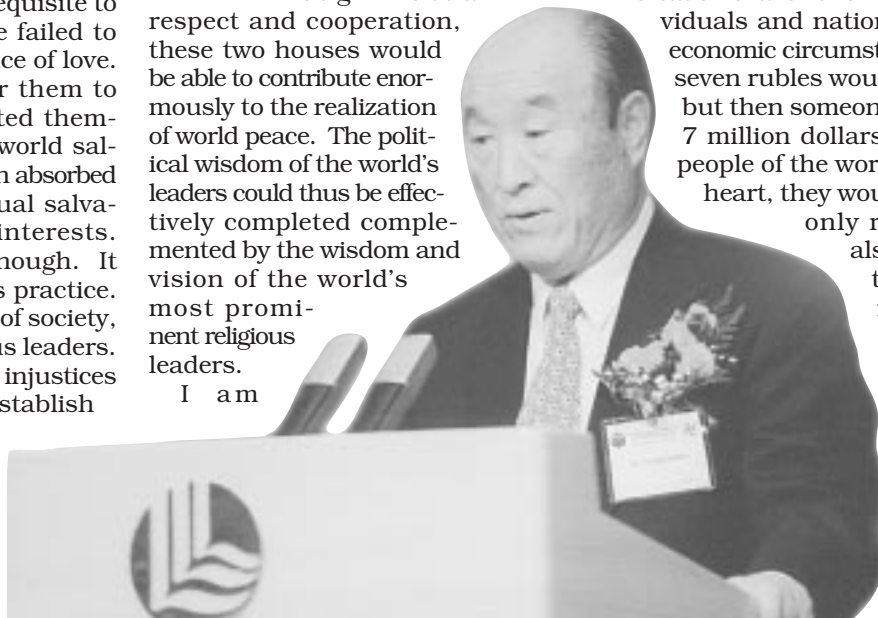
I am confident that the IIFWP will make a decisive contribution to the realization of world peace, and I pray that God will bless you, your families and your work.

Thank you very much. ❖

confident that the moral vision and exemplary lifestyle of religious leaders can be lamp for humankind, not only pointing the way to the world beyond this one, but also teaching the road to genuine happiness and peace on this earth.

Religious leaders should become ideal leaders who not only inherit and pass on the precious and holy wisdom of their great traditions, but also lead lives of unselfish service. The great disqualification of any leader — whether religious or political — would be selfishness.

Through the regular holding of conferences to bring religious to bring religious leaders together, I have been striving to carry out true-love education transcendent of religious denomination and nationality. Last year, reli-



True Parents' Speaking Tour

This is the tentative schedule for True Parents' International Tour.

April 12	Canada
April 15	Malaysia
April 23	Taiwan
April 25	Philippines
April 26	Australia
April 28	Kenya
April 29	Uganda
April 30	Zimbabwe
May 2	Benin
May 4	Brazil
May 5	Uruguay
May 6	Argentina
May 7	Paraguay
May 8	Chile
May 9	Ecuador
May 10	Colombia
May 11	Costa Rica
May 12	Nicaragua
May 13	Mexico
May 14	Dominican Republic
May 16	Netherlands
May 17	Switzerland
May 18	Slovenia
May 19	Albania
May 20	Romania
May 21	Slovakia
May 22	Moldova
May 23	Russia
May 25	Kazakhstan
May 26	Kyrgyzstan
May 27	Mongolia
May 28	China ❖





**REV. JOONG
HYUN PAK**

Rev. Pak is the Continental Director of the Church in North America.

This is based on a report given at Belvedere February 14, 1999

True Parents have fulfilled the Blessing of 360 million couples worldwide. Some couples attended the Blessing in front of True Parents, some couples attended in front of a satellite screen, some attended in front of an internet and there were some couples who were being blessed in their homes or their hometowns. Still yet there are probably some among them who received the Blessing somewhere, somehow and they don't even realize that they are blessed! One way or the other, incredible history was made.

But wherever they were in the world, 360 Million Couples have been blessed! *Blessing '99*, centered on February 7, held in Korea, was truly a historical occasion, totally fulfilling the 360 million couple goal. You and I became co-partners for this great victory and for this we have to appreciate God and True Parents.

The Associated Press (AP) news agency carried the story about *Blessing '99*. And it was quite detailed. They reported about Reverend Moon starting the Blessings in 1960 with the first three couples and that today, 1999, he blessed 360 million couples. The news media is more and more respecting Father's history and his efforts and victory to arrive at this 360 million couples Blessing. This brings happiness to True Father.

Just for us to organize a small number of people for the Blessing is not an easy task. So even now with the 360 million Blessing completed, we still cannot believe that such great numbers have received the Blessing.

Opening ceremonies

The World Culture and Sports Festival officially opened with a banquet on February 4, at the Lotte Hotel in Seoul. General Alexander Haig, former Secretary of State in the United States, and former supreme commander of NATO forces, introduced True Father.

Also, on the day before the Blessing ceremony, a Reception was held. A thousand VIPs from all over the world attended and were very inspired. General Haig and other worldwide figures joined True Father and Mother in the reception line to welcome the many VIPs.

Prior to all this, on February 1, another celebration was held—the tenth Anniversary of the Segye Times. Korean President Kim Dae Jung attended and offered a 15-minute congratulatory speech. Father gave a concise talk on God's Providence. President Kim participated with True Parents in cutting the cake as well. It was a very meaningful day. All the political leaders of South Korea were there. President Kim knows True Father's value and he respects True Father very much. Some years ago, when President Kim was temporarily removed from his country because of political misunderstandings, he was welcomed and host-

ed by True Parents' representatives in America. So there is an interesting bit of history going back quite a few years between Father and President Kim.

The WCSF this year had a victorious foundation behind it for many different reasons. To develop this foundation, and bring in important world leaders, many of True Parents' organizations held a three-day Special Convocation just prior to the Blessing, with the theme "Family, Ethics and World Peace." Participants representing all parts of the world, attending the various conferences, discussed how to bring about world peace through religious unity. Among these organizations were: Family Federation for World Peace and Unification, Women's Feder-

al day of the Blessing, I was in my office in New York when I received the news that True Father announced that *Blessing '99* would be held not in the Seoul ChamShil Gynasium as planned by the Korean Church, but rather at Seoul Olympic Stadium!! Outdoors! In February! Wintertime! I remembered how shocked leaders were when they heard in 1997 that we were going to use RFK Stadium in Washington, DC, also an outdoor stadium! In November! Wintertime! The weather at RFK on the day of the 1998 Blessing turned out to be quite good for a November day—not bad at all. The same thing happened in Seoul at Olympic Stadium. The weather was quite good. How come? BECAUSE GOD AND

Christianity (Catholic, Orthodox and Protestant) Judaism, Buddhism, Shikhism, Confucianism, Islam and Hinduism. Representing Catholicism was a top leader from the Vatican. Pastor T.L. Barrett from Chicago boldly proclaimed the True Parents in his presentation and in his prayer on stage. And most interesting of all was Rabbi Herzel Kranz of Washington, DC, representing Judaism. For Madison Square Garden's *Blessing '98* Rabbi Kranz offered a video blessing address. But for *Blessing '99* he appeared in person to give his blessing to the assembly. He became quite ill after arriving in Seoul but nevertheless bravely rallied himself to appear on stage with True Parents. The Rabbi paid quite a price to be there.

History itself will reveal the results of his courage.

During the Blessing, True Parents displayed expressions of happiness, victory and peace. This is our greatest reward. Praise God.

At the victory banquet on the night of the Blessing, held at the Little Angels School, True Father gave a very special message. Following that, the Universal Ballet Company gave a performance, starring Hoon Sook (Julia) Moon. Primary dancers from their many productions were chosen to perform as well. All those visiting leaders in the audience were so fortunate to be watching a part of many famous ballet programs, all in one evening. Such a special treat.

As usual, True Father's stamina through all of these many days of activities astounded us all. We never cease to be amazed at how Father can keep the schedule he does and still appear alert, fresh, handsome! True Mother as

well. So beautiful and radiant all the time. Morning, noon and night, they didn't rest. There was not a moment that activity was not going on.

Following this Blessing '99, True Parents will not be officiating for previously married couples—only for matched couples. How fortunate are those already-married couples who received True Parents' personal blessing. From now on, we, you and I, as Tribal Messiahs, can bless married couples. Let's quickly bless 185 couples or even 1,850 couples as the beginning of our newly assigned responsibility.

Heavenly harvest

The Philippines was the nation that brought the greatest number of Blessing candidates to Seoul: 14,000 in all! What an amazing heavenly harvest. In America we have blessed many married couples and will continue to bless many families. Now the fruits of these families, their young people, can be matched.

There were so many young matchings to be done this time that we can imagine that even for True Father it must be a difficult task, even time-wise. We must develop the spiritual skills for the future. At one particular breaktime during the

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BLESSING '99: Completion of the 360 Million Couple Blessing



ation for World Peace, the Summit Council, the Inter-religious Federation for World Peace, the Professors World Peace Academy, International Conference on the Unity of the Sciences, and others. Actually, all these organizations met in one major hotel, holding their various seminars in separate conference rooms. It was a very economical, efficient and convenient way to do it. It was like one great multi-conference.

Inaugural speech

On the afternoon of February 6, True Father gave the inaugural speech for the newly-formed "Inter-religious and International Federation for World Peace." (Father made the announcement in Uruguay during the God's Day meetings of his intention to inaugurate this new organization.) True Father's inauguration speech was so meaningful. This new organization signifies a great victory for True Parents. There were so many important, well-known people in attendance February 6 for this inauguration.

The Blessing

But of course the greatest victory of all was *Blessing '99* itself. Incredibly, Korea had 33 days' notice to prepare for this event. About 20 days before the actu-

TRUE PARENTS ARE IN CHARGE. WE CAN TRUST THEM. THEY HAVE CAPABILITY.

The seating capacity at Olympic Stadium is 130,000. It is huge. Our Korean Church Headquarters organized 3,000 buses from all corners of the country to come to the stadium. The greatest distance was Pusan, five to six hours away. Three hours before the Ceremony, practically all seats were filled. I was responsible for seating 30 ministers from North America. Some came late; it was a very difficult task.

There was a very noble and holy feeling throughout the stadium. Everyone had on their white scarf. The stadium was magnificently decorated, gorgeous actually, as many of you saw by satellite. Using all their previous experience, one could see that the organizers put everything they had into this event. It was like a final climax of all previous events and experiences. This was a great offering to God.

Religious dignitaries

Before True Parents entered—in their traditional fashion—nine world spiritual leaders, representing the major religions of the world, came on stage and gave their blessings to the assembly:

REFLECTIONS ON A MATCHING

January of 1999 with True Father at Hannam Dong

by Dr. Tyler Hendricks—NYC

T rue Parents' home in Seoul, called Hannam Dong, is a stone house atop a steep hill just north of the Han River. The hill is called the UN Village, as many folks from overseas live there, including diplomats. The houses are walled by concrete and brick. On the top is True Parents dwelling, and there are other church houses nearby.

Inside the gate one views a lovely oriental garden, with sculpted trees and bushes and manicured lawns. Small Asian statues are scattered about and one walks up the driveway and to the side of the house, downstairs into the basement to enter. After depositing shoes upon the row after row of shoe shelves, one walks down a hallway and enters a large hall with a low ceiling. It is brightly lit with a heated floor, a comfort on a cold Seoul day. The room is full of display boards, fit for 8" by 10" photos, full-face, of all humanity.

Asians—Korean, Filipino, Thai, Japanese, Indian and Pakistani, Taiwanese and Chinese. These are the burning eyes of the unwashed masses, to a parochial American raised near Ellis Island. The photos give evidence of all kinds of studios, some flagrant with glitz, some humble and plain, all with the eyes staring out at the one behind the camera's lens, who will match them to their eternal mate from around the corner or around the world. Eyes full of trust, hope, desire for true love.

Africans—Nigerians, Zambians, Beninians, Congolese, Ghanians, Sierra Leoneans, Cote d'Ivoirians, Mauritians, Angolese, Kenyans, Senegalese, and on and on, in their Sunday best, a continent believing in the ideal of True Parents and striving to accomplish that ideal in whatever way God has planned for them. Take me to America, to Japan, to Korea, leave me here at home, match me to my tribal enemy of 1,000 years. Here I am, offering myself.

There are Russians, French, German,

Austrian, Dutch, Italian, English—all the shades of white. There are Brazilian, Costa Rican, Mexican, Honduran, Guatemalan, Peruvian, Bolivian, Colombian, Uruguayan—all the Latin blood flowing into the same river. They have the same eyes, the same hopes. There are older people, yes, but the overwhelming presence is of youth, of revolutionary and searching youth. True Parents are

of lives is overwhelming. Held together by scotch tape and staples. The computers hold databases and print out the labels for the photos, each with a bar code.

After sorting they are displayed on the racks. The men are on the racks; the women are in stacks below the area of men of similar age and background. The stage is set. When everything is ready,

changes a few. He will exchange women from one row to another. I looked at a few that he changed. His changes were improvements, as far as I could see.

For his part, Reverend Moon worked with the stacks of women's photos, holding up one at a time, passing it across the display of men. He actually matches individuals out of groups of twenty or thirty women to twenty or thirty men, although there will be some remainders from each group carried over to the next, the men shuttled down the rack to keep up with the crowd.

He works quickly, usually finding a match for a given sister within five seconds, occasionally taking ten. I never saw him fail to match a sister once her photo was given him, but it could have happened. The coterie of six to ten aides surrounding this cosmic connector would frantically grab the newly made pairs and staple the photos together.

Father matched around 11,000 or 12,000 couples in those few days. Teenage girls had the job of taking the stapled pairs to a side room filled with tables and computer terminals. Here bar code readers would instantly record the matches. From there begins a process to get each partner the photo and basic information about his or her partner. All are expected to do their best to contact each other as soon as possible. Rejections come back, but not many, and there are last-minute efforts to match those who are rejected.

All in all, the world is knit a bit tighter together through this implementation of conjugal love. It is a work of peace through faith, sacrificial love and pure hearted obedience. It is a wondrous thing to behold and a sign of God in the flesh, the flesh within every photo. ❖



sending out fishing lines with invisible partners as bait and God's eternal love as the hook pulling them out of the fallen world of false love. Thousands and thousands of photos, thousands of people, thousands of lives. They are meeting at this cosmic intersection, arriving single and departing with an eternal spouse.

The leaders and assistants of each continent arrive hour by hour with photos in suitcases, the easiest way to carry them across oceans. They sit cross-legged in ante-rooms, photos spread on the floor, piles and piles grouped by age and sex, by education, by background—never married or matched, matched but broken, divorced, and so forth. Broke the match or was broken against. The weight

Reverend Moon comes downstairs. Upstairs he has been doing Hoon Dok Hae, speaking with leaders from around the world and local as they arrive and depart. Mrs. Moon is about, in and out, speaking her various instructions. Hyo Jin Nim is there, and his new fiancée with her parents.

When Reverend Moon comes into the matching room, the leaders involved with the continent which is displayed crowd around him as he moves down the aisles; the others continue their own preparations. Some have made suggested matches, especially for those who were divorced or are older, and it is up to Reverend Moon to approve or change the suggestions. He passes his hand over these, as if with his own bar code reader, and

COMPLETION
from page 4

matching in Seoul, Father directed Continental leaders to exercise their skills and do some matchings. When True Father resumed the matching process himself, the leaders found that they had been 70% correct! Not bad! We were very happy to discover this.

So we can see what the future holds for all of us. As Tribal Messiahs, we will become more and more empowered with the Spirit to carry on this heavenly task. We will be co-partners with God, to perform and fulfill the most noble and precious heavenly act. True Parents trust us. They are sharing their heavenly mission and role with us. We have inherited this.

True Father said we have inherited seven generations. Centered on us, our families of seven generations can be immediately blessed.

True Mother has already begun her speaking tour in Japan. As we know, she will begin her tour in America on March 21. Mother will continue her world tour following *True Parents Day* in New York. For Mother's speech in New York we can plan to hold it banquet-style at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel.

During this same period of time in America, Dae Mo Nim, working through Mrs. Hyo Nam Kim, is planning a short visit, hopefully meeting with members in four cities: San Francisco, Chicago, Washington, DC and New York. As soon as a definite schedule has been worked out, we will make an announcement so that members everywhere can plan to see her. Even if the second generation has school scheduled, some arrangement should be made so that they too can attend. It is important and it is a tremendous opportunity that none of us should miss.

The future

Well, following all the victory of Blessing '99, practically speaking, what do we have to do?

(1) We must launch and begin activities for the newly inaugurated "Interreligious International Federation for World Peace." This very year we must bring results.

(2) As Tribal Messiahs we will continue the Blessings and educate young people for the next matching, especially those in our own physical family, solidly building up our tribes.

(3) We will plan to go as couples/families to the Jardim 40-day Ideal Family workshop.

(4) We will accumulate as quickly as possible during this year, our "Living Offering" Family Fund.

Let us be grateful to God and True Parents everyday for their True Love and their many victories, in which they allow us to be co-creators and partners. ❖

True Mother's USA
Speaking Tour

This is the tentative schedule for Mother's Speaking Tour in the USA.

March 19	Washington, DC
March 20	Louisville, KY
March 21	New York City
March 22	Norfolk, VA
March 23	Miami, FL
March 24	Columbus, OH
March 25	Providence, RI
March 26	Philadelphia, PA
March 27	Chicago, IL
March 28	Atlanta, GA
March 29	San Francisco, CA
March 30	Seattle, WA
March 31	Minneapolis, MN
April 1	Denver, CO
April 2	Los Angeles, CA
April 3	Portland, OR
April 4	San Diego, CA
April 5	Dallas, TX
April 6	Poughkeepsie, NY
April 7	Bridgeport, CT
April 8	Baltimore, MD
April 9	Detroit, MI
April 10	Boston, MA
April 11	Fort Lee, NJ ❖

BLESSING '99

Working With the Foreign Press Corps

by Chris Corcoran—NYC

I arrived in Seoul on Monday evening, February 1, five days before Blessing '99 was to begin at Olympic Stadium. My mission - to work with the 30-odd members of the foreign press stationed in Seoul. As soon as I stepped out of the airport in Seoul and felt a blast of Arctic air, my heart sank and I immediately had images of a half empty stadium with gale force winds buffeting brides dressed in down parkas. How were we going to pull off an outdoor Blessing in the middle of a Korean winter?

However, faith soon kicked in as I recalled feeling the same kind of dread just prior to Blessing '97 in RFK stadium, and miraculously, the weather wasn't so bad there after all. God exists and I decided to offer up the weather program to hands more able than mine.

Upon arriving at the elegant Lotte Hotel in downtown Seoul, I noticed several government cars parked in front and soon learned that True Parents and President Kim Dae-jung of Korea were inside celebrating the tenth anniversary of the *Segye Times*. The lobby was swarming with our church leaders and Korean government officials. This was a great blessing for the *Segye Times* and the first time President Kim appeared in public with our True Parents. He urged the Times to become a special bridge between Korea and the world and he praised Father's worldwide media network as being uniquely qualified to strengthen that bridge.

Robin Marsh, our brother who takes care of Public Affairs in Great Britain, soon arrived in Seoul to help with the foreign media. (I prefer 'international media' but they call themselves the 'foreign media'.) Robin had lived in Korea for two years and had a fairly good command of the language and knew how to get around in Seoul. Also, he had worked in Korea doing media relations during the 1992 Blessing. He proved to be an invaluable partner.

The next day we visited the Foreign Press Club which was only a fifteen minute walk from the hotel. Many of the 30 or so foreign media use this club/office as their base of operations and it became a good place to meet them. We took our newly created press packet for them and found several of them in and willing to talk. A few of them asked about Mike Breen, our church brother who had been in Seoul as a journalist for many years and was the former president of their press association. It was a great feeling to walk into an office full of journalists and immediately feel welcomed and respected. They all showed a great interest in attending the Blessing as well as the Special Convocation of the Fifth World Culture and Sports Festival that was taking place at the Lotte Hotel for four days.

At the Convocation's opening banquet, Father spoke from a prepared text and was introduced by Gen. Alexander Haig, Jr., the former Secretary of State under Reagan and the White House Chief

of Staff under Nixon. Robin and I hosted a media table that was attended by about ten journalists, including those from the *International Herald Tribune*, *Itar-Tass* (Russian), *Business Week*, *Time* magazine, *The Washington Times* (Tokyo bureau), *The Sydney Morning Herald* and *Diplomacy Magazine* (Korean). There were

Every day, Robin and I faxed out one or two Press Advisories, informing the media about what transpired the previous day and what was upcoming. These were very necessary. They not only served to keep the media's interest alive but also served as direct copy for some of the articles that were written.

The Special Convocation was a combined conference of leaders from the ten or so major Federations established by True Parents over the years. It drew over 400 guests from more than 100 countries. The highlight for me was the establishment of the new Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace, an organization dedicated to bringing the wisdom of the world's religions into the political policy-making arena.

Some of the major participants in the convocation were Arnaud De Borchgrave, the new head of UPI news service; Susan Ford Bales, the daughter of President Ford; Carmilla Anwar Sadat, daughter of the late Egyptian president; Hon. Albert Reynolds, the former Prime Minister of Ireland; and Hon. Edward R. Schreyer, former Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada.

There are two English-language newspapers originating in Korea, *The Korea*

needless to say there were times of exasperation.

On the Friday before the Blessing, the cold spell began to change and by Sunday the weather was like a spring day with plenty of sunshine! Robin and I (along with our superb new volunteer Peter Ross) arrived at the stadium around 11:00 am and began looking for couples that would be good subjects for interviews. A reporter from Agence France Press began the first interview of a Dutch sister currently living in England and her bridegroom, a Czech brother. They gave a very good interview and spoke from their hearts about how precious this day was for them. Soon, a television reporter from the BBC was in on the interview as well.

Much to my amazement, the cavernous Olympic Stadium quickly filled and by 12:45 there was standing room only. Almost everyone who wasn't dressed in formal bridal wear was wearing a wide, white blessing shawl, which gave a white, holy glow to the crowd. It was awesome and I felt as though I were looking at a glimpse of the Kingdom; the power of True Parents' foundation on earth was palpable.

Before the ceremony, Reuters television and Associated Press television interviewed me standing in front of the seated couples. They were short interviews of me explaining the purpose of the gathering.

