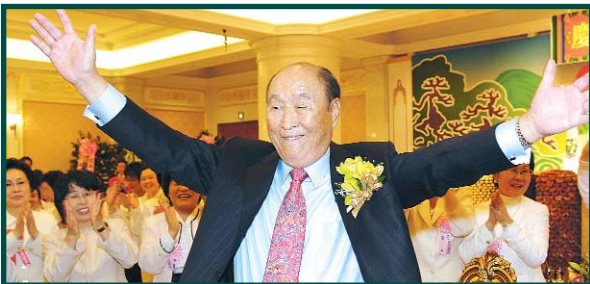


天宙平和天一國太平聖代億萬歲

Ok Mansei for the Sacred Era of Peace in the Cheon Il Guk Realm of Cosmic Peace

True God's Day 2007



True God's Day photos • p. 14-15



Day of Victory of Love • p. 4-5



Coronation Anniversary • p. 6



A Snapshot of the BC Mind • p. 22

The New Voices of Our Generation

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True Parents at the Midnight Address establishing the Motto for 2007 (above and in translation.)

True Parents Midnight Prayer at the Original Palace, January 1, 2007.

Midnight Prayer

Pyeong's main hall and watched by closed circuit tv. (This is a

Father entered with an orange colored men's Han Bok (Korean Traditional Clothing) and True Mother wore a beautiful pink Chima Chogori. True Parents came in with True Family at 11:54 and briefly sat in the central chairs while the congregation gave a traditional Korean greeting.

Then at 11:59 True Parents stood facing each other and holding hands - ready to bring in the new Year with prayer. 1200 gathered at the Original Peace Palace and Museum. 10,000 gathered at Cheong

rough simultaneous translation and can only give the "spirit" of the message.)

Dearest Heavenly Father,

You are the God of harmonious unity of subject and object. You set up a special security around your ideal in the Garden of Eden through your word. However, after the fall there was no security and immediately all aspects of the universe drifted

see PRAYER on page 3

It's Our 25th Anniversary

True Father founded the **Unification News** in February 1982. The newspaper is celebrating this 25th year anniversary with a new look designed by our 2nd Gen Shin Young Chang. Just as the 'old look' symbolized the time of dawn, the new look symbolizes the clear morning of Chung Il Guk and the the Age After the Coming of Heaven. We look forward, with hope in our Father in Heaven and our Father on Earth, to chronicling the next twenty five years.

FOUNDER'S DISCOURSE ON UNIFICATIONISM

This address was given at the Cheong Joong Goong: Original Peace Palace and Museum on January 1, 2007. These notes are taken from a simultaneous translation. Simultaneous translation is done in summary form and depends greatly on the translator's ability to communicate the essence of the message. These cannot be published as definitive texts and should never be used in the future as an "official" publication on Rev. Moon's words. However they do provide a good idea of the "spirit" of the message. Notes by Rev. Michael Jenkins, simultaneous translation - Kentoku Hamasaka and others Edited by Louise Strait and Rev. Jim Flynn.)

We are all to be couples, and that is the appearance we should have. We are couples. How many people are here? Twelve hundred are here, and maybe 9,000 are at the Cheong Pyeong training center, totaling 10,000. You have heard of Pal Jeong Shik; this is the end of the time of Cain and Abel. The relationship of the physical world and the spiritual world must be harmonized.

True Parents' God's

Where are the roots? We have seven openings on our face. Look at your left hand and right hand - there are 10 fingers. After the Fall, all was separated. Even the number 10 was invaded by Satan. We have to come back to the 11th day. That is the point of a new start. An individual must be able to settle in one place. North and south, east and west, you must be able to claim all directions, including up, down, right, left, all 90 degrees in each direction until a sphere is formed. This is a vertical reality; all must rotate. Your eyes, nose, and mouth can't follow their own direction; they must move together, centering on the sphere of your head. You cannot move independently as part of the sphere. But centering on the central axis, you can make all parts move as one. I am an individual truth body, and I have passed the standard. If you rotate and revolve, do you spread out as a plane or do you all move as a uni-

fied body?

You cannot relate with me with your bad habits. If you do, I have to deny who I am, for it is as if I failed to recreate you. So I can't relate. You must take responsibility to do away with all bad habits. I have made a way for you. You have to go around with the number 10 and make a new start.

If you are a teacher at our school, you must know the internal and external purpose of the school. If something goes wrong, you have to take responsibility collectively. Even if you don't have a central role you must take responsibility. However, most people don't have the guts to do that.

Rev. Kwak, when you were young as a student, your eyes used to sparkle. Now you look half dead. (Father is smiling. Everyone laughed, including Rev. Kwak.) How about the Ambassadors for Peace? Are they ready to truly stand with the same conviction as Unifica-

tionists and take collective responsibility to fulfill God's ideal?

How can you work so that the person coming after you has an easier path? What kind of leader tries to destroy his followers? If the opposition party suddenly increases in number, what does the ruling party think? You must offer things to the country first rather than to your family.

Mother doesn't like it when I go overtime, but the members like it. Even if I speak for the whole day, it will be good....

My grandfather was away from home for 32 years, but he came back to meet me. I liked him so much. He was tall and thin. He taught me about Confucian ideals; he talked about the invasion of Japan. He spent two years and eight months in prison, like me. He was misunderstood and treated like a criminal, but he was innocent. He was a very fiery person, like a minister. I know

F E B R U A R Y 2 0 0 7

Ahn Shi Il • 7th, 15th, 23rd

- 1 Day of the Opening of Heaven (1985)
Segye Ilbo Established (1989)
- 5 Hyo Jin Nim & Yun Ah Nim's Blessing (1999)
- 6 Shin Yul Nim's Birthday (12/19/92)
Inter-religious & International Federation World Peace Established (1999)
- 7 360 Million Couples' Blessing (1999)
- 8 1800 Couples' Blessing (1975)
- 11 Jun Sook Nim's Birthday (12/24/67)
16 Couples' Blessing (1978)
- 13 Shin Gil Nim's Birthday (12/26/87)
First International Blessing of 400 Million Couples (2000)
Cosmic True Parents' Federation Established (2000)
- 16 4000 Couples' Blessing (2002)
- 17 International Security Council Established (1985)
- 18 Hoon Sook Nim's Birthday (1/1/63)
- 20 In Jin Nim & Jin Sung Nim's Blessing (1984)
Heung Jin Nim & Hoon Sook Nim's Blessing (1984)
Yeon Jin Nim's Birthday (1/3/81)
- 21 74 Couples' Blessing (1977)
Montevideo Declaration of the World University Federation (1996)
- 22 430 Couples' Blessing (1968)
- 23 True Father's Birthday (1/6/20)
True Mother's Birthday (1/6/43)
Day of the Victory of Earth (1977)
- 24 Shin Heung Nim's Birthday (1/7/01)
Choongmo-nim's Ascension (1/7/68)
- 27 Declaration of Parents of Heaven and Earth (1998)
- 28 One World Crusade Established (1972)
43 Couples' Blessing (1969)

M A R C H 2 0 0 7

Ahn Shi Il • 3rd, 11th, 19th, 27th

- 5 Shin Jung Nim's Birthday (1/16/83)
- 6 Shin Man Nim's Birthday (1/17/00)
- 7 Middle East Time Founded (1983)
- 9 Kwon Jin Nim's Birthday (1/20/75)
- 12 Shin Sook Nim's Birthday (1/23/84)

Due to the manner in which the lunar calendar corresponds with the solar calendar, Yun Ah Nim's and Un Jin Nim's birthdays are not celebrated in 2006. Contact me if you come across any errors. (c) 1999-2004 Kathryn Coman [KathrynComan@worldnet.att.net]

C A L E N D A R

- 18 Dong Sook Nim's Birthday (1/30/55)
- 26 Martial Arts Federation for World Peace Established (1997)
- 27 New Ecumenical Research Association (New ERA) Inauguration (1980)
- 28 Shin Won Nim's Birthday (2/10/88)
International Christian Professors Association Est. (1981)
43 Couples' Blessing (1969)
- 31 Hyun Jin Nim & Jun Sook Nim's Blessing (1987)
The Sao Paulo Declaration (1995)

A P R I L 2 0 0 7

Ahn Shi Il • 4th, 12th, 20th, 28th

- 3 New Hope Farm Declaration (1995)
- 4 Dedication Ceremony for the Chung Shim Tap Memorial Tower & Jeong Shim Won Prayer Hall (2000)
- 5 Jin Sung Nim's Birthday (2/18/62)
- 6 Shin Ye Nim's Birthday (2/19/00)
- 7 42 Couples' Blessing (1989)
138 Previously Married Couples' Blessing (1989)
57 Single Blessing (1989)
Declaration for the Blessed Family (1995)
- 9 Cheon Il Guk Established (2/22/2001)
Grand Liberation of 6,000 Years of Providential History (2/22/2002)
- 10 1265 Previously Married Couples' Blessing (1992)
Women's Federation for World Peace Established (1992)
Family Federation for World Peace and Unification Established (1996)
- 12 36 Couples of the Second Generation Blessing (1986)
- 13 Proclamation of Liberation and Release (2004)
- 14 Shin Chul Nim's Birthday (2/27/92)
- 16 Kwon Jin Nim & Hwa Yun Nim's Blessing (1995)
Sun Jin Nim & In Sup Nim's Blessing (1995)
- 17 True Parents' Day (3/1/60)
Sung Jin Nim's Birthday (3/1/46)
Dae Hyung Nim's Ascension
Day of the Resurrection of Shimjung (1960)
Day of the Resurrection of Substance (1961)
- 22 Noticias del Mundo Established (1980)
- 27 Shin Hwa Nim's Birthday (3/11/88)
- 27 60 Couples' Blessing (2001)
Interreligious (144,000) Clergy Blessing (2002)
- 28 Shin Ye Nim's Ascension (2001)

FOUNDER'S DISCOURSE ON UNIFICATIONISM

Day Morning Address

many of the things that he orchestrated for Korean independence. His sentence was suspended, but, to remain at liberty, he had to leave his hometown.

Wouldn't people criticize and slander the founder? People who don't know me sometimes criticize because there are those in the spirit world who influence them this way. We must go forward to understand how the spirit world works. Many people that I have loved have been taken away to the spirit world. Then they come and ask me something.

I would take on those who were bigger and older. Even if three generations are killed, would you still love God? The time of celebration hasn't been announced yet because we are still building. Everything that the false parents built has to be turned around. We have spent one generation. Jesus started his public ministry at age 28 and was crucified at age 33. His seven-year course was cut short.

Now is the time of the number 10. On May 5, 2004, I explained about Sang Hab Shib Seung Il, and we observed the first An Shi Il. We learned that all must become one. When your two hands come together, your 10 fingers become united as one.

Among all the animals that God created - the lions, tigers and all fish and animals, salt water and fresh water, so many kinds in creation - are there animals that don't like their master? In the Garden of Eden everything should have come together centered on God's life. Adam asked - there is a male but where is the female? Adam asked Eve, do you like me more than the Archangel? Eve said yes, and God was relieved. Adam trusted her answer and didn't take security measures. Now we can take security measures.

Mother was worried that we would be late because I was reading speech 9 and 10 this morning. I spent a lot of time reading alone when Mother was doing the world tour. Mother has given birth to 13 children; some people have accused me of having too many chil-

dren. Mother is great. She sacrificed much to have all the children and care for them.

The Universal Peace Federation is a subjective body of the Unification movement. It is the collective unity of all individual truth bodies who have pride in themselves. Those who want to brag

is no freedom. In the West, without God, subject, and object there would be no freedom.

Mrs. Kang, your husband lived 1,652 years ago. How long have you been married? After 1,600 years he found his wonderful bride. How do you feel, Mrs. Kang? Do you experience him with

land and a palace that is God's homeland. Even if I have to leave you, we must be able to create and leave that kind of hometown. The billions in the spirit world are ready to support us. This is the patent that I have. I have the authority to forgive. The time of witnessing to individuals is over. We must witness to whole families and to groups.

It is an opportunity to make a new beginning. Shouldn't I leave behind a will? A great revolution will come about because God is alive. He created the solar system. How mind boggling is the solar system! That is the God who can freely dominate and create. That is the God who can move the great universe. I have run so hard to catch up with God and be in line with Him. There will be a peace that can permeate every corner of the cosmos and connect it with Cheon Il Guk.

I have just six years until January 13, 2013. If I give the order, will you be able to move all the people below you? A great migration will occur. This is not just a dream; this can actually happen. Can a bird carry a lot of luggage to migrate? No. You yourselves should not have things that will burden you down; you must be able to migrate. If you want to give your family everything, you have to save and establish Cheon Il Guk. Even if I had trillions of dollars, I would use it all for Cheon Il Guk. You have been following me, but I want to emphasize that you must personally follow God and seek God's homeland. This path will lead to God's homeland. It will lead to the completion of heaven. Then God will shower your family and descendants with blessing.

March forward centering on God's sovereignty, even when I am no longer here. January 13, 2013, will be the day when Jesus will stand as a subject partner. This is the time to perfect ourselves and live with joy and become citizens of God's Kingdom and fulfill His will on earth and in heaven! ♦



often have little content. Those who live a more public life can be raised higher. God would like to see the people who don't boast about themselves so much.

Cheon Ju Pyeong Hwa has to have the content and the fulfilled ideal. It must have this content. That is where the heart goes. A beautiful person who lacks any mind, heart, or content lacks value. The same is true with Cheon Il Guk. Without the content of the ideal, it doesn't have any value.

Which is the center, unification or peace? Is the vertical the center, or the horizontal? God as the origin is set as the center of the universe. Without clear subject and object positions there

meals and conversation? (Yes!!) Is she Korean? She is a citizen of Cheon Il Guk. The ancestors who are all connected live in Cheon Il Guk. Mrs. Kang joined on May 10, 1952.

Many have come and gone from the Unification Church. Many swindlers and strange people have come and gone. What will you do when I am gone? I am almost 88. We have overcome our limitations. The teaching we have is true, and our experiences can never be taken away. What will happen when I leave?

We have to create a great revolution to make this historic transition. What do you have to do after I am not here? You have to know that there is a home-

Family, we have returned to the ideal and because of that your substantial dwelling on earth is created. Now the light shines to all the creation and all things are coming back into harmony. Now all beings are able to draw together in harmony as individual truth bodies because your love and light shine through to all creation through the fulfillment of your ideal family. Now the trunk, the branches and the leaves can grow. If the original ancestors could have stood with absolute faith, absolute love and absolute obedience they could have unified heaven, earth and mankind. Because of the fall all the relationships were severed and broken.

However Heavenly Father, you never wavered from your original purpose that must be fulfilled - to create the true family as your dwelling place of True Love. Now we rejoice in that we have reached the stage in which your

ideal has been completed and your light can now shine out and all creation is being revived and unified. There was no home town, no tribe, no nation, no lineage, no ideal family. At the stage we are at all of that is reversed and restored through indemnity and now the realm of resurrection is touching every part of creation. This is created through the harmony of the True Parents of heaven, earth and mankind.

It is now 2007 the 7th Year of Cheon Il Guk, we have 6 years until we reach 2013. We must complete all of the central providence and realize perfected True Love on a global scale. Let grace, liberation and freedom shine throughout all creation and humanity. Now God's Sovereignty on earth is forever established. Let everything that resulted from the false parents be erased so that only a realm of goodness emerges. The internal truth will be revealed. Let

the victorious lineage of heaven be planted - everywhere in each and every family.

True Parents life course was to eradicate all evil and establish goodness. Let the 72 Tribes rise up and may all bear fruit. All that belong to you must bear fruit. Let all come together in one mind and one heart. Let us march forward to the one ideal of the Cheon Ju Pyeong Hwa. The realm of heavenly tranquility and peace.

Let Heaven now touch everything in all directions up, down, right, left, front and back. Let us now create the world of liberation and freedom. Let it bring liberation of the homeland. Now the time is at hand.

Thank you heavenly Father for your victorious realm of love and fulfillment of the ideal. AJU! AJU! AJU!

Then True Parents wrote the motto for the year in beautiful calligraphy. ♦

PRAYER from page 1

apart and out of harmony.

As a being of the Origin, Division and Union action your core attributes are absolute, unchanging, unique and eternal. All aspects of the creation however did not completely inherit and establish these core attributes because of the fall.

Through the substantial being of man and woman in unity you were going to create the substantial realm of True Love. After the fall you went through the long sad history of countless generations in which you suffered in deepest pain searching for that substantial being who could fulfill your divine ideal.

Now through the completion of True Parents and three generations of True

24th Day of Victory

This address was given by True Parents on January 2, 2007 at the Choeng Joong Goong: Original Peace Palace and Museum. These notes are taken from a simultaneous translation. Simultaneous translation is done in summary form and depends greatly on the translator's ability to communicate the essence of the message. These cannot be published as definitive texts and should never be used in the future as an "official" publication on Rev. Moon's words. However they do provide a good idea of the "spirit" of the message. Notes by Rev. Michael Jenkins, simultaneous translation - Kentoku Hamasaka and others Edited by Louise Strait and Rev. Jim Flynn.

Today and tomorrow we will have a workshop for all leaders. You must stand clear in fulfilling your responsibility as a true family. By 2013 we must fulfill the first, second, third, and fourth Israel. By that time Satan will have to completely vanish, and all angels will take their proper position among the angels.

This is why the Abel-type United Nations must fulfill its responsibility to bring the true United Nations. You still have struggles between your mind and body, right? The satanic lineage must be cleansed. This is the root of the problem. All problems spread from this point to the trunk, the branches, and the leaves.

Nothing exists only for its own sake, but only for the sake of the Kingdom of Heaven. You were born from the seed of your parents. Everything must connect with God through the original lineage.