Once the ceremony began, Robin and I mingled with the media behind the first section of couples who were arrayed in front of the stage. We just chatted with them and answered their questions. The ceremony was concise and powerful and as soon as it was finished BBC television asked me for an on-camera interview. The journalist asked me about the purpose of the ceremony and ended the interview by asking how Father could be a promoter of family values when it appears that at least some of his children have had some major problems to overcome. I explained that Father and Mother sacrificed personal time with their own children in order to realize their worldwide ministry, and as a result, their children suffered but are overcoming their problems.

Later that night at the closing banquet at the Little Angels' school, several journalists sat at our table and enjoyed a spectacular evening of ballet, speeches and gift-giving.

In closing, I can say that in the eyes of the public, the Blessing has become the defining event of the UC worldwide and it is an image which most people call to mind when they think of us. While this is not a negative image, we hopefully can move beyond this to become known for the result of the Blessing, namely strong families and extraordinary children. When the world truly knows us by our fruit, we will have accomplished what no public relations campaign could ever do, the resurrection of our True Parents' name. ❖



also correspondents from *Tiempos del Mundo* and Czech Radio among the convocation participants.

Gen. Haig gave a moving introduction and tribute to Father, describing how their lives first intersected during the Korean war. Gen. Haig recalled how his regiment was among those which landed during the famous Inchon strike, and he continued to fight his way up to Hang Nam where his forces were able to help liberate the prison where Father was held.

He then praised Father for publicly calling for a conciliatory approach to then President Richard Nixon during the Watergate crisis. Finally, he praised Father as one who dealt a decisive blow to communism, saying that it was not primarily the arms race which toppled the Soviet Empire, but rather the culture war which was fought on a number of educational and media fronts which was the deciding factor.

Two days later, Robin and I organized a press briefing by Gen. Haig in his hotel suite. It was well attended and when asked if he were a Unification Church member he replied, "No, but who couldn't be behind the values espoused here at this conference? It would be like being against motherhood."

Two days before the Blessing, the *International Herald Tribune* ran a story in the business section which drew attention to some of the financial problems of the Tongil business group. However, the headline said it all, "Rev. Moon Rises Above Ailing Businesses". For me, it was a testimony to Father's ability to go beyond the temporal problems which would cripple a lesser man.



Times and the *Korea Herald*. On the Saturday before the Blessing, *The Times* wrote a short, objective article about the WCSF '99 and ran a nice photo of the Women's Federation for World Peace.

Working with the media in a 'foreign' country was challenging on many fronts, but the main hurdle to overcome was coordinating our message with the message that was coming out of the Korean UC headquarters. We had to get both messages to agree and when you're dealing with something as complicated as an international Blessing ceremony, there is a lot to work out. Whenever Robin and I needed to speak to Mr. Ahn, our brother who was working with the Korean media, we had to go through an interpreter. Fortunately, Mr. Ahn was patient and had his message well outlined, but

Blessing '99 by Satellite in New York City

by Rev. Eric Holt—NYC

On a rather chilly Sunday afternoon on February 7, 1,500 people gathered in the ballroom of New York City's Manhattan Center for the satellite transmission of the 360 Million Couple Blessing (Seoul, Korea).

Even before the doors opened, people started lining up for the 4:00 p.m. reception. A brief snowfall did not deter people from coming. As the reception began, guests downed coffee, soft drinks and snacks as they mentally prepared for the largest Blessing ever. Meanwhile, in a specially prepared area behind the stage, Dr. and Mrs. Dietrich Seidel conducted the Holy Wine Ceremony, assisted by Irene Olivier and Irina Kouznetsova. We expected only 30 couples for the Holy Wine Ceremony. But, after 30 minutes the number was up to 60 couples; this was due to last minute matchings and certain other couples who requested to receive the Holy Wine, including a couple from the United Nations. The Holy Spirit was moving throughout Holy Wine Ceremony, and it took much longer than expected. Most couples were moved to tears during the inspiring ceremony.

Towards the end of the reception, the emcee (Rev. Daryl Clarke, UC Westchester pastor) and the ushers re-arranged the seating so that men and women were lined up in columns, Blessing-style. Especially in the center section of the hall, women wore veils, and were lined up behind each other, and sitting next to their spouse. When we advertised the event, we had asked everyone to follow a dress code: blue suits and white shirts for men, and white/light dresses for women. In addition to the women receiving veils and hand-bouquets, the men were given boutonnieres and white Blessing scarves. The finished product was an event that resembled a mini-Blessing 98 (Madison Square Garden.) The large center section with around 200 couples lined up Blessing-style was a beautiful sight to behold. This was all the more inspiring because, when we eventually went to the satellite transmission, we saw a similar sight, although on a much grander scale (!), (and considerably more chilly), in Korea.

Local religious leaders sat on the stage, facing the audience. In American Christian churches it is a tradition that a visiting clergyman will be escorted to the front/sanctuary section of a church or chapel. So, we honored this tradition by doing this. In God's providence, America has a unique role especially in regard to the work of Jesus through the Christian church-

es. So, we wanted to let our fellow clergy from many denominations participate in the event to the fullest extent. As it turned out, around twenty clergy sat on the stage.

The program began at 5:00 p.m. with a 40-minute pro-family rally, along the lines of the Blessing 98 (MSG) event. The Chambers Memorial Baptist Church Choir from Harlem burst into song. They had participated in the 2,000-voice choir at MSG. Also, their co-pastors, Rev. and Mrs. Lawrence Edgerton sat on the stage later. After the choir, the emcee introduced Harlem activist Professor Preston Wilcox who spoke about family values and transcending racial boundaries. His speech was very well received. Professor Wilcox has been very supportive of FFWPU. Following Professor Wilcox, Margaret



Hill-Vanderstok, from the Pure Love Alliance spoke passionately about purity and preparation for marriage. Then, Bishop Eric Figueroa of the New Life Tabernacle from Brooklyn, NY, gave excellent spiritual and practical advice to the couples in his impassioned sermon. The pro-family rally concluded with a rousing rendition from the New Life Tabernacle Choir.

At 5:40 p.m., the emcee announced that the (delayed) satellite transmission would begin. The hall became hushed as we waited in expectation for the curtains to open. After a brief wait, the curtains slowly moved, and we gasped as we saw a packed Olympic Stadium in Seoul, Korea; (later reports revealed a crowd of 150,000 with 30,000 unable to get in.) The cameras panned over all the soon-to-be-Blessed couples, dressed in white (the women that is). Several minutes later, it was time for the national anthem. In Korea, the Korean national anthem was sung. We closed the curtains, while Raoul Joseph sang the U.S. national anthem. The curtains opened again and we listened and observed as the various religious leaders offered their Blessings and prayers.



When it was time for the Ceremony, three couples in Holy Robes entered on to the stage. This took place at the same time as the entrance of the officiators in Seoul. Then, when True Parents descended the steps in the stadium, our officiating couple, Manhattan pastors Rev. and Mrs. Chen Fong, descended the stairs on the stage followed by two bowl-bearing, robe-clad sisters. The Fong couple sprinkled the first row of couples at the same time as True Parents sprinkled Holy Water on the couples in Korea. Then, the Fongs read the 4 Holy Blessing Vows, in English, while the sound was turned down from the Stadium in Korea. When it was time for the Blessing prayer, Rev. and Mrs. Lawrence Edgerton, dressed in their white robes leapt to

center stage and joined the Fong couple to pray for the newlyweds. Several other ministers on the stage raised their hands to pray for and bless the couples. It was a truly inspirational and interdenominational moment!

As the satellite transmission concluded, we proceeded to the banquet and entertainment. All were treated to a sumptuous banquet served by tuxedo-clad attendants. The New Life Tabernacle Choir sang again as well as the harmonious "His Voice Gospel Ministry Choir". This was followed by Barney Webster, a modern dancer from Harlem. The event concluded with Electric Duro, a (loud!) Latin band. Many people broke into dance and the event concluded with song, dance, wedding cake... and cherished memories. ❖

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Chicago Family Church Joins Blessing '99

by Hiromi Umino and Richard Lemont—Chicago, IL

The Chicago Family Church conducted a Blessing Ceremony through satellite video at 5:00 p.m. February 7, 1999. The newly matched couples and married couples attended our blessing ceremony at Ashland Church. We had over 100 family members, brides & bridegrooms' families and friends, and our witnessing guests as an enthusiastic audience.

The program began with welcoming remarks by Rev. Bruce Sutchar and an opening prayer by Rev. A.I. Dunlap, pastor of Mt. Olive AME Church. All the brides & bridegrooms were standing in lines, some were together with their spouses and some were holding pictures of their spouses.

Rev. Sutchar explained about the Holy Wine and Holy Water, and then eight attendants wearing white robes entered and an officiator couple, Rev. & Mrs. Reiner Vincenz, entered. The officiators gave Holy Wine to each couple and we watched a video of Blessing Ceremony held in Korea the night before.

When True Parents sprinkled Holy Water in the video, the officiators sprinkled Holy Water on each couple and when True Parents asked for the Affirmation of Vows, the officiators asked for the affirmation of vows of the brides & bridegrooms and they shouted "Yes!"

Then we joined True Fathers' prayer and proclamation of this blessing. 2nd Generation children presented flowers to the officiators and we finished the ceremony with 3 cheers of "MANSEI"! After the ceremony the brides & bridegrooms remained in the sanctuary and they held the indemnity stick ceremony, too.



The blessing ceremony was very beautiful and the spirit was very high. All brides & bridegroom were so happy and the audience was also inspired very much. Our witnessing guests were so excited and said that they want to apply for the next blessing.

All the Chicago family members worked together to prepare well organizing the program and decorating the sanctuary etc. and Rev. Jack Toren used our new sign making machine to prepare a professional quality banner.

After the ceremony we had a banquet in our dining room. The room was decorated beautifully and the dinner, prepared by Mrs. Song Im Chae Kim, Mrs. Kum Ae Jares, Mrs. Kathleen Sometani and the Kodan sisters, was

delicious. We cut the celebration cake and some members presented songs to brides & bridegrooms. Newly blessed members enjoyed the dinner and entertainment, talking with their friends and taking pictures.

One newly blessed member said, "I felt sad before the ceremony because I couldn't go to Korea. But now I'm very happy because all my families and friends are here and celebrate my blessing." ❖

Satellite Blessing in Montevideo Uruguay

by Steven Boyd—Montevideo, Uruguay

Despite the 12-hour time difference, a warm and intimate Blessing Ceremony was held via satellite in Montevideo, Uruguay. The ceremony took place in the Conference Room on the 4th floor of the Victoria Plaza Hotel.

Because of the lateness of the hour, 1:30 a.m. local time and because of the heavy downpour of rain that continued up until the arrival of the guests, we really had no idea how many people would participate. To everyone's delight, our original estimate of 100 people was greatly exceeded by the 360 people who finally attended. Among those in attendance 36 couples took the holy wine just prior to the commencement of the satellite transmission from Korea.

Participants began to arrive at 11:30 p.m. of February 6, and were treated to a buffet style meal before the beginning of the program at 1:00 a.m. on February 7. Participants received welcoming remarks by Jesús González,

Vice President of the FFWPU in Uruguay, who began by recognizing those couples who had been married for over 50 years, and who were now to receive True Parents' Blessing. In recognition of their marriages of many years, they were awarded with a gift of a pin with the symbol of the Family Federation.

Following the Holy Wine Ceremony and an explanation of the history, content and significance of the Blessing Ceremony, including the 40 day separation period and the use of Holy Handkerchiefs, a crystal clear image of the Blessing Ceremony in Seoul was projected onto a large screen at the front of the conference room. Throughout the transmission there was full and enthusiastic participation on the part of all those present, as an intimate atmosphere was created in the meeting room.

All of us here attributed the success of the ceremony here to the investment and sacrifice of our True Parents, and the invisible support of those in the Spiritual World, and wish to express our deepest gratitude to them. ❖



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WCSF 1999 Special Convocation on "Family Ethics and World Peace"



by Thomas G. Walsh, Ph.D.—
Louisville KY

On February 4-8, 1999, in Seoul, Korea, as part of the World Culture and Sports Festival 1999, a Special Convocation of more than 400 international participants from 97 nations was convened to address the topic of "Family Ethics and World Peace." The participants included 20 former heads of state, 5 United Nations Ambassadors, more than 40 religious leaders from a wide variety of faiths, and numerous scholars, scientists, journalists, women and youth leaders, and artists.

Building on the Special Convocation held in New York in June of 1998, which also focused on the family and world peace, this convocation offered in-depth exploration of the ways in which family ethics plays a critical, if not central role in the establishment of world peace. It is difficult to imagine any other occasion in the world, if not in world history, where so many world leaders, from such diverse areas of expertise, are brought together to deliberate on the significance of the family. No institution rivals The World Culture and Sports Festival in this respect.

This Convocation, despite difficulties related to the determination of the



Dr. Nicholas Kittrie



Dr. Higatsberger

venue (only established a few weeks before the event began), was blessed with very good fortune. This was due in part to the unity among the leadership and the members of the Steering Committee. In addition, however, there seemed to be a great wave of spiritual support, a guiding hand which seemed to compensate for any particular shortcoming. Most importantly, the quality of the participants was extremely high, representing not only the best which the co-sponsoring organizations could offer but, indeed, representing many of the world's great leaders. Furthermore, while these many leaders are accustomed to attending international gatherings among peers and members of their own respective professional groups, this conference brought everyone together in common collaboration and shared experience. This enriched the experience for everyone. In fact, the response of the participants was overwhelmingly affirmative. While initially there was great concern about proper care of special VIPs, by the end of the conference considerations of class, status, or position seemed to fade in favor the general concern with working together to improve our world.

Sponsored by the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification International, under the leadership of Rev. Chung Hwan Kwak, the Special Convocation was Chaired by Ambassador Phillip V. Sanchez, the Publisher of *Noticias del Mundo* and *Tiempos del Mundo*. The Vice-Chairman was Edward Schreyer, the former Governor General of Canada (1979-1984).

The Convocation opened on the evening of February 4th in the Grand Ballroom of the Lotte Hotel with more than 800 guests—both international and local—in attendance. After a wonderful performance by the Little Angels, welcoming remarks were offered by Neil A. Salonen, Secretary General of FFWPUI, Amb. Sanchez, and Rev. Kwak. Rev. Sun Myung Moon, the Founder of FFWPUI and WCSF, then offered his Founders Address, which explored the meaning of life and death and, in addition, proposed the establishment of the Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace.

The Convocation program con-

sisted of Plenary Sessions, featuring distinguished speakers, and concurrent Panel Sessions, organized by the several co-sponsoring organizations and federations, which included the Federation for World Peace, Professors World Peace Academy, Inter-Religious Federation for World Peace, International Conference on the Unity of the Sciences, Women's Federation for World Peace, World Media Association, Youth Federation for World Peace and Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (United Nations Office).

The first Plenary Speaker was Hon. Albert Reynolds, former Prime Minister of Ireland (1992-1994) who spoke on the breakthroughs in the work for peace in Ireland. Susan Ford Bales, daughter of former USA President Gerald Ford, spoke on the significance of her own family experience, and particularly her concern with breast cancer awareness. Dr. Wally N'Dow, Special Advisor to the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), spoke of his wide experience with international issues and particularly the role of the United Nations in strengthening families. Arnaud De Borchgrave, President and CEO of United Press International, and Editor-at-Large with the Washington Times, gave a penetrating analysis of the promise and perils of modern technology in relation to the pursuit of peace.

There were ten separate panel sessions, each with a roster of highly distinguished speakers, including persons such as Hon. Kenneth Kaunda, former President of Zambia, Hon. Rodrigo Escobar Navia, former Minister of Government for Columbia, Dr. Christine Durbak, Vice-Chair of the UN's Department of Public Information, Mr. Armstrong Williams, host of the Armstrong Williams Show, Dr. Gwendolyn Mikell, Professor of Anthropology and Director of the African Studies Program in the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University, Hon. Jin Nam-Kung, a member of Korea's National Assembly, Dr. Hanifa D. Mezoui, Chief of the Non-Governmental Organizations Section of the United Nations (ECOSOC), Ven. Phramahachanya Khongchinda, Director of the Panyananda Institute of Thailand, and many, many others.

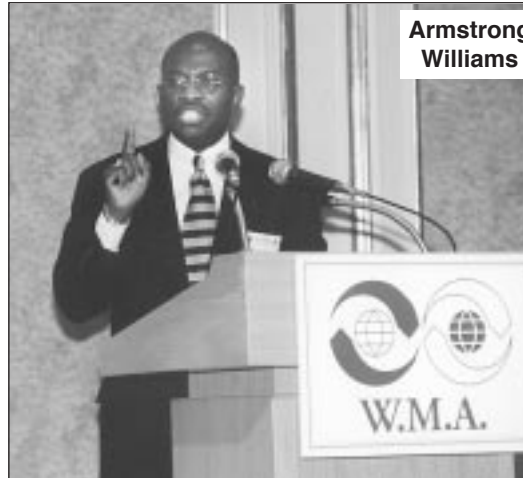
In addition to the basic Convocation



Kenneth Kaunda



Mrs. Susha Guppy



Armstrong Williams

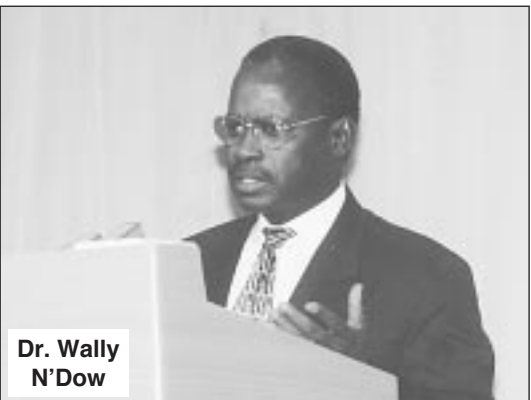
program there were several other highlights. One evening the Martial Arts Federation for World Peace offered a demonstration of a martial arts technique used in the training of blind people. An Indonesian practitioner enthralled people with his ability, while fully blindfolded, to find hidden objects, identify people at a distance and break metal bars with his hands, head and feet.

On February 6, the day before the International Blessing Ceremony, the Inaugural Assembly of the Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace, was convened. Neil Salonen opened the event, and introduced the conveners, Dr. Ninian Smart, R.F. Rowny Professor Comparative Religion at the University of California, and Dr.

see WCSF on page 10



Dr. Yuri Ossipyan



Dr. Wally N'Dow



Arnaud De Borchgrave

President Kim Honors *Segye Ilbo*



On February 1, the Segye Ilbo newspaper celebrated its 10th anniversary. Kim, Dae Jung, President of South Korea shared the podium with Rev & Mrs. Moon and gave congratulatory remarks.



WCSF from page 9

Nicholas Kittrie, Chairman of the Eleanor Roosevelt Institute for Justice and Peace.

Both Dr. Smart and Dr. Kittrie gave very inspired presentations, emphasizing the great work of Rev. and Mrs. Moon for the cause of world peace. Dr. Smart reviewed the history of Rev. Moon's initiation of interfaith projects, not to mention his love for fishing. Dr. Kittrie even put forward the idea that Rev. Moon should be awarded the Nobel Prize. Rev. Chung Hwan Kwak then introduced Rev. Moon, underscoring a number of the Founders works and speeches over the years which foreshadowed to the establishment of this new organization.

In his "Inaugural Address" Rev. Moon said, "The time has come for us to seriously reflect even on such a matter as restructuring the United Nations. Might it not even be possible to imagine a UN as adopting a two-house structure? What if the existing United Nations comprised of national representatives serving in one house that speaks for national interests [were supplemented by] a religious council or UN senate...comprised of distinguished religious leaders and in the those fields of society pertaining more to the heart, for example, culture and education. ...Through mutual respect and cooperation, these two houses would be able to contribute enormously to the realization of world peace."

Immediately after this Inaugural Address a "Declaration of Support" was presented by Mr. Giulio Murano of the International Human Rights Federation, and at this time the participants indicated their support by signing the declaration. Rev. Moon then closed the Inaugural Assembly by creating and signing a large calligraphy which presented a motto for the new organization. The motto can be loosely translated as stating that "world peace is the longing of all humanity throughout all of human history."

On the eve of the Blessing, all the participants were presented with an "introduction to the Blessing" by Mrs. Nora Spurgin and Dr. Gordon

Anderson. They spoke from personal experience as well as with theoretical sophistication. At the conclusion everyone joined in a Blessing toast, and of course everyone was warmly invited to attend the next-day's Blessing cere-



Dr. Christine Durbank

mony at Seoul's Olympic Stadium.

Given the sub-freezing temperatures that had been constant through the entire week, we did not expect many participant to attend the Blessing in



Amb. Philip Sanchez

an outdoor stadium. We were most pleasantly surprised, however, to see not only the temperatures rise on the Blessing day but to see the vast majority of Convocation participants bravely and excitedly boarding the busses



Dr. Hanija D. Mezoui

to the stadium. We were all treated to a most moving and beautiful experience. The very presence of a huge stadium packed with couples was awe-inspiring, particularly in light of the fairly harsh weather conditions. One participant described the event as a "life changing experience."

That evening there was a concluding Congratulatory Banquet at the Little Angels School. On this evening Rev. Moon spoke to the participants one final time, presenting a speech entitled "True Family and True Universe Centered on True Love." After this speech, several gift presentations were made to the Founder on behalf of the Convocation's co-sponsoring organizations. The evening then concluded with a stunning and beautiful performance by the Universal Ballet and the Kirov Ballet. As one inspired participant stated, "To build such a great foundation in the arts, with the Little Angels, the Universal Ballet, and the Kirov Academy, in an of itself would be huge accomplishment over a single lifetime, but Rev. Moon's great achievement in the arts is only one part of a global network of achievements in all fields."

At the close of this Special Convocation there was a sense that participants were indeed inspired to continue to work together for world peace. When, at the concluding banquet, Rev. Kwak asked whether the attendees could support him, as Rev. Moon's representative, in the work of the new Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace, there was overwhelming support expressed. This conference represented in many ways a great breakthrough, and bodes well for the future.

In particular, in the late stages of Rev. Moon's ministry on behalf of world peace, many are coming to recognize the scope and scale of his accomplishments. Not only are the prejudice and resistance fading, but many of the world's highest leaders—both political and religious—are beginning to acknowledge this fact. Several participants were seriously discussing the prospects of nominating Rev. Moon for the Nobel Peace Prize. What is most significant, however, is that, as the unjust discrimination is overcome, the



Mohamed Salmawy

opportunity for the fair dissemination of Rev. Moon's ideas can proceed unimpeded and be assessed freely and openly by people throughout the world. The power of those ideas can then be unleashed to help fulfill the universal



Hon. Gladys Gutierrez

human quest for world peace.

Dr. Walsh was the Secretary General of the WCSF 1999 Special Convocation. ❖



MAFWP demonstration



World Religions at Blessing '99



The third and most celebrated role for the religious leaders present was that of offering prayers for the Blessed couples together with Reverend and Mrs. Moon during the Blessing ceremony on Sunday, February 8, 1999. This tradition began at RFK stadium in 1997, occurred again in Madison Square Garden in 1998, and continued here in Seoul this year for the third time.

I think it's fair to say that this year representation from different religious traditions was the broadest to date. Eight traditions were represented. (It should be noted that the desire for broad representation clashes with the impulse to produce a briskly paced

Emanuel Milingo from the Catholic tradition, Reverend T.L. Barrett of Chicago offered prayers as a Protestant, and Professor Manjit Singh Jathedar offered blessings from the Sikh tradition.

It should be noted that there may be those (perhaps even well meaning) who will be moved from impulses of religious bigotry to condemn these committed leaders of their respective faiths for the role they played in the Blessing ceremony. Unfortunately this sort of divisive behavior may well be around for some time to come in the religious world; a fact regrettable to all decent people and people of conscience. This negative reaction notwithstanding, it must be said that the task of invoking the Blessings of the one true God, over millions of couples, young and old, from

by Dr. Frank Kaufmann—NYC

The Inter-Religious Federation for World Peace (IRFWP) was a co-sponsor of the Special Convocation of the World Culture and Sports Festival (WCSF). Approximately 50 major leaders from the world's religions participated in the convocation. Their presence was important for a number of reasons, as there was an uncommon degree of emphasis on inter-religious dialogue and harmony from Father's this time. This emphasis was particularly evident at the inaugural plenary of the newly founded Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace (IIFWP).

In addition to representing an important witness and foundation for the establishment of the Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace (IIFWP) at its inaugural plenary, religious leaders also were involved in two other aspects of the week's events, namely the IRFWP panel, and prayers at the Blessing.

On February 6, 1998 the IRFWP held its "Concurrent Panel" on the theme "The Family and the Interfaith Ideal." Five panelists took up the topic which was designed to examine the possible tension inherent in the fact the family naturally pursues strong particular faith for the children, which on the face of it can

seen as contrary to the promulgation of strong interreligious attitudes. How then can one be strongly pro-family, and strongly pro-religious dialogue at the same time?

The papers were heartening and imaginative. Speakers from five traditions each spoke well to the conclusion that instilling a strong particular faith during childhood does not interfere with the establishment of attitudes of inclusivity, and embrace of believers from radically different traditions. Professor Mumtaz Ahmad spoke from the perspective of Islam, Professor Selengut from that of Judaism, Venerable Kongchinda offered a Buddhist point of view, Professor Smart, a Protestant (Anglican) perspective, and Archbishop Milingo a Catholic view. This session was inspiring and informative. Additionally the faith representatives who spoke themselves embodied these very paired ideals which they insisted could be fully embraced without internal tension.



ceremony that respects the participants and the international viewing audience.) In my estimation that balance was threatened but not tipped.

Professor Shiva-murthy Swamiji of Karnataka offered Hindu prayers, Khamba Lama Dambajav from Mongolia offered Buddhist prayers, Rabbi Herzl Kranz offered Jewish prayers, Archimandrite Vikentiy Miskov offered prayers from the Christian Orthodox tradition, Archbishop

all nations and all religions can only be properly understood as fulfilling the highest calling of any leader from any tradition. The lucky couples who were Blessed that day forever will be proud that their vows and their union received prayers and well wishes from a Rabbi, a Jathedar, a Monk and many others. It will be a story each couple can tell to their children and grand-children, and members from all traditions should be proud and thankful to their respective leaders for bringing to the world's attention the unique beauty and wisdom from each great world religion.

There are many deeply moving stories from behind the scenes of such occasions which I hope to share in future writing. ♦



Dr. Kaufmann (2nd from left) with the representatives of the world's religions



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OH! GLORIOUS EDEN, JARDIM OF DELIGHT, IN THE BEAUTY OF CREATION, LET US ALL REJOICE!

by Robert Becker—Cincinnati, OH

When you first heard Principle, weren't you delighted to discover that the purpose of God's great Creation was joy? Well, it's time to get happy again. The Garden of Eden, the meadow of joy, has been restored. This is not a metaphor. This is New Hope East Garden, True Parents' land of settlement in South America. Would you like to help build God's Kingdom here? Only joy-makers need apply.

You are, perhaps, already familiar with the leader of the training in New Hope East Garden, the Rev. Sun Myung Moon. And you may have heard of his desire to welcome you into the True Family, and to take a picture with your couple for his family album, and to register you as a citizen of the Kingdom of Heaven. But you may be put off by the registration fee, and the request to visit one more remote location in one more corner of the Earth. Don't worry. Be happy. Let's look at the experiences and inspirations of some of the participants in the most recent, fifth workshop, coordinated by Umberto and Marilyn Angelucci:

Most of the participants in this 40-day training had some difficulty to get here, but if you ask them how many regret coming here, no one is going to raise their hand. Why? For some, it's a True Family atmosphere. "I felt the size of my family increased greatly upon coming here...my four daughters meet friends in church on Sundays in Korea, but here they are spending 40 days with them," said Mallory Leece, Professor of English at Sun Moon University, "Coming with my whole family from Korea was difficult, but on arriving here I could feel so much freer." Another native of England, Tessa Hodson Squizzato, said, "It's the joy and rebirth that I experienced as an individual in my first workshop, but on a family level. And on a substantial level as well. After learning the Principle, we went out and fought

hard for many years to make it real in our lives individually and as families. Living here with other families like this is like the harvest of all those efforts. I'm planning to move to this area in the future." Indeed, the director of True Parents' projects in this area, President Yoon Sang Kim, is encouraging any and all members to migrate here. "It doesn't matter how many people come here, there's no problem for space," he told the Western workshop group here on January 25th, 1999. This "Western" workshop group was very international. We had French, German, Italian, African (Lesotho), English, American, Mexican-American, Chinese-American, Filipino, Austrian, and four Japanese wives. These Japanese wives chose to do hoon dok hae in their own language but with our group. Speaking of the peo-



ple you might meet here, there seems to be a steady stream of Church luminaries through this place. The fourth and fifth workshops heard the testimonies of such elders as Won Pil Kim, Young Whi Kim, Mrs. Socrates, Rev. Ken Sudo, and Mrs. Hamasaka, to name a few. Our international, "Western" group was considered the most creative and interesting in the entertainment we presented on cultural nights.

Pres. Kim and Rev. Hideo Oyamada are always in the front row for the entertainment and they give their comments on each act afterwards. They are really determined to win the hearts of the leaders of this area and state, and eventually, this nation and region. So they are paying a lot of attention not only to the internal and external aspects of this workshop and the larger project, the "Pantanal" project, but also to the atmosphere that we can generate here to inspire the local leaders. To this end, all members are encouraged to participate in the Sunday sports and entertainment programs wholeheartedly. If your favorite musical instrument is smaller than a piano, you might want to bring it. They have an electric keyboard here, anyway. True Father is looking forward to hearing the love songs that will be written here. He wants to make them the new Holy Songs. The Kingdom of Heaven is a world of art, isn't it?

President Kim often gives exciting reports



about the progress of the Pantanal project. The nearest city to our New Hope East Garden is Jardim, which, of course, means "garden," in Portuguese. By the way, there was a local prophesy that the Messiah would return to Earth in Jardim. Jardim is a rather small city on the southern edge of the Pantanal area. This area is one of the least developed places left on Earth, which makes it a perfect spot to build a model of the ideal way of life on a grand scale. But before you begin to have visions of burning rainforests, let's look at one of President Kim's life experiences that he related to the last workshop. Pres. Kim was once stung on the nose by a bee. There is a Korean remedy that involves bee stings, but this sting was an accident, not a therapeutic occasion. Then,

because of a language mix-up, someone gave him an insecticide instead of the treatment that he was seeking to relieve the bee sting. Not being able to read the label, he just trustingly sprayed the poison onto his nose. Immediately his body started to twist and turn, then he fell down and lost consciousness. True Father was looking on and said, "It looks like he's going to die." Of course, he lived, but he suffered many side effects. The point of the story is that President Kim shares True Father's thinking regarding living in harmony with the creation, including the insects. He plans to devel-

op the agricultural projects in this area without the use of chemicals. In addition to the health benefits this brings, and the better taste of the products, there is a significant economic advantage as well. Certified organic products bring a much higher price in the marketplace. However, the greater part of the Pantanal project involves the processing and marketing of these and other products and developing the tourism and hobby business; these are the fields that will require a lot of our members' manpower in the near future.

The author's wife, Yoko Becker, was very excited to be a part of that manpower during the service portion of the workshop. She helped build tanks for raising escargot in the greenhouse. "I really liked the experience of actually building God's Kingdom brick by brick," she reported enthusiastically.



The National Messiah to Brazil (from France), Christian Lepelletier, came from Sao Paulo with his wife and two children to spend 40 days here during their children's summer vacation. (Some couples from the Northern Hemisphere

brought their children with their schoolwork and other things for them to do.) "We appreciated spending time together as a family, away from our usual busy life in the city," Christian said. "Sao Paulo is overpopulated and polluted. We will miss the beautiful natural surroundings of God's Creation. Almost every morning and evening we had a beautiful sunrise and sunset show." He was grateful to have the guidance in the lectures and hoon dok hae on Blessed family life, as well. "True Parents are asking us to...reach the lifestyle before the Fall, so it's good to

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TESTIMONIES FROM THE IDEAL FAMILIES WORKSHOP

by Robert Becker

I didn't come to Brazil to attend the Ideal Families Workshop in Jardim. I came to attend the National Messiah's 40-day Workshop in Fuerte Olimpo, Paraguay. While I was in Olimpo, I saw that many of the National Messiahs there were making plans to meet their wives in Jardim afterwards, and do the Ideal Families Workshop. Having borrowed the money to go to Olimpo, I couldn't imagine borrowing more money and asking my wife to bring our children here. So I came back to Jardim from Olimpo on the way back to the USA. Then my conscience began to bother me, and I talked to one of the elder couples here. "I don't know how my wife will react if I ask her to come here now, even though I feel it would be best. She'll probably think I've gone crazy," I told Rev. Gerhard Bessell. "That's because you have the wrong attitude. If you tell your wife to come, with faith that it's God's Will, then she can respond to you, and she will come," he told me. This immediately brought to mind the way that Rev. Zim Moon Kim had presented the first Jardim Proclamation to us in Olimpo. "When the subject, centering on absolute faith, gives absolute love, the object can respond with absolute obedience. So I went to pray.

The most popular prayer place here in Jardim, at New Hope East Garden, is in front of True Parents' house. I went there. As I began to pray, I felt that God was telling me, "I want to come live in your family. What's better, sooner, or later?" I felt the warm embrace of God's love, and His longing to live with us on Earth according to His ideal of creation. That was enough for me. I called my wife and told her to bring the children to Brazil. My wife, Yoko, went through a lot of difficulty to get the passports, visas and tickets on very short notice and to prepare everything by herself, but now she's really glad that she did.

by Lawrence and Yuko Mock

It is an incredible blessing to have the opportunity to attend the 40 day Ideal Family Workshop in Jardim. We received so much spiritual guidance, had time for self reflection, and made the pilgrimages to the Holy Places that True Parents established, and more. We feel their love and unconditional giving as well as their concern that each one of us be engrafted into True Parents' family and enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

The foundation established in the Pantanal is not without the great sacrifice and incredible indemnity conditions by our True Parents. They have shed many tears and poured out their sweat and blood to make the condition

to liberate the spirit world and give the Blessing to many spirit men, saints and sages in the last Blessings.

As I listened to the testimonies of



elder members who have witnessed True Parents' incredible indemnity conditions in Olimpo, Salobra, and Perdido, I was moved to great tears and a heart of repentance. Through my repentance I have come to realize that our True Parents have determined with all of their hearts to restore all of mankind even if they must do it all by themselves. I hope everyone will come to Jardim to experience a reunion of heart with our True Parents.

by Marilyn Angelucci

In the beginning of our 40 days, Rev. Oyamada said to us, "God is here."

I believed him. Through our time here



we saw many problems, struggles, and inconveniences, but I still believed. Then, I experienced that when I prayed deeply, God answered my prayer. We had already gone to two of the outings to the "Holy Places," but for me they were just like tourist trips. I didn't want to continue like that. So, when we went to Fuerte Olimpo, I prayed to experience something more deeply. When we were leaving on the boat after visiting this holy place,

I felt deep sorrow in my heart, and tears poured down my face. I reflected, and the realization came to me that nobody

knew the importance of this holy place, not even the people living there. This small fishing town is so simple and poor, but from the viewpoint of God's Providence, it has great significance. True Parents accomplished incredible conditions there, unknown to the world. Similar to the time of Jesus' birth, nobody understood, only a few. God had heard me.

Even we, church members, cannot realize anything deeply unless we prepare our hearts. The crucial, important moment can just slip



by without us realizing a thing if our heart is not prepared and in tune to God. The same is true for the whole experience at New Hope East Garden. God is here, but whether or not I can live with Him depends on the condition of my heart. At moments, I could be with Him. But I repent, because the moments were much fewer than God had hoped.

by Peter Lewis

Our first day had a somewhat surreal quality. After a blurry journey from New York, still suffering from jet lag after a long flight from Korea, we suddenly found ourselves in a small motorboat traveling down a narrow, meandering river through dense Brazilian jungle. This was the Salobra River in the Pan-

tanal. Exotic birds of shocking colors darted in and out of the surrounding trees while under the water swam schools of piranhas and the odd crocodile. I took out my new camera, the one that prints the date on the photos. It really didn't feel very much like January.

by Bayard Bauer

On our first trip (pilgrimage) we visited some pristine lands Father had bought. The area is called Rio Perdido ("Lost River"). The river with its crystal clear water, the many waterfalls, the many fish inside and the surrounding forest wilderness made a deep impression on me. Not so much because of its beauty but more because this beautiful area had just recently been discovered by our True Parents. So I felt like I was standing in the "lost Garden of Eden" there which is being rediscovered and reclaimed by the True Parents and their sons and daughters, us.

New Year Baby in Jardim
by Lance and Siew Lian Gardener

The Ideal Family Workshop took on a special meaning for us since we transformed from being a couple to being a family during the time of our participation. Our baby daughter was born in the hospital in Jardim on January 4th, 1999, close to the date of our

tenth Blessing anniversary (1275 Couples) on January 12th. We named her Miranda after one of the rivers flowing through the New Hope Farm. We were able to obtain Brazilian citizenship for her, so with Dad's British and Mum's Malaysian nationalities we have become a worldwide family spanning three continents.

The workshop was a beautiful preparation for the many challenges that lie ahead for us. Through the hoon dok hae sessions and sharing with members, we came to give a deeper understanding of God's expectation for Blessed families to inherit the Heavenly tradition. We were especially blessed to be able to participate in the many hoon dok hae sessions and speeches directed by True Father himself. Through those precious moments we could feel closer to True Parents' heart and deeply experience their love for us.

by Betsy Jones

At True Children's Day in November, 1998, Father spoke for a long time at the Pledge. He was speaking in Korean when I saw him frown and say, "Westerners." I asked someone nearby what Father was saying. He said, "Father is very unhappy because Westerners are not going to the Jardim workshop and to their countries.

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have this time together as a couple to study and discuss and make some progress in that direction."

It seemed that everyone was really grateful for the lectures on ideal family life by Rev. Jeung Rho Yoon and Rev. Myung Ki Shin. Rev. Yoon gave a lot of concrete advice on the duty of a husband to his wife and also the duty of the wife. Then he had husbands and wives rate each other's performance according to these standards. To do this in public was challenging for some, but very useful for all. Here are some excerpts from his talk:

"...In this world, there are so many men who are not interested in their wife's clothes, food, sleep or the house. And if they have sex, it's only centered on their own enjoyment. It's the duty of Unification Church men to take care of their wives like queens...Animals have no responsibility. If we lose our responsibility, we become like animals. First, we must take responsibility for the perfection of our personality. If you don't worry about your own personality, but tell your wife, 'Respect me,' no woman on Earth will do it...rather than reading ordinary

books, study the four saints (Jesus, Buddha, Confucius, and Socrates.) This is the quickest way to perfect your personality. You must become a man of character for your wife to love you."

Rev. Yoon then quizzed each wife in turn. The wives rated the husbands on the interest their husbands show in them; responsibility for personality, family, and work; respect; trying to understand them; and having the attitude of wanting to give first.

After outlining the wife's duty to her husband, Rev. Yoon had the husbands rate the wives on three points. One point was how well the wife maintains a bright and warm feeling and refrains from comparing her husband to others. "If you compare your husband to another, he won't accept it. He'll just say, 'If you like him so much, why don't you go live with him?'," Rev. Yoon advised. A perfect score for the wife was thirty points in each category and ten extra points were awarded for each child she had. Most of the wives did very well. Most of the husbands didn't flunk. We'll try hard-



er.

Many members' most striking memories are from the pilgrimages. Every workshop makes three pilgrimages to

beautiful places to visit in this area, too. If you have the time and a little extra money, you might want to visit Bonito, and swim with the fish, or take a trip to see Iguacu Falls and Itaipu Dam, before or after your 40 days. It's advisable to try to arrange the side trips before you leave home, however. Here's another travel tip: Your airline may tell you that your luggage is checked through to your destination. It's a lie. You have to pick up your checked luggage in Sao Paulo and take it through Customs by yourself. For other practical information about what you need to bring and what to expect, please refer to Betty Lancaster's article in the October UNews.

In one of his talks to us, True Father referred to this time in history as "the final page". It's hard even for those of us here to grasp the full value of this time, but it really seems like the time that we've all been waiting and working for. So, joy-makers, if you would like to register for the Kingdom, the friendly staff of the 40-day Ideal Family Workshop will be very happy to help you. ❖

other Holy Places where our True Parents lived and worked. The places we visit are Fuerte Olimpo, Rio Perdido ("Lost River"), and Salobra Hotel Fazenda, which is Father's home and "ranch hotel" at the confluence of the Salobra and Miranda rivers. Testimonies about the stunning beauty and deep significance of those places are the subject of another article. There are other interesting and

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At that moment I determined to do both in 1999.

My husband, Farley, had attended True God's Day in Uruguay in 1998, but this year we went together. By meeting True Parents and brothers and sisters working internationally, we both regained a vision of the power and beauty of dedicating ourselves for our mission country, Mexico. It was strengthening to share testimonies with other brothers and sisters, some who have moved, some who are raising money to move to their mission countries.

The greatest inspiration was our True Parents. As Father approaches his 80th birthday, he is actively preparing the land and people in South America. He spoke of the deep anguish he has felt in sacrificing his family. "Father loved you more than my own children," he said. If Father had loved his own sons, they would be filial sons. Again the heartache our True Parents have undergone was deeply felt as he cried out to us to follow his guidance during this critical time. Father said, "Have confidence in 1999 of God's power on the vertical axis." He continued with, "Become the pipe of God's blessing."

Father spoke of the relationship between our activities on the earth and our ancestors. When we bow, the spirit world and our ancestors can bow and get blessing through us. Husband and wife need to unite to get rid of God and True Parents' han. We need to offer all of our assets to God. Our ancestors are chasing us, but we should go willingly to the bottom of hell."

He spoke as well of our understanding of the spiritual world. On Earth we need to organize the spiritual world. We need to break out of the limitations of the environment. Break all habits. Set spiritual conditions. Do three to

ten times your capacity in a time period. Man is constantly penetrated by Satan through mind and body, husband and wife relationship. If my mind and body are not harmonized, I waste my time and everything may well go into failure. When you get up in the morning and go to the bathroom, splash water on your face, look in the mirror, and shout, 'Tong Il!' for the unification of your mind and body and husband and wife." After several inspiring talks and hoon dok hae sessions, the next two days were spent on the beach.

"God, take me with you!" This phrase came to my mind and heart, and I spoke it out loud after climbing out of the thrashing surf at Punta del Este, Uruguay. On this beach, over seven hundred Unificationists divided into teams for competition in fishing, volleyball, soccer, and leg races. Each team member wore the color of shorts of their team and each had a white T shirt with the



Unification symbol on it. The beach was fully alive with activity. Father and Mother and their party came and watched several games of soccer. At one point, Father and Mother stopped to look at the ocean and just beamed at each other. Many cameras clicked. The highlight of the second day was the tug-of-war between several teams. Tremendous effort was made by each team exerting all their power. The struggle was so great that the big, thick rope snapped in two.

Soon after arriving in Jardim, we were met by the Western workshop coordinators, James and Mimi Mitchell. We were assigned a room with another family, so right away, our public life started. Children, parents, and people from other countries soon opened doors in our hearts. I met several American members who had been Blessed with Brazilians and had been working in this country for many years. Father has been working on the worldwide level for many years and by coming here you can really feel the depth of it. Why did Father bring us here? In this atmosphere we could, through hoon dok hae, four sessions per day, connect in heart with Father's words. I recalled how difficult it was at home to set aside one hour for hoon dok hae. Now, one hour seems like a piece of cake. James Buchanan spoke of his experience in the 40 days, "Father wants us to turn the page ourselves in our understanding of the spiritual world. It's interesting that through reading Father's words and Dr. Lee's words, you understand why we must change our lifestyle in preparation for the spiritual world."

Here we can experience the fullness and depth of Father's work. Korean, Japanese, Brazilian workshops and members from the USA, Europe, and several other nations in the Western workshop. On Sundays we come

together beyond language to play sports together and, in the evening, entertain each other. I felt happy and proud for my children to belong to this broader community. Marjory Hill led us in performing an Indian song and dance. The next week, Peter Lewis helped organize a medley of International songs in a skit that emphasized both our diverse backgrounds and united heart. Our son, Bow, shared a rap song he wrote based on his experience in Jardim.