When we talk about teenage years, we are talking about the time between ages 18 - 24. These are critical years in the formation of your life. The cells of your body are primed to have your first child before 24. From age 25 - 52 you should concentrate on having your family. I lost the chance to have a festival with my parents and family. 100 years = 4 x 25. Three fourths of the 25-year periods are complete in my life.

When you talk about pure lineage, think about bamboo, which lives for 65 - 70 years. You can tell by the knots how many years it has lived. Bamboo grows quick, straight, and flexible; yet it is strong. The qualities of bamboo are characteristic of our lineage. It has the tenacity to last for 80 to 100 years.

The pine is a straight tree that is resilient even in the wind and storm. Be like a pine tree. It also resembles the topography of the area it grows in. The pine tree grows straight, representing virtue. Even in winter snows the pine tree stays the same. The pine tree in Lebanon is more round and has some bends in the trunk. It is very different from the pine tree in Korea.

We have to go through the eight stages of the individual, family, tribe, clan, people, nation, world, God.

How can you bring two into one? Through love. God's strategy is to love your enemy. Originally the unity of dual characteristics of Adam and Eve should be like two hands with palms together and fingers stretching out, mirroring each other. Because of the Fall, they became like two hands stretched out, with palms down. Not twins, but two separate beings.

We have the situation of two of my children who are in spirit world - my

son Hee Jin (advancement of joy) and my daughter Hye Jin (advancement of grace). Adam failed; that is why Hee Jin was offered first as a son. His mother was the adopted daughter of a missionary. At that time Ewha Women's University was receiving money from the Methodist church in America. The university president was quite anxious to keep the money coming, so she expelled any students who were joining the Unification Church. Our daughter

also my birthday) Father designated America as the elder son nation and designated Taiwan, the Philippines and Canada as daughter nations.

Father: What is the most important thing for Unification Church? (True Parents). More important than those restoration positions of savior and messiah are True Parents. More important than True Parents is God. There is only one nation that calls God Hana Nim. - Do you know God? Do you know what



ter Hye Jin went to spirit world at that time. Mr. Shin's son Na Young, who went to spirit world, was blessed with Hye jin. (Father is standing up every leader whose family was blessed to True Parents' children that went to the spirit world.) Hye Jin's father-in-law was saved eight times during the Korean War.

(Father called on Mr. Shin to give a testimony. Then he called on Rev. Chae Hee Lee to testify.)

Rev. Chae Hee Lee - It had been 40 years since Father had come to Canada, exactly 40 years to the day. Toronto hosted True Parents and True Family during the world tours. When Dr. Yang called and said that we had to host 12 events on the same day for the world tour of the True Family, our members had faith. We did it - all on the same day.

Canada has been designated a continent by True Father. On July 14th in Geneva Father said we must make 12 tribes and develop the world into 12 regions. Ca-Na-Da sounds like the first three characters of the Japanese alphabet. (Ca Na Da Ra) It is a nation that completed the four position foundation. On April 17, 1998, Easter Sun-

He does? Do you know where your relationship with God begins? How can you measure or evaluate your relationship with God?

What was the most important thing? Lineage! This world has all kinds of false lineages but until now never had true lineages. We need to have a standard. We must have a world in which we can live together with True Parents. The family is essential for this. What is a family? It is about the Family Pledge. The Chinese character for a family indicates an alliance. The Family Pledge means to bring all families into one. The first thing to unify all families is one language. When we think of the Family Pledge, we must pledge to live in that culture and fulfill the Family Pledge. We must have one spoken language. Should that language be used on earth or primarily in the spirit world? If human beings had not fallen, would we need a family pledge? Everything connected to heaven and earth must know the contents of the Family Pledge. This is our guide. We say the words liberation and complete freedom, but how do we achieve it? What is the most important thing in our Family Pledge? Love is the key point of the whole Fam-

ily Pledge. How important is the Family Pledge? It is more precious than anything. It is priceless; nothing in the world can be exchanged for it. What does the Family Pledge have to do with you? If it has something to do with you, then you will be fine.

How many nations have risen and fallen throughout history? When can we bring order to all those families, tribes, and nations? We can see that all these things are still unclear with the five founders. Even though the five founders taught so much, they didn't have the Family Pledge. Is the Family Pledge absolutely needed on the earth or in the spirit world? It is needed on the earth.

1. Our family, the owner of Cheon Il Guk, pledges to seek our original homeland and build the Kingdom of God on earth and in heaven, the original ideal of creation, by centering on true love.

We are seeking after our original homeland.

2. Our family, the owner of Cheon Il Guk, pledges to represent and become central to heaven and earth by attending God and True Parents; we pledge to perfect the dutiful family way of filial sons and daughters in our family, patriots in our nation, saints in the world, and divine sons and daughters in heaven and earth, by centering on true love.

The second pledge is that we become a filial son or daughter in the family, patriot and a saint in the world, and fourth, the divine son and daughter.

3. Our family, the owner of Cheon Il Guk, pledges to perfect the Four Great Realms of Heart, the Three Great Kingdoms and the Realm of the Royal Family, by centering on true love.

When the male and female come together, then God's seed can take root and form the family. That is the basis of the four realms of heart. This was never possible because the lineage was never established and the four realms of heart could not be realized. This is the realm of the royal family. Everything is connected to God's lineage. That creates a realm that encompasses the universe. How, then, can you become the universal family? I gave you a family, but you don't know that value of God's seed. The fruit that comes from this seed is equal to the value of the pure seed. With the four great realms of heart, you can have the three great blessings.

What are the three generations that we speak about? The first three verses are the foundation for the remaining five. Cain and Abel should unite as one. There should be no conflict in any area. The third and fourth generation should be internal and external. The third and fourth generation can form the next generations of the family. For Adam's family this means their sons and daughters must be blessed. God's dual characteristics must be manifested in God's body and throughout the family. All will go through four stages: formation, growth, completion and perfection. Each of the first three stages has three stages, adding up to the number nine. Three stages give us nine. The perfection level is 10, and then God is on top of that. That is the number 11.

Probably 80 percent of your fallen

of Love Speech

nature remains. Some only have 3 percent nature of goodness. How will we deal with the fallen nature? Did you finish the indemnity conditions to overcome the individual level? I have been there and have overcome all of these levels and am seeking to engraft everyone to this foundation. Still, many have no connection to this. Thousands and thousands of times I had to go into the deepest hell of humanity and overcome everything. Otherwise I could not establish the Family Pledge.

Servant of servant, servant, illegitimate son, adopted son, son of the direct lineage (five stages) five and five must come together. At 27 I began my most severe battles. It was at the most difficult time. The spirit world was against me, God didn't believe in me, I wasn't even sure myself where I stood. The world didn't even know that the lineage was stained. Everyone and everything was opposing me. Myriads of levels of the spirit world directly opposed everything.

Don't you all want to become the messiah? You have to have something that will prove that you are qualified. You have to win Satan's stamp of approval. Do you have that stamp? This is a most important matter. Who lost the four great realms of heart? The archangel. The Old Testament Age, the New Testament Age, the Completed Testament Age – did you complete these stages? If you didn't fulfill your responsibility, then you can't fulfill your role in the spirit world.

Satan knows how serious the seed is. Satan is aggressively attacking God's lineage. We must inherit God's holy lineage. Satan totally opposed this ferociously. Without building the correct foundation, all will be lost. Now you have to master and understand the Family Pledge. If you don't, you will be empty handed. People may think that I am getting old; however, I am totally clear. God's children have to be resurrected by me. Knowing this, it becomes impossible for me to sleep and eat. Satan has his claws on everything and tries not to let go. Layers and layers of attachments are there from the satanic world.

Don't you think that Adam and Eve were inside of God's womb when they were born? When a mother gives birth to a baby, it is as if she is going to die. So much comes out besides the baby. When women are giving birth, they must have a strong constitution to push the baby out. There are many women who pledged they would give up their lives for God. That is the heart that is necessary. Some thought they would be the greatest mother and give birth to the greatest son.

I suffered so much attack from Satan to become the True Parent. I sometimes cried for 12 hours. Knowing God's heart, I couldn't smile. In Hung Nam I couldn't smile for three years. Satan wanted to destroy me totally. Because of Satan, because of Adam and Eve our mind and body are divided.

I feel sometimes like I have to make a cave, as though I have to live in the Himalayan Mountains for 10,000 years because no one understands. I think about the way of the cross. Even if I bequeath everything to you, will you

understand? This is to be one unified culture, one unified heart and one unified realm. That is the way of true sons and daughters. I have to pour out everything, whether you can understand it or not.

Today is the 7th year of Cheon Il Guk. I did my best – I made my conditions. If I pray now, my eyes don't close. What kind of content can I pray for? I have fulfilled everything. I have to bequeath everything to you. When

on true love.

To strive for the unification of spirit world and physical world. We pledge to become one family and bring that to humanity.

6. Our family, the owner of Cheon Il Guk, pledges to become a family that moves heavenly fortune by embodying God and True Parents, and to perfect a family that conveys Heaven's blessing to our community, by centering on true love.

This applies to bringing the blessing to the tribe and the nation.

7. Our family, the owner of Cheon Il Guk, pledges, through living for the

Now is the time to tell everyone to come back to the church. Drastic things are about to occur and they will be protected in the church.

Previously we had to have three spiritual children. Now we must witness to our relatives. We are going to do an interracial marriage blessing. We are going to bless beyond boundaries. Children between enemy nations must be blessed. Americans and Russians should be blessed together. Otherwise when they die and go to the spirit world the enemy spirit will remain. Without opening your mind, you cannot go to heaven. You must have three generations blessed and must enter the 12 pearly gates. To solve that problem, I am now praying to forgive the unforgivable.

Verse 8 – You must be united in love. You must perfect the realm of love and have complete freedom. You have to be able to liberate God and True Parents. This must all be rectified by absolute faith, absolute love, and absolute obedience. Not one person can remain in hell. No one can go before God with the crime that he has committed written on his chest. God wants to be free. This is for the liberation of God. God wants to be free to relate with all of His children.

The families of the Old Testament, New Testament, and Completed Testament ages must be liberated. The savior must be able to save the world. He must save everything. If the religious spheres are still in conflict, it will not work. Then what comes after that? All these things must come together. There cannot be haves and have-nots.

People cannot come in proportion to rich and poor. There must be sharing of all. In the spirit world you can go anywhere you want and live in any way according to heaven if you perfect yourself. We have to go out and reach all the people. We must reach everyone.

There was to be just one great family. All possessions will be shared fairly. No one will be supreme above others. Those who want to remain in hate may have a terrible consequence with nature.

Currently there are 11 peace messages, and there may be a 12th peace message. (Father held up the book of peace messages – 168 pages.)

All creation will come together now. Birds cry out when they are hungry, they cry out for their children, they sing when they are happy. If we understand this, we can draw the creation unto us.

(Father asked the wives of the 5 religious founders) – I gave you a place at Silver Town, didn't I? (Silver Town is a facility for senior citizens, constructed near the Cheong Pyeong Training Center.) I want you there so Mother and I can take you with us as we visit other areas.

Every day you must attend the king and queen of peace. Do you understand? You must be stronger in faith than Muslims, Christians, and Jews.

The era of my responsibility is gone. You must be responsible for one nation. Uniting Cain and Abel together, we must go over all boundaries. ❖



I think about that, I feel a little nervous. Will you understand?

We have to become the citizens of the heavenly nation. We must be as pure as crystal. There are many who attack me. There were those that prayed for my death. I have to go and save even those people.

I had to overcome all temptations. When I go someplace and there are people who are against me in heart, what should I do? Should I kick out Satan's clan?

4. Our family, the owner of Cheon Il Guk, pledges to build the universal family encompassing heaven and earth, which is God's ideal of creation, and perfect the world of freedom, peace, unity and happiness, by centering on true love.

This is about creating one universal family.

5. Our family, the owner of Cheon Il Guk, pledges to strive every day to advance the unification of the spirit world and the physical world as subject and object partners, by centering

sake of others, to perfect the world based on the culture of heart, which is rooted in the original lineage, by centering on true love. Living for the sake of others creates the culture of heart.

8. Our family, the owner of Cheon Il Guk, pledges, having entered the Completed Testament Age, to achieve the ideal of God and human beings united in love through absolute faith, absolute love and absolute obedience, and to perfect the realm of liberation and complete freedom in the Kingdom of God on earth and in heaven, by centering on true love.

I went out to the world from Korea for 34 years and won the victory against all odds. We must change everything. You may continue your mission for 3 – 6 or 8 months more, but everything is going to change. You must reach out. You must go through the rural areas and three districts within the nations and also have missions in three different countries. There were three archangels to unite with Adam and Eve.

6th Anniversary of the Coronation Ceremony for God's

On January 3, 2007, 7:00 AM, the 6th Anniversary of the Coronation Ceremony for God's Kingship and Commemoration of the Birth of Jesus was held at the Cheon Jeong Palace, with the participation of 1,200 members and local church leaders.

Rev. Chung Hwan Kwak was the emcee for this day's service. First a bow was offered to God and True Parents by representatives, then all participants recited the Family Pledge in Korean. Rev. Kwak and his wife offered the representative prayer report. True Parents then cut the celebration cake.

Rev. Kwak then read from True Father's speech that was given on January 13, 2001.

The Coronation Ceremony was one of the important events that are being celebrated in the beginning of each year along with True God's Day and Day of the Victory of Love.

The Coronation Ceremony for God's Kingship is to commemorate the day of the restoration and liberation of God's kingship, which was lost due to Satan. The ceremony was designated on January 13, 2001, and observed each year. From 2005,



this day has been celebrated on January 3.

This day is also Jesus' birthday. Peo-

ple think that December 25 is the day Christ was born, but Jesus' actual day of birth is January 3.

This celebration ended with three cheers of eog mansei led by Rev. Hwang Sun-jo. ❖

ADDRESS from page 7

der the founder? People who don't know me sometimes criticize because there are those in the spirit world who influence them this way. We must go forward to understand how the spirit world works. Many people that I have loved have been taken away to the spirit world. Then they come and ask me something.

I would take on those who were bigger and older. Even if three generations are lost, would you still love God? The time of celebration hasn't been announced yet because we are still building. Everything that the false parents built has to be turned around. We have spent one generation. Jesus started his public ministry at age 28 and was crucified at age 33. His seven-year course was cut short.

Now is the time of the number 10. On May 5, 2004, I explained about Sang Hab Shib Seung Il, and we observed the first An Shi Il. We learned that all must become one. When your two hands come together, your 10 fingers become united as one.

Among all the animals that God created - the lions, tigers and all fish and animals, salt water and fresh water, so many kinds in creation - are there animals that don't like their master? In the Garden of Eden everything should have come together centered on God's life. Adam asked - there is a male but

where is the female? Adam asked Eve, do you like me more than the Archangel? Eve said yes, and God was relieved. Adam trusted her answer and didn't take security measures. Now we can take security measures.

Mother was worried that we would be late because I was reading speech 9 and 10 this morning. I spent a lot of time reading alone when Mother was doing the world tour. Mother has given birth to 13 children; some people have accused me of having too many children. Mother is great. She sacrificed much to have all the children and care for them.

The Universal Peace Federation is a subjective body of the Unification movement. It is the collective unity of all individual truth bodies who have pride in themselves. Those who want to brag often have little content. Those who live a more public life can be raised higher. God would like to see the people who don't boast about themselves so much.

Cheon Ju Pyeong Hwa has to have the content and the fulfilled ideal. It must have this content. That is where the heart goes. A beautiful person who lacks any mind, heart, or content lacks value. The same is true with Cheon Il Guk. Without the content of the ideal, it doesn't have any value.

Which is the center, unification or peace? Is the vertical the center, or the horizontal? God as the origin is set as the center of the universe. There is no world without a subject and object; or

there is no freedom. In the West, without God, subject, and object there would be no freedom.

Mrs. Kang, your husband lived 1,652 years ago. How long have you been married? After 1,600 years he found his wonderful bride. How do you feel, Mrs. Kang? Do you experience him with meals and conversation? (Yes!!) Is she Korean? She is a citizen of Cheon Il Guk. The ancestors who are all connected live in Cheon Il Guk. Mrs. Kang joined on May 10, 1952.

Many have come and gone from the Unification Church. Many swindlers and strange people have come and gone. What will you do when I am gone? I am almost 88. We have overcome our limitations. The teaching we have is true, and our experiences can never be taken away. What will happen when I leave?

We have to create a great revolution to make this historic transition. What do you have to do after I am not here? You have to know that there is a homeland and a palace that is God's homeland. Even if I have to leave you, we must be able to create and leave that kind of hometown. The billions in the spirit world are ready to support us. This is the patent that I have. I have the authority to forgive. The time of witnessing to individuals is over. We must witness to whole families and to groups.

It is an opportunity to make a new beginning. Shouldn't I leave behind a will? A great revolution will come about because God is alive. He created the solar system. How mind boggling is the

solar system! That is the God who can freely dominate and create. That is the God who can move the great universe. I have run so hard to catch up with God and be in line with Him. There will be a peace that can permeate every corner of the cosmos and connect it with Cheon Il Guk.

I have just six years until January 13, 2013. If I give the order, will you be able to move all the people below you? A great migration will occur. This is not just a dream; this can actually happen. Can a bird carry a lot of luggage to migrate? No. You yourselves should not have things that will burden you down; you must be able to migrate. If you want to give your family everything, you have to save and establish Cheon Il Guk. Even if I had trillions of dollars, I would use it all for Cheon Il Guk. You have been following me, but I want to emphasize that you must personally follow God and seek God's homeland. This path will lead to God's homeland. It will lead to the completion of heaven. Then God will shower your family and descendants with blessing.

March forward centering on God's sovereignty, even when I am no longer here. January 13, 2013, will be the day when Jesus will stand as a subject partner. This is the time to perfect ourselves and live with joy and become citizens of God's Kingdom and fulfill His will on earth and in heaven! ❖

Kingship and Commemoration of the Birth of Jesus

ADDRESS

These notes are taken from a simultaneous translation. Simultaneous translation is done in summary form and depends greatly on the translator's ability to communicate the essence of the message. These cannot be published as definitive texts and should never be used in the future as an "official" publication on Rev. Moon's words. However they do provide a good idea of the "spirit" of the message. Notes by Rev. Michael Jenkins, simultaneous translation - Kentoku Hamasaka and others.

We are all to be couples, and that is the appearance we should have. We are couples. How many people are here? Twelve hundred are here, and maybe 9,000 are at the Cheong Pyeong training center, totaling 10,000. You have heard of Pal Jeong Shik; this is the end of the time of Cain and Abel. The relationship of the physical world and the spiritual world must be harmonized. Where are the roots? We have seven openings on our face. Look at your left hand and right hand - there are 10 fin-

gers. After the Fall, all was separated. Even the number 10 was invaded by Satan. We have to come back to the 11th day. That is the point of a new start. An individual must be able to settle in one place. North and south, east and west, you must be able to claim all directions, including up, down, right, left, all 90 degrees in each direction until a sphere is formed. This is a vertical reality; all must rotate. Your eyes, nose, and mouth can't follow their own direction; they must move together, centering on the sphere of your head. You cannot move independently as part of the sphere. But centering on the central axis, you can make all parts move as one. I am an individual truth body, and I have passed the standard. If you rotate and revolve, do you spread out

as a plane or do you all move as a unified body?

You cannot relate with me with your bad habits. If you do, I have to deny who I am, for it is as if I

something goes wrong, you have to take responsibility collectively. Even if you don't have a central role you must take responsibility. However, most people don't have the guts to do that.

Rev. Kwak, when you were young as a student, your eyes used to sparkle. Now you look half dead. (Father is smiling. Everyone laughed, including Rev. Kwak.) How about the Ambassadors for Peace? Are they ready to truly stand with the same conviction as Unificationists and take collective responsibility to fulfill God's ideal?

How can you work so that the per-

son coming after you has an easier path? What kind of leader tries to destroy his followers? If the opposition party suddenly increases in number, what does the ruling party think? You must offer things to the country first rather than to your family.

Mother doesn't like it when I go overtime, but the members like it. Even if I speak for the whole day, it will be good....

My grandfather was away from home for 32 years, but he came back to meet me. I liked him so much. He was tall and thin. He taught me about Confucian ideals; he talked about the invasion of Japan. He spent two years and eight months in prison, like me. He was misunderstood and treated like a criminal, but he was innocent. He was a very fiery person, like a minister. I know many of the things that he orchestrated for Korean independence. His sentence was suspended, but, to remain at liberty, he had to leave his hometown.

Wouldn't people criticize and slan-

see ADDRESS on page 6



The Dae Mo Nim Experience • A Testimony

by Eddy Hartley

I would like to express what I experienced with HMN/DMN when she/they came to the United Kingdom in early December. Like many others, I am sure, my initial reaction to the 'Forgiveness Ceremony' was: Do I need this? My behaviour has not been perfect but I have not made any huge mistakes – Can I afford it?! However, I soon realised the incredible value of this Grace Ceremony and what a gift it was that was being given to us by TP and HMN/DMN.

We Westerners sometimes get caught up on simple phrasing. For example, the initial translation of the guidance on the event was entitled 'The Forgiveness Ceremony which every Blessed Family must go to'. Some people surely reacted by saying "who is telling me what I must be doing? I will decide myself what I do". I am sure that this was a poor translation and what was really meant was "It is very strongly recommended every Blessed Family attend the Forgiveness Ceremony". It is the second version which fits to the HMN/DMN I met in early December. Our family all decided to go in the end and are very happy we did!

Hoon Mo Nim's flight from Geneva was delayed by 2 hours because of bad weather. But when our honoured guests finally arrived and what a beautiful spirit they brought with them, despite a lengthy and difficult journey. Then unfortunately it took over 3 hours to get to our destination, a journey which should normally have taken a little over hour. I was in the lead car with Derrick Davis and Tim Read. As we talked together we discovered that we all had two major questions we would like to have answered about Absolutely Good Spirits.

How is it that we in the physical world change so very slowly but really sinful ancestors can be made into Absolutely Good Spirits in the space of just 00 days?!

The Principle states that we need a physical body to grow spiritually but our liberated ancestors seem to develop so quickly in the Spirit World without one – isn't that contrary to the Principle?

All of us believe completely in what DMN is doing but simply did not understand; we Westerners like our logical explanations! We hoped there would be a chance to get answers to these questions.

As mentioned, we arrived at the house very late and soon afterwards sat down to dinner together. Mr. Lee was always smiling and Hoon Mo Nim was radiant – a truly beautiful lady. Then came the chance to ask questions.

Question: How is it that sinful ancestors become Absolutely Good Spirits within 100 days?

HMN/DMN's answer:

People on earth have two major handicaps when it comes to growing spiritually. Firstly, they are distract-

ed by all of the activities of daily life and secondly, they cannot see spiritually and therefore cannot see where they are, where they could be and the consequences of certain actions, whether positive or negative. They realise just 5% (or was it 0.5%) about their spiritual situation.

People in the Spirit World on HJN/DMN's 100-day workshops have nothing else to do but change! They are shown very clearly when they arrive in a higher realm where they are spiritually at the moment, but also where they could be if they change. They are shown how to change. They can see the results of their efforts every-day in terms of where they would go right now if they left the workshop but also where they can develop to further from where they are. They are highly motivated to change and are not distracted by the things we are distracted by on earth. They invest strongly into changing themselves because they can immediately sense the change in themselves.

Also, time is different in the Spirit World – 100 earth days there are not experienced as 100 days – they may seem more like 10 years! So our ancestors can become Absolute Good Spirits through totally investing themselves and they also have time enough to do it!

This all made absolutely perfect sense! I was personally totally satisfied with that explanation!

Question 2: We need a physical body to grow – how do our ancestors become Absolutely Good Spirits just staying at a workshop in the Spirit World?

HMN/DMN's answer: DP is absolutely correct – there is no contravention of DP happening here. Our ancestors are only there because we liberated them, and also because we made conditions for them (bows). We are told how many bows to do and this has been worked out to be sufficient from the Physical World side to provide the vitality elements our ancestors need to receive to grow. We are also told that HMN/DMN has to offer that indemnity if we don't and we can see why! Also the conditions of prayers and support we offer while our ancestors are at the workshop – the 00 days – provide the elements our ancestors need. Thus their development into Absolutely Good Spirits is a true cooperation between the Physical and Spiritual Worlds!

This helped me understand so much better the meaning of the conditions we are asked to make for liberated ancestors and those to be liberated. Now it all makes absolute sense to me.

While all of the explanations were being given, another phenomenon was happening within me – I felt myself relating to HMN/DMN not as a serving, objective staff member doing his job to properly provide for a high level dignitary, but as the younger brother of a very lovely elder sister! This lady is my deeply respected, very advanced but still reachable, incredibly loving and beautiful elder sister! I suddenly found myself in a deeply familial situation, feeling protective towards this amazing woman who is totally living for the sake of others, including myself, my family, ancestors and descendants. True Parents' representative was right there pouring out the purest heart of motherly and sisterly love. I often do feel a similar kind of heart from President and Mrs Song as well. I also felt that the Koreans at Livingstone House (in the spirit of the True Parents spirit) were really taking care of us, real-

ly fulfilling their role to serve and support the part of the world we were in!

As if these explanations were not enough we also received more on another occasion. The question came up: What is true Cheong Seong (sincere devotion)? Is it doing HDH, praying, fasting and other conditions?

Yes, it is also that, but HMN/DMN stressed other things which are even more important which are: How we relate in a heavenly way with each other; How we serve and support True Parent's representatives; How much we can come to think and act like True Parents. This is real Cheong Seong!

This true brotherly feeling towards HMN/DMN continued throughout the whole time she was in the UK: at the event in a side room leading into the main hall, just being there with her with Mrs. Song attending, just making myself available for any small request. I really witnessed HMN/DMN as a totally selfless person on and off stage – she does not stand on ceremony or demand a certain level of

service from members around her – she just serves God and True Parents with radiant love and absolute serenity and sincerity. This is the standard brothers and sisters! HMN/DMN may

see many, many non-ideal things but she never judges – on the contrary she embraces! Everything worked out well with the event, the driving, the accommodation for our most honoured guests.

At the airport on the day of departure the lines were long to go through to 'airside', so the party leaving had a coffee and we brothers kept their position in the queue. As we were just a few minutes away from the X-ray area I went to the coffee shop to inform the party "Please come soon". HMN/DMN was peeling a satsuma and handed me half of it. I felt she was saying "Thank you" (to all of us) but also "Please remember this moment", "Please share these things of the heart with brothers and sisters", "Please continue to build Cheon Il Guk", "Please become a person with this level of heart", and many other such things. And so the party left and we did too.

Dearest brothers and sisters, I studied about the Spirit World before I joined our Movement and have learned a lot more about it since over the past 33 years since joining. I learned years ago about beautiful mother spirits in the higher realms with amazingly loving and pure faces, about the joy and laughter which abounds in the higher realms. All of this we can find with HMN/DMN and her team. She is so close to our True Parents and is absolutely embodying God's true love. Please believe in HMN/DMN, in every word she says – they are absolutely true!

Please trust in her, she is truly God-centred. Please cooperate with her and if you have not yet gone to the ceremony yet, please go. Please do not let something or someone tell you that it is just a fundraising exercise, or totally unnecessary. This is absolutely not true. Please do not miss this gift from our True Parents made possible through HMN/DMN's love and intervention.

Do not come this far and then stop. It is so important that your whole lineage receive the benefits of this grace and the current merit of the age.

The price we have to pay is so small – just our 3%! Whatever your hopes are for your family, whatever your desire in your deepest being can be achieved by connecting to and believing in True Parents and HMN/DMN and our Continental leadership. They are the ones who are helping us to serve God and receive grace. Please never doubt their devotion to also facilitate your happiness too. The Cheon Il Guk is a beautiful place – we can build it, within ourselves and externally. I have tasted it; it is real. Take one step forward by yourself and you will be carried forward 10 steps.

How good it is to be a Central Blessed Family! This experience changed me. This is what this world needs! ❖



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by Pastor Mike Yakawich

Our New Years Celebration began at 10:30 p.m. the night of December 31st at the All Nations Christina Fellowship Church. Friends and ACLC members sponsored the annual midnight service at their church. Even with a cold night and snow falling, so many turned out for this annual ecumenical fellowship.

We had a wonderful gathering of young and old who came out on the cold winter night to be with our other Christian friends. This included our youth playing some beautiful musical offerings. Rev. Dr. Johnson led us in worship. Pastor Mike shared about his gratitude for the year of working together with everyone there. At one point, the elders of the All Nations and Rev. Johnson gave special oil anointing to our two high school seniors and prayed over them for wisdom and God's guidance. With much fellowship, songs and worship, we paused at midnight; in a circle holding hands for a heartfelt prayer given by Evangelist Eunice Terry with gratitude for 06 and new hope into 07.

The next morning we gathered at the Family Church for a prayer and pledge service at 7 a.m. It was so nice to see the Felig and Woods family gather with us since they had to travel over five hours (from Great Falls) to be with us. The elders lead the service with Paul DiLorenzo leading us in the Korean Family Pledge and Chad Martin offering a deep, inspirational prayer. Two youth read a passage on the importance of this day by Father Moon and Pastor Mike share briefly on the motto and the value of this important day.

Our annual community wide True God's Day Celebration began at Noon on Jan. 1st. We had a fantastic array of potluck foods from chicken to cranberries, ham and sushi with so many delicacies, delicious dishes of salads, side dishes and deserts. Yukiko Yakawich, Fusako Martin, Kimiko DiLoranzo, Junko Thiessen, Marguriete Felig, Astrid Woods and so many others helped make this physical offering be so delicious and delightful.

We even had members traveling as far away as Havre, MT (6 hours away) to be with us. It was so wonderful to see so many of them here in Billings all together. We even had eight LDS missionaries and two Christian ministers spend time with us. The missionaries and one of the ministers even sang to us with much joy and inspiration.

The day included other musical performances by our youth and adults. Also, a pinnate that involved a whole line of youth smashing the paper soccer ball into bits and candy and toys exploding out to everyone's enjoyment was had. We also had a magic show and many party poppers for the community to enjoy.

We had a Blessing as well for all participants. With the new Holy Wine and Sparkling Apple Cider we had a special prayer and ask all to make a new determination for true love and loyalty to God and each other. Tiny and Chris Heaps from our home church were our representative couple as Pastor Mike lead in the Blessing and Elder Paul offered a Blessing prayer.

We took a group photo upstairs before our banquet began. That alone is a wonderful picture. However, we had

Montana Celebrates True God's Day 2007 with much Celebration, Love and Spirit



more people join us throughout the afternoon stopping by, visiting, eating and sharing with us. At one point in our entertainment, Junko Thiessen lead three other young ladies (Holly 21, Elissa 9 and Anna 5) dressed in their Japanese Kimonos performing some very professional Okinawa Dances.

In the end, the spirit was so high and joyful. Pastor Mike's 90 year old Aunt shared, "It was well done, very organized and over the 3 hours I was not bored at all!" The basement was full and overflowing as many of the youth played cards, foos ball, hackey sack and other board games in and outside of the church. Other couples who could not make it due to a car accident or other situations still called and wished us good cheer. It was the best True God's Day we ever celebrated.

We had dozens of poinsettia plants donated to us from a local florist exchange. Every person who came could take one home after the event. We then proceeded to take extra poinsettia and our good cheer to many of our home church people who were sick, shut in or otherwise could not make it. They were so grateful.

Overall, we felt the love of God and the special fellowship of our

church members, home church community, family and friends. I was especially inspired by our Blessed families who gave so much of themselves in taking time and visiting with all our guests and home church families. Everyone pitched in, helped set up and stayed afterwards to do clean up. The next day, many gathered again for a prayer breakfast

honoring True Day of Victory of Love.

We are very thankful for our District Director, Rev. Krishnek's inspiration, guidance and prayers. We are very inspired for the spirit of God's Day and all the Holy Days that True Family teaches us by example and the love of Jesus and the Holy Spirit that filled all our hearts. We anticipate a great year of 2007! ❖

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Mrs. Kang's testimony

Father asked Mrs. Kang, the wife of Saint Augustine, to give her testimony on True God's Day morning. Our focus for 2007 will be to multiply every foundation, especially core members and core families. This testimony provides deep inspiration for such a development to occur.

When I joined in Pusan, we lived in a hut about 2 meters square. When I look at the original palace, I am without words. The prophecies of God are all being fulfilled. The fact is that what Father has done until today is a miracle. The world of True Father would be here more quickly if we were living like Father lives.

Father appointed me as an elder of the Taegu Church. In the spring of 1953, he said we must pioneer Taegu. Father said a woman should pioneer Taegu because the women in Taegu were strong.

At that time I had no preparation to bring down the satanic world. Father worried about me. He didn't want to send me, but he had to. His heart hurt so much in doing this. I could see in his heart. Father was crying when he sent me. He asked me to go for 40 days. I came back on the night of the 39th day. He wouldn't let me in. He said, it's too early. He said I had to finish 40 days. Father said, "I am following God, the creator of heaven and earth."

Here is a brief account of my time in Taegu.

On July 20th at midnight, Father said, "It would be good if you could build a church." The kind of prayer he prayed was, "Heavenly Father, I have to send this young girl because I cannot go." He asked Heavenly Father to protect me.

I went out on my first pioneering course. Before I left Pusan, a man bought me two sets of clothing. I turned around, and one was gone. I found out that Father took one set. I didn't understand. I felt sad about this. Later I realized that Jesus told his disciples, take only the shirt on your back. Father gave me a little food, and I left for my trip. I saw Father crying as I left. How much pain and sorrow he had in sending one daughter out!

My heart was liberated by seeing his tears. I was so determined because I could see that Father believed in me. From that first day, Father never thought that this wouldn't work; he never once doubted this worldwide mission. If Father had any doubt, we would have never made it.

I took the train to Taegu. I arrived with no place to go. Everyone was moving to their homes and destinations from the train station, but I had no place to go. I felt scared. I prayed to God, where should I go? I heard a voice, "Are you saying that this is a difficult situation? I have come this way without resting for 6,000 years. I have endured for 6,000 years, and you think you are having difficulty." He called my name three times, saying, "Don't forget, I am with you." I could hear God's voice, and I was guided by it voice to a huge church. I felt I should kneel down and pray. But it was past midnight, and they kicked me out. I went to the basement, where Sunday school was held.

I knew that there was not one person in Taegu who was on my side except God. I prayed all night, and a way was opened. I learned that if we have conviction and faith and keep praying, God will bring results and show the way. . If you ask your parents for bread, what parent would give you a stone? God will give you what you need.

I climbed one mountain called Anju Mountain.

Someone invited me to pray on this mountain. The path was steep. We came to the top and I prayed, "Please be with me. I know you want to have a church. Please allow this." We then had a church service, and it was an overwhelming experience. People were drawn in because they thought they heard angels singing. The people who came wanted to study the Bible. We studied, and we had many revival meetings.

We received so much grace in the first few days. Someone came and said that someone truly wonderful was coming, wearing green clothes like army clothes.

Father came in a used, worn-out army jacket. Church elders said they had never heard our content before. The words were based on the Bible, but not in the Bible. They joined us. On the last day, I gave a lecture on the second coming. A man suddenly shouted and slapped his knee. "I just received a revelation!" What did you receive?, I asked. "Four characters appeared on paper to me. They said, 'Korea, the Second Advent.'"

Many came. We were persecuted, and we had to move frequently. I couldn't even announce our upcoming meetings because we might be pushed out of the place where we were. We moved to another place, and one elder said, we have nothing and we are moving into a place that has nothing. However, we felt the spirit of God revealing most clearly at that time

that he would guide us.