Shortly after we arrived, we heard

that True Parents were coming to speak to us and take photos. Prior to their coming, Rev. Yoon, the Director of Education, had spoken to us of the meaning of the matching of the couples for this picture, and he said that we cannot go to the matching alone. Ideally, husband and wife should pose for the picture, but in some cases a child over twelve years old has posed with a parent. Because my husband had to go back to New York after True God's Day, my son Harvet came. He arrived just two hours before True Parents, for the only picture taking session in our workshop. Thank you, Harvet.

The next day, after 5:00 a.m. pledge, Father spoke briefly before departing for New York. Two themes that Father stressed were that all Unification Church members must be True Parents' family. As tribal and National Messiahs, we will represent the worldwide True Parent. Also, you must have international marriages in your family so the world can become one family. And Father said, "The physical life is a suffering life because man fell. From the moment Adam and Eve fell, man has been unhappy. God became unhappy. One goal of God and man is the liberation of God's sorrow. Then not only do we become happy, but God becomes happy as well."

As True Parents drove away, I repented in my heart for all the times I could not unite in heart and action with True Parents, and a strong desire came over me to work in whatever capacity True Parents need me. I felt so grateful to have these feelings wash over me and squeeze away my own ambition. I could feel how much True Parents need us to have that attitude. I am so grateful to have come to the 40 days.

By immersion in this international community, heartistic changes emerge. One can see and feel True Parents investment of heart everywhere: in the word, in the visits to the Holy Places, and in the simplicity of the life they ask us to live, and live with us. True Parents' heart and tears are here. As we catch it, it empowers us to move forward as true families. ❖

New Eden Academy International: Where the Future Begins

by Beverly Freed—Bridgeport, CT

When New Eden Academy International opened with 44 pioneer freshmen in Sept. 1997, the idea was to launch a program dedicated to meet the needs of a rising and growing "second generation." New Eden is a preparatory high school "committed to promoting both moral integrity and academic excellence." To achieve those twin goals is a major challenge.

Those first students proudly built a foundation upon which over 70 students in total enrolled in 1998-99.

True Parents visited New Eden on Nov. 20, 1998 during an international conference and ribbon-cutting ceremony held on the campus of the University of Bridgeport. The students excitedly lined the entrance way and sang songs, happily welcoming our True Parents. It was the first time for many of them to stand so close to Father and Mother.

The visit was brought to a beautiful climax when True Father wrote a motto for the school. With sweeping motions Father rapidly wrote a message in Chinese characters which translates into English as "The results [or flowering] of an adult's life depend on the determination one makes as a youth."

Dr. Hugh Spurgin, headmaster of the Academy, has said: "I see the school building on its foundation each year. We begin with an incredible task before us: to establish a new school in only a matter of a few months. We converted an empty, rundown dormitory into a beautiful 'home' for our students. Here in Bridgeport we have an arrangement to use facilities such as the library, gymnasium, recreation center, cafeteria, and classrooms. Students can even take university classes; in fact, we are proud that our high school students have done so well in the university classes which they have taken."

The first year we created the physical plant, the legal work, recruited students and faculty, and created a mission statement and brochure. The second year we expanded our academic offerings and pulled together a solid academic curriculum and faculty. It is our hope that next year we can focus more on the third stage: developing the character education curriculum and sports program.

In many ways it is this final stage which will distinguish our school as an institution, for we must as Hyun Jin Nim said, "develop a systematic structure for passing on our heritage to the second generation." It is in the character education component that we must translate the ideals of the Principle into everyday life.

Our second generation must learn the practice of purity and morality, of unselfishness and love. To become model citizens of the world, they need a systematic approach to understanding the nuances of the life of the heart beyond the academic exercise of the mind.

Dorm life in this international and intercultural setting is rich in rela-



True Parents caligraphy at the opening of the school



Dr. Spurgin, Principal, and some of the students

tionships in an environment where belief in and practice of a Principled life is both accepted and valued. Yet it is a challenge for teenagers to grow to become mature, responsible, loving adults who have the self-discipline to live a good life.

And on to the larger vision:

When we think of our international community of second-generation youth increasing in ever-growing numbers, we can get a vision of the future. The world needs young leaders who will go beyond the desire for wealth and power which today's world has taught them. We can see a future world where the opportunity for education will be equalized by distance learning, where the children of national messiahs will be able to study from any country. ❖

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BLESSING '99



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simple suit or sweater. It was an overcast day, although a sun filtered by haze broke through after the event started. It was as warm as anyone could hope for in a Seoul day in early February.

Finding seats

By the time we got into the stadium, it was hard to find a seat. I sent our matched couples to the field, where they had seating reserved from the day before, and those with photographs to the upper tier, and headed for the observers area. I spotted many friends, European leaders, but it was Heiner Handschin, National Leader of Switzerland, who had an open seat available. The members who were in the upper tier told me later that even arriving there at 12:30 (the event began at 2:00) they had to stand in the very top. All the seats were taken. I heard that about 40,000 people could not get into the stadium. They had the poor judgment to arrive a mere hour and a half early.

The warm-up acts were energetic singers and dancers, covering a repertoire ranging from Korean folk music to contemporary pop and rock'n'roll. Well, that's what the growing churches in America are doing, inspiring the people through contemporary music. East and West, it's the same musical style that people wake up to. I recalled my high school days with our town band, Norman Bailey and His Nervous Cats. It's the same beat. These days, the number one song in Seoul is the 1964 Animals' hit, "House of the Rising Sun." And there we were witnessing the rising of the true sun, at the Blessing Ceremony of 360 Million Couples, a band warming up the crowd with Chuck Berry riffs. A marvel to hear, especially from where I was situated, in a room directly below the stage.

The individual

I went there to see two American



brothers whose photo matches had refused them. Yes, it happens, it happens. We were there in that big barren room with about one hundred others, either late arrivals for the matching or people who had been refused. One of

my Americans was nineteen years old, so we were not as concerned because he is still young for marriage. But the other, Harold, was 36, high time for settling down with a wife. And here, in that bus-station like room, was the deepest part of the day for me. Here was where the massive blessing of 360 million couples assumed a human dimension. And herein is what it all comes down to, the resurrection of love in the life of the

individual.

So here was Harold, and Dr. Chang Shik Yang, Regional Director of Washington, DC, was talking with leaders from Japan about him. Rev. Katsumi Otsuka, a prince of a man and president of the church in Japan, looked at Harold and went off searching among the many Japanese sisters there. A few moments later he came back with Michie. Michie was 33, and it was high time for her to marry as well. Her parents had joined the movement ten years ago, but Michie had just joined a few months ago. She was the right age, the right height, tall for a Japanese, very pretty and not a word of English. But she had the right face for Harold—both with soft features and sincere eyes. Harold is all heart.

Now, I was a photo match, so I had never witnessed a "live" matching of two people who had but a moment before been total strangers. I mean, they would have passed each other in the crowd without a glance, two anonymous people among tens of thousands. But suddenly, they were face to face, *matched*. They were chosen to consider each other as eternal mate. Yes, it was just by church leaders, not by True Parents, and so it was even more a testimony of absolute faith on their part. Would they accept the possibility of the match? They were looking at each other, each exploring the other's countenance. I knew that Harold was positive, but he had been rejected three times and so surely there was some trepidation of being rejected again.

But they seemed to be agreeable. During the shuttle diplomacy of the Japanese, Korean and American matchmakers, Harold quietly said to Michie, "Will you, I mean, do you want ...to ... be my wife?" She didn't understand the question, not knowing English, but she was just looking at his eyes and, gee, she's four months in the church! But there she is, and her eyes are saying "Yes" to this all-heart American.

Just then we heard that True Parents had arrived upstairs and we were off, all hundred of us, to request a last-minute matching. The mob crowded at the door of True Parents' waiting room. True Parents had yet to change their

GRAEME CARMICHAEL





BLESSING '99



clothes, and the program was about to begin. So Father just said, go ahead and participate in the Blessing. The mob turned about face and headed into the stadium.

Ceremony of love

I found my way back to my seat next to Heiner. And the event began with Dr. Bo Hi Pak's sonorous baritone resonating in Korean and English, announcing the start of the event to heaven and earth. He introduced the one man "on the ground" most responsible for the filled stadium (at 30-days notice) to give the opening prayer, Rev. Sun Jo Hwang, President of the church in Korea. Rev. Hwang, a UTS graduate and former Regional Director of New Jersey and Washington, DC, is loved by many American members. Moments after his prayer, the representative leaders of the world's religions ascended the stage. Each gave the blessing of their faith tradition upon the couples.

Among them, Chicago Pastor T. L. Barrett's prayer in particular was powerful. He gave his entire heart and soul, lifting up God and True Parents to the world. The Archbishop Emmanuel Milingo's prayer and counsel on stage was extremely meaningful. He is the Head of the Pontifical Council for Refugees, and one of the first, if not the first, active Vatican leader to play a major public role in a Unificationist religious

event. When you consider that on the same stage with these two spiritual leaders were an eminent American Rabbi, Herzel Kranz, Sheik Alamin Osman, Grand Mufti of Eritrea, together with major leaders of Buddhism, Hinduism, Eastern Orthodoxy and Sikhism, you can see that the convergence of humanity's spiritual paths is finally a substantial historical reality. It is happening in one place, beyond the conference room tables and academic journals, in the midst of God's holy blessing of marriage.



of Zambia gave the remarks, and the musical ambassador of Paraguay, Gloria del Paraguay, presented the lovely song.

At the conclusion, as thousands of balloons ascended into the sky and fireworks exploded from the stadium roof, I truly felt the resurrection of the spirit world into the ancient shamanist sky. As soon as True Parents departed, the crowd began to leave. There were some further performances, and a lottery giving away cars and television sets, but the event was over. People were hugging and greeting each other everywhere. I watched the crowds making their way out for a bit, then suddenly recalled that I'd better get back downstairs to see if Harold and Michie would make it back.

Grand finale

So I squeezed my way against the traffic to get to the waiting room, and



This can only be the hand of God. In the hand of God is the hope of the human race.

The ones whom God used to set this all in motion, our True Parents, then entered the stadium in glory and with a light spirit to the strains of Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus." They performed the ceremony as they have done many times. It is at its heart very simple, with a sprinkling of holy water, the reciting of the marriage covenant, prayer and proclamation of the blessing, the exchange of rings, and congratulatory remarks and songs. His Excellency Kenneth Kuanda, former president

soon after I arrived so did they. They had stayed together through the ceremony, and, as Father had literally said, they participated fully, even exchanging rings! We talked with them more, and discussed their backgrounds and, yes, they really determined to make it work. And it will work.

As we drove back to our hotel, we saw again the buses from far away, with the Korean old folks dancing in the aisles, clapping and singing. These are called karioke buses, according to our tour guide. Feeling the spirit, we enjoyed spirited renditions of "Eres Tu" and "Blue Suede Shoes" to do our bit on behalf of Korean village life. May the entire cosmos become as one village, dancing and singing, young and old, all races together in the same simple hometown. You know, I think we're all blessed on this bus. ❖

UTS Dedicates New Gymnasium

Thanks to the generous donations of UTS alumni and the Red Hook Community Church, a nearly two-year long restoration project reached completion on Wednesday, January 27th when the Seminary dedicated its new gymnasium floor.

During the early 1990s the floor became increasingly dysfunctional due to water leakage. A patchwork of plywood sheets covered areas where holes appeared. Finally, in December 1996, the floor became too dangerous for use and the gym was closed.

Restoration began in March 1997 and UTS students, equipped with hammers and crow bars, removed the old floor. Research followed on how to solve the water problem, and a drainage system was installed. Concrete was poured in mid-1998, and finally in January 1999 a state-of-the-art "Sport Court" surface was installed. Painting and ceiling work completed the project which cost \$30,000 for the drainage system and concrete, \$18,000 for the Sport Court, and \$5,000 for painting and ceiling work, \$53,000 in all. Funds were provided largely by UTS alumni and the Red Hook Community Church with alumni covering more than 80% of the expense.

Dedication ceremonies were highlighted with a ribbon-cutting by President Shimmyo followed by an inaugural "first shot" men and women shooting contests, and a mini-basketball tournament, won by the UTS Divinity Class. The Seminary anticipates many years of "safe" recreation on its new gym floor and extends a challenge to neighboring churches in Westchester, New Jersey, any of the boroughs of New York, Bridgeport, Boston, or even Washington to "bring it on" if they're ready for competition.

F.R.E.S.H. S.T.A.R.T.— Principles for Healthy Living

by Stephen Manning ACE, AFAA, ISIA

In the next few issues of the UTS News, I will introduce you to the "Fresh Start" program. This program has been developed from several sources, including Christian groups who have studied health, nutrition and the social sciences. You may be shocked and surprised by some of the facts presented in these articles, that is simply, and sadly, because we have been lied to at an alarming level for years about many aspects of health and nutrition, and all in the name of "profit!" Just as when we first encountered The Principle, we will have to consider making some changes, as we move into a state of more principled dominion over the physical and material realm. This is our inheritance. It is time to integrate this knowledge into our daily lives, and become living examples of our commitment to spiritual, emotional and physical principles, that visibly declare our position as the most blessed people in history!

In this issue I will provide a little background about myself and the pro-

gram. (Being Irish I enjoy a good story). In future issues I will focus on the topics that make up the "F.R.E.S.H. S.T.A.R.T. program.

In 1960 I was two years old, and living in an old stone cottage in the west of Ireland with my parents, my older sister, and with another sister 'on the way'. The cottage had four small rooms, no electricity, or running water. Drinking water came from a communal pump up the road, and water for other uses was collected in rain-barrels outside the house. We bathed once a week, one after the other in the same water, in a tin tub in front of the roaring turf fire. Hunger was the ever-present challenge. We survived mainly on a diet of porridge, potatoes, milk, eggs, bacon, cheese and homemade bread and butter. It was blessing enough to have sufficient food on the dinner table to feed the growing family. We were glad for the simple blessings that came our way. On very rare occasions, perhaps at Christmas



Dr. Shimmyo cuts the ribbon at the new basketball court dedication ceremony.

or Halloween, Mam would somehow magically produce some "sweets" or maybe even a pudding or a cake. That day would be a real feast-day for us, and we would look forward for weeks to those special occasions.

When we were a little older, we would walk the two miles to school in all weathers, often with only some bread, and a little cheese for our lunch. How we made it to adulthood on such an "unhealthy diet" and in such challenging conditions, and still turn out "normal" (a relative term depending on one's opinion) seems to have been some sort of miracle.

In the 60's, Ireland was a very poor country. In those days, a "healthy diet" was simply "getting enough to eat!" Our lives were very much shaped by the requirements of survival. We developed a strong reliance on each other because of these conditions, and although considered "poor Irish", we had built a strong family tradition that would serve us well in the future, when facing more insidious challenges to our emotional and spiritual health. It would be many years later, when we moved to England, before we would enjoy the luxuries of choice, or television, or owning our own car. It was time for a *fresh start*, with new, different conditions to consider. We, like everyone around us, believed that more *choice*, equaled more prosperity. I have since learnt that this is not necessarily so, and in these next few articles, I hope to share some of these findings with you.

The 1960's were important years for the Unification Movement too. This was the time when American Christianity was to have recognized Sun Myung

Moon as the catalyst who would unite them all in one great God-centered revolution. All the great Churches were to bring their combined knowledge, experience and assets to the great banquet feast... But the invitations were rejected!

So, the beggars got invited, (that's us folks). Unqualified, unprepared and pretty much an ignorant lot, with little to offer except wholesome hearts and a lot of youthful enthusiasm. Because those Christian institutions didn't unite with us, we have been deprived of their collective wisdom and knowledge, which would have gone a

in this field. Much of what I wish to share, is material from seminars and presentations delivered to Christian communities over the last few years.

This information will help us identify the *principled* choices, among so many that are not! Just as my family made a *fresh start* and faced so many new choices when we moved to a new country, now, our movement has established a spiritual base from which we can study all the physical aspects of our world as we prepare to take principled dominion over it. Many of the choices we face in daily life present themselves innocently enough, but often conceal hidden dangers to our emotional, physical and spiritual well being. It's all about how, and with what and whom, we relate. *Principled* give-and-take action is the key!

Question of the month: Which one of the following topics is the *most* important to understand in maintaining a healthy lifestyle?

Food. Recreation. Exercise. Sleep. Hydration. Study. Tenancy. Addictions. Relationships. Trust—in—God. (*FRESH START*).

The answer is... The one(s) that YOU DON'T understand! Because that is probably the one that will be your undoing! It is difficult to make principled decisions based on what we *don't* know. So, starting in the next issue, we will begin examining how to have principled relationships with our physical environment. Meanwhile, consider these words of wisdom:

Plant an Act; Reap a Habit.

Plant a Habit; Reap a Virtue or a Vice.

Plant a Virtue or a Vice; Reap a Character.

Plant a Character; Reap a Destiny!

ALUMNI ALOHA

by Dan Fefferman

I wrote this song in the information booth one snowy night at about 2 a.m. It was almost accepted as the school's alma mater, but David Kim felt it was a little too wistful, not majestic enough. I think it captures some of the mood of UTS very nicely.

LIFE AT BARRYTOWN

As the Hudson returns to the sea
Here we pledge our complete loyalty
Faithful we will remain
Faithful we will remain

Study the truth of the ages
Our knowledge will free the world
Marching through history's pages
Love's beautiful banner unfurled

And though the seasons pass and the tears flow
Still our motto resounds
Ever strong as the years roll
Faith is our life at Barrytown

She endures through our fond memories



NEWS

Center of God's great new history
Alma mater restored
Alma mater restored

Netting carp by the river
He showed us with his own hands
Memories and victories linger
Throughout all ages and lands

And though the seasons pass and the tears flow
Still our motto resounds
Ever strong as the years roll
Faith is our life at Barrytown

Our True Parents forever remain
Through the sunshine, the wind and the rain
Here at dear Barrytown
Here at dear Barrytown

Father's path still reminds us
That he was the true pioneer
Wherever providence finds us
Our hearts will always be here

And though the seasons pass and the tears flow
Still our motto resounds
Ever strong as the years roll
Faith is our life at Barrytown
Faith is our life at Barrytown
Faith is our life at Barrytown

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Editor's note: Last month Dr. Hendricks included a song in his Alumni Aloha that he had written with Dr. Baughman while at UTS; now Dan shares this beautiful song with us. It seems that being at UTS stimulates our creativity allowing it to flow and find expression.

Interview with Dr. Sallyann Goodall

**Specialist in music and
music education**

by Melissa Brosseau

Dr. Goodall earned her Doctorate in Music at the University of Durban-Westville, S. Africa where she is currently head of the music department. She is teaching a course on Sacred Music at UTS this trimester.

Part One

What do you feel is the value of music and creativity for our life and specifically for our spirituality?

I believe in music/art education so much that sometimes it shocks people. Arts education is the very best way to educate people as holistic beings. I see the education of our spiritual life as our total education. Music is great for this kind of education because it takes us away from something that is purely intellectual and it reaches parts of a person that can't be educated through the usual curriculum of geography, history, math, etc. Music involves our emotions, feelings and values. It prepares us socially to work with oth-

ers, and educates us in terms of our own striving to become an ideal person.

When it comes to spirituality, music enables us to become spiritual in a way that we cannot just by learning about teachings or beliefs or ideologies. Music enables people to become more trustful in their own spiritual lives and in themselves—to recognize that their own spiritual life is in fact the central core of their being. Through music, and other art forms, we can reach that core much more readily.

Nowadays it is helpful to get somewhat away from the intellectual. It is possible that if we only had training in music we would still be able to become people who had intellectual information & all skills. That's how highly I think of it

How can we help children become more aware and connected to their creativity and music?

Generally children develop better musically if they come from families who sing together with them, for example at home and church. Look at African people. They have a very developed sense of rhythm and movement. From that sense of movement, the sense of music comes. African children see their parents singing and dancing and are not admonished to stop squiggling and moving around. They experience great acceptance from and involvement with their parents

It doesn't matter how accomplished the parents are, the important thing is to be involved. Let the children see you as a parent taking part, and sing and dance together with your children. The relationship is the main thing. As a parent, create a relationship in which you perform music together with your children.

I have seen the pattern of parents who have their children take lessons because they never took them themselves. But they don't take any part in the lessons, nor get lessons for themselves. This is not a healthy foundation for a child. It is better to sing and play an instrument or dance together. Dancing together is a great foundation for music. In other words, it is a much more effective foundation when the parents are involved in the lessons than if there is not any parental involvement.

How do you recognize talent in young children and what is the best way to nurture their talent as they grow?

At a certain age children suddenly wake up to music, usually between 18 months and three years. This is a common phenomenon for all children whether or not they are gifted. If the child is as keenly interested at 6 years as they were at 18 months, then probably your child has more interest than average. If the child then goes on to sing, dance or play an instrument with joy and enthusiasm, and still has the same commitment at 9 years old, then

you have an above average child. They are one in a thousand. If the child is gifted you would notice between the ages of five and eight years, you do not usually notice as early as three. You have to keep watching over a certain amount of time. Again, this will develop with parental involvement. If the father or mother or both sing and play instruments together, this is always, always, always the best foundation.

If the child is extraordinary, it does not necessarily mean that in today's art world, they will be able to earn a living at it. But, that doesn't mean that the child should not pursue music and the arts. Just keep it in perspective.

It is most important to get a teacher that the child likes. It is totally counterproductive to send your child to a teacher that he does not like. This is more important than if the teacher is well known, especially in the beginning. As the child progresses, especially if they develop above average, the teacher should pass the child on to another teacher. The best way to find a good teacher is by word of mouth, so ask around.

It is important not to push the child to do something just because you want to do it. Do not try to fulfill your dreams for music through your child. This is also completely counterproductive.

It is also important to consider how much money you are going to be willing and able to invest in this music education for the childhood years. If you are considering an instrument, pianos are very expensive, much more than a wind instrument or guitar. So ask yourself what you are prepared to invest. Even if you have no money, but you continue to sing and perform in church and at home, and find school groups for the children, they will find a way to pick it up.

It is extremely important that the children make some of their own decisions about going ahead. Too frequently the parent pushes the child when they are not truly gifted and it turns out to be a horrible experience for the child.

What if you see your child is gifted and enjoys music but they don't like to practice? How do you deal with this in a positive way?

The first place to go for ideas is the child's teacher. Also show interest yourself in whether practice is done or not. You might set up a roster together with your child. You may want to explain that if they don't practice, you could withdraw the money to pay for lessons. But, if you say this you must be willing to follow through and do what you say, otherwise you will look foolish. It is very important to realize that it is the child doing the work and not you. No matter how gifted a child may be, if they genuinely do not want to do the work, it really is their own choice. If they regret it later they usually find enough energy as an older person to do it then. Or they will have to undo the difficulties themselves. It is so important for them to realize that they have a responsibility and they are the ones who do the work. If it drags on over a couple years it's probably better to drop it.

If the child is not ready at age 6, would you advise giving another chance at 8 or 10?

It is unusual if a person is truly gift-

ed for them not to want to practice. If they are gifted they see that practicing brings a lot of dividends: lots of acceptance from other people, positive feedback, people will praise, love and clap for you. Giftedness has so much pull that it really pays to practice, and if that is not enough pull this could be an indication that this child will continue that kind of pattern in life. It can be devastating for the parent who sees all the potential and doesn't want to waste it. But you are not the one in that skin so, yes, exalt children, try everything, but realize you are not the one doing it.

It seems that by a certain age some children may not be ready to be involved, but they will be ready later, and that they are not handicapped for that later start.

That happens all the time. It is said that the child who begins music at five or six and the one who begins at seven or eight has reached the same point by the age of ten. So anywhere along those ages doesn't mean that much of anything is lost. It also depends on which instrument you play. It is best not to be teaching children to read and write and learn music notation at the same time. Do one before the other, usually read and write and then go on to the music. But some children, you cannot hold back. Then you should give them support to go on.

It seems that it has a lot to do with what is within you that wants to find an expression and finding the way to facilitate it's expression—whether dance, writing or an instrument.

You need to make it clear to your child that development is going to need discipline, it is something they are going to have to do. Help your child to set up a schedule and try to apply some pressure that it is done. But there's not much more than that you can do. It is the child's responsibility.

Part 2 of this interview will continue in next month's UTS News and will explore Dr. Goodall's unique perspective on music and race relations based on her experiences in S. Africa.

Distance Learning at UTS

Thank you to all who responded to the survey in the December issue of the Unification News. People were inspired by all the Certificate Programs that are being proposed with the Certificate in Family Ministry receiving the most requests, closely followed by the Certificate in Counseling. The whole UTS distance learning program is still a work in process, with the hope that it will be up and running by the Fall trimester. Two courses are currently available, Unification Philosophy and Divine Principle. Unification Philosophy requires a prerequisites, so it is available to alumni who are working to upgrade their diploma to an accredited degree. Divine Principle is available to everyone on an open enrollment basis. For more details please contact Gillian Corcoran at utsadmis@epix.net ❖

Taking on Cancer ... and Winning

by Edy Iversen—Palm Coast, FL

In 1992, after a series of U.S.A. programs, Mother's tours and working arduously on the front lines in South Dakota for over 10 years, I collapsed. I found myself in Los Angeles at the mercy of my 72-year old father, trying to get well from a disease that no one could diagnose. For six years, until now, I struggled desperately to get well from Chronic Fatigue Syndrome and Fibromyalgia, now commonly known as two of the most disabling diseases in America.

I would lie in bed, tormented by pain and unable even to walk across the room. Yet, I struggled desperately to keep going and try to keep our mission alive as my husband worked tirelessly to support our family.

Over two years ago my husband was diagnosed with cancer of the throat. He underwent severe radiation treatment at one of the best hospitals in America and we were sure he was cured. He also went to Chung Pyung Lake for 40 days to clear himself of any spiritual trouble that might have caused this disease.

Then again last year, he was diagnosed with colon cancer and underwent surgery to remove a three-inch tumor. He looked so bad after the operation that the oncologist said he was too weak to do chemotherapy and since he already had two cancers, his prognosis was terrible. We might as well resign ourselves to the inevitable.

Tom and I prayed desperately what to do. We offered his life to God and actually felt he would go to the spiritual world. My sister came to take care of us, and organized a fund-raiser to cover the cost of the medical bills. Many people prayed and sent donations that kept us alive.

After much prayer, I felt it was not Tom's time to go to the spiritual world. I felt we had too much unfinished business to do, including our mission that Father had given us. Tom had been fighting this cancer at the same time as Guisi Johnson who struggled with breast cancer. As you may know, a few months ago she went to the spiritual world. On her deathbed she had a visitation from Heung Jin Nim and immediately called us and said not to do chemotherapy, but to go the natural

way. She was convinced that Chemo had weakened her body to the point of no return.

We were so confused as to what to do. Many people called us with suggestions and sent information about special diets and places where to go. After intense prayer, at the suggestion of our dear brother Tony Flores in Columbus, Ohio, we decided to call Mrs. Sung Bok Hsu, our elder church member. Twenty one years ago, Mrs. Hsu herself, was very sick and started her business with \$144 worth of Il Hwa Ginseng, going door to door selling it. On top of that, she had to support and take care of three young children.

She has since developed a successful health food business that includes three retail stores in Columbus, Ohio, and an international mail order department. But more important than all her material success, is the fact that she has a book full of testimonies from people who were able to overcome a variety of illnesses after going through her internal Cleansing Program.

Her program didn't develop overnight. It took a lot of study and prayer to pull together the many bits of information she gleaned from many books and from her own struggle to get well. She mentioned to me that long ago, when she was a young member in Korea, she once heard someone ask Father, "Why did God create flies?" At first she thought the question to be silly. But she never forgot how Father answered it. After some reflection he said "To keep us clean," meaning the presence of flies alarms us to the need for cleaning our environment.

Mrs. Hsu believes that internal cleansing of all of the bodily systems is a necessity for optimal health. If, for example, our gastrointestinal system is not functioning well because of deposits on the walls of the small and large intes-

tine, the body is not able to fully absorb the nutrition from the foods we eat. In addition, the weakening of the colon contributes to self-poisoning because we absorb harmful substances formed when fecal matter remains too long in our system. Constipation is one of the most widespread American health problems. Unfortunately it is largely ignored because it is not considered harmful, which is a serious mistake.

Just like a car, which eventually breaks down if it is not properly maintained, our bodies also need to be tuned-up.

In studying Mrs. Hsu's program and seeing what it has done for my husband and I, I feel very strongly that the answer to many health problems is the same: eat and drink properly and clean out your machine, your body, from the inside out.

Mrs. Hsu's program takes investment but it is absolutely worth it. I have been on the program for 3 months now but even after

merely 4 weeks of eating properly and cleansing I was waking up at 6 a.m., bounding with energy for the first time in 6 years. I lost 2 dress sizes and feel very good! My husband could barely walk through the airport when we went to visit Mrs. Hsu. Now he is riding a bike 7 miles a day, swimming and most importantly playing baseball with our son. This is all happening after receiving a "hopeless" prognosis from the oncologist. He just returned from a trip to New York with my son to speak to the Japanese "Kodan" group about this program.

We promised God that if Tom survives, we would write our testimony and do our best to help others that may be sick. I know that many of you out there are exhausted, tired and beaten down from years of work on the front line and are struggling with different diseases or weight problems. We are no longer young and we sacrificed our bodies tremendously to do God's will.

This program has also helped my twin sister Betsy. She came down here 2 months ago almost crippled by arthritis; she was diagnosed with "Post Polio Syndrome". Her prognosis was that she would be in a wheelchair shortly. She could barely walk when she came. Today she is out swimming for 40 minutes and bicycling with her daughter after participating in Mrs. Hsu's program for just two months. She looks like a different person.

As Unificationists, we are needed for the long run. Most of us don't even have the strength to go on because of our physical pain and exhaustion as a result of sacrificing our body over the years. My husband and I are committed to helping others get well as God has blessed us so richly and saved my husband's life. If you want to do

God's will, but just don't have the strength to keep up the good fight; this program is for you.

As for everyone that prayed for us, sent letters and donations, we can never thank you enough. We hope through our suffering we will be able to help many others. And a deep and special thanks to Mrs. Hsu whom God used to save our lives. May she continue to help thousands of others who need her program.

There is a simple outline of what Tom and I have done over the last few months at the end of this article.

The cost of the program runs about \$ 150 a month per person, not including the cost of food. We know that some of you out there cannot afford this program so Tom and I have started the GUISI JOHNSON MEMORIAL FUND.

As God worked through Guisi to help save Tom's life, we are now raising funds to save the lives of others and we will provide one to three month programs for needy Church Members. Please write us a letter or e-mail as to why you or someone you know needs the program and cannot afford it. The person must be absolutely committed to doing the program. Our funds are limited so those most needy will be considered first. If you would like to help someone get well, all donations to this program can be sent to Guisi Johnson Memorial Fund c/o Tom Iversen, Box 350475, Palm Coast, FL 32135.

This program takes a minimum of three months commitment, serious food combining, a change in diet, total focus and the taking of a lot of supplements. Please consider that before you start the program or you will not be successful. But results can be quick depending on your determination.

For more resources and explanations, please contact Mrs. Hsu's counselors at 1-800-628-8420 or look up most of the information on their webpage at www.hsu.com. If you have any questions, please feel free to call us at 904-445-3774, e-mail us at Iversen1@Juno.com or Iversen2@AOL.com, or you can write us at PO Box 350475, Palm Coast, FL 32135.

Overview of program

The basis for the program is very simple. If you compare the human body to an automobile engine, a new car comes with clean oil. But then the oil becomes dirty and it can no longer do its job of lubricating the engine. If you don't clean the oil filter the unclean oil will clog the filter and the engine will be ruined. The human body is constantly cleaning itself out. But by overloading the system with impurities, eventually it cannot handle them anymore, and the body breaks down. For many of us we lived a life of McDonalds on MFT and never took care of our bodies and this is what happened.

This is a very brief synopsis of the program Tom and I have been on for 3 months. The program consists of food combining, exercise, vitamins and drinking plenty of distilled water. Also very important is caring for one's spiritual health and overcoming anger and resentment.

This is the basis of what you take internally everyday. It may seem overwhelming, but once you have it down,

see **CANCER** on page 21



Tom & Edy Iversen

The Washington Times

The Washington Times

The Washington Times

Children's Christmas-Break Workshop in Detroit

by David Kasbow—Detroit, MI

Lectures, hot chocolate and a sleep-over all made for a great time at the first Christmas-Break Second Generation Children's Two-Day Workshop of the Metro Detroit area. Twenty-seven children ranging in age from 9 to 15 years old attended.

They heard lectures on the Divine Principle, as well as internal guidance such as the meaning of being a Blessed Child. Some of the younger children experienced lectures for the first time and enjoyed the new experience. Discussion groups were separated by age and gender which worked out very well. Some interesting issues were brought up during discussion time; one eight year old girl wanted to know how we could be sure that we had the right religion. The question led to some great give and take on prayer life and the importance of having a personal relationship with God. The older boys had

a lively discussion on the creation of the first man and woman. They speculated about whether God prepared for the creation of Adam and Eve by first creating humans without a spirit.

Another aspect of the workshop was food. Hot chocolate was extremely popular. We went through 200 servings in 2 days! Pizza was the most popular food served.

From the reflections written by the children, these are some of the things they learned: How their spirit can benefit from goodness, the importance of prayer and a clearer understanding of the foundation of faith and substance. Besides lectures, the children enjoyed many fun aspects of a workshop such as soccer, dominos, karaoke and, most of all, spending time with each other.

I was renewed and inspired by the children's quest for truth. I felt the



Rev. Charles Cherutich lecturing the children

most important part of the workshop was the bond that they made with each other which deepened as they shared the two days together.

I was grateful for all the parents who volunteered their time as lecturers and group leaders, and to the parents who entrusted their children to us. We plan

to make the Christmas-Break workshop an annual event and to follow it up with one during the children's summer vacation. ❖

CANCER from page 20

it becomes routine.

For further details about the program, explanations and menus, please call Mrs. Hsu (1-800-628-8420) for a complete program outline and explanation of how everything works. This is merely an overview.

There are three levels of the program. I will basically describe the products used in her program:

Level 1

1. IL Hwa Ginseng Tea—a blood purifier, powerful antioxidant, protects the body from free radicals and promotes balance in the body.

2. Aloe Vera Juice—mends the digestive systems; speeds cell growth and replenishes the cells which comprise the skin and all mucus membranes including the digestive tract.

3. Acidophilus and Bifidus—beneficial bacteria for the intestinal tract. Promotes good balance of the intestinal flora, which helps breakdown digestion of food. Helps eliminates yeast (candida) in the system.

4. Chlorella—a super rich source of chlorophyll which helps the production of red blood cells and acts as a detoxifier. Great source of vitamins, minerals and proteins.

5. Kelp—a type of seaweed which is an excellent source of sea minerals, especially iodine which is critical for proper thyroid gland function as it helps to regulate metabolism and weight.

6. Digestive Enzymes—help to break down fat, starch and protein in our food so we can assimilate and absorb nutrients.

7. Cod Liver Oil—a terrific source of vitamin A and D and essential Omega 3 oils. Helps the liver, strengthens bones, helps the brain, nervous system and production of prostaglandins. Helps calcium assimilation in the body and lubricates joints to help stiffness in the bones.

8. Multiple vitamins, Multiple minerals, Vitamin C with Bioflavonoids, and Vitamin E—helps fill in vital nutrients that we don't get in our food. Vitamin C and E are great antioxidants too.

9. Dry Skin Brush—for 5 minutes a day stimulates the flow in the lymphatic system and is especially good for those that don't have time to exercise.

On Level Two (After the first month) you add the following:

10. Psyllium Husks—the most effective soluble fiber that moves through your body and sponges us loosened wastes in the intestinal tract.

11. Liv-C—vitamins, herbs and amino acids that nourish and cleanse the liver.

12. Olive Oil Crème—A deep penetrating crème that you massage in the abdomen and it acts as a lubricant of the lower digestive tracts. Also, a great

sandwiches as you like. Dinner—Brown Rice, Seaweed, Steamed Vegetables and Raw Salad Or a protein meal Chicken or Fish with vegetables and a salad.

Food combining is critical for proper digestion. Mrs. Hsu can send you a chart and a good easy cookbook on recipes that are combined properly for your health. Just doing this one step, you will be amazed at the energy you get because your body doesn't have to spend hours digesting bad food combinations like starch and protein (For example meat and potatoes the typical American diet is not a good food combination.)

Letter of Thanks

This is the letter of thanks that my husband wrote:

Dear Mrs. HSU,

I want to thank you for saving my life and giving me hope that once again I can return to good health. Your cleansing program is not only doing wonders for me, but also for my whole family. Your beautiful heart of concern for my health, your support and guidance, and the wonderful staff at HSU & CO have been so helpful every step of the way. I have enclosed a brief testimony in the hope that it may encourage others that they can also regain the precious gift of life and good health.

Less than two years ago I was diagnosed with a stage four-throat cancer. This type of cancer has always been associated with smoking, yet I had never smoked before. However, I was a terrible eater. I was always on the go and fast food was my life. Since stage four is the worst stage, I was encouraged by my doctors to act quickly. I underwent six and a half weeks of radiation twice a day. After that I had surgery to remove the lymph nodes in my throat area. The treatment supposedly "got rid" of the cancer but it nearly killed me. I lost 50 pounds and was so weak. The saliva glands in my neck were completely burnt by the radiation so that to this day, I must constantly have a bottle of water with me to drink every few minutes.

It was by far the most terrible experience I had to endure in my 42 years of life. Yet, I was happy because I was



Tom, with son David, on a recent speaking trip to NYC

moisturizer and healer for the skin.

Level 3

(the third month)
13. DC 3—contains pepsin and herbs, which cleanse and tone the small intestine. Critical for achieving optimal health in the stomach and small intestine. Helps to stop self-poisoning and putrefaction of wastes.

Also, it is important to drink plenty of distilled water, exercise and a good diet of food combining.

For example here is a typical day in our diet: Morning- Fruit, just one kind as much as you like. (A whole melon or 5 bananas as much as will fill you up.) Afternoon-Sprout sandwich with avocado, healthy bread, Nayoanise (Mayonnaise Substitute), sprouts, cucumbers, red onion, green peppers, shredded carrots) You can have as many

alive and I didn't want to cause any more suffering to my wife and son by dying. When you are seriously sick, those that love you suffer just as much as the person who is sick and I didn't want anymore suffering for my family.

For over a year I was out of work because I was just too weak. I had quit eating at fast food restaurants, however, I didn't know anything about food combining which is a big part in Mrs. Hsu's program. Then in August of 1998, I got sick again with an unknown virus. I was tired all the time, so I went to the doctor and had some blood tests done. One test led to another and I was diagnosed with colon cancer, stage three.

I couldn't believe it, my worst nightmare became reality. I elected to have surgery and a three-inch tumor was removed from my colon along with 25 lymph nodes, 5 that contained cancer. My surgeon recommended chemotherapy, yet when the oncologist came to visit me in the hospital his outlook was very bleak. He said I was too weak to withstand the chemo and that this being my second cancer in less than two years, he was not very hopeful.

In nice words he basically said there was no hope, you're gonna die. It was then we started looking for an alternative way to fight cancer and a good friend that lives in Columbus told us about Mrs. Hsu. My wife and I decided to make the trip to Columbus and meet Mrs. Hsu and start her cleansing program. It has been a month and a half since we began and we are now into the second stage of the program.

Before I started, I could barely walk through the airport on my way to Ohio. Today I'm riding seven miles a day on a bike, swimming and most importantly, playing baseball with my son. I can hardly wait to get to stage three of the program. My wife who suffered with chronic fatigue and fibromyalgia for six years has experienced greatly improved energy and steady weight loss. Her arthritis has also improved. I also have my brother and his wife doing the program with us. Both can't believe the increase in energy and my brother has lost 20 pounds in one month.

With deep gratitude and warmest regards, Tom Iversen & Family ❖

Opera on the Lower East Side of NYC

by Alex Murphy—NYC

All art is bound to return in the realm of the Principle: both the creator and the performer of the new-age work of art will be able to connect with the beautiful and virtually untapped resources of the immense Spiritual World and of the God-given gift of poetic intuition and human creativity to give life to incredible works of art for the joy and solace of human beings and God the creator: this is the vision of the Theory of Art and we know that it is just a matter of time for that to be realized in fullness.

Opera is a musical art-form which combines the elements of drama and music. The singers are musicians and actors; they have the full resources of the symphony orchestra to accompany them and the benefit of sets, costumes and stage-lights to beautify the performance and render it realistic. The possibilities of this art form in terms of emotional impact and catharsis of the listener are great indeed and yet to be discovered by many people.

A small opera company in NYC, the vision of its music director Francesco Santelli—Music Minister of the New Jersey FFWPU—has been slowly but steadily moving towards that ideal. This is the Henry Street Opera which is part of the Henry Street Settlement—Abrons Arts Center on the Lower East Side of Manhattan.

Diverse, vibrant and unique in their contribution to Lower East Side life, the arts at the Henry Street have blossomed at the Henry Street/Louis Abrons Arts Center, influencing the lives of children and adults. Ethnic arts festivals, opera, jazz, theater, visual arts exhibitions and family arts activities flourish here. Founded as a visiting nurse service in 1893, Henry Street quickly expanded to become a comprehensive social service and arts agency for the Lower East Side of Manhattan.

The center is alive through the year with classes and groups sessions in jazz, tap and ballet dancing, workshops and performances for children's theater and much more. The HSS is funded in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, the New York State Council on the Arts, and the Department of Cultural Affairs of the City of New York.

The Abrons Arts Center was opened in 1975 and has been cultivating a sophisticated jazz audience on the Lower East Side ever since its founding. Paul West, the center's music director, has been inviting the legendary Dizzy Gillespie to perform at the center until his death in 1992. Mr. West, an alumnus of Dizzy's big band in the 1950s and his quintet in the 1960s, established an annual "Dizzy Gillespie Tribute Concert" with symphony orchestra; the series is meant to keep Dizzy Gillespie's genius and spirit alive on the Lower East Side.

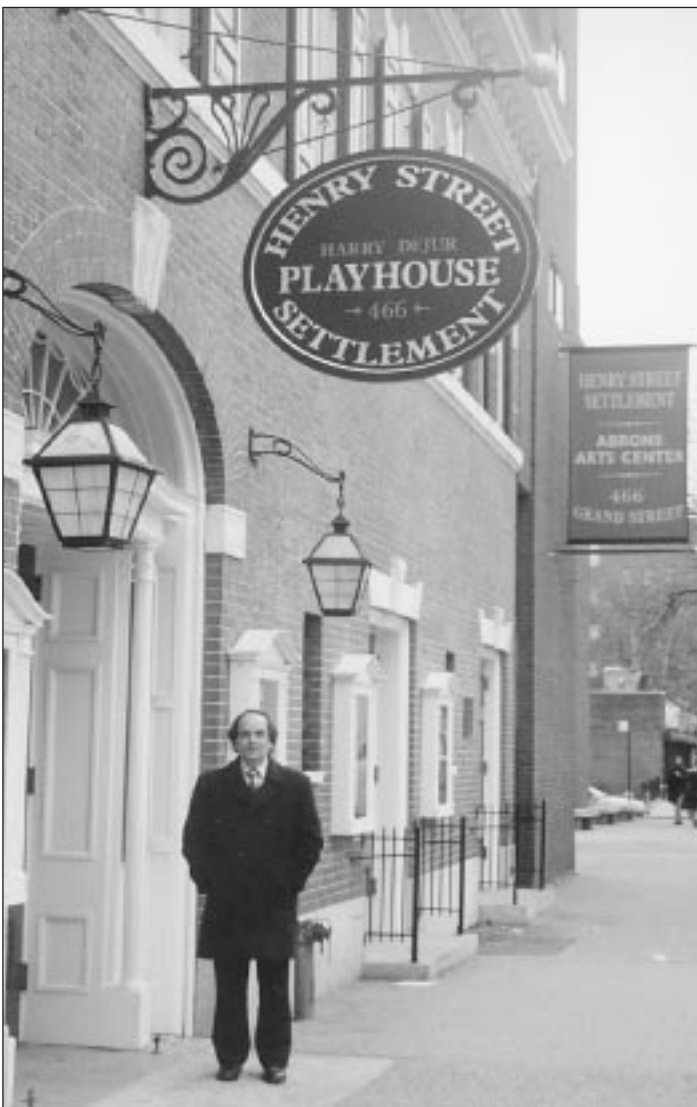
The other high point of the musical activities of the Abrons Arts Center is opera. The opera company is the fruit of the vision of Paul West, the director of the Music Department since 1973. In fact, from the outset he felt the need to develop opera at the Center for the Lower East Side audiences.