It was rumored that Moon "Yesu," "Jesus Moon," was a heretic and he was bringing a strange spirit from North Korea. -Stay away from him, one Christian minister announced.

I sent him contents of the Principle. He was astounded and said, "I heard that you have a heretical church but when I read the contents of the teaching, I found it is from the Bible and that it is not heretical but true. The minister came to us because he had a revelation that Noah's ark was closing and he had to join this ship, our little church, or he would be left behind. He joined us.

This was how we witnessed. God did it. God was sending people. I had many letters from Father when he was pioneering Seoul but when the police raided our church, they took all of them. They were never found. How I wish we could have kept those letters. How historic they would be now! Their contents were so profound. Wherever Father went, problems would occur. He would simply teach God's word, and people would be interested. Immediately people would come and study. But within churches, families, and other areas people were shocked and would oppose him. Every step we took, we were totally condemned and opposed.

One person studying had a dream and said that he saw that Father was hungry and someone ran across the bridge to give him rice. This actually



happened twice in Taegu. Out of nowhere a stranger came running across a bridge to give rice to Father. That is how God worked. Father really touched God's heart deeply.

The first way Father raised money was by making portraits of soldiers from the U.S. Army bases. Rev. Won Pil Kim, the first disciple, was making paintings and selling them. It took a long time to make the paintings. Father found a way to greatly speed up the painting process. He would fill in the background and carve the pencils. Father prepared everything for Rev. Won Pil Kim. (Father asked Rev. Kim to stand up and be recognized.) Rev. Won Pil Kim would paint the face and capture very well the key characteristics. Eventually they got very good at it. There was no way to make money -- it was wartime, the Korean War. Refugees were pouring into Pusan. Father never kept the money for himself; he saved it up and used it for others. Father would buy a suit for someone or if it was someone's birthday he would buy meat (no one had meat during the war). There was so much love.

Father seemed to have such incredible fortune with money. Our church was growing, and Father would raise money to serve people. Rumors spread around about our money fortune. One person spread a rumor that Father cut paper the size of money, put a stack together, put his hand on it, and, poof, it turned into money! I told him that was ridiculous, it was only through the paintings and hard, hard work that every penny came. When I reported that story to Father he laughed and said - "Why did you tell him that it wasn't true!"

In the small hut (made from U.S. Army cardboard ration boxes), Father was talking about how we would be bringing the whole world together and that all religions would unite and that Christians would be traveling around the world witnessing to Father's work.. It seemed like a fantasy! We were poor and had nothing. What he was saying seemed so far away. But now I see that all of it came true. Father can see everything. He knows about our ancestors, our current situation, and our future descendants.

We must stand at the front line together with Father. This seems to be some kind of dream that we are living in. Just think! we are living here with Father. Is this really happening? If you believe it, it will happen.

Father was telling me recently, "If you believe something is going to happen, we are in an age now in which it will happen. If you think something will happen a certain way, it will happen. Heaven is totally supporting us. If you believe 100 percent, then God will bring it." ♦



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by Rev. Michale Jenkins

Dr. Yang reports on the completion of the 1,200 events in America

At HDH at the Cheon Jeong Goong Museum, Korea, on the morning of December 30th, True Parents looked radiant, totally strong, and completely confident. The Peace Kingdom is coming! For HDH, Father had Dr. Peter Kim read the messages from the spirit world. Then Father asked Dr. Yang to report. He reported about the successful growth of Archbishop Milingo's movement and the incredible impact it is having. Two cardinals of the Roman Catholic Church have confirmed that celibacy is a rule that could be changed. Married priests are starting to join the Archbishop's movement, called Married Priests Now. Throughout the world (Brazil, Europe, India, and the Philippines) movements of married priests are joining Archbishop Milingo. This is a revolutionary development, centering on the value of the blessing. Eight hundred articles were generated in major papers (electronic and print) throughout the world; the Washington Post carried Archbishop Milingo's praise for Father's deep spirituality, humility, and zeal for Heaven. True Parents want to help the Roman Catholic Church; they are praying for Archbishop Milingo's success to heal the church and reconcile the 150,000 married priests with the Mother Church.



Dr. Yang reported that the Fourth World Tour of 120 nations was successfully completed and gave excellent testimonies collected by the District Directors. Amazing trials and tribulations were endured by the Ambassadors for Peace, but all 120 made it around the world without incident. Father was very pleased and savored each and every moment because he knows

that every step we take and every sacrifice we make hastens the coming Peace Kingdom of Cheon Il Guk.

Dr. Yang also reported the total completion of the 1,200 events in America and that the American movement had gone over the goal to make 1,347 events. Testimonies were shared from the 5th world tour, which is going on throughout the world. We currently have over 70 Ambassadors for Peace who have been out on the 5th world tour. We will fulfill every step of the providence. This is a time for us to rejoice and stay focused on what Father is asking us to do. Dr. Yang also reported about our experience in Lebanon and the work in Israel. We are getting stronger and more developed in our MEPI foundation as we are now gaining deep support from the Abel-type people in the parliaments of all the key Middle East countries, including Israel. There is an undercurrent of deep longing for peace. The methods of war do not bring the unity and peace.

Dr. Yang emphasized that the most central thing at this time in America is the American District Directors taking responsibility for all aspects of ministry and the public sector, with particular emphasis on the development of the Hoon Dok Family Church, led by Rev. Joshua Cotter. HDF church must link with the Sunday service worship experience. Also, 2007 is the year in which membership growth of families and individuals must take off. Many members of the second generation

are starting to come forward to participate in the providence and in our ministries. We pray that there will be a revolution of growth of young people in our movement. God is with us.

Dr. Yang and I sincerely thank True Parents and True Family for creating the incredible foundation upon which all this could happen. Every Blessed Family and every young person is being touched by the Holy Spirit. The timing of when they feel a burning desire to serve is in God's hands. Our role now is to reach out and nurture each and every family, without hesitation. All must be loved and embraced. God knows the right moment in which their heart can receive God's love and be awakened to ever greater things that they have been destined to do.

Here is Rev. Betty Talajski's testimony from the 4th world tour that Dr. Yang shared.

My Kinsasha, Congo, experience was like the signing of the Jerusalem Peace Declaration, forever etched in my heart. I will forever be telling the story. The Democratic Republic of the Congo has been a communist country for a long time. On the day of our event, the first election in 40 years was being held. Many U.N. troops had been in place for a long time, cruising the country and preparing for civil war. Rev. Tokuno and Mishel, his assistant, had prepared an incredible event. It was held in a government building - attended by, it looked like, a thousand people. They were well dressed, well

mannered, and patient. We and the message were enthusiastically received. At the end of the day, the election was contested. There was no winner announced.

Our team went across the river the next day and returned the next. When we returned, we were invited to meet with Vice President Manywa. He sent several vehicles of military to escort us to his compound. He spoke to each of the five clergy individually. "Why are you here?" he asked. "You are different religions, from different parts of your country. What brings you together here in Africa?" We told him it was to read the message of the Peace Kingdom that Reverend Moon received from God.



"I was out of the city on election day," he said. "I was preparing for war. I am a warrior; I have thousands of soldiers ready to fight. I do not know peace. I do not know what peace looks like, but on my phone back here I heard the word 'peace' in my mind. I didn't know what it meant; it confused me. When I arrived here, I turned on the television set and saw your gathering on peace. I wanted to meet you. I heard you speak. I have decided I will not fight. I am going to stand for peace. I want my children to know peace. I want my country to know peace." He stood in front of me, and a golden light shone through his eyes. "He is a good man," I could feel in my spirit. ❖

Inaugural World Peace Concert Building Bridges through Song

As guests streamed into the UTS Interfaith Chapel on December 22, 2006, they felt a heightened anticipation of what was to come. All beautifully decorated for Christmas, the stained-glass chapel had been transformed into a first-class concert hall.

First number, a haunting Gregorian chant, mesmerized the audience. Each piece built in intensity and culminated in the highlight of the evening, the riveting "Halelu" Peace Cantata. David Eaton, conductor of the New York City Symphony, introduced and conducted this dramatic piece, which he had co-written with the world-famous Israeli singer, David D'or. Accompanied by a talented team of professional musicians -- a string quartet from Bard College Conservatory of Music, a pianist, and three other classically trained vocalists, Miss Lee delivered a powerful performance of the highest quality.

As emcee for the festive evening, Mrs. Dorothy Hill, Regional Chairwoman for WFWP, warmly introduced the performers. Letters of congratulations from Congresswoman Deborah Pryce from Ohio



and from Archbishop Augustus Stallings were read. After a poignant video presentation depicting the great need in Guinea Bissau and Zambia, Ambassador Tens Kapoma, the Zambian Ambassador to the United Nations, came to the stage and expressed his gratitude for this compassionate effort to help his country.

Before the finale, sang a tender version of "Silent Night" and lit candles held by seven local children. The audience was moved to donate generously once again to the cause. It was beau-

tiful to behold.

At the catered reception, silent auction, and autograph session that followed, many attendees expressed how deeply enriched and moved they had been by the concert. Despite the rainstorm that night, the concert was a substantial success, gathering several hundred guests from nearby and from as far away as Minnesota, Indiana and Ohio.

For this noble effort to support the schools in Africa, IRFF and WFWP of Upstate NY are grateful to our beloved

, to the spell-binding musicians, to the generous guests who attended, and to the many sacrificial volunteers who helped with corporate fundraising, the video taping/recording, and the many hours of preparation.

magnificent voice and magnanimous heart blessed all in attendance. This holiday benefit concert heralded an auspicious beginning to her upcoming World Concert Peace Tour, which God will surely use to help bring peace to the world.

is also available to do a benefit performance anywhere in America or the world. This type of concert is an excellent way to witness to your best contacts. We had a great success this way and you could do the same thing in your area. Please view the Memorial DVD for information and contact us about availability.

To order a "Memorial Holiday Benefit Concert" DVD, or to donate to the upcoming World Peace Concert Tour, please send to E-mail: s ❖

Universal Peace Internet Television

by Justin Fong

Anouncing the Universal Peace Internet Television at: UpTV.org I would like to let you know about Universal Peace Television (www.UpTV.org), a new website focused on "peace-casting." It features value-based news, education programming, and documentaries. This is a project of the Universal Peace Federation (UPF) designed for Ambassadors for Peace.

It touches upon all the activities of the broader Unification movement: Channel 2: Universal Peace Television; Channel 4: UPI News; Channel 5: Youth and Service; Channel 6: Women's Federation Channel; Channel 9: Sports for Peace; Channel 11: Character Education; Channel 14: UPF World View - Divine Principle for AFPs; Channel 21 (and above): International Languages

Please refer your friends to this website and write us with your ideas (mail@uptv.org). We want to work with you to feature the Ambassadors for Peace and highlight the great array of work done throughout the world wide movement.

For more information, email: Jfong84@gmail.com ❖

Dr. Yang meets with Fil-Am members in NJ



by Nathaniel Nitro

On January 13th, the 6th anniversary of the Coronation Ceremony for the Kingship of God, fifty Filipinos from New York and New Jersey gathered at the residence of Rev. Greg Agulan in Elizabeth, New Jersey, to have a special meeting with our Continental Director Dr. Chang Shik Yang. It was another historical event for the Filipino community on this day. Dr. Yang mentioned how to develop a good relationship between the Philippines and America as the second sister nation and elder brother nation relationship centering on God's providence

Dr. Yang touched everyone's heart by his sharing about how Muslim people commit themselves during Ramadan to fast for forty days without drinking even water and keeping themselves holy for the period of Ramadan from dawn until evening. They even bow down and pray five times a day. He also shared about the Hasidic Jews that even in the middle of hot sunny days, they are still wearing their long black coats, their black

ment?

Then Dr. Yang explained and reminded everyone about their motivation for coming to America. We all came with a mission. We don't have to forget the reason we came here, our commitment as missionaries. We should not become Americanized to the extent that we become self-centered families and individuals. Every day as we wake up, pray, wash ourselves, and so forth, we have to look into the mirror and keep reminding ourselves of our commitment. How can we become a true patriot? A saint? A Blessed central family?

In the Philippines, now is the best time for the God's Providence. We should not miss this

hats, their long hair and beards. From these two examples he opened up a question - How about us knowing that the living Messiah is here and alive? How can we show our commit-

ment? opportunity. Hyun Jin Nim is focused now in the Philippines.

Dr. Yang concluded that we have to show more our commitment like the Japanese Kodan. In this connection Dr. Yang mentioned that the now over 300 Filipino members living in America must be committed to support the Philippines providence aside from their commitment to their local church. ❖

God is

God is One; revealed in the Torah says the Jew with his menorah!

God is Three; a holy trinity theologizes unabashed Christianity!

God is like an elephant and a rat whispers the Hindu meditating on his mat!

God is yin and yang in Confucian slang!

God is your enlightenment

smiles the Buddhist totally content.

Allah is merciful & omniscient bows the Muslim so self-sufficient!

God is golden nectar & mystique sings the colorfully turbaned Sikh!

God is the maker of all life holy & sacred demonstrates the Jain buck naked

Let's not argue, says the Unificationist God is all of the above, but centered most on unchanging Parental Love!

Lloyd Howell

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UTS Considers Inter-religious Direction

by Tyler Hendricks

Deep within the UTS purposes lies the vision for inter-religious dialog and relationship-building. This took institutional life in the 1970s and 80s through frequent theologians conferences, and the seminary-housed New Ecumenical Research Association (New ERA) and the International Religious Foundation. The Universal Peace Federation (UPF), with its global "Ambassadors for Peace" network, is a mighty tree that grew out of the seedlings planted at UTS. In the environment created through the global speaking tours of the Founder, his family, and hundreds of clergy, Seminary leaders are examining the contribution that UTS can make to the work of inter-religious peace-building.

As part of this process, UTS co-convened a forum with the UPF on December 19 at the New Yorker Hotel, the site of the UTS Extension Center. UTS adjunct professor Dr. Mark Barry together with Trustee Mrs. Karen Smith developed the day's agenda under the guidance of Dr. Thomas Walsh, UPF Executive Director, and UTS Board Chair and Vice-Chair Dr. Chang Shik Yang and Dr. Michael Jenkins. Some 45 attended, including twelve UTS faculty, staff and observers, as well as UPF staff from New York and Washington, DC, and others.

The discussion covered the broad significance of the Founder's call for greater inter-religious peace building for UTS in relation to the UPF, in particular an Institute that is now coming into shape. One session was devoted to a rich discussion on the Unification movement's work in

the Middle East, featuring presentations by professors Mickler and Wilson. The day concluded with a visit by Mr. Hyun Jin Moon, the Founder's third son, who spoke on the need for stronger alignment between UTS and the UPF peace-building mandate. ❖



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Happy True God's Day 2007



The Unification News is researching a phenomenon that has been widely reported in our community. The photograph above is an example: ephemeral smudges of light captured by electronic cameras.

There are two explanations current: 1. They are caused by specular reflections off dust, etc. (called 'lens ghosts') 2. They are caused by angels and spirit persons (regular ghosts).

We are gathering information on this phenomenon. If you have any samples, please send them as a JPEG to UNews@HSANAHQ.ORG with 'angel optics' in the subject line. Any information as to the circumstances when then photos were taken might also prove useful.





Minister's Testimony from the World Tour

by Rev. Roach, Indianapolis

Every nation I went into was unbelievable. I think when we flew from Cairo Egypt into Ethiopia was the most exciting moment; when we came out of the airport, there was a choir of women there dressed in white, another choir of men; both had canes and no shoes on. They were singing. It was about 9:15 at night and they all looked like angels. When they got through singing I asked why there were no shoes. The director said, "When we heard the Ambassadors from America were coming, we decided that this airport is holy ground so we would not wear our shoes while the Ambassadors were in Ethiopia." We sat down for a meeting. They gave a historical lecture.

We had a meeting planned with the American Ambassador to Ethiopia. The peoples' question was why is HIV so prevalent in Africa now when Africa is not known to be homosexual. We understand that AIDS is a multi trillion dollar business. Africans talking to African American and white American clergy members. They said they knew when America was invaded they gave small pox blankets to the Indians. Fifty years ago some people got with Americans at the Tuskegee Institute and gave the blacks syphilis. So

they wanted to know how they got HIV. They wanted us to ask the Ambassador that. We had a meeting with the Ambassador the next day. It was supposed to be 20 minutes but instead lasted 2 hours. We asked tough questions.

Because of that meeting, we were two hours late for the preaching service. When we turned off the main highway to the service area we saw that there were at least 4,000-5,000 Africans



dressed in white singing for two hours while waiting for us. They are building a 6,000 member church. We went there. People from the market place (about 400) came into the outside service. It was such a highlight.

What topped that; when we flew into Sapporo Japan I asked why Rev Moon would send us to the best place first.

We knew Japan was so great, nothing could be better - it could only go down. From Japan into Korea; we went to the Peace Palace and got our minds blown. When we walked out of the palace, it is above the clouds. You think you stepped out of heaven. I won't even talk about the glass bridge. Flying out of Korea and into London and staying two blocks from Buckingham Palace; amazing.

After I came back home I flew to Barbados, then to St. Vincent then to St. Lucius. I clicked on the TV and saw Bishop Stallings on CNN. They gave us a billion dollars worth of publicity. They were talking about Catholic priests getting married. The announcer from the Vatican came on and started showing the video of the blessing of Milingo and Stallings. Then he went on to say the only problem he had with Rev Moon was that he felt he came to fulfill what Jesus couldn't by staying single. Then they did a documentary on the church Rev Moon pastors.

To make a long story short - I did more in my ministry in 50 days then I've done in pastoring for 30 years. The walls are being torn down. Rev Moon knows what he's doing. All we have to do is what he asks us to do. No man in the history of time has stood on earth and put his money where his mouth is like Rev Moon has. He is teaching us not to be afraid of death. You

only are going to live on Earth a few years. You are going to live throughout eternity in the spirit world. Rev. Moon is the only minister in the world who is teaching you about the spirit world. This man took my consciousness on a historic voyage. I see God's love through him. He is winning folk by teaching them what true love is all about. True love is truly for the sake of others. God knows that I've been blessed by your church and your leaders. Who in the world has sent a 64 year old man around the world preaching love? The bible says, "Receive him like you're receiving me." They received me like they were receiving Father and Mother Moon. Everywhere I preached I preached like it was my last sermon.

Everywhere I went I told the story that Rev Moon is calling on the members of the Unification Church to be like a bulldog. When the bulldog locks onto something he won't turn it loose. What I told around the world is that he wants Unification Church to be like a bulldog. I told the story about an old preacher who was sitting on his front porch. He looked up and saw a bulldog. So did a little yapping dog who also saw the bulldog. He shot towards that bulldog. Then he thought about it and kept a healthy distance cause he knew if he got to close it was all over. That little dog kept a comfortable distance even though he kept on barking and yapping. The preacher noticed that the bulldog never even looked at the little dog. He just kept going down the road. The old preacher got up went into his house and fell on his knees and started to pray. He said "Lord whatever it is that you gave that bulldog, that's what I need." That is what Rev Moon is saying to us. Don't get home and let the other dogs of life pull you away from what you saw. Pull your testimony.

I preached in countries where Rev Moon is not allowed to go. But I was let in as his representative. Every time I walked off the plane I was met by somebody with a bouquet of flowers and a sign with my name. Every time I preached that message it said something new to me. It did more for me than those who listened to it. I saw the walls come down, even in my own heart. This message is the best message that I ever preached. Rev Moon doesn't even know what that message is even saying. This message is changing lives like he doesn't know.

His family is an example. We have to follow that example. There is a challenge in his message. It has taken a life of its own. I kid you not. We're gonna get our kids and train them so that live this life. Rev Moon knows what he's doing. It does not even yet appear what this message and this movement is doing.

After I'd read the speech one day and was giving testimony I realized something. Then I realized that in 1978 when I met Rev Moon as a young preacher he came to my city. My leader said "ain't nobody should mess with them Moonies." They backed away. I followed my leadership. Supposing the black pastors in America in 1978 would have listened to Father Moon and had invested we would be able to take care of our people. Right now we have an opportunity to listen to this man. ❖

The Deviation and Restoration of the Human Race

by Theodore Verheven

Teddy Verheven was sent as a lone missionary in 1965 from Los Angeles to Holland (his country of birth), by the leader of the Unified Family, Reverend Sun Myung Moon.

This writing not only explains the purification and development of the inner personality (moral and intellectual), but also the unfoldment of the innermost spark, by awakening and feeding the growing soul with the Love and Truth of God.

For more detail, go to: "The Deviation and Restoration of the Human Race" on AtlasBooks.com - "Category" Biblical Studies or Body, Mind, Spirit. See Summary and Testimony and click on "excerpt" for Foreward and 10 pages of Table of Contents.

THE **DEVIATION**
AND
RESTORATION
OF THE
HUMAN RACE



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When the Door of Opportunity Opens, Walk Through in Faith

by Julie Heires

Julie Heires is a 2075 Blessed Couple living in Wyoming, Michigan, for eleven years. Her husband, Gene, and son, Nathan, are all active in religious and community service including the Michigan Marriage Amendment and Wyoming Citizens Task Force. To contact Heires family, email them at gheires@ameritech.net.

My purpose in writing about an experience I had recently is to inspire other Blessed Couples looking for a family niche before 2013 to

remember one thing; providential opportunities may come knocking when you least expect them. Just be willing to take chances and doors to many new and exciting experiences will open.

Every Saturday, while scouring the religious section of the newspaper, I look for opportunities to make a difference. Therefore, last October, it was exciting to read that for the first time, the Jewish-Christian-Muslim Dialogue Triennial Event was to be held in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Distinguished scholars from the three great religions were the featured speakers for the conference entitled "Religion and Power: The Power to Create, the Power to Destroy."

The West Shore Committee for Jewish-Christian Dialogue and the co-sponsor, Grand Valley State University, were very pleased with the overflow crowd of over 600 clergy, rabbis, students and other peoples of faith from all over West Michigan. My purpose was to not only attend the day's proceedings, but to introduce Father and Mother as the founders of the Universal Peace Federation. It seemed entirely appropriate given the topic of discussion. Unfortunately, I wasn't invited to speak, so a question and answer session was needed, which would allow me the time to speak about True Parents.

With a program in my hand – there it was – a question and answer session after each speaker. During the morning program, audience members questioning the panel had their backs turned to the audience and were hardly audible. For the afternoon program, the organizers decided to have each questioner come up on stage and stand behind the podium.

At the conclusion of the second presentation, nervous but emboldened, I stood up to ask a question, knowing this was an unexpected opportunity unlikely to repeat itself. Once invited to come on stage and speak into the microphone, my voice could now be heard loud and clear as I spoke the following statement:

When I see all of you, I see the hope for world peace because dialogue between the three great religions of the world opens the door to the deepening of understanding and, therefore, cooperation between people of the world. God bless you all!

My name is Julie Heires and I am with the Universal Peace Federation founded by Reverend and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon. "The Universal Peace Federation is a global alliance of individuals and organizations dedicated to building a world of peace, a world in which everyone can live in freedom, harmony, cooperation and co-prosperity for all. The Universal Peace Federation is guided by a vision of humanity as one global family under God, living in accordance with universal principles."

For many years, nothing had been reported or printed about True Parents here in Grand Rapids. Now more than 600 religious leaders knew that Father and Mother continue to work for the benefit of mankind.

While speaking, several nervous members of the audience could be heard stating, "What is your question?" Soon, thereafter, the moderator strongly made the same point. Looking into the faces of the audience, I didn't see so much hostility as stunned amazement that a Moonie had the nerve to get up on stage

at a Christian/Jewish/Muslim conference and make a declaration about Reverend and Mrs. Moon.

Forced to conclude, I ended with:

My question is how will the violence in the world finally be resolved from each of your perspectives?

James Carroll, an ordained Catholic priest, who left the priesthood to become an author, columnist and lecturer, was the first to tackle this issue:

My father told me that if we human beings don't change the way we deal with our conflicts with

each other, the world I doomed, that

is all. That simple lesson was

actually the conventional

wisdom of his generation

of post WWII American

leaders. President

Kennedy spoke that

way all the time.

President Truman

spoke that way.

It is a way of

speaking that has

basically been forgotten

in America.

We don't talk anymore

about changing the way

human beings resolve conflict.

We have accepted the status

quo, so much so that we are

continuing to make our peace with an

intensely militarized culture and nation. We spend more money on our military than all the rest of the world combined. What does it get us? It gets us the ease in which we go to war, that is what it gets us. It doesn't get us the ability to win wars, obviously, it gets us into wars.

So American politics has to absolutely reclaim the rhetoric of the end of war, because there will never be an end to war until we begin to reclaim that rhetoric, reclaim that purpose. It isn't that you have to be a wild-eyed idealist to believe that this is possible...

The human condition has changed now that human beings can destroy the earth. Everything has changed except human consciousness. Now we have to change our consciousness, which is an act of will and an act for which we are responsible.

There is a little bit of preacher in my response to your question, but that is the single great question before us as a people.

Rabbi Donniel Hartman, an Orthodox Rabbi and co-director of the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem, graciously returned to the question long after it had been asked and said:

How do we stop religion from being a force for destruction, when all is said and done? We have to become masters of our own history and of our own traditions. So we have to go back to school to learn what our religions truly say.

Superficial, partial or the domination of certain fanatic perspectives have to be countered by us from within our own religious traditions. We don't know enough about our own religious tradition to do that. It is an enormous challenge, because so often the forces of good have a profound inferiority complex towards those who speak in the name of religion and power. There seems to be something more authentic about them.

Decency, morality, kindness, gentleness are often perceived to be religiously secondary to ritual judgmental fundamentalism. Each one of us must become a force insuring that the voice of our religious tradition be one of creativity and not destruction.

In order for us to overcome our challenges today, it is not sufficient that we know enough about our own religion; we also have to be able to know much more about the other's religion. If we don't, we will always see innovative moves being done as religiously false and not as authentic as the voice of religions fundamentalism. We have to achieve a sufficient level of knowledge of the other to recognize that that is truly an authentic voice of a religion.

What would happen if we truly reach a level of cooperation and inter-religions understanding, we don't simply have a dialogue, but we actually have to understand each other...

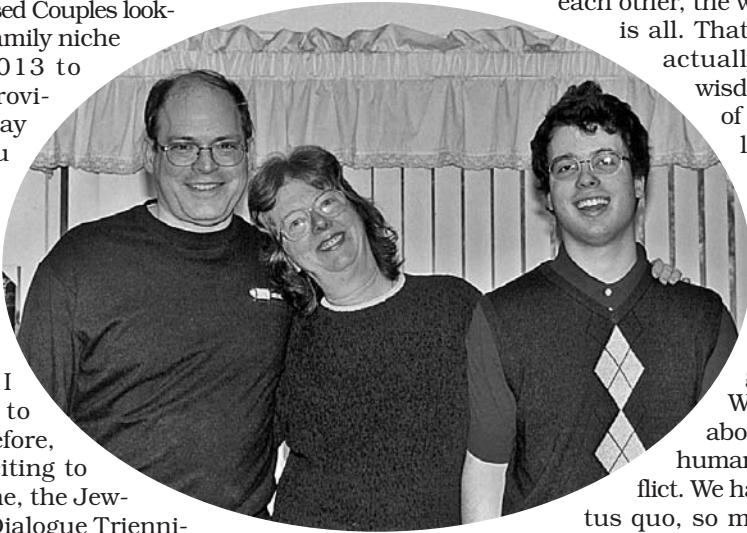
The obviously heartfelt responses were an indication of just how passionately they felt about the subject of peace, a subject for which each of them has invested their entire lives. To reinforce their efforts, each of them received information about the Universal Peace Federation.

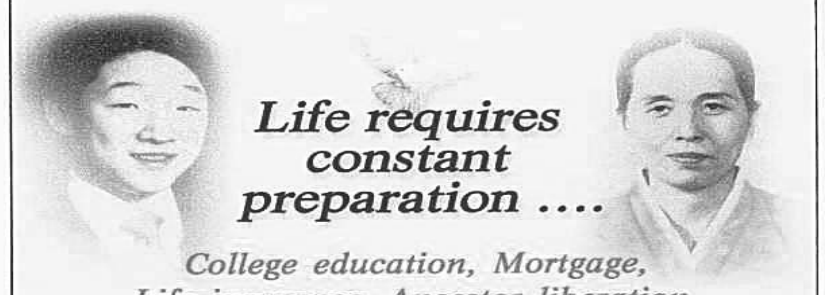
The entire conference was recorded and made available on CD's to all participants. The Universal Peace Federation declaration was left intact and is now a part of the permanent record of this ecumenical gathering.

This conference opened many doors for all who were fortunate enough to be there. It offered me the opportunity to share about our True Parents. In addition, it was a tremendous educational opportunity to learn what each of the three great religions believes about world peace. There is so much that we share in common.

Rabbi Hartman's statement that "it is not sufficient that we know enough about our own religion, we also have to be able to know much more about the other's religion" was not only the underlying theme of the day, but also a prophetic statement. I look forward to the day when open-minded men and women of all faiths not only share their own beliefs, but also seek out and learn about the wisdom of our True Parents.

I will continue to look for every opportunity where I can share the work and love of our beloved True Parents. This conference experience was a blessing to my life. ♦






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Fort Lincoln Cemetery, a historical landmark in Washington, D.C.

Why We Should Educate Youth For a Successful Life-Long Relationship

by Stephen Stacey

“Ok. Who here wants to have a deep, special relationship with one other person for the rest of their life?” All hands go up - even the hand of the student who wants to make a million before he's 25. “Ok, if you were given one wish - and the choice you had was between having a successful marriage where you found deep joy and contentment and having a successful career - who would wish for the first option?” 15 out of 16 hands go up - the hand that stayed down - a 23-year-old computer student. “Ok, so finding true love is important to you. It seems like it's the most important thing that could happen in your life. Great! Ok, since it's so important to you, who here was offered a chance to take one or two classes on building a successful marriage whilst in high school?” Nobody moves. “Ok, interesting. Who then would have liked to have had some classes to help you prepare for this important relationship?” 15 hands go. It's only 5 minutes old but this course is looking remarkable like the last course I taught.

I'm a college lecturer and I teach a course called “Learning the dynamics of a successful couple relationship.” The students, they seem to thoroughly enjoy the chance to discuss, think about and learn about the latest research on this topic. At the end of my last course almost every student brought me a small gift; some gave me a hug; all said a sincere, look-you-in-the-eyes thank you; some others wrote me a letter; and we took a class photo - like at the end of a joyful holiday together. Most of these things don't happen at the end of my other courses so I know it's not my teaching style. It's the topic. Finally, after 16 years of 'education,' someone has just taken a bit of time to help them think about the most important dream in their life. And they are emotionally touched. Also, the research shows that even this short introduction to marriage will increase their chances of success by at least 25%. To me, that's a reduction in the divorce rate from 50% to less than 37% - and all it took was 40 hours of sincere education.

When I think about this course, I sometimes wonder why I seem to be alone in doing this kind of education. Although I teach in Finland, as far as I know I'm the only college lecturer in Europe to offer such a course as a free elective open to all students. I ask myself - doesn't anyone else see the years of immense pain that more than half of these students will go through when they go through a heart wrenching divorce or cohabitation break-up. And their kids - so many of them will grow up not seeing dad, not getting a morning hug from the person who wanted to bring them into this world.

I also wonder how we've become so blind to the hopes of our own children and their real need to know how to create lasting love with one special per-

son. When we look at the recent debate about the reform of secondary and higher education, we see how deep our blindness goes. Amongst all the debate over 'important issues' I saw no politician when talking about the education system deciding to support the desire of young people to build a reasonably successful family. The 3 core competences of reading, writing and maths are not the 4 competences (+ marriage relationships) even though over 95% of today's youth will try to build a family sometime in their life. The evidence of a failure in edu-



cation in this area of life is everywhere. All around Europe we see rising truancy and STD rates amongst the youth; growing youth prison populations, crime rates, attempted suicides and self harm; growing numbers of teens that don't have the basic skills, the expanding culture of drugs and alcohol, and much, much more. Where do the most of these children with these problems come from? It isn't hard to find the answer if you look at the research. Even though most single parents do an amazing job raising children by themselves - still we cannot avoid the fact that by far the majority of these teens with emotional or behavioural difficulties come from distressed families where the father and mother have had a really hard time understanding how to build a deep, connecting relationship. These distressed parents, who went through the education system a few years ago, learnt very little to help them become good husbands and wives over the course of 12+ years. When you count in the long-term cohabitations that also didn't make it - we now have a situation where 55-60% of the population go through a drastic, life-altering, painful divorce or separation event. Of the 40% who make it till old age, probably half of their marriages are not in the best of shape. None of the reforms proposed in the recent education reforms show that politicians have understood the anguish the majority of the population currently goes through. This being the case we can only expect to see many more years of suffering in the next generation of citizens, with tax payers having to pick up the pieces of family distress while we sit and helplessly watch social decay continue its endless march forward.

From their lack of comments on this

issue my guess is that today's political leaders, leaders who are meant to be guiding society towards a better future, just haven't understood how important the couple relationship is to partners, children and society. For example, maybe they don't understand the structural benefits that a reasonable marriage bestows on all parties. Statistics clearly show that both children and adults, on average, do better within the marriage setting than any other family constellation. Married couples, on average, are healthier, less prone to depression, experience less violence, and are, on the whole, financially better off. The children, on average, do better at school, are far less prone to self-harm, take less drugs, have less behavioural or psychological problems, and commit far less crime.

On the other hand, maybe the government doesn't understand the tremendous waste of energy, time, and money that is being consumed by society's general lack of competence in this area of life - both in the family and on a national level as well. The couple relationship is such an integral part of the human life cycle - and when we get it right, it can unleash and develop the best within ourselves. If partners get it wrong, their work output may go down by 30-50%; personnel managers often say to me that a person going through a divorce is a lost employee for a year; it often takes about 5-8 years to rebuild lives after a divorce; and the financial cost to the average divorcing couple is immense. Also, what if we could reduce divorce rates by 50% through a reasonable educational strategy - what energy and vitality could be released if the government had more money to spend on useful developmental projects rather than paying just to pick up the pieces?

On top of this, if the government thought about asking parents if they would like their children to be offered some courses that would improve their chances of a successful marriage I'm pretty sure they would find, like I have, that the majority of us would say 'Yes - I want to see my child to be fairly happily married and the grandchildren to have a secure upbringing. When I'm 70 I want to be able to look around and feel proud that my children are doing well in this area of life. And if it can be helped, I'd rather not have to spend several years of the later years of my life supporting my child as they go through a sad divorce event.' As we can see, those who make key social decisions seem to not only to be blind to the suffering of many, many young couples but also they seem unable to hear the hopes and dreams of today's parents - taxpayers who hope for a brighter future.

If you look at the upper secondary school curriculum guidelines offered by the National Board of Education there are many important issues there. However, if you look more closely there are no long-term preventative measures to ensure that the next genera-

tion will be better at building a marriage and family. Many teachers do a tremendous job trying to teach in really challenging circumstances today - but things are only likely to get more challenging unless they are allowed to start preparing the next generation for the relationship challenges that they will face. The current predictions seem to show that in 10 years unstable, cohabitation relationships with children will outnumber marriages with children. This being so then we can expect well over 50% of the next generation to spend some or all of their childhood years being raised by a single parent. Anyone who has read “The Unexpected Legacy of Divorce - the 25 year landmark study” will know that this will lead to an even larger number of children walking around trying to deal with anger, or pain, or low self-esteem, or low levels of self-control or no developed mental blueprints which they can draw upon when they try to create their own family. Put simply, there is no healthy future without reasonably healthy families, and unless society as a whole purposefully develops new educational strategies in this area, social problems will just continue to rise.