The first director of the opera program (1975-81) was Bryan Camp, with the first productions in two languages (original language and English) and four casts, followed by Tali Makell (1981-84). Kurt Saffir, a German-born conductor from the NYC Opera, succeeded from 1984 until his untimely death in 1988; since then, Francesco Santelli, an Italian-born conductor and composer, has been the music director.

The Henry Street Opera has been active for 24 years in NYC. It is known in opera circles for its good productions and musical preparation. Longer rehearsal time is allowed than in any of the smaller companies of NYC so that the singer can really master the role with the necessary time to go into musical details. The productions are double-casted, and an important addition to the musical staff has been the presence of the talented, well-known stage director Robert Stivanello since 1993. The company produces professional

productions in the beautiful Harry de Jour Playhouse to help young and talented opera singers of the NYC area

of the university. Puccini's "La Boheme" was performed fully staged and with orchestra. It so happened (and it wasn't known until after preparations were already well underway) that the Connecticut Grand Opera, the main opera company in Connecticut supported by large state financial grants, had scheduled the same opera "La Bohème," the same day, in the same city (Bridgeport) at the same time and just few miles away from the Mertens Theater. Cancellation became a real possibility. It was natural to think that one couldn't compete with the first opera company in Connecticut; however, the events, with God and the spiritual world's help, turned out quite positively: while the CGO did not sell out, at UB not only was there a complete selling out for both performances but there were many people from the surrounding Bridgeport area who could not get tickets even though they wanted to, and after the performance they were asking when the next opera would come to UB. A total of 1,700 guests attended the two performances, including many Bridgeport middle-school students at the Friday matinee; this was a success for the university. A staff member from UB said that this was the first time that the theater (in such a performance event) was completely full. The HSO has been invited next season to return to UB with a production of "Carmen."



Francesco Santelli in front of the Harry De Jur Playhouse, the theater of the Abrons Arts Center

gain experience in standard operatic roles. The opera orchestra is made up of fine NYC freelance musicians and music faculty members of the Arts center. In New York City, aside from the giants of the Met and the NYC Opera, the HSO stands proudly among the few smaller companies of the city. Effort is made in the artistic preparation to bring out principled elements in the opera at hand both dramatically and musically and they are emphasized in the preparation to draw the highest possible spirit from the drama coupled with good technique. In opera the importance of the words and the libretto is crucial; emphasis on the meaning of the words all along is made to emphasize elements of the Four Realms of Heart and Principle-based emotions. The rehearsals are strict in discipline, allowing the singers to learn through time without the pressure of an imminent performance.

A highlight of the opera company's history and a direct contribution to the Providence was made through the guest performance of the HSO at the University of Bridgeport's Mertens Theater in November 1997 on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the founding

The HSO's upcoming production is Puccini's "Madama Butterfly," one the most beloved operas of all times. It is the musical drama of Cio-Cio-San, a Japanese young woman who marries Pinkerton, an American naval officer; after three years of his absence in America and return to Japan, she takes her life when they agree that their son Dolore will go back with Pinkerton and his new American wife Kate.

The performances will be on March 20, 21, 27 and 28 at the Abrons Arts Center (Saturdays 7PM and Sunday matinees 3PM). Francesco Santelli is the conductor and Robert Stivanello is the stage director. The opera will be sung in Italian. Alicia Alexander and Ba Guo Wang will sing the role of Madama Butterfly, James Guthrie and Alejandro Olmedo that of Pinkerton, Robert Violette and Paul Brown will sing Sharpless, and Anna Tonina and Svetlana Furdui, Suzuki. The production is fully staged, with costumes and orchestra. Tickets are \$20 and \$15 (discount available for seniors and students). For tickets and information call (973) 472-3755. ♦



Inside the Harry De Jur Playhouse after major renovations in 1994

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Being the National Messiah to Nepal

by John & Ginger Nicholls
—Kathmandu, Nepal

Last October 1998, John and I were forced to return to England from our mission country of Nepal on short notice due to problems instigated by several people in Nepal who threatened our visa situation. We had no choice but to withdraw a small investment from our understanding Nepalese co-founders which had been used to co-found a high school. Working part-time at the high school had provided us accommodation, basic living expense, and a means to obtain a non-tourist visa (which proved to be extremely difficult and very expensive), besides an inroads to the education system. Our hope was to stay in Nepal up to three years on the visa, after which time we had to pray for a miracle, or return to England and start over.

Living in two different countries for part of each year has been a great financial, mental and physical strain for us, as I'm sure other national messiahs have found a similar challenge. It is also a very lonely course in many ways, especially when we have to keep uprooting ourselves to move and try to stay temporarily in a different location. Being without children has its advantages, but adds to our loneliness. In Nepal, we continue to be the only elder leader most of the time. Our Japanese national messiah cannot come to Nepal, our Korean NM can only come for 3-4 months each year and he doesn't speak English, and we still don't have a "Cain" NM. Our national leader is very young and not able to lead on his own. When we were trying to seek guidance from our regional and continental leader during an extremely difficult period, we could not get any response and had to make our own decisions with only God to turn to.

In this way, we have come to realize more deeply our True Parents' course, and our own challenge to become a "messiah" not only for our family, our tribe, our society but for a nation. To be a messiah means the willingness to pay indemnity for others.

When we returned in October, we arrived heartbroken, without a home or car and without knowing clearly what plan to make next. Do we go back to Nepal in January on a tourist visa for at most five months, which we could just afford to do? Do we take time out to try and build a stronger financial foundation for the future? Many such questions plagued our minds as we wondered where to stay temporarily in England. This time, it seemed more difficult than ever to find God's guidance, and with winter weather approaching, we struggled with the idea of fundraising on the streets. During this period of confusion, we quickly bought a car so that at least we could be mobile with most of our belongings to carry around. We began to feel like refugees in our own country. Unfortunately, the

engine blew out after a long distance trip one week later, which cost us the value of the car.

We had been staying with John's brother in Scunthorpe, whose wife had warmly welcomed us to stay as long as we needed to make a new start. We made the long-distance trip to help us decide where to settle ourselves, and

portation, but Chris Jones is faithfully trying to maintain a monthly service and Josefa would like to develop WFWP, but she needs the support of another sister.

John and I focused on looking for work and communicating with Nepal. To find any job is easy, but to find a job which will enable us to work temporarily and earn enough money to continue our mission is very difficult, especially since John lacks qualifications and I have a serious health limitation.

Therefore, after True God's Day, we decided the best thing for us was to return to Nepal and come back to England in the summertime when at least we can fundraise. We had been doing conditions

and there would be no cleaning responsibilities—only managing the hotel and continental breakfast. If we took the job, we could save L250 a week after expenses. We were really in a turmoil because it seemed to be the very thing we'd been praying for to help us get ahead financially, visit the U.S.A., where I hoped to give Blessing to my parents and relatives before 2000, and possibly to help John restore his residency in America where we could more easily find temporary work to continue our mission in Nepal.

At first, we both thought, we have to take this job and delay our trip back to Nepal. It caused us great sadness as we were already expected in Nepal and our hearts were already on the way. We couldn't help but think: Why didn't we get this job offer a few months or weeks earlier, before we bought tickets and turned over our car? But finally, after deep prayer and contemplation, and a fax which arrived the following morning from our members in Nepal, John felt that God was giving us this experience to pay indemnity again. We were being asked to sacrifice what would benefit us materially, rather than what would benefit God and Nepal. Our responsibility was to return to Nepal as soon as possible, and offer to God our willingness to trust in Him.

When we called our former employer, he told us to contact him when we return; the job might be available at a later date. In the meantime, we are leaving Jan. 22 and will try to develop the export of Nepalese jewelry which Steve Clark helped John begin throughout last year. As well as being an old friend of John's, Steve has been selling Nepalese jewelry as part of his business to help support our mission.

Recently, we received an e-mail from one of the Nepalese members who had created difficulty for us. He offered his heartfelt repentance and explained that he had come under the influence of others who are no longer connected to our activities.

We will return to Nepal for our third year and expect victory! To be a messiah is not easy for any of us. Just like True Father, we cannot do it alone. We need each other's help, because we must all become messiahs on one level or another. We again offer our grat-

itude to God and True Parents for all the help received from brothers and sisters, and encourage every family along the path of becoming a messiah.

HELP SUPPORT MISSION TO NEPAL:

If you are interested to order handcrafted Tibetan/Nepalese silver with turquoise, moonstone, amethyst, garnet, etc., jewelry for your own fundraising or business, please contact Steve Clark for information regarding prices and pictures of jewelry at (1379)7401431 (in England) or

John & Ginger Nicholls, P.O. Box 1963, Kathmandu, Nepal. e-mail: jon-gin2@hotmail.com. fax: 009771-472175♦



Nepalese members and guests at the Pokhara workshop

we are ever so grateful for the many brothers and sisters who helped us in various ways and with their warm welcome: Mark and Inge in Bath, Barbara at Cleeve House, Terry and Melanie in Wiltshire, the Hills, the Horscrofts, and the Browns in Eastborne, Tina Coombs, Cecile Franklin, Andrew and Ingrid Davis in London, Ashley Crosswaithe who picked us up at the airport, and Simon and Yuriko Roselli (Yuriko was our former Japanese missionary and dear sister in Nepal) who arranged the ride from the airport without our asking, gave us the use of their flat on more than one occasion, and moral support to find the determination to keep going.

Unfortunately, we had an accident in our second car during an unusual moment on a roundabout in London and lost the value of that car one week after the first one. Thank goodness for AA! But our confidence was deeply shattered and we could feel how much Satan must be trying to defeat us during the growth stage of our mission. When we finally decided to move to the center in Manchester, we felt a bit like True Father when his Christian foundation failed in South Korea and had to go to North Korea to begin again. Though we are grateful that we could stay temporarily in a church center, the last few months have been one of the darkest and loneliest periods of our life. Again, we are grateful for the moments of friendship we could exchange with Stephen Kong and his kindness to allow us the use of his computer, as well as the European fundraising team, who stayed with us before Christmas.

It is a great challenge for members in Manchester region to form a community due to distance and trans-

since our first car blew up, and we felt the support of spirit world after we purchased our tickets. We could fly from Manchester for the same price we paid from Heathrow. A few days later, we received a call from a Russian fundraising team which was looking to rent a car. One of their drivers is a 55-year-old Korean sister with American citizenship whose husband is the regional leader in St. Petersburg, Russia. She came to Manchester to pick up our car after an agreement was made. She had



The Nicholls on a WFWP-organized health check in a remote village in Nepal

just received a letter from the Japanese wife of our Nepalese national leader, who had worked for three years as a missionary in Russia. The team was happy to know that they were helping to support NM to Nepal by renting our car.

The most interesting thing, however, happened the day after our car was gone. We received a message that our former employer wanted to offer us a job. It was the same job we had worked at four years previously at the Oxford Hotel in Bayswater. This time, the pay would be higher, we could still live in,

TRUE PARENTS' HISTORY FOR CHILDREN

IN PRISON AGAIN

by Linna Rapkins

It was May 1955 when the fourteen young women were evicted from Ehwa University. Around this time, Won Pil Kim and Grandmother Oak arrived from Pusan to join the group. It was a most interesting time to arrive, because Seoul was in an uproar over Father by this time.

It had started with the events at Ehwa University, and was followed by worse and worse treatment. Now, all Seoul seemed to be out to get Father and his members.

First, the newspaper men had heard about the students being kicked out, and they wanted interviews. They had heard rumors that, once a person goes into Teacher Moon's house, they never come out again. So day after day, they hovered around the church building, badgering the members with questions and trying to snap pictures of Teacher Moon.

"Who is this dangerous fanatic?" they asked again and again.

"Why would you give up your education for a crazy man? Did he lock you up? Did he torture you?"

"Does he hide your shoes so you can't leave?"

"Does he keep all the young pretty girls in a back room?"

"He's an electrical engineer, right? Did he install an electrical gadget that brainwashes people?"

To make their stories more interesting, they often added details of their own. One story proclaimed, "There are three doors at Unification Church. When you go through the first door, you have to take off your shoes and jacket. When you go through the second door you have to take off your outer clothes. When you pass through the third door, you have to take off everything!"

Headlines screamed, "Naked people stay in basement of Unification Church!" It didn't matter to them that no one had ever seen a naked person there or that the building didn't even have a basement!

There was one woman who kept wondering about all the rumors. Were they true? What if they were just lies? What if God DID speak through this man? She really wanted to know. But what if they WERE true? What if she went there and they took off all her clothes? That would be just too terrible.

Still, she couldn't get it off her mind. So one day she gathered up all her courage and prepared to go. Over her long Korean dress she put on a second set of clothes, and over that she put on a third set of clothes. That way, if they started taking her clothes off, maybe she could escape with some of them still on.

Filled with fear, she entered the first door. The members welcomed her warmly. She took off her shoes voluntarily, because that's what you do in Korea. No one mentioned taking off anything else. She went trembling through the second door. Nothing happened. And then the third door. She still had all three sets of clothes on! Then she sat down for the lectures and learned the truth about Unification Church. Soon she was a member.

There were people who remembered Father from Pyongyang or Taegu, and they spread some of the same old lies about him. Negative parents of the stu-

dents wanted Father arrested and they filed a court case. Things were really getting hysterical.

On July 4, 1955, the reporters were especially annoying. "This must be the Day of Persecution," observed Mr. Eu. In the evening, when two investigators showed up at the rickety door, he knew he was right.

"Where is Moon," they asked. "We want to ask him some questions at the police station."

Father came to the door. "You can ask questions here," he offered. "Please come in."

The investigators paused a moment, looking around a bit fearfully. "Well, we have our car right here. We can just take you to the station where there is more privacy. We'll bring you right back," they promised.

Father consented, and Mr. Eu and Young Oon Kim went along. They were both thinking the same thing, "He might need us."

At the station, however, they were not allowed to go into the same room with Father. Soon one of the investigators nudged them toward the door. "You don't need to stay," he told them. "We're taking good care of him. We'll bring him back in our car."

Mr. Eu and Miss Kim went back to the church and waited with the others. But—Father didn't come back.

That night, Mr. Eu could hardly sleep. "Why, oh why did I leave Sun Sengnim?" he lamented, tossing and turning on his mat, tears trickling onto his rice pillow. "I'm no better than Peter. I failed my Teacher."

Next morning, everyone eagerly awaited Father's return. They peered down the path, but there was no sign of him. Then someone brought the daily newspapers, and they were shocked to see the headlines, "Moon Sun Myung arrested!"

"That does it," said Mr. Eu slapping his hand on his knee. "I'm going back. If they arrest me—well, fine, let it be so." He limped out the door. There would be no lectures today.

When he reached the police station, some of the family members were already there. "Where is Sun Sengnim?" asked Mr. Eu anxiously. No one knew.

They waited. They went around buying all the newspapers they could find so no one else could read the lies about Father. Then they waited in a nearby teahouse, discussing what to do.

When they returned to the station, Mr. Eu was told to go into one of the investigation rooms. As he walked down the hall, he glanced into another room and was shocked to see young Won Pil Kim sitting in a hard chair. An investigator was questioning him and giving him a slap every now and then.

"Why aren't you in the army?" yelled the investigator in his face. "Fellows your age should be soldiers. Did you run away?" Whack! Won Pil Kim struggled not to fall over, but he said nothing.

Soon, Mr. Eu was sitting in a hard chair in another room, and they were yelling questions into his face. "Why do you imprison people in your house? Why do you force them to stay three days in

your stinky place?"

Mr. Eu answered all the unfair questions the best he could. The room was hot and his stomach was empty. He felt nauseous. But he could only think how much worse it must be for Father.

Finally, he was released, and he went home with the other members. Everyone looked worried and forlorn—like sheep who had lost their shepherd. This persecution was making some of them stronger in their faith and more determined, but some of them were being filled with doubts. Maybe the newspapers were right. Maybe Teacher Moon really was evil.

The next morning, the members went



to the station to be as close to their beloved Teacher as they could. Praying together and singing the song about "Can even death stop me?" had given them greater courage. Again, they waited as each member was questioned. By the end of the day, Won Pil Kim was arrested. There was still no news of Father.

Four more days went by like this. Then came Sunday evening, and an investigator appeared at the door to arrest Mr. Eu.

"Good!" he thought to himself. "Perhaps now I will see Sun Sengnim." Later, however, a disappointed Mr. Eu was released, and he had caught no glimpse of Father.

The next day, he and two others were arrested again and held at the East Gate jail. It was the first time in his life he had ever been locked behind bars, and it felt very strange to him. But all he could think of was, "Where is Sun Sengnim?"

At dawn, they were taken off to the Chong No Station—and there, at last, Mr. Eu found Father! He greeted Father and Won Pil Kim, feeling more joyful than he had felt in weeks as the gates clanged shut behind him.

Before long, the police came in, bound them all together by the wrists and led them into a waiting car. They were going to court.

As the vehicle pulled out, they saw faithful family members along the way.

They looked extremely upset and tears were streaming down, so Mr. Eu stuck his head out and told them, "Dear brothers and sisters, don't worry. We're all right. Just PRAY a lot."

As they struggled out of the car at the station, their wrists hurting from being bound so tightly, Father didn't complain or look upset. He just said, "We are bound together for eternity. Nothing can ever separate us now. Let us be determined to fight even unto death."

These words gave them strength, and they affirmed in unison, "Nai, Sun Sengnim (Yes, Teacher). Their voices sounded strong, but Father turned to Mr. Eu and added, "Hyo Won, you are having a hard time, aren't you?"

Mr. Eu bowed his head. He was trying to be cheerful, but it wasn't so easy. "I'm sorry, Sun Sengnim," he said softly. "I just feel that it is because of our mistakes that you are in trouble. You're innocent, and yet you're going to jail." Tears welled up in his eyes, and he tried to wipe them on his shoulder.

Father just pressed his lips together and seemed to go into deep thought. He loved Mr. Eu and all the others, but he couldn't always show it.

Another prison

That night they were taken to still another prison—West Gate Prison. They arrived after midnight, tired and hungry, and were herded into Building 6, Ward 9.

They were separated into different cells this time, so they couldn't talk to each other. Before arriving, Father—being experienced in prison life—had told them to memorize each other's cell numbers. Instead of being called by name, they would be called by cell number. This way, they would know what was happening to each other.

It was not pleasant in these cells, but the worst was yet to come. After two days, they were taken to court to be questioned. The police led 24 prisoners, including Father and the five members, into a little holding room that was barely large enough for two twin beds. It was July 15, the hottest time of the year. They couldn't sit down, so they stood all day, at times leaning against each other for support. Sweat poured down and drenched their clothes. They were hungry, and so thirsty their mouths felt like sandpaper. Was this Seoul, Korea? Or was this hell?

All day, they waited. But their numbers were not called, and finally they were taken back to jail. They were kept there for two more weeks.

During this time, they felt very close to each other, even though they were in different cells. They each had a tiny high window. Every morning, Won Pil Kim climbed up on the lid of the ceramic bucket which served as a toilet, and bowed to Father. Father would see him and bow back. When he did this, Won Pil Kim received more energy for the day.

He decided to do in this prison what Father had done in Hung Nam prison—to keep a very strict schedule and wash himself every morning with a wet towel. It wasn't as easy as he might have thought. First, he had to wake himself up very early with no alarm clock. Then the guards kept wanting to know what he was doing. So he came to understand something

see PRISON on page 25

DIVINE PRINCIPLE STUDY

WHY CHRIST CAME AND WHY HE MUST COME AGAIN

Volume Three • Part Four

From the time of the early Church, Christianity has always held an elevated view of John the Baptist. Even its best modern thinkers, for example the German, Gunther Bornkamm, persist in identifying John as a heroic figure eternally testifying to the Risen Christ:

"...he signifies for the Christian...the returned Elijah who was to prepare the people of God for the coming of the Messiah...The Church recognizes him to be the one who will be forever preparing the way for Christ...(in *Jesus of Nazareth*)

Despite each noble testimony, a close look at the New Testament record raises many questions about the Baptizer. Let us look more closely at John's role and activities.

An Elijah-like figure

Certainly Bornkamm is correct in describing John as an Elijah-like figure. In the Hebrew mind, Elijah had always been expected as a forerunner to the Messiah. Malachi, the last prophet of the Old Testament, has prophesied: "Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and terrible day of the Lord comes." (Mal. 4:5).

To this day, at Jewish Passover seder, a cup of wine is provided for Elijah in the anticipation of his arrival prior to that of the Messiah.

Living in the ninth century before Christ, Elijah is famed for his dramatic victory over four hundred and fifty prophets on Israel's Mount Carmel. (I Ki. 18:20-40). Through his obedience and faith, he is thus regarded as having purged Israel of satanic influences. However, perhaps due to the subsequent spiritual lapses of the people, his work had to be redone. Only after this task was accomplished could the Messiah come; therefore, as Malachi predicted, another Elijah had to arise.

John as Elijah

According to the New Testament, Jesus regarded John the Baptist as the anticipated Elijah. Matthew reports Jesus

saying:

"For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John; and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come." (Mt. 11:13-14)

The New Testament records that John had been chosen even in the womb. Luke tells us that the angel Gabriel had announced to Zachariah that his wife Elizabeth, would bear a son who would prepare his people for the Anointed One.

"And he will turn many of the sons of Israel to the Lord their God, and he will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready for the Lord a people prepared." (Lk. 1:16-17)

The entire course of John's life was subsequently a preparation for his later task of witnessing to the Messiah: his lonely period in the desert, his time of meditation and study and his exercise in ascetic piety.

According to Mark and Matthew, John modeled his lifestyle—including his clothing—after Elijah. He adopted as his own the rough camel hair garb and leather belt which were the marks of the prophetic office ever since ancient times. Like Elijah, the Baptist poured fiery judgment on the society around him. Everyone felt the effect of his withering denunciations.

In addition to all this, John was apparently aware that he was a forerunner of a greater one yet to come. We are told by Luke how John replied to those who thought that because of his spiritual might John himself must be the long-awaited Deliverer.

"I baptize you with water; but he who is mightier than I is coming, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire." (Lk. 3:15-16).

Regardless of such demurrers, all four Gospels, and other ancient historical sources as well, agree that John attracted large crowds and developed a substantial following of his own.

The strategy upset

Divine Principle teaches that coming in the role of Elijah, it was John's mis-

they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" And he answered, "No." (Jn. 1:19-21)

In light of the fact that in the Hebrew mind Elijah had to arrive before the Messiah would come, such assertions by John were extremely damaging to Jesus and the role he was trying to fulfill. Because of John's prestige, any major statements of his concerning Jesus carried great weight, more so than did the words of Jesus, a man of apparently less significance in the opinion of the people.

Jesus was an obscure young man raised in a humble carpenter's home and was not known to be experienced in spiritual disciplines. Yet, contravening established authority, Jesus proclaimed himself "lord of the Sabbath" (Mt. 12:8), was known as one who was abolishing the law (Mt. 5:17), and had put himself on an equal footing with God. (Jn. 14:9-11). Disturbed by all this, Jewish leaders claimed that Jesus was working by the power of Beelzebub, the prince of demons. (Mt. 12:24).

John, on the other hand, displayed much more impressive qualifications. He was the son of a prominent family, and the miracles surrounding his conception and birth were known throughout the country. (Lk. 1:5-66). Living on "locusts and honey" in the wilderness, he was regarded by many as leading an exemplary life of faith. In fact, John was held in such high esteem that the high priests, as well as the common people, asked if he were the Messiah (Lk. 3:15, Jn. 1:20).

Under these circumstances, we may imagine the people of Israel tended to believe John more than Jesus. Jesus' view of John as Elijah seemed untrustworthy, said only to make unbelievable Jesus' claims about himself. ♦



sion to unite with Jesus and give clear testimony to him. However, according to the Gospel of John, when the question of his identity was put to the Baptist, he denied that he was Elijah.

"And this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed, he did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ." And

plary life of faith. In fact, John was held in such high esteem that the high priests, as well as the common people, asked if he were the Messiah (Lk. 3:15, Jn. 1:20).

Under these circumstances, we may imagine the people of Israel tended to believe John more than Jesus. Jesus' view of John as Elijah seemed untrustworthy, said only to make unbelievable Jesus' claims about himself. ♦

PRISON from page 24

about Father's experience at Hung Nam Prison where conditions were much worse.

July 29 came, the 22nd day of prison life, and they were finally brought to trial. Again, they were all bound together and led into the courtroom to be questioned.

Those innocent young men, who only wanted to work for Heavenly Father, who only wanted to make the world heavenly, were found guilty—guilty of brainwashing, guilty of being with women, and finally, when they couldn't think of anything else, guilty of evading the army.

The sentence was announced by the judge: "Moon Sun Myung gets 2 years! Eu Hyo Won gets 2 years! The others get 1 year!"

Everyone gasped. It was totally unfair.

Rumors

While they were serving their time in prison, the rumors on the outside kept getting crazier. Many of the members became confused and left. Parents kidnapped their grown children from the

church. Newspapers printed wild stories. It seemed that everyone in Seoul hated Sun Myung Moon.

After two months of this, there was good news. A member brought the news to the prisoners: "You will be released this evening!"

"Are you sure?" asked Mr. Eu in disbelief. "Is it official?"

"Yes, it's all set," came the reply.

Won Pil Kim was looking out his window. "THIS evening?" he cried out.

"Yes, this evening," answered Mr. Eu with a loud voice. It sounded so definite, but underneath, no one could really be certain.

They gathered their things. They waited. The evening ticked away. Nothing happened. Finally, disappointed, they lay down to sleep. Maybe tomorrow. Maybe never. You just never knew.

Then, in the middle of their dreams, they suddenly heard, "Clank, clank!" A door was being unlocked and opened.

A voice shouted into the darkness, "380, come out with all your things!" That was Mr. Eu.

As he passed by Father, he murmured,

"Why me? What's going on?"

"Go quickly," answered Father. "That's just the way it is, and don't worry about it!"

Tears came to Mr. Eu's eyes as he limped away. Could he leave his dear Teacher? Should he? Before he could think further, church members reached out and helped him into a waiting jeep, and he was on his way home.

Court

One week later, all six men were called to appear in court. This time, a new judge pronounced Father and Mr. Eu innocent. The others had to finish their one year sentences for evading the army but were pronounced innocent of the other charges. (Actually, Father appealed this, and the others were released one month later.)

After three months in prison, Father was free at last! The family members had lined up outside the prison gates to welcome him, and everyone was smiling. They all went home in a rented bus. It was October 4, 1955—a victorious and glorious day!

Another happy event took place three

days later: they moved. While Father was in prison, the family members had somehow scraped together some money and, for the first time, they bought their own building. It was an old Buddhist temple on a winding little street in the Chong Pa Dong area. Neglected for several years, it had become shabby and absolutely filthy.

Now that they had scoured it thoroughly, it seemed like a palace. There was a big meeting room, where they could all easily assemble. Behind the meeting room were a number of smaller rooms on two levels which could be used for living space. In the front of the building was a stone courtyard overlooking the rooftops of Seoul.

A big celebration was prepared as a welcome home party for Father. The treats were passed out by Father himself—one apple and a few pastries for each person. It was a banquet. Poetry was recited. Songs were sung. And Father sang songs of heaven.

The heavenly pioneers of this small group were truly bound together for eternity. ♦

THE LOVE, LIFE, LINEAGE OF GOD AND YOU AND I

by Martin Herbst—Barrytown, NY

1st of 3 parts

Endless are the times when True Father has shared with us the significance of God's love, life and lineage. Already back in 1989 he declared: "We must always remind ourselves of the three most important things: love, life and blood lineage. The purpose of God's dispensation is to establish these three things substantially on earth. This is the way the whole world will be restored." (Rev. Sun Myung Moon, "The Completion of the Dispensation of Salvation and the Providential Age of Love," Aug. 20, 1989)

By reflecting on True Father's words I have come to the conclusion that they contain genuine revelation from God. Within this concept of love, life and lineage we find the key to a richer understanding of the nature of God, ourselves and human history. Revelation from God like the ocean's crystal clear water is always deeper than it appears. As much as it shares it also hides, for the Word of God embraces eternity. You and I, then, need to pause for a moment to filter the meaning of these wonderful words through our own experiences so they can take root within us and give birth to a more fulfilled existence. And while each of us travel this path to the Word and Love of God in our own unique way, it is also a common journey. We can discover points of mutual agreement, points that are universally true and uplifting for all of us. With this in mind I invite you to come with me! Come with me on a small journey to discover the amazing truth that are contained in these three simple words: love, life and lineage.

So let us observe God's love, life and lineage from the angle of 1) existence, 2) human history and 3) our personal lives.

Existence

Throughout the ages many philosophers and religious visionaries have appeared passing brilliant insight unto their fellow human beings—but none of them conceived of the idea to arrange the essentials of life in this peculiar way: love, life and lineage. Yet, it is precisely this trinity of gifts from God that forms the axis around which our happiness and fulfillment as human beings turn.

No matter how long we live, no matter how many children we have, what is it all worth if we do not have love? How barren life would be, how empty the universe would seem were it not for the voices of our beloved ones. You hear the loving voice of your spouse and at that moment life is again charged with power. You see the laughter and the tears of your children and again life is worth living. Once more the universe appears not empty but full and the future seems not frightening but encouraging, calling us to continue no matter what. As mysterious and inexplicable as love is, it is also the most solid concrete element in life. You have surely experienced this yourself. Once we love someone we are ready to lay down our life for that person. In love, only in love, can we give up our life without regret as Jesus gave up his life in his love for God and this world. Even if a woman killed some mad rapist in an attempt to protect herself she would go free. Once the dead body is found by the local police and the facts are in, she is on her way not to prison and shame but to respect and praise. How peculiar! Yes, love, as all poets know, is mightier than life and whatever life can offer of

material wealth.

What about life and lineage then? Strictly speaking, the value of life is higher than the value of lineage. Does this seem hard to accept? Think about a newlywed couple who have just received the happy news that the wife is expecting a baby. Her cheeks are glowing with expectation, his breast is bursting with pride. But then the doctor comes along and explains that the chances are that the woman will lose her life in the process of giving birth! What then would their hearts dictate them to do? In this case abortion seems justifiable. Lineage would be sacrificed to preserve life and no one would have the right to accuse them. And if, as it is really sometimes the case, a woman would die as a result of becoming pregnant due to some physiological condition, then it is better that such a couple walk through life childless unless they are blessed with the possibility of adoption. Yes, love is higher than life but life is higher than lineage.

Once the child is born, however, nothing can justify it being done away with, for then it already carries within itself the love and the life of its parents. Amazing! Love, life and lineage are flowing down vertically like water over the waterfall with love appearing first, then life and finally lineage. Once they reach the bottom, they unite and flow out to form the ocean of human experience. In this unity the danger of competition among these three gifts of God is suspended for love turns into life and then the love and the life turn into the lineage, multiplying forever and ever.

We could also say that the essence of God first appears as love, which is most mysterious and spiritual. Then it becomes life which is yet more observable. Finally the essence of God manifests itself in the newborn child, the lineage of God. No one can see how much love you have inside yourself. But whether you have life or not is pretty obvious! Finally your children express your love and life in a visible way. By giving us love, life and lineage God has literally given Himself to us. And as all true lovers He gave the best to us while we did not know it, while we were deep asleep within the mother's womb lest we should wake up and protest that such a sacrifice would be too much and that in all eternity we would not be worthy of such a gift! Love, life and lineage are the three great blessings God bestowed on us. They are the three keys which have to be turned simultaneously in order for the gate of the kingdom of heaven on earth to open. One key is turned by the husband, one by the wife and one by the child.

By inheriting God's love, life and lineage we qualify to become parents of love, teachers who can teach the true way of life and by multiplying generation after generation we become the true lords who are qualified to dominate mother earth in love. Once we have love, life and lineage, nothing else matters much. A couple who is grateful for their love, their life and their children can live without fame and fortune, although these things would be nice to have, too. But obstruct our love, interfere with our lives or touch our children and you will get into serious trouble. So these three remain in all eternity: love, life and lineage—and the greatest in all this is that they originate in God and are manifested through a couple.

Let us continue our trajectory to approach the love, life and lineage of God. The Bible reveals that God created man in His own image as men and women (Gen. 1:27). Now True Father appears on the stage of history and proclaims that God is furthermore a God of love, life and lineage (Rev. Moon, "In Search of the Origin of the Universe," Oct. 1, 1996). Does this then indicate that just as we humans physically express the invisible masculinity and femininity of God, we likewise reflect His invisible love, life and lineage with our physical bodies? If it is true that in a human being God makes Himself visible, then would it not be logical to look for the evidence of these three central elements in the central place of the human body which, commonly speaking, is our face? Amazing! When we glance at a human face, we notice at once that the eyes, nose and mouth are placed centrally, forming one vertical line. The eyes are the symbol of love. As True Father says, "We first experience love through our eyes." (Rev. Moon, "Cutting Off Satan's Lineage, the Origin of the Most Evil World," Dec. 1, 1997; see *Today's World* magazine, Feb. 1998, Vol. 19 No. 2, p. 10. In this speech (p. 8), Father further explains, "There is a Korean saying that for a teenage boy and girl, the first stage of feeling love for another involves staring at each other, uniting the eyes. The next stage concerns who kisses first.") Can you remember the first time you fell in love? How your eyes met as if some magnetic force was activated, pulling the two of you closer and closer together. And once the love between you was secured it was as if your eyes opened to a complete new reality.

The eyes are mysteriously and wondrously connected to love. Just as God placed love centrally in the world of existence, so the eyes play perhaps the central role in the orchestration of bodily movements. Although the eyes always unite in one vision, they are nevertheless two distinct objects. How remarkable! For love in its greatness made itself so humble that it cannot exist alone. It appears in its emptying of itself for the sake of somebody else. In this way love is

always present although nobody can ever find its hiding place. It hides in its own giving. The conclusion we come to is that the more we give love away, the richer

we become! Herein lies the reason that no one can be deceived as long as they cling to love. Whether love has opened your eyes or made you blind—in true love, only in true love, you will never be deceived, for the more you give, the richer you become.

Let us pause a bit longer and listen to what God has to tell us through His creation of the eyes. And here it comes. The eyes are placed horizontally, not vertically!! Does this then indicate that true love is horizontal in nature rather than vertical? Yes, love starts out vertically but it culminates in the horizontal relationship of absolute equality and unity.

Here again True Father's words are very illuminating: "So the father/son relationship is vertical and the husband/wife relationship is horizontal. The vertical relationship existed even before birth, but the ultimate conclusion of the purpose of life is this horizontal marriage relationship." (Rev. Moon, "The Completion of the Dispensation of Salvation and the Providential Age of Love," Aug. 20, 1989; see *Today's*

World, Oct. 1989, p. 6)

Returning to the analogy with the eyes, we clearly see a vertical line traveling down from our forehead to reach the eyes, but the eyes themselves are placed horizontally. Likewise, true love may start out vertically like the relationship between parents and children, but the culmination of this vertical down-pouring of love is to be found in the conjugal relationship, where the possibility to become creators and parents like God is opened up to us.

True Parents

By introducing the concept of True Parents, Father is revolutionizing the world of theology. So far the relationship between God and man was described as a static, vertical relationship. In Judaism the highest spiritual goal was to become a servant of God. Christianity declared that the ideal is to become a son or daughter of God. But no one thought of bringing the horizontal sexual love relationship into the center of the God/Man relationship. This is precisely what True Parents have done. By emphasizing the ideal of True Parents both the vertical and horizontal aspects of love are being harmonized with the ultimate goal that we who come from the dust of the ground end up as God's love partners and friends! The more we connect to true love the more we become like God. Yes, in love all things are possible.

With this in mind we can better understand why both God and Satan focused their efforts to prepare the way for the horizontal conjugal relationship. If God stressed the vertical relationship through Judaism, then he has definitely emphasized horizontal love through Christianity. Paul proudly proclaims that in Christ many vertical distinctions are erased, for there is no "Jew" and "Greek" any longer. We are all brothers and sisters in Christ. (I Corinthians 12:13, Galatians 3:26-29) Anybody who has attended Christian sermons or watched them on television cannot fail to notice the emphasis on horizontal love. Satan likewise has mobilized all his efforts to camouflage the real beauty of a permanent conjugal relationship. He has gathered all his ammunition to fire at God's ideal of true love and not only is he in his desperation running out of ammunition, but the recoils of this endless firing are pushing him further and further backward until he pushes himself off the deck of God's existence altogether. Nothing can exist and defeat the love of God, for the love of God is the root of all existence.

If the eyes are meant to symbolize love, where then shall we look for the symbol of life? By traveling a bit further down the face, we arrive at the nose! Of all organs the one that most adequately symbolizes life is the nose. Through the nose we breathe life, don't we? We inhale oxygen which is then dispatched to our whole body, filling us with the movement of life. The Bible explains that God breathed life into the nostrils of the first human beings (Gen. 2:7), further indicating this remarkable analogy between life and the nose. Just as the shape of the nose is vertical and static, so is life. Life never changes, it just goes on and on. Whether we love or hate, whether we laugh or cry, we will all live for eternity. Life itself goes on and on as if it was indifferent to good and evil. What adds color and change to existence is love and, as we have just seen, love even makes the impossible possible. So love in its capacity to change oneself and the world is more horizontal and

see **LINEAGE** on page 27





**PAUL
CARLSON**

BIBLICAL HISTORY

Many prominent historians consider the twin main-streams of western thought and culture to be Hellenism and Hebraism. These are, respectively, the major humanist and God-centered schools of thought. The Divine Principle agrees, and elaborates.

In the December 1998 *Unification News* we discussed the Hellenic side of history. This month we'll look at some Hebraic, or Biblical, issues. The subject embraces enough material to fill an entire library, so we'll focus mainly on the "hard reality" of the Bible, as opposed to the theologies derived from it.

History

From Constantine's time until the Renaissance, Hebraism dominated. The literal reality of the Bible was unquestioned. Even the most extreme heretics invoked it, while doubting the Roman Church's standard interpretations. The Bible's future rival, Science, didn't even exist then; certainly not as a separate discipline, and hardly so as a rigorous way of thinking.

Following the revival of Hellenism, the Bible was openly questioned. After the French Revolution it came under heavy criticism. Next, scholars like Nietzsche and Voltaire sought to banish it—and the spirituality it embodied—entirely. (In a masterstroke that Christians never tire of boasting about, a Bible Society office now occupies Voltaire's old home in Vienna.)

Ultimately, Marx and Lenin sought to liquidate not only Hebraic beliefs, but the believers themselves.

Communism has now fallen, in almost every country, but the intellectual debate continues.

In a parallel development, Europe's age-old undercurrent of anti-Semitism gained intellectual pretensions. It reached its apex in Germany, with a nature centered, Pagan/Aryan revival. Under Hitler and the Nazis, this school clashed directly with the God centered, human elevating, Judeo-Christian tradition.

Heinrich Himmler's occult center, Wewelsburg Castle, was to be the "Vatican" of a newly dominant Aryan religion. A faith proudly spartan, forest loving, piously vegetarian—and viciously ruthless towards its "inferior" human opponents.

The Nazi edifice has also fallen, but like its Marxist cousin, its ideas continue to play a role in the modern "culture war."

Archaeology

A sense of wonder surrounds the Bible, and the ancient lands of its birth. Science has finally come around to regarding it with due respect.

Scholarly attitudes are now swinging

dramatically away from denouncing the Bible. The scientists most directly concerned with the Bible are Archaeologists, and it falls upon them to verify the reality of the Bible's accounts—or not.

During the late 1800s, Schliemann found Troy and Mycenae by reading Homer's *Illiad* carefully. He turned Archaeology from a simple "treasure hunt" into a method of divulging history itself. (He also decorated his mansion in Athens with an ancient pagan symbol—the swastika.)

Others then applied this new science to the Bible, and quickly discovered solid evidence of the places and people mentioned therein. This process of discovery is far from over, nor is the debate it engenders. The very existence of King Solomon's Jerusalem is still a matter of vigorous dispute!

Scholars are finding Biblical and Homeric names, sites, and miscellany all over the Middle East. The name of King David has now, in all probability, been found on three ancient (and contemporary) stone carvings.

Archaeologists have been digging in Jerusalem for over a hundred years, and as crowded and picked-over as that city is, they're still making dramatic discoveries. In 1998 it was announced that a previously unsuspected system of underground tunnels, water channels, and guard towers; dating from the time of Joshua's conquest; have been found near the fabled Siloam Spring.

Other experts are combing old records, and combining the resources of several disciplines. The Ritmeyers, a famous husband-and-wife team, have conducted an exhaustive analysis of the Temple Mount, and especially the area now enclosed by the Muslim's sacred Dome of the Rock. They assert that they've identified the rectangular imprint of (the original platform for) the Ark of the Covenant, still visible on the rock's heavily-scarred surface.

Belief & Heresy

Profound and deeply held beliefs lie at the very heart of Hebraism. Many have died for them. Any research on the Bible is steeped in the beliefs of the scholar that expounds upon it. Most prominent Bible scholars, of this and past generations, are either Jewish or Christian. These beliefs cannot fail to influence their conclusions, especially the version that they announce publicly.

There are other versions of Biblical his-

tory than the mainstream ones. Many of these are well-known, and even respected, while others are downright wacky.

The Koran asserts that Jesus did not die, but that another man took his place on the cross. He is said to have lived out his life in a more ordinary fashion. (This author is not a Koranic scholar, and will not attempt to address this profound interfaith issue.)

Other doctrines take this "didn't die" idea even further. The ancient Gnostic heresies, and the Nag Hammadi scrolls found in Egypt, describe

Jesus as getting married and fathering children. The Principle casts a special poignancy upon this idea, for we understand that Jesus' fondest—but unfulfilled—wish was to have done exactly that.

Nonetheless, it would be a good idea to review these ideas. They are very old, and today they're finding new currency with the New Age movement.

From the Books of the Maccabees to the legend of King Clovis, several Tribes of Israel have long been "connected" to Greece, and thence to the heartlands of Europe, especially southern France.

The Grail legends go into great—if oblique—detail, describing the bloodline of Jesus himself. These, and other centuries-old occult writings, trace Europe's Merovingian dynasty back to children that Jesus (allegedly) sired, some say by Mary Magdalen.

The Knights Templar, Masons, Mormons, and various others agree on this. In the case of the LDS Church, unofficially—though devout Mormons have told this author that Joseph Smith was himself a descendent of Jesus! (Read *Holy Blood, Holy Grail* by Baigent, Leigh, and Lincoln.)

Is there a Principled explanation? Perhaps there was an actual descent from Jesus' brother James, or from Lazarus, who may also have been related. Technically they'd have been half-siblings, but even so . . . Remember that the "Zechariah connection" was not well known, and Mary and Joseph certainly weren't going to bring it up! Eventually the reality *will* be known, and no doubt it'll be very interesting indeed.

The Soul

The very heart of Hebraism—that which sets it apart from Hellenism—is the understanding that man possesses a spirit. Not merely a fuzzy "divine nature," but an individual, immortal soul, bestowed by God the Creator. A unique spirit not shared by the

animals, or by any other part of the physical Creation.

Adam and Eve, who were probably born in Africa some 130,000 years ago, were the first true humans. From their infancy they possessed souls, and even the Fall did not alter this.

The Bible names their three sons, but no daughters. Many have asked: so how did their lineage, and thus the human soul, get passed along? Uncomfortable speculations abound.

Geneticists are currently mapping the total human genome (every bit of our DNA). Despite racial and other apparent differences, we humans have virtually everything in common. Despite the speculations of a best-selling novel, *The Miracle Strain*, even Jesus' DNA would likely prove "only" human.

What of the soul? It seems there are two ways to look at it: as something you *have*, and about how you're *regarded*.

Let's use *viruses* as an example of the former. They're so small that it takes a very sophisticated microscope to see them. The soul is even harder to detect. A cold (a physical entity caused by rhinoviruses) can be passed along, and there is no such thing as a "half cold." Generally speaking, you either have one or you don't.