When you look at the key educational institutes around the world and try to find out how they are responding to the challenges that young people are having today when they attempt to build a deep lasting relationship, sadly, there is not much happening. Even though almost all of us want a good family, very few universities have departments of family studies - a place where experts can gather the best research from around the world, pass on knowledge about the best books or educational strategies, hold conferences to pass on key research findings and raise up social awareness in this key area of life. Also, after talking with all the social service colleges around Europe, there are very few experts in the field of marriage education (in fact, most of the experts would advise against supporting marriage education despite the desire of young people for it) - which means that today's social workers are graduating with almost no tools or knowledge to help the every growing numbers of families that need help. More importantly, there are no specialist school teachers in this area - people able to teach the next generation in schools how to build happier, more lasting families.

If we look at couple dynamics through the lenses of research we can learn many things about how society as a whole is failing to help young people prepare for marriage. For example, in almost all western nations, 70% of the time it's the wife who initiates the divorce proceedings. From the data it seems that western wives are expecting much more from the relationship than the modern young husband is offering. There are many possible causes for this imbalance but my favourite hypothesis is that by the time she's 21, a typical young woman has read a 1000 articles on building a relationship with 'the bloke of her dreams.' The average guy - he's lucky to have read 10 articles - and half of them dealt with useful pick-

see **YOUTH** on page 20

Pastor Mike Yakawich Teaches UTS Intensive Course

by Gillian Corcoran

The best 'in classroom' experience I've had yet at UTS" enthused Ritz Yamamoto about Pastor Mike's class, The Dynamics of Local Church Leadership. "I realize so much is about building relationships." Another student added, "Your class was inspirational, providing a ministerial model case for the American Church."

From January 7th - 12th Pastor Mike shared with students the "nuts and bolts" of running a local church, sharing personal insights and testimonies from his experience in Billings, Montana. Topics included working with the media, serving the needs of the community, family and marriage counseling and connecting with local politicians.

Pastor Mike shared about various aspects of ministry that are pertinent to a faith leader in any community. He discussed in detail how to work with local media, including developing a TV program, getting press releases into the local newspaper and advertising with local radio stations. He pointed out that the media is our friend.

Other topics included how to devel-

op a sincere relationship with state and national political leaders from the local community. He emphasized the value of head wing ideology - the willingness and ability to work with all political parties in a given community. He cited his local anti drug work as a good example of both working cooperatively with



politicians and the media. In addition, he showed that such community activities build teamwork, cooperation and credibility.

The presentations also included ways to adapt ministry to business and how Pastor Mike has made many breakthroughs with his business contacts. He has both married and buried many of them. He has developed close friendships, taken some friends to the Bless-

ing and has gained sincere support from these men and women for his ministry. Some have attended his church over the years.

Pastor Mike also explored family counseling and the techniques he uses for his local couples class. A pastor or any church leader at times will be called upon to help couples in need. He explained that having some tools is better than no tools at all and that the local Christian Book Store is a great source for such materials.

Discussions took place for one and a half hours at the end of each day. They were broad and deep, drawing upon the life experiences of those attending. The presence of the Holy Spirit was felt as the tears and tribulations of ministry were shared. As well as currently enrolled students, others from Virginia and Georgia were in attendance, along with staff from UTS, making the entire experience very rich.

In concluding the intensive, Pastor Mike emphasized:

The importance of keeping our ministry simple and focused.

The need for a facility as a place for fellowship, worship and education which must be well taken care of.

Building credibility by serving the needs of the community in cooperation with other key players in the community, and Finding joy in all of this.

Some participant reflections:

"I have a renewed hope in my mission on earth, and in what we can accomplish in our lives. It was refreshing to take this course, truly like a glass of water from God for a wilting plant. My creativity has been sparked, and I can see how to make my own life more fulfilling, as well as the lives of my wife, children and neighbors. I have a new determination to aggressively attack any despair or struggle that may cross my path. I'm re-evaluating my life now, and seeing my past ministry with new eyes. It was the best course I've taken at UTS."

"Your class was inspirational providing a ministerial model case for the American Church."

"I will keep in mind your lessons, 'Do not give up until the end, break through the hardships, and keep loving.'" ❖

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Free Videos

by Charles and Eleonore de Watteville

Heart to Heart March for Peace in Jerusalem

An interreligious and international delegation of Ambassadors for Peace march for peace in Jerusalem.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S5hrFMeuJB0>

Heart to Heart Peace Rally at Independence Park in Jerusalem

An interreligious and international delegation of Ambassadors for Peace rally for peace at Independence Park in Jerusalem, Israel.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x76xg8G0SF4>

Service For Peace in Israel

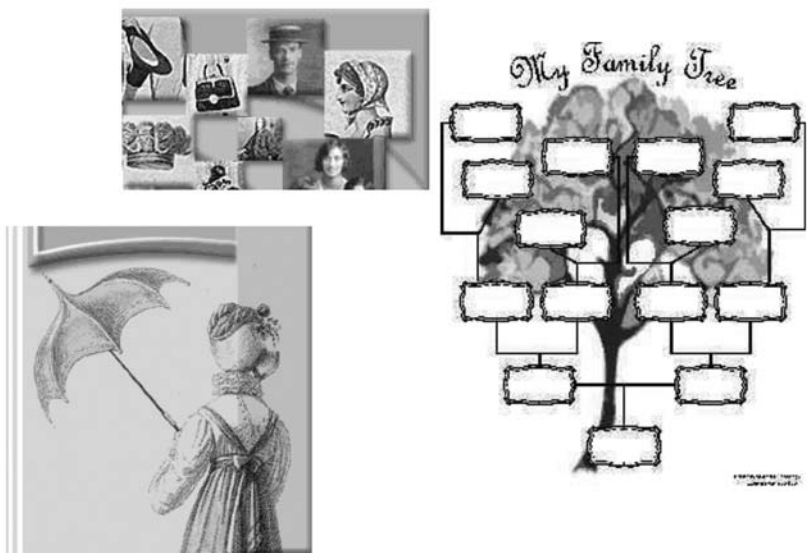
Students from around the world meet with Israeli students and together clean up a playground in a Palestinian town near Jerusalem.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F33W_eqSlwk

Tongans & Other Pacific Islanders in New York

Islanders address island issues at an International and Interreligious Leadership Conference in New York City.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ThHjXi0mkHM>



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YOUTH from page 18

up lines or how to get her into bed ASAP. Add to this the fact that large numbers of these young husbands were raised by a single mother and had no father figure role model to learn from - and you start to understand why large numbers of today's young husbands are just not hitting expectations. Who in our society is going to take responsibility to help boys grow into reasonable husbands?

Here we stand at beginning of an exciting technological age, and society is slowly suffering from decay because men and women are struggling to build lasting, loving relationships. On our library shelves sit 50 years of research into the couple relationship - the common communication problems between men and women because they use different communication strategies; the challenge in finding a fair distribution of household chores or a common vision when raising the children; the challenge in keeping friendship alive over the years; the differing marriage needs of both husbands and wives; etc. Along with the research we have had many best sellers in recent years by eminent writers offering us very valid solutions to these relationship issues - John Gottman (*The 7 Principles of Making Marriage Work*); Willard Harley (*His Needs, Her Needs*); Gary Chapman (*The 5 Love Languages*); John Gray (*Men are from Mars, Women are from Venus*) and many, many more. We have the knowledge and it's proven its worth by improving the relationships of many, many couples. Typically, when the research community in any field of study finds new truths about the world we live in, we change the education system to pass that new information onto the next generation. For example,

in the 1980's we understood environmental issues better than ever before, so now we teach our children in the hope that they will look after the world better than we did. But this just isn't happening when it comes to marriage education - the research is just sitting on the shelves. Most young marriages have exactly the same problems as the last generation or even more. There is no social learning curve happening and young couples are making the same, hurtful mistakes as their parents did 25 years ago.

If you wonder what might be included in a typical educational program for young people, my experience says we might help them best by include the following:

- Understanding compatibility issues before they get into a poorly matched relationship.
- Helping them understand the questions they should ask before they marry.
- Helpful communication strategies connected with the different male/female communication styles.
- Understanding the different psychological needs of a typical husband or wife in a long-term relationship.
- Learning where couples typically have differences of opinion when it comes to creating a home - and strategies to help them come to a common vision
- Understanding that all marriages go through challenging times - and how successful couples find ways to keep their marriage commitment.
- Understanding the need to become team players.
- How do you keep friendship alive for 50 years?
- The extra challenges that come along with infidelity, cohabiting, and divorce.

The question then is, why is this research and already known helpful

information not being passed onto the next generation when there is such an obvious demand - more than this - a cry for help from the young people of today. Personally, I don't know why. I have several theories - the 'Marxism/feminism' one; the 'We don't want to promote marriage' one; the 'Can you really educate for marriage?' one, the 'We want the freedom to walk away from an abusive relationship' one, the 'We have more important things to teach' one and several others. The first of these

theories postulates that at the time we started to understand the couple relationship (late 1980's) - our thoughts about marriage were being transformed by feminism and Marxist thought. Thinkers from these schools of thought often saw marriage as

*many teens are
growing up completely
unable to build the
flourishing family they
want.*

oppressive for women (which for many women it was). But the crucial point was that instead of saying "Marriage sucks for lots of people, let's see how we can improve it through good research and better education," (a developmental viewpoint we take with almost every other area of life) - the ideology of pain and resentment took over, and the discussion became "Marriage sucks for lots of people, we need to look at alternatives." One only has to take a look at modern European school textbooks today to see how deeply these damaging, ideologically controlled ways of viewing the couple relationship have permeated academic thought. Even though almost all modern research shows that no other relationship format matches marriage when it comes to the safety, prosperity and well being of the average woman and child (see 'The Case for Marriage' by Linda Waite and Maggie Gallagher) - 'experts' now push the idea that 'all family types are equal'. Luckily, in America, because of the overwhelming weight of research, congress recently managed to see through the mist of this ideologically flawed view of marriage - and both parties recently agreed to offer \$100 million/yr in grants to support pro-marriage initiatives. Many democrats supported the budget because they saw that divorce and family distress affected mainly the poorer half of society - and that if some way could be found to strengthen their marriages then the partners would be more likely to work together to lift themselves out of poverty and offer themselves and their children a brighter future. I often wonder when European socialists will take an honest look at the marriage research, wipe away their ideology for a minute, think about the disadvantaged they are meant to represent and say to themselves: "So many of the poor in society are struggling terribly when it comes to building a happy, successful family. In most inner city ghettos single parenting with disadvantaged kids is the norm. If these kids are ever to have a chance of building a happy successful family (something which is easier for middle class kids), then we have to teach them how to build the couple relationship which they so desperately want. With that deeper couple bond, they are then more likely to be able to raise themselves out of their challenging life and build a better future for themselves and their children."

Most young people I meet have an

internal desire to know how to build a life-long marriage with one partner, a soul mate. They want new skills and knowledge so they can build the relationship they idealistically hope for. But skills and knowledge are just two of their needs. One of the other problems that many face today is that they are now so frightened of becoming married - frightened of becoming a divorce statistic. They've read the articles, seen the soaps, many saw their parents divorce in hostile ways and they say to themselves: "I'm not going to marry and go through that." Or "I'm not going to have children because I would never want to put my children through what I went through." To be honest, unless we offer these hurt children a space to talk this fear out and find time to teach them new relationship skills, they will never find enough hope to overcome that fear, their lives will sadly be controlled by it - and their hope of building a deep, lasting relationship will always be held back.

If you get a chance to talk to young people about their hope for a thriving couple relationship and you find, as I did, that this dream is still alive and kicking in most of them, then look around and ask yourself what we, an intelligent society, are doing to support this deep desire. My guess is that we would get a resounding 'F' on our report card and a 'Could do better' in red ink. I have a vision that one day soon, all teens in school and young adults in college, as their human right, will have a chance to learn about how to succeed in this most important of relationships. To keep hiding this information from them, when there is so much pain involved, is deeply cruel. I also have a dream that Finland, the country I presently live in, one day will not only have the best education system in Europe, the most productive workers and the least amount of corruption - but also have the best marriage relationships too.

But how does society change things? We adults seem to be trapped by ideology, political correctness, our lack of knowledge that education can help or our unbalanced belief that education should be for vocation. Some tell me we don't have the resources. If that's the case how do we keep finding the far greater resources that are needed to pick up pieces of family distress? Finding after finding consistently shows that over 80% of young people still want to get married and want to be successful in this area of life. When we understand this point we can clearly see that the education system is not serving its customer - and many teens are growing up completely unable to build the flourishing family they want. Why don't we just do it? The kids want it, the parents want it, society needs it! It doesn't take much education - but it will make a big difference to all of us. I leave you with the words that one of my students wrote at the end of my last course. "I've learned a lot from this course. I'm sure I have improved my chances of giving myself, my partner and our children a happy, stable life. This is one of the most developing courses I've ever taken. After taking this course I feel much more secure about committing myself to a person for the rest of my life (scares me a lot). It took away a great part of the fear of getting myself in to something that I can't handle. Now I feel 'I can do it'." ❖

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The Encyclopedia Project

The Encyclopedia Project is an exciting new project for developing a compendium of knowledge uniting values and facts. On May 1, 2005, Reverend Kwak approved an online Internet encyclopedia that moves forward the vision which has been a long-time goal of Father Moon, including substantial pioneering work on the project in the early 1990s.

The current editorial team is now working extremely hard to generate a body of knowledge so that the general reader will learn information, not just for its own sake, but for its value to the world as a whole. The underlying goal of the encyclopedia is to promote true knowledge that leads to human happiness, well-being, and world peace.

Every step from the smallest to the grandest, from the most mundane to the innermost purpose is taken with immaculate care and attention. The goal is to produce 10,000 articles by mid-2007. Presently the project seeks writers in all fields. More information can be obtained by contacting Robert Brooks, Managing Editor: robert@encyclopediaproject.net

by Michael Treacy

Micronesian Island of Pohnpei welcomes UPF Character Education Training

A highly successful 3-day Character Education and Life Skills Teacher Training Workshop was held in Pohnpei, Micronesia, involving 37 teachers, several Department of Education representatives, seven student leaders, community and traditional leaders. Altogether, 49 participants assembled for this UPF-sponsored workshop presented by Mr. Alan Saunders.

The workshop, held November 16, 2006 at the Sea Breeze Hotel Conference Room in downtown Kolonia, was a first for UPF-Micronesia, made possible by several key factors:

The publication of the 12-part series of character education textbooks "Discovering the Real Me," as a starting point for the introduction of Character Education into the school system in Micronesia. In a pre-conference meeting, the teachers and staff of the Department of Education were impressed by the quality and broad appeal of these publications.

The support of Iso Salvador Iriarte, a high Traditional

Leader and Ambassador for Peace, who opened the way by introducing this program to the Education Department.

H.H. Iso. Salvador L. Iriarte, Senior Advisor of Pohnpei Council of Chiefs

On the first day of the workshop, there seemed to be a feeling of not knowing what to expect. However, Mr. Saunders clarified the unique universal appeal of this program and explained that it

could be adapted to any cultural or language setting in any community. From this point on, the teachers developed a growing interest and enthusiasm for the program. Interactive live presentations of the main content alternated with video presentations of other speakers addressing issues of love and relationships. There were many opportunities for teachers to interact with each other and discuss aspects of the "Discovering the Real Me" series and how it can be applied to their lives in their community.

Teachers and other key education staff members were able to reorganize their busy schedules to attend most sessions of the program, which took place during a normal school week. Both high school and elementary school teachers attended, joined by participants from the Pohnpei Health Department, National Education Counselors, and students from several student body organizations. Without exception, they concluded

that the character education program should be introduced into all schools, especially at the high school level.

The program concluded with heartfelt thanks to the presenter, Mr. Alan Saunders, and the workshop staff, Michael and Beth Treacy. A follow-up meeting with the Director of Education and about 20 staff members focused on implementation of the program. As a beginning point, the director suggested giving a presentation to the High School Parent Teacher Association, which represents over a thousand parents. Character education requires teamwork with parents, teachers and community involvement. Through the Traditional Leaders, UPF-Micronesia members will seek to present character education at the community level in Pohnpei.

Character education is lacking in most societies and sadly lacking in the school curriculum. UPF-Micronesia is now addressing this need to educate young citizens to become leaders of good character for the future. ♦



BOOK REVIEW

New Truth in the Last Days

NEW TRUTH IN THE LAST DAYS
by Dr. Shirley Stadelhofer.

Reviewed by Kevin Thompson

Dr. Shirley Stadelhofer has written the best testimonial book of life in the Unification Church since the wonderful "TO BIGOTRY

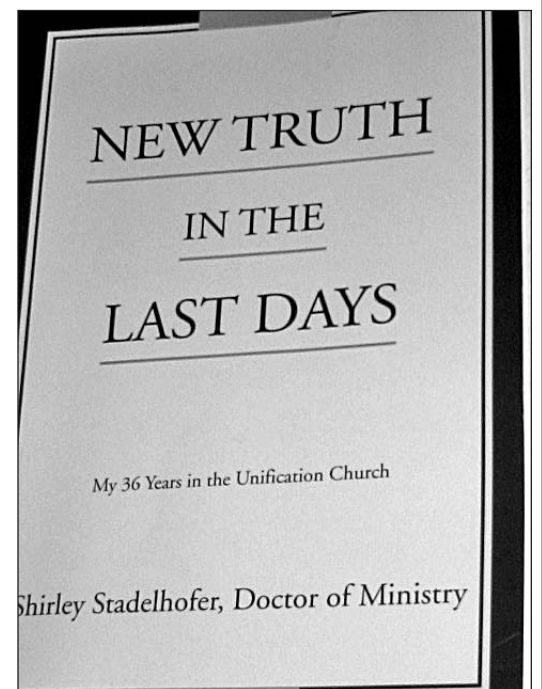
NO SANCTION" by Dr. Mose Durst. Dr. Shirley as she was affectionately known by most people, poured the last days of her life into this book which is part testimonial of her 36 years as a follower of Rev. Sun Myung Moon, and part explanation of the teachings of Rev. Moon.

I met Dr. Shirley late in her life when she returned to her roots in Berke-

ley, California in the mid 90's. She shared with me her stories of her life in the church, her difficulties with the matching and blessing and most especially her love for Christianity and the Christian Church with all of its traditions and trappings. She was also so frustrated that the image of Rev. Moon, "the greatest of all Christians" was so tarnished and that he was treated so unfairly. Hence the book, written to explain to a Christian audience the essentials of Rev. Moon's revelation in a way that she hoped would make sense to her own generation of Americans whom she desperately wanted to be able to recognize the truth which she had encountered.

I felt that she was sent by heaven at that time to help me. We were actively pursuing Christians ministers, evangelists and people of great faith to go with us to Washington D.C. for a series of seminars on "TRUE FAMILY VALUES" She was so excited as she felt that this was a wonderful opportunity to introduce many to the teachings of Rev. Moon in a forum which they could surely understand. Her love for Christ and for Christians was a great inspiration for me personally and contributed to a deepening of my own faith and love of Christ. Her "spark of life", her infectious smile and sense of joy were uplifting for everyone who knew her and seemed to rub off on everyone. She could make the most tense situations into a moment of spontaneous laughter.

In her book "New Truth In The Last Days" Dr Shirley weaves her testimony around the explanations of the revelation. For example she uses her frustrations at not being able to make her blessing work out into a way of understanding the heart of



Jesus who also was not able to marry and fulfill the central purpose of producing a heavenly lineage.

For me this was like "TO BIGOTRY", a "couldn't put it down" kind of a book. So simple and beautiful, like Shirley herself. I felt that she was reading the book with me and that she was sharing that wonderful smile which lit up the room as I read her stories of her love for her children, of overcoming cancer through a positive mind, of teaching hundreds of schoolteachers in Russia and of the trials and difficulties of living a life of faith.

It may sound morbid to say but one of my best memories of recent years was to be able to conduct the Seung Hwa service of Dr. Shirley. Attended by her family and friends and her spiritual family, it was a holy experience of a holy lady. Her relatives shared of their love for her and then sang "I'll Fly Away" and I felt like heaven and earth were united as one in that moment. ♦

IN MEMORIAM

Jack Lane Hart

Jack Lane Hart, 61, an Albany resident for 2 1/2 years, died Wednesday, January 3, 2007 at the Columbia Memorial Hospital in Hudson, NY. He previously lived in Korea, Thailand and in India.

Jack was a member of the Unification Church (HSA-UWC) and served in the Peace Corps from 1967-1969 in South Korea. As a member of the Unification Church, he worked as a missionary in the United States from 1970 to 1975, in Thailand from 1975 to 1996, and India from 1996 thru 1998.

Born on January 13, 1945 in Yuma, Arizona, he was the son of Arthur and the late Lois (Lane) Hart. Mr. Hart received his BA in History of Fine Arts from Indiana University.

Jack married Felice Walton on February 8, 1975 in Seoul, South Korea. She lives at home, in Albany.

In addition to his wife, Jack is sur-

vived by his father and step mother: Arthur & Barbara Hart of Sigourney, Iowa, a sister: Laurie Hart of Athens, Georgia and two brothers: Paul Hart of Arcadia, California, and Phillip Hart of Chicago, Illinois. He is also survived

by his in-laws, Terry & Kazuko Walton, a nephew and his wife, Mr. & Mrs. Taka Walton and a niece, Julia Walton. He is also survived by many friends and those he worked with in America, Korea, Thailand and India.

The Seung Hwa Ceremony was held at 10:00 AM on Monday, January 8th, 2007 at Burnett & White Funeral Homes, Red Hook, NY. The Won Jeon Ceremony and internment took place at the Red Church Cemetery, Tivoli, NY.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in Jack's memory to: "The Family of Jack Hart" - c/o Burnett & White Funeral Home, 7461 S. Broadway, Red Hook, NY 12571 ♦



THE NEW VOICES OF OUR GENERATION



A "Snapshot" of the BC Mind



by Shin Young C.

It began as a question.

I wanted to know what blessed children in America thought were the reasons behind the great rift among 2nd Gen. I wanted their opinion, their subjective observation. So I sent the question out there: What is it about the movement that you think turns 2nd Gen off? What reasons do you think 2nd Gen have for staying? Why do you think there are so many 2nd Gen who are stuck in the middle? I mass emailed everyone I could think of and they in turn did the same and in one week, the question was passed to just under a hundred BC's in America.

I wasn't actually expecting anyone to respond, besides a handful of people I usually correspond with. I didn't expect any responses because frankly, I've been finding it really difficult to get BC's to speak out. "I don't think our opinions are valid," surmises one female 2nd Gen in her early twenties when I brought this up in casual conversation. "We are not given encouragement. The grass roots don't seem to matter. We are like pawns – don't think just do. We never can follow but blindly (though Father teaches us not to) because we are not encouraged to think and express our opinions openly so we lack courage to speak, which is twisted having grown in a culture that encourages free speech."

Of course not everyone feels as strongly; we vary from strong to just 'hmm, yeah i suppose that's the case'. I took her reasons and put them on the back-burner and waited to see if anyone would respond. She was passionate about her feelings on this and though I felt she must be right, I didn't know what to do with this observation. After about two weeks, I received one response. Then, after a few more weeks, I received two more. After about a month, I had only five responses. 'I must be going about this all the wrong way', I thought, and sure enough, another person shared these sentiments.

"I am wondering if there is a more effective way of doing something like this," a 2nd Gen from Jersey in his late twenties wrote. "The reason I say this is that I have made similar efforts but they all fall short. I think many people feel strongly about this but

don't see a reason compelling enough to voice their opinions. I think those who voice their opinions now are very opinionated and are probably making very clear statements on their stance if not through words then through their actions. Perhaps one way of engaging people to give their opinions is in a poll or survey format. Only, we run the risk that any survey will automatically be subconsciously accepted as an accurate depiction, even if it is not." I wasn't expecting this response and I had no idea someone else had tried to do this very thing. Like my friend before him, I put his concerns next to hers on the back burner. I didn't know what to do with his thoughts either.

I learned just minutes after receiving the above response that the Education Department was already on it. "Though we may not get to meet with every region," an Education Department representative wrote, "we want to get a good snapshot of the country by visiting at least 5 major regions." Personally, I think this "snapshot" will appear blurred and will only hint at the real picture of what is going on (much like this article at the rate of responses i was getting).

"We would need to reach both ends of the spectrum to get a more balanced approach," wrote the guy from Jersey. And I agree.

As do a few others, but where to begin? And even if all youth leaders / church leaders (where there are not youth leaders) were to put their heads together, network for a straight three months, and take it upon themselves to visit groups and individuals in person and ask them their questions, would that be enough to give us a "snapshot" of a whole picture? What about those 2nd Gen who are on the far, unreachable side of the spectrum? How do we reach them? If it's this hard to get those of us who are reachable to speak out, then how do we compel those on the far-side to care enough to participate in such a survey?

As significant as any of the small number of responses received would be, I realized that having an opinion was not as important as, or as large a problem among 2nd Gen in America, as sharing that opinion.

I've been sitting on this article, trying to decide how I can present what I have received by ways of responses to my questions considering the above concerns, and still place relevance on them. The responses I did receive are from 2nd Gen who still have both feet in the movement. They vary in age from seventeen to twenty-nine and they live as far as L.A., Seattle, and Colorado, and as close as Maryland and New Jersey. Two of them are blessed and most of them are involved in 2nd Gen activities and

programs.

I've included them in their received, unedited format below. Please feel free to use these observations in your endeavors to help resolve the rift in your areas and for those sensitive to this topic, don't take the criticisms personally; they are intended to give raw, honest, insight into an ever persisting problem in our movement.

From a 2nd Gen in his late twenties from California

Before we can answer this question, we first need to decide how we are defining whether someone is "in" or "out" of "the church?" For the purposes of this article, let's say that a 2G who is 'in the church' is living a 'public life,' devoting most (40 hours a week) or all of her time to a mission. For argument's sake, let's say that a 2G who is 'out of the church' openly denies and renounces any belief in the church, providential events, the Blessing and other beliefs. Such a 2G is not necessarily negative toward the church, but does not consider himself a practicing Unificationist. According to these definitions of 'in' or 'out' of the church, most 2G stand in the vast grey middle ground in between.

A second assumption we need to make in answering this question is that we are talking about 2G who are old enough to make their own decisions as young adults. They may or may not still be dependent on their parents, but they are, legally at least, adults and capable of making the choice to stay in or leave the church..

A. There's no place for the 2G in the church. There is no space or position for 2G in the current church aside from youth minister, or assistant to an existing church leader. These positions are far too few to accommodate the large number of 2G's graduating college. For those lucky enough to find themselves in one of those positions, they find that they offer little or no pay, which makes it very difficult for people with families (or hoping to have families) to take up those positions full-time. There is also no such thing as a 'career' in the church. Pay is determined by how many children you have and whether you are blessed or not. Position is determined by unpredictable decisions made higher up in the hierarchy.

There are problems at home. The situation of many of our Blessed Families is far from ideal, and the 2G are well in touch with the dysfunction. There are countless reasons that can explain this, such as lack of ability to honestly communicate, and the bad example of the 1G's own parents, but the bottom line is that some Blessed Families

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A Message from the Assistant Editor

The New Voices of Our Generation has now been running successfully for over a year and the editors at UNEWS would like to thank all those who have contributed an article to this section. Spread the word, communicate, and link yourself to the rest of America by subscribing to the paper and submitting your voice at

newvog@gmail.com for this section. We are looking to fill this section of the paper with the following submissions: **articles written by our first and second generation focusing on second generation – that includes ALL second gen's!**

Be as *subjective* as you please, but keep in mind, that as this is a public paper, be respectful in your opinions.

If you have an idea for submissions to this section, please let us know at newvog@gmail.com and send something in. Keep in mind, everything will appear in UNEWS in b&w. All articles must include name, contact info, relevant dates, etc. If you wish to remain anonymous, please include that in your email. Please send all submissions for this section via email to: newvog@gmail.com.

Want to respond to an article, please email at newvog@gmail.com

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THE NEW VOICES OF OUR GENERATION

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tend to push their children away from the church rather than draw them in.

We don't know what we believe. Church-wide, there is a lack of a solid understanding of what our faith IS exactly. This inability of members and leaders to articulate what we believe makes it even more difficult for 2G to make a firm decision to be a Unificationist.

There is no spiritual nourishment from the church. Our church tends to focus on results, which is good for the providence, but unless you are involved full-time living in a center, or otherwise connected to a "central figure," you are not receiving any spiritual guidance. Sunday services consist largely of reporting, which some 2G cannot relate to, and is very difficult to apply in day-to-day life of faith. Some 2G do not feel the church is a place that provides enough guidance to be truly spiritually healthy.

There is no guidance for 2G transition into independence in the world. Notably there are no programs for 2G living the college life, away from home, but also there are no paths for 2G to follow once they are firm in their own faith, becoming adults who can live away from their parents and a church, and still be good Unificationists.

We have no money! The borderline abject poverty in which some of our families live, coupled with a general atmosphere of judgment against anybody who looks like they want to make money pushes away any 2G who wants to be financially stable or even wealthy. Without acceptance from the church society, those who feel this way may decide they have no choice but to join the culture of the "outside world."

Unification or Division? Our church often seems to promote the idea of an "outside world" and a black-and-white division between us and 'them.' This division creates the result that any 2G who slips or leans a little over the edge finds themselves placed firmly into the "enemy camp" if even only in their own mind. This can lead them to simply give up and decide to pursue a life outside the church since they have already been tainted and cannot possibly live up to the rigid standard of the church.

The Blessing didn't work out. The most important thing for 2G is to keep their purity. For what purpose? The Blessing of course. Many members seem to think that if a 2G gets blessed, then they are truly Unificationists, having made the ultimate decision to commit to one of the church's central beliefs. But what happens if the Blessing is broken for one reason or another? Facing humiliation, failure, judgment, and rejection from many sides, some 2G choose to simply disconnect themselves from the church.

B. Absolute faith. This is a sincere personal belief that the church and True Parents will ultimately bring

about the ideal world, with the world accepting them as the messiah. Those who have this belief want to contribute to the providence and bring about this goal soon, if not during Father's lifetime. Reasons in line with absolute faith include, but are not limited to; preserving the lineage, aligning with the vertical axial line, and other ideological/theological thought which connects to the belief outlined in the first sentence.

Church community and the feeling of family. Some 2G feel a true sense of family with other 2G, and/or the 1G. The feeling that we are all brothers and sisters moving toward the same goal is a powerful reason to stay connected to the church.

Sense of duty. Some 2G stay because of their involvement in church activities: workshops in middle and high school, STF after graduation from

Parents' love and acceptance. Whether or not a 2G has a relationship with her parents, it is possible for a strong desire not to let them down to exist, and it can be a reason they decide to stay in the church. This desire can come from love for their parents, or from a deep desire to be accepted in their eyes.

Fear. Because they are told to do so, or they are afraid they will ultimately find terrible unhappiness if they leave, some 2G stay in the church due to fear. 2G have learned at workshops that if we leave the church, get married outside the church (and fall in the process), not only are we no longer connected to the lineage of God, but we will be miserable, unfulfilled and some great misfortune will more than likely befall us. Ironically, fear is also a reason 2G choose to leave.

The Principle is true! Some 2G

will most likely think I'm too negative but this is what I see over and over again.

If we as a movement don't open our eyes to the raw situation of the vast, vast majority of the 2nd Generation--the "invisible" 2nd Generation we never see at workshops and True Family/Dae Mo Nim events--we will never understand how to stop losing them.

From a 2nd Gen in his early twenties from Colorado.

It really comes down to a matter of passion. A matter of vision. People gravitate towards groups that fulfill their needs. If their need is to learn, they will join groups that will teach them. If they want to help make the world a better place, they will search out and join groups that they think will make the world a better place.

Simply put, people stay when they see that the FFWPU is doing what they want to do. They leave when it does not do what they want. They float when they just don't care.

To put it more complexly, if someone really wants to see an ideal world, they will work hard to build it. Since it is impossible to do it alone, they will search out and find a group of people who are like minded, and together they will work to build that ideal world. Those that stay with our movement for the long haul are people like this. They know that

this is what they want, and they are willing to work to get it.

Those that float are here because they do not know what they want, or because they have nothing better to do. Many times they stay out of obligation, or because they have friends and feel some form of attachment. However, since they do not understand or really want to achieve the same dream as those in the group, they just hang around.

As far as people leaving, they leave for one of two reasons. The most common is because the force that was keeping them around no longer holds sway. If they stick around because of friends, when they loose contact with these friends, they no longer have a reason to be around. Simply put, they have drifted and the tether keeping them attached has snapped, so the oceans currents pull them away.

The other reason is because they do not agree with the movement. This is a minority group, but one that is very powerful. Some see the hypocrisy in the movement, others become disgruntled because of a bad leader, still others disagree with the methods our movement uses. For whatever reason a breach has happened, and they no longer can abide to be with the group that is the cause of that breach. This is why they leave. That's my opinion anyway, take it as you will.

From a teenaged girl from West rock

I think 2nd Gen leave the

see **Snapshot on page 24**

“...getting people to express themselves by sparking their interest by showing them the current state of the BC mind.”

HS, close involvement with a CARP effort while in college, or going to Bridgeport U, working for a church organization or office, going to UTS, etc. 2G may be continuously connected to a progression of programs, or they may 'check in' or 'check out' of this path. But those who are 'in' are able to find some way to connect to the church in one of these ways, and true to the saying that "you are defined by what you do," they consider themselves Unificationists because of their involvement.

Our undeniable roots. The experience of having been raised in the church is unique to the 2G. Some see this past as part of their inherent identity, regardless of the choices they make, even if they are to disconnect from the church. It is difficult to leave that which is comfortable and familiar, to leave the shelter of the company of others who shared this unique upbringing.

Shared memories of the past. Many 2G spent their childhoods in a church community, ranging from going to Sunday service every week, to growing up in a CARP center. Even if a 2G wants to cut off completely from the church, they still have this connection to the past. For some this is a reason they stay.

Conscience. Staying in or out of the church can be a matter of conscience to some people. To leave would simply be the 'wrong thing to do.' This is often coupled with a strong desire try to live up to the standard espoused by the church.

have the belief that whatever may come, the Divine Principle (and/or Father's words) is true. This can be a reason 2G choose to stay in the church. For some, this is the only reason they persevere through the difficulties of 'the church life.'

The Blessing. Some 2G are blessed and have been married in the church successfully for many years. Regardless of how they feel about any of the other things which define a church member, these 2G may feel they have at least one foot firmly in the church.

C. As stated earlier, the vast majority of people in America who were born into our church are now in the middle ground, occupying the various shades of gray between totally "in" or totally "out" of the church. They might be unable to commit to the church the 100 percent that is asked of us, and may also be unable to wholeheartedly become a part of the "outside" culture. Or, they might be pursuing a regular career and/or family life outside of any regular church involvement, but still consider themselves to be members of the church. So, most 2G's beliefs are a combination of these reasons. Often, 2G strongly agree with many of the reasons on one side of the fence, but still have nagging beliefs in one or two reasons for the other side. Others are quite simply torn down the middle between staying and leaving due to the strength of the pull from both sides.