Take *citizenship* as an example of the latter. It is a purely conceptual entity, which can be "granted" to persons. The paperwork (a passport, etc.), is only an outward manifestation. It can be inherited upon birth; otherwise, it must be conferred upon each person individually.

The mortal mind can hardly grasp the concept, but it would seem that the soul has aspects of both. Adam and Eve's sons could have "passed along" their souls, perhaps to their proto-human wives, and certainly to their children. God would then have recognized them as fully human, and granted them an eternal home in the spiritual world.

Conclusion

We can hope that further discoveries await. Perhaps, as already depicted in fiction, sacred objects like the Ark of the Covenant will be located. As the Principle makes clear, Jesus' Resurrection did *not* involve his physical body. Therefore, his final resting place may yet be discovered. (If it's already known to some occult sect, then, revealed to the world.)

The soul is real, and there have been tantalizing hints (and more than a few false starts) that scientists may someday observe it directly. Famous science fiction writer Poul Anderson speculates that our mind's unique "quantum states" may be imprinted upon spacetime itself, and might thus survive the brain's demise. (Read his latest novel, *Starfarers*.)

As we have often stated before, the Principle is clear that Religion and Science are both aspects of the God's truth, and methods for understanding His vast Creation. Giving the Bible its due has already enriched Science greatly, and this trend shows every sign of continuing. ❖

LINEAGE from page 26

must therefore be handled with greater care than the force of life which just rolls on. The wheels of life move on but love decides the direction.

Traveling further down the human face we arrive at our last stop in this connection: the mouth. To imagine that the eyes symbolize love and that the nose allows us to breathe, life seems plausible. But to see the mouth as the symbol of lineage! Is that not a bit fabricated, Mr. Herbst? And I agree

that nothing of what I have said can be proven to be true to you, for truth always lies within you and not on a piece of paper. But let us consider the matter. And we discover that it is precisely this organ of the mouth that allows us to perpetuate the lineage. Through the mouth the mother eats food, which goes straight down to the fetus until the time has come to leave this automatic supply chamber and enter into a new world. Through the mouth creation is transformed to become new sons and daughters of God populating the earth. It seems that by sacrificing itself for mankind, the entire creation becomes all the richer.

God translated His invisible love, life and lineage into the form and function of the eyes, nose and mouth! But we have lived oblivious of the preciousness of a single human face. Did you ever consider that when you look into the face of another human being, you are staring at the love, life and lineage of God? When you spouse turns his or her head towards you, it is in fact the love, life and lineage of God which is turning your way. How precious it is to be a human being and to have the face you call yours. Why is it that we cannot meet God more often? Is it because He is too far away? Or is it not rather because He is too

close! As close as your lovely eyes, your lovely nose and your lovely mouth.

Finally love seems to embrace everything on its way down even the nose and the mouth. It is helpful to see the eyes as the starting point of love for love begins spiritually distant from the flesh just as the eyes meet but are separated by earthly space. Then the element are drawn closer together until we can smell the masculine or feminine fragrance of each other. Finally the process is sealed with a kiss. From then on, as they say, the rest is history. ❖

Report on a "Revival of Christianity" Pastors Meeting

by Michael Inglis—NYC

Recently I had the pleasure of attending a half-day seminar for pastors and lay leaders hosted by Promise Keepers, Mission America and Mainstay Ministries in Philadelphia. (For further information see their websites: www.promisekeepers.org and www.missionamerica.org.)

The theme for the day was the "Revival of Christianity." There was much talk on this theme and there seemed to be some genuine testimony that there was a beginning to a third great revival in the US today. There seemed to be an acknowledgment that the church has been pushed out of the center of the culture and that time has run out. There must be unity among the churches.

Mission America is calling for every Christians home to be a lighthouse for God and for all Christians to pray for their neighbors. Promise Keepers are calling for revival events to be held on Jan. 1st, 2000 outside each state capital. Mainstay Ministries were calling

for people to buy their products.

Bill McCartney gave the most inspiring talk. He is a good speaker. He referred to himself as a John the Baptist. He referred to Jesus' parable of the 10 virgins and the bridegroom and to Jesus' words lamenting, "Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how many times I yearned to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her young under her wings, but you were unwilling!" to illuminate that now was the time of the second coming.

He also gave us 7 points for revival: For revival there must be ...

1. A deep seated longing for God—a holy unrest.
2. A concentrated prayer effort across the land.
3. A reawakening of peoples gifts. Tears and love.
4. A conviction and victory over personal sin.
5. An awareness of God's presence.
6. Society will be influenced for the better.
7. Ringleaders in sin will then serve Christ.

He then challenged all to be a part of the revival and not to miss it. I was blessed to be given the opportunity to meet and talk to him for a few minutes about our True Family Values Ministry and I gave him the Lecture manuals for the 1 day and 2 day seminars. He promised to read them.

There was also a very informative handout by George Barna which clearly shows the state of Christianity -

- \$100 million worth of bibles are sold every year in the US, the top selling book, by far. But less than 4 out of 10 read it weekly and 3/4 of all adults say there is no such thing as absolute moral truth.

- 85% believe that Jesus died, rose and is alive today. 1/3 of all adults—including more than 1 in 5 born again Christians— contends that when Jesus was on the earth he committed sins. 4 out of 10 don't believe in the physical resurrection.

- Adults are ten times more likely to say that their spiritual life is more important to them today than it was three years ago. But just 3 out of 10 say that having a satisfying spiritual

life is a top priority.

• Among the top concerns of Americans is the moral decay of the nation. But upon comparing Christians and non-Christians on 65 common non-religious behaviors and values, there were no instances in which Christians were substantially different. This ranged from getting drunk, getting a divorce and engaging in adultery to gambling and intentionally lying.

His conclusions—The time is ripe for revival; but the church is not in the midst of it. God needs a remnant of passionate believers committed to His cause. He does not need a majority, He does not need our money, He does not work to our timetable, and He does not force Himself upon a recalcitrant people.

He closes "I do not pretend to have the ultimate answer for our people. I simply ask that you consult to God for guidance... I present these perspectives with a plea for swift and certain action for time is of the essence. I feel a deep sense of urgency because the window is rapidly closing upon us." ❖

RIVER from page 29

have left. He said that if we do not build a strategy to reach young people we will lose an entire generation (sound familiar?).

He concluded by expounding on the Lighthouse strategy, using Luke 10.5 as his resource. This is the story of Jesus sending out his disciples to witness. Jesus outlined four steps. First, walk by the house and send your peace upon it. Second, fellowship with the people. He said that in his new neighborhood, to which he just moved, he spent time walking

and "sending his peace" into each house, and then anyone whom he encountered from those houses on the street were obviously sent to him by God. He would make friends. Third, after developing friendship, he asks if there is a way he can help them, especially in prayer. Fourth, he welcomes them into God's kingdom.

David Mains has a different strategy. He sets up a food drive for a local shelter, and then goes door to door in his neighborhood asking if they would like to donate anything. He does this once every two weeks. Then, after getting acquainted with the people this way, he

asks if they had any prayer requests. The next step is to invite them to join his prayer group.

Two Personal Encounters

I was there with HSA Publications Director Michael Inglis. During a break, Michael spotted Coach McCartney coming into the room, introduced himself and gave him a gift of two True Family Values seminar lecture manuals. Mr. McCartney was happy to receive them, Michael said, and gave him a hug.

At the moment that was taking place, I was talking with a pastor of a new paradigm church, one that he started "as a

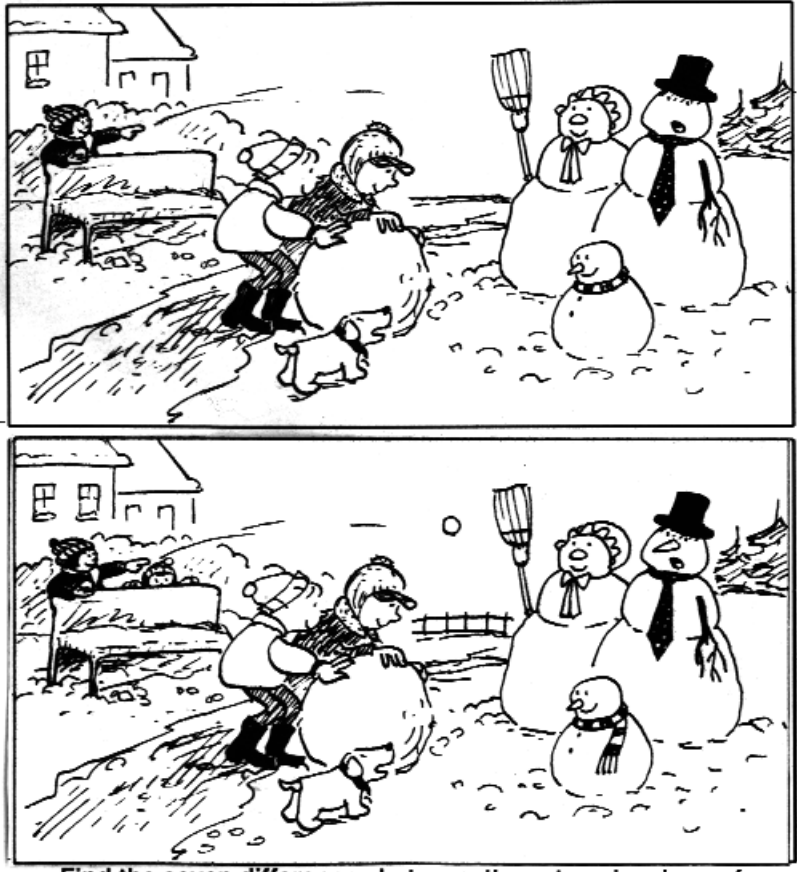
Bible study with a bunch of long-haired people" outside of Philadelphia. When I told him I am senior pastor with the Unification Church in Manhattan, it drew a blank, and I helped him identify me with the standard follow-up, "You know ... Reverend Moon!" Oh yes, and he was immediately asking me if we have a relationship with Jesus, and about the current rumors, and if we are a cult. I told him that God anointed Reverend and Mrs. Moon as True Parents and so we are a little different from your standard church. We were on our way to a good talk when the break ended, but he caught me at the end, among the 300 or so pastors there, to give me his card.

Why did he give me his card? Here's what I think. The conservative Christians can't figure us out. We're in all their anti-cult books alongside the Mormons, Jehovah's Witnesses, Scientology and so forth. But they know that we are promoting what they believe in and that we are, for want of a better term, good Christians. We believe in the blood of Jesus. If we were really of the devil, they know we would have disappeared long ago, but here we are, with a university and powerful pro-family newspaper, adventuring with the Garden of Eden in South America, filling up stadiums with godly brides and bridegrooms, and full of interest in what they are doing. We are still around, and they know we believe all Christianity should unite, that True Parents are the Messiah in some way, shape or form, and that we believe in the family and faithful marriage.

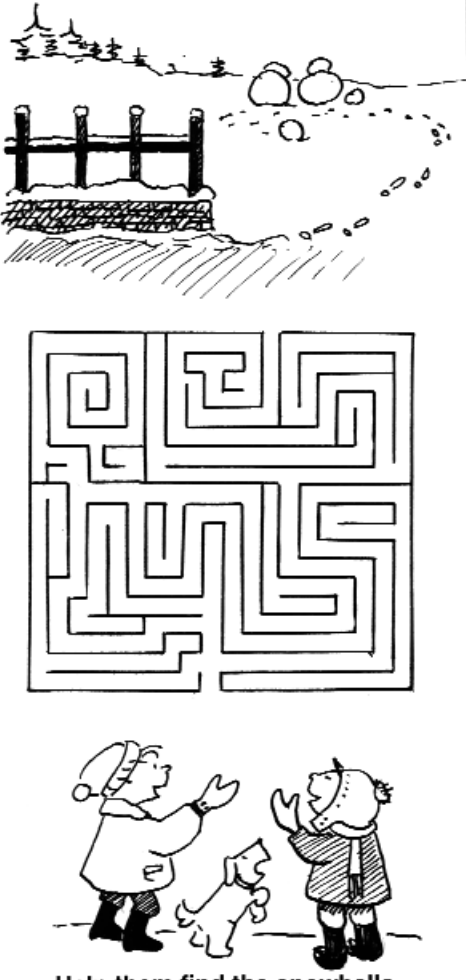
Because of True Parents' work, God is preserving and prospering the new paradigm Christians. But because of our own lack of love and proclamation as members, they still do not understand True Parents. They still have the "hold" button pressed. Their new paradigm relates to method, not message. When they receive, from God, the message of True Parents, then their "John the Baptist generation" foundation will allow the message to blossom and America, with Jesus' help, will fulfill her divine destiny. Then, Coach McCartney, the revival will come, the likes of which you and I can never imagine. ❖

FOR KIDS

by Françoise



Find the seven differences between these two drawings of the snowman family



Help them find the snowballs



**DR. TYLER O.
HENDRICKS**

Dr. Hendricks is the
President of the
Unification Church of America

AT THE RIVER JORDAN

It is not easy for a Unificationist to interpret what is happening today with Christianity. The *Divine Principle* predicts the demise of Christianity. We long ago announced that it is a hollow shell, a dead body of clergy trailing empty slogans, invaded by secularism, confused about sexual morality, unable to guide, inspire or save. One might note that this analysis is of Christianity in Europe, as the entire *DP* interpretation of Christian history centers around Europe, giving little regard to America. Perhaps it is arguable that our expectation of Christian demise is correct with reference to Europe. It might arguably be correct in reference to the mainstream Protestant denominations in America as well. But it does not predict the resiliency of evangelical Christianity in America.

Part and parcel of the *DP* prediction of Christian demise was the expectation that masses of people would be searching for spiritual answers in a secular wasteland, and in that context the answers provided by the *DP* would shine as a lighthouse in the darkness. When I was on MFT in 1975 I received an official letter from the church leadership telling me that in three years time we would begin the physical establishment of the Kingdom of God, so great would be our pulling power amid the social decay. It was not to be.

Then how are we to understand the booming prosperity of the new paradigm Christian churches? Where in *DP*'s predictions would we place the Promise Keepers, Campus Crusade, Focus on the Family, Marriage Savers, the cell churches, the mega-churches, the enormous popularity of Pope John Paul II, the growth of the Latter Day Saints, the fatherhood movement, or the fact that the Bible is America's best-selling book year in and year out? How do we explain the proliferation of independent churches associated together as the Vineyard Fellowship, Hope Chapels, Calvary Chapels, Antioch Association, and many others? These four movements, each started from a Bible-study group in a home or parks thirty years ago and by now have multiplied into some 3,000 churches throughout the world, out of nowhere, out of the "Jesus Freaks."

New Paradigm

I see that in these churches and movements lives are being transformed for the good. People are being saved from addiction to alcohol, drugs and sex. Marriages are coming alive, families are healing, "The hearts of the fathers are turning to their children and the heart of children to their fathers." It cannot be but the work of God, for, as Jesus said, Satan's house divided against itself cannot stand.

I found some clues to help me put this together at a recent "pastors' rally" in Philadelphia. It was put together by several organizations, chief of them Promise Keepers and MissionAmerica. The opening speaker, David Mains, gave me the primary clue: "We," he said, "are the John the Baptist generation." Let us consider the meaning of this.

God blessed John the Baptist great-

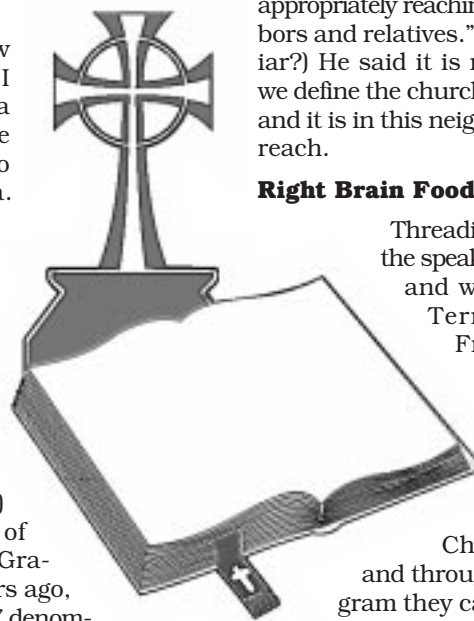
ly. Some thought he might be the Messiah, but he knew that he was not, but that someone greater than he was to come, for whom he was simply preparing the way. Dr. Mains said this directly at the meeting, quoting the Baptist's words from the New Testament. As Malachi predicted the returning Elijah would do, turning the hearts of fathers and children, so too are these contemporary prophets working on families and making for the Lord a people prepared. In the process, church hierarchies are breaking down. The new movements are anti-hierarchical, are locally controlled and managed by the members themselves. At the meeting, I met a United Methodist pastor there who is preparing to bring an alternative service into his church soon. The new paradigm Christians abjure dogma and doctrine and struggle to speak directly from the scriptures without a superimposed theological framework.

Let me convey a few points from the meeting I attended. It was entitled a Rally for Revival, and the main theme was how to bring revival to America.

MissionAmerica

The first speaker, Dr. Mains, is calling all churches in America to install a satellite dish, so that the exciting developments can be shared directly to the local churches throughout the nation. (Sound familiar?) He described the origin of MissionAmerica in Billy Graham's ministry many years ago, and how it now includes 67 denominations and 200 para-church ministries. All the speakers, including Mains, stressed that Christianity has to unite and work together for a common cause, putting aside denominational barriers. (Sound familiar?)

Mains described a "Lighthouse" movement, which is similar to what we call home church. I will reserve detailed description of it for later, but Mains pointed out that denominational barriers can be overcome best on the local level. When he, a Baptist, develops a prayer fellowship with a neighbor who is Roman Catholic, or Jewish, or Muslim, there, not in official conference rooms, is where religious barriers are crossed. (Sound familiar?) He spoke from his personal



experience making his house a lighthouse for his neighborhood, and said that we can lead with integrity only by doing it and then encouraging others to do it. (Sound familiar?)

The following speakers, Rev. Andre Allen, Rev. J. Daniel Lupton and Greg Asimakoupoulos, introduced the "50-Day Adventure." It is an eight week course that an entire congregation takes together. Each Sunday the pastor introduces, from the pulpit in the sermon message, the week's theme. The theme is one of the seven promises of a promise keeper. During the week all members maintain a journal, do Hoon Dok Hae, do exercises (such as serving someone each day, and recording it), pray and fast centering on that week's "promise worth keeping." The purpose, beyond individual spiritual growth and family unity, is unity of the church, with everyone following the same track to gain "accelerated, measurable and lasting spiritual growth."

Glenn Barth repeated the Lighthouse strategy, but added noteworthy points. He said, "The day of the professional minister is over. The day of the missionary pastor has come. We no longer have local churches; we have missionary outposts." He sees Christianity as an embattled cause, fighting an aggressive adversarial culture. In such a setting, we cannot afford intramural struggles. He called the church "a gathering of 2 or more people in Jesus' name, uniting together for the purpose of praying for, caring for and lovingly and appropriately reaching out to neighbors and relatives." (Sound familiar?) He said it is now time that we define the church of the future, and it is in this neighborhood outreach.

Right Brain Food

Threading through all the speakers was music and worship led by Terry and Barbi Franklin. They are a couple who write and perform contemporary Christian music, and throughout the program they called everyone to prayer and song in praise of Jesus, in repentance and reflection, and in celebration. They made it clear that the most important aspect of their lives is their family. When they travel to perform, they always travel with their two sons—both of whom participated in the program. Mrs. Franklin spoke about the restoration of the family when husband and wife are unified. (Sound familiar?) They home school their boys. So the event had an emotional, right brain component intermixed with the cerebral left brain content. All the speakers except Bill McCartney utilized computer-generated images and several short videos—we viewed some eight videos, ranging in length from 3 to 10 minutes, in the four and a half hour pro-



gram. All together the music, the mixed media, the prayer and the interesting content made for an enriching experience.

Unificationists, I believe, may have pioneered this type of seminar production, especially with the CAUSA seminars in the early 80s. Our 1996 True Family Values seminars had an impressive mix of music, prayer, media and content as well. But these people, I dare say, are surpassing us, especially in one area. That area is the integration of music, worship (a word virtually unknown to Unificationists) and prayer with the intellectual content. Another area in which they surpass us is packaging and marketing their materials.

The final speaker was "Coach" Bill McCartney, founder and guiding light of the Promise Keepers. His greatness, for me, lies in the confessional stance that he takes when he speaks. He constantly uses the phrase, "I believe." And he takes what could be controversial stands, stating, "I believe this." He brought up the idea of our civilization reaching "total moral anarchy," defined as the absence of moral authority. He has feared that America is dangerously close to the line of moral anarchy. Then he told us that he had set aside time to hear Bill Clinton's State of the Union address this year. At the beginning, he heard Clinton proclaim, emphatically, "The state of the union is strong." And then he heard the Congress explode in applause—not just polite applause, but enthusiastic applause.

He said that at the moment that Clinton spoke those words and received that applause, he believes, our nation entered a state of total moral anarchy. And he stood up and turned off the speech. That a major religious figure of this nation would make that statement and take that action is very significant.

Mr. McCartney has been researching about revivals in history. He cited Charles Spurgeon and David Brainerd, and it brought my dry old American church history bones to life. He identified seven signs of a revival, as evidence that we are already in the midst of at least the beginnings of one. He said, several times, that we are in the last days, that we are out of time, that a massive revival is barreling down upon us, that an explosion of love is coming soon. He foresees that "God is coming to visit us in an extraordinary way."

He even said that January 1, 2000, is "judgment day." He is calling Christians to spend that day first in family devotions, then in church devotions, making a special effort to cross denominational and racial lines. Also he has commissioned 15 major Christian preachers, independently, to pray for two months and then articulate God's message for the new millennium. He asked them to video tape their conveyance of God's message, and send the tapes to him. He will edit them, and he expects it seems some degree of unanimity. The final product he will broadcast January 1, 2000.

Then he cited Christian pollster George Barna's publication that 80% of GenX youth who were raised in the church

see **RIVER** on page 28

Article removed in Internet edition



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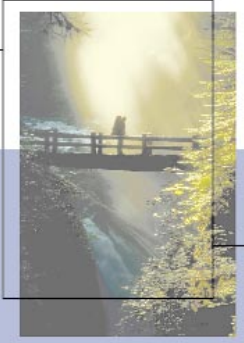
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