Honestly I don't care if people know that I wrote this. Some people

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church for two reasons. 1) Because their parents don't give them the kind of attention they want. Most BC's that I've dealt with have problems with their parents, saying that all they do

is argue with them and strictly abide by the rules and don't show their love in the affectionate, hugging manner that Americans do. Most BC's have Asian parents, who aren't the kind to constantly kiss their kids and tell them how much they love them, but that's what BC's in America need. They're struggling because the parents have put too much pressure on caring about church rules and not enough on letting them know how much they care about their children too. They need to know their parents love them to overcome temptation.

2) There's also the fact that more and more of our rules are being compromised, which never happened in the past. People are almost accepting inappropriate behavior, excusing them because they're 'lost' and are 'struggling to find God', so they're not punished. But if they're not punished, their conscience is just getting confused because now they're being told that what they're doing wrong may not be wrong at all.

I think they stay because it's what they've grown up with, all they've ever known. So many have made their lives revolve around it, and if they leave, they're giving up their family, most of their friends, and the faith they've come to know of their whole lives. Of course some have reached that stage where they stay because they understand that it's right and they love true parents and God and have established this faith as their own.

As for the middle ground, some may be under temptation, some may have parental problems, some may just not have reached a level of understanding where they can relate

to God. Then there is the confusing issue of our 'weird' ways. Of COURSE some BC's are going to wonder if it's right to pray at a rock on Friday nights, or say 'Aju' at the end of a prayer, or donate so-and-so \$\$ a month when we don't know where it's going. It's kinda strange, and some BC's just don't see why it's justified.

From a girl in her twenties, from the North West region,

A few words from me—some autobiographical some hypothetical...

people stay because:

-Members that are kind, dedicated, inspired, REAL PEOPLE with authentic faith; members that can exist in the "real world" and also have a deep connection to True Parent's tradition

-Adults, mentors, and older brothers and sisters that see 2nd Gen as whole, resourceful, and God-like, instead of as dysfunctional teenagers;

-The potential for an ideal world

Cause to move away:

-"just accept it, be grateful and don't question my authority" kind of response to honest, sincere questions about tradition, church history...

-hypocrisy and contradiction within leadership; leaders often stuck in old ways and insecure when confronted with opportunity for positive change

-you "SHOULD..."

-Attending a Sunday Service (that may or may not be boring) about true love and the ideal family and on the way home, Mom and Dad get into a fight...I realize they don't seem to really love one another.

Cause to feel stuck:

-Oppressive parents or a family situation in which they feel they have no choices

-being part of an average community that

is not boring but not life-giving, not scandalous but not loving...but there doesn't seem to be any other option

From a bubbly 2nd Gen in her early twenties from Baltimore, MD.

Oh! I will tell you what I think!

I think second generation move away from the church with justification (aka what turns me off about the church) because of HYPOCRISY. We say love the world, but we can't love our spouses. We say build bridges, and yet we can't break

through our cliques. Some can't seem to practice day-to-day what we learn.

For what reason do we stay?

Well, I mean, truth is truth.

However, what reason do we have for being stuck in the middle? There are several: The bubble of community; somewhere to belong; peer pressure, in an ironic sort of way; all your friends are there.

And hey, if you are so fortunate as to get a great spouse, then what more do you need from life?

From a 2nd Gen in his late twenties from the West Rock region

My opinionated opinion:

I feel the cause, whether 2nd Gen decide to leave or stick with it has a lot to do with the individual's perception of hope for the movement. I guess the question would then be what aspects of the movement inspires or discourages us.

I think that the aspect of our movement that is most inspiring is that it's still in it's growth stage and that there is so much potential for greater things.

Personally, I see a lot of hope for the future because I believe that we have control over what we want to be. I am hopeful that BC's will someday be known as people who tend to be well educated, good at sports, and have a lot of integrity. It's possible if we all chip in and are rewarded for our contributions to the community (a reciprocal relationship). One method of approach would be to have elder BC's become mentors and offer to teach younger BC's how to do well in their specific careers/interests in exchange for something such as dinner (provided by the parents) or a promise that one day the protégés will return that favor to the mentors in some form like passing the favor on. The key of course would be to keep the mentors from burning out.

What turns off most 2nd Gen?

That's a loaded question. I think it's rooted in the contradiction between what the movement teaches about peace, happiness and lineage, and the reality of the issues that go around in our local communities that are difficult to deal with and face. I support the idea that we are investing way too much in elaborate international conventions and not enough for enriching the communities that are already established. I'm not saying that programs like RYS should be shut down (In fact I hear they are doing a great job and making an impact in Uganda), I just think some of the funding could be passed down to families in need or investing in the infrastructure of local communities.

From a 2nd Gen in her early twenties from east coast LA.

I'm not so articulate so I don't know if this is going to come out right, but I'll try. Honestly, there is a lot of blame placed on different aspects of the movement that 2nd Gen use as reasons to become disillusioned. But I think it's really about personal responsibility and the way that you

respond when something happens to you. I say this because I know that when I'm farther away and acting in a way that does not coincide with the principle it's because I reacted irresponsibly to situations. The movement requires in a world in which there is a right and wrong, an absolute standard. People hate to be wrong so 2nd Gen justify themselves.

The requirement of donation, the judgment perpetrated by 1st and 2nd Gen, the dissolution of numerous blessings, are some of the easy to name aspects that 2nd Gen point to in invalidating the ideals of the movement.

The first is a misunderstanding on the part of the individual. The last two are human errors.

Living in the secular world and maintaining a standard of beliefs that we know has yet to take hold in society, holding out for an ideal that is intangible is difficult. It's easier to go into a world of gray areas where you're wrong becomes right based on relative "goodness." I don't know if that answered the question.

I think that some level of culture is instilled into 2nd Gen. We are told from birth that love is the most important thing in the universe. We are also, maybe not successfully, taught to give and receive love based on a vertical connection with God; therefore, the community and relationships formed among 2nd Gen is different from relationships outside the movement.

It is a natural reaction to try to give love to someone that is in pain or feels lack of love whether we realize it or not. Because people in the movement are relatively good at giving love and we are desperate to receive it, there is this growing sub-sector of the movement being created that is half-in, half-out that craves the humanistic relationships that the movement is geared towards yet does so with a lack of any vertical foundation to receive that love.

That's why it seems so many 2nd Gen stay on the outskirts of the movement, often denying any difficult to accept portions of the principle, or uncomfortable portions, but still staying within the realm of unification life (ie going to church or big events, hanging out with 2nd Gen on a regular basis. That didn't answer your question. But simply we are introduced to a culture from the time that we are young and it is arguably the absolute truth and on some level, or not, we agree with the teachings of Absolute Love and so on.

From a 2nd Gen in her late teens from Maryland

A. Judgment. This is one of the biggest things our BC's face. We've set up so many rules for our Blessed Children but they don't even know why we have so many standards. It might even be that our 1st Gen/Older 2nd Gen might have forgotten the fundamental reasons. Consequently, our younger 2nd Gen feel more

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THE NEW VOICES OF OUR GENERATION

NEWVOG is looking for your 2G opinion!

As a 2G, how would you describe in a paragraph the American UC sense / lack of a sense of community?
As a 2G, what changes/improvements do you think we need / would you like to see happen over the course of 2007 for the American UC community?

EMAIL RESPONSES TO NEWVOG@GMAIL.COM BY FEBRUARY 21ST, 2007

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judgment than they do love. And if they find love some other place, what's going to stop them from following love? That's what the world was intended for wasn't it?

I am all for organization and setting up universal standards. But before doing that, we need to ask ourselves what are we trying to accomplish? A perfect world? Well, what does that look like? If I had to answer that question, my answer would surround the concept of TRUE LOVE. We are trying to build families and communities full of TRUE LOVE that God can dwell with. I think everyone can agree with me on that. Our "church" focuses a lot on big accomplishments and things that are noticeable. But I think many BC's are turned off because the initial purpose of sharing TRUE LOVE is overlooked and often times forgotten. We need to be true to our word.

B. Most kids will tell you the reason they are in the church is because of their friends. And by "friends" they mean their BC brothers and sisters. Even without recognizing it, Blessed Children share an incredible unbreakable and undeniable bond with each other. Once you experience a true relationship with a BC nothing will ever compare. And this is because TRUE LOVE is an underlying factor in these relationships.

As far as participating in the

movement goes, that also has to do with love. If someone feels a lot of love when they are helping with workshops and church service, then of course they are going to want to continue working with the church. But if instead they receive judgment and persecution, they are going to be extremely negative

about supporting the church again.

C. Quite honestly, it's because most 2nd Gen just don't care. When I look at all of our parents I see just how scared they are to approach their children with real questions. How do you feel about True Parents? What is the DP to you? These concepts aren't even real to most 2nd Gen. They don't even know what the church stands for. They are never asked what they believe in, and thus never form their own faith. A lot of 2nd Gen will take the easy way out and stay in the shelter of the 2nd Gen community, but never take a stand for what they believe in. And I honestly believe that's because they don't KNOW what they believe in. There is no sense of identity.

From a 2nd Gen in her early twenties attending college in Los Angeles, grew up in Seattle

A-Some 2nd generation have a hard time with the aspects of our movement that are justified by faith. (Such as the need to uphold the blood lineage) Unless they have an

“...a smaller yet louder percentage of us are opinionated to the point of redundancy. Those of us in the latter extremity are often found annoying and though we are heard, we are no longer listened to.”

experience of deep spiritual insight, these aspects may seem weird, judgmental, and/or not worth it.

-The lifestyle of sacrifice and "indemnity" that is emphasized by some members can be very overwhelming. Without a proper explanation of the nature of the sacrifice and what we're sacrificing for, it can seem fanatical (and painful to watch our parents go through).

-The American culture is really strong and, in many ways, really negative. Even 2nd generation who are not initially "against" the church can be easily drawn into the culture of substance abuse and loose morals. The discrepancy between their lifestyle and the church's beliefs can become very uncomfortable, and people may move away from the church (and even lash out at the church) to resolve this discomfort.

-The ideals of the movement are beautiful. They encapsulate the

best part of religions while striving to eradicate the selfishness and small-mindedness that divides the world's religions today.

B-It would break their parents/siblings/friends hearts if they left.

For many, they could never recreate the love and acceptance that they felt at church workshops.

-At its essence, the movement is so good. The non-stop efforts to unite religions, restore families, etc., are, generally, devoid of motivation for personal gain and profoundly moving. Many of the people in the movement are the same way.

-Deep and moving spiritual experiences and/or insight.

C-Never having a deep and moving spiritual experience and/or insight.

-The conflicting pros and cons that they perceive are connected to the movement

Only two people chose to

reveal their names but I chose to leave them out. It's only important to know that all the observations voiced here are subjective and honest.

I believe that all growing institutions, especially educational and religious, should have mandatory evaluations. During the forty years of the Unification Movement in America there has developed a huge gap between 1st and 2nd Gen, rifts within each generation on many levels and I think, it's time we started putting ourselves out there and really looking at ourselves objectively. This is a start. Though few, the criticisms and observations made here by our own youth, though harsh and often brutal in their honesty, reveals a great deal about the struggling attitudes, the confused hearts, and the character of those we mean to raise with God's truth in this difficult world.

The mere mention of my doing a 'survey' of this sort has already inspired a brother from overseas to do

the same with his BC community. Someone here suggested we get a team together whose sole purpose would be "getting people to express themselves by sparking their interest by showing them the current state of the BC mind." This is also a start.

Our faith driven "don't think just do" education has placed our 2nd Gen in two opposing extremities: the majority of us are apathetic to our surroundings, while a smaller yet louder percentage of us are opinionated to the point of redundancy. Those of us in the latter extremity are often found annoying and though we are heard, we are no longer listened to; rather, we are put down, which doesn't help the rest of us find the courage to speak. "No one listens, but everyone talks. People give directions, but they don't lead."

Now, change is not only needed, it's already been asked for by our leaders. In America, our leaders have never been more curious to know about us, what we desire, what we are doing, what we feel and think about the movement. They know that change and progress never happened because people silently followed the masses and now they want you to know that they know this. It may have come too late for some of our liking, but at least it has come.

Most of us 2nd Gen are rebellious and stubborn by nature, traits that can be used to fuel our lack of courage to speak out. Many of us have become cynical and blasé about the practice (or lack thereof) of our traditions and ideals both on the individual and community level. When it comes to how the movement is progressing (or not), we all have our criticisms and praises. In time, our cynicism are sure to dissipate, our resentments alleviated, but only if our rebellious tendencies are geared at the false ideals of this world, rather than at the *difficulty* of practicing ideals we know are true and can one day become a reality.

Where do we start? Right here, by speaking out as some of us have already done. ❖

For anyone who would like to respond to this article, please make your responses specific and send them to

newvog@gmail.com

All responses will appear in the following issue of UNEWS.



Labyrinths and Building an Interfaith Community

by Gail Paine

In a maze, one can get lost, yet in a Labyrinth, one can be found. An outdoor Labyrinth can become the tool for spiritual inspiration, rebirth and guidance. A Reconciliation Labyrinth can become a tool through which we can connect to God and generate the strength to forgive and the power to love our enemies. The possibilities are endless when one is referring to a tool used to focus our intention for good and to bring peace on all levels.

The Reconciliation Labyrinth design was created by Clare Wilson in South Africa and has been successfully used there for the purpose of healing the wounds brought about by racism. A new outdoor Reconciliation Labyrinth is being built in Fairfax, Virginia as a project of the Ambassadors for Peace Association of Northern Virginia. The Labyrinth, scheduled for completion in June, 2007 is the result of a partnership with Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Fairfax and other partners that are now joining this peace coalition.

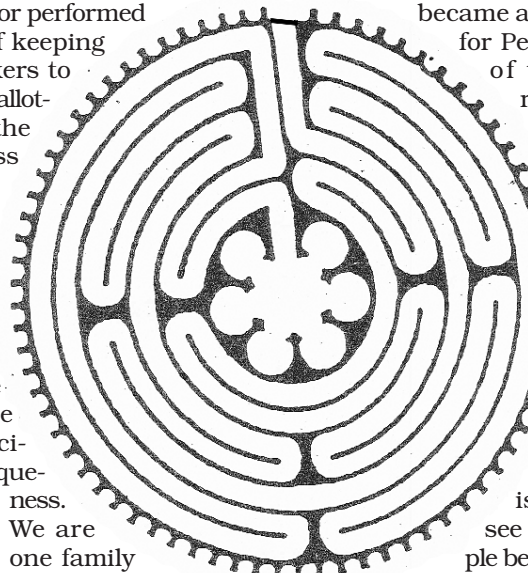
The planning committee decided earlier this year to create an interfaith community first, as a means of supporting the building of the Labyrinth. The interfaith community was established through a series of interfaith forums; the first of which was held on October 7th.

The forum, whose topic was "Prayer and Meditation", included a panel of 8 religious leaders representing diverse faith traditions, who shared their teachings and experiences on that theme. The venue was the Fellowship Hall of the Lord of Life Lutheran Church, which filled with an audience of 60 participants.

Leaders and representatives from Baha'i, Islam, Sikh Faith, Judaism, Christianity, Hinduism, and Native American Traditional, spoke for 7 minutes each. The experienced and dis-

tinguished moderator performed the amazing feat of keeping the religious speakers to their respective time allotment in order for the program to progress smoothly.

The session was very moving. Just to look at the head table, with all of its varying religious leaders, inspired the hope that we can be one people and we can learn to appreciate each other's unique-



ness. We are one family and surely God, loving us with the heart of a Parent, was heartened to see His children sharing and discussing their differences with each other, rather than

After all, God is One, Religion is One, and Mankind is One and no one has superiority. It was also demonstrated that we all believe in oneness of God and we approach Him from various angles. Furthermore, both men and women were represented on the panel and even the Lutheran Pastor who was

became an Ambassador for Peace at the end of the program remarked:

"I was very moved to see this coalition take steps to bring various religions together to talk about prayer and meditation from their perspective. It is admirable to see a group of people being so open and accepting of other religions.

open to public and a larger number of people can attend. More people need to witness this type of attitude, and as a result religious barriers would gradually dissipate and we could one day embrace our diversities. I am grateful for being invited as a Baha'i speaker and commend you of this meritorious service you have rendered for mankind. I hope that the labyrinth project is built through efforts of various religions and will promote reconciliation."

A brief period of Q & A was followed by a Labyrinth presentation. The history and purpose of the labyrinth was presented, along with the potential of using the Reconciliation Labyrinth as a tool for prayer and resolution of conflict. The participants then walked over to the labyrinth site - a beautiful hidden garden adjacent to the church - and prayed together. ❖



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arguing and fighting.

The aspect that struck many of the participants was the similarity of the basic content that each speaker shared, such as the concept that prayer is a way of life. We share an awareness of going about our daily lives, performing our activities-from the mundane to the profound- in a spirit of prayer. Another obvious common trait was the deep love that each speaker has for their God and how their prayer life is such a great comfort and a source of strength to them.

The Baha'i representative who

our host, took a back seat, giving his Christian perspective. I hope that this Labyrinth project will continue to have such meetings and perhaps next time it can be

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UNIFICATION NEWS (ISSN:1061-0871) is published monthly for \$25 per year (rates for multiple copies, payable monthly: 5-20: \$1.75 each; 20- 50 \$1.55 each ; over 51: \$1.25¢ each) by the Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of Christianity (aka: HSA-UWC; Unification Church), 4 West 43rd Street, New York NY 10036. Periodicals Postage paid at New York, NY and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: UNIFICATION NEWS, 4 West 43rd Street, New York NY 10036.

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**UNIFICATION
NEWS**

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