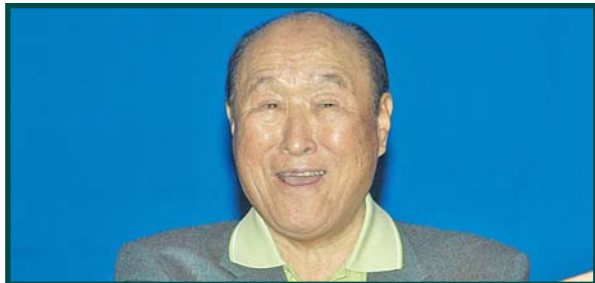


# HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Birthday Speech • p. 2-3



UPF Peace Summit • p. 6-7



GIG Leaders Assembly • p. 9



Short-term Home Schooling • p. 19

The New Voices of Our Generation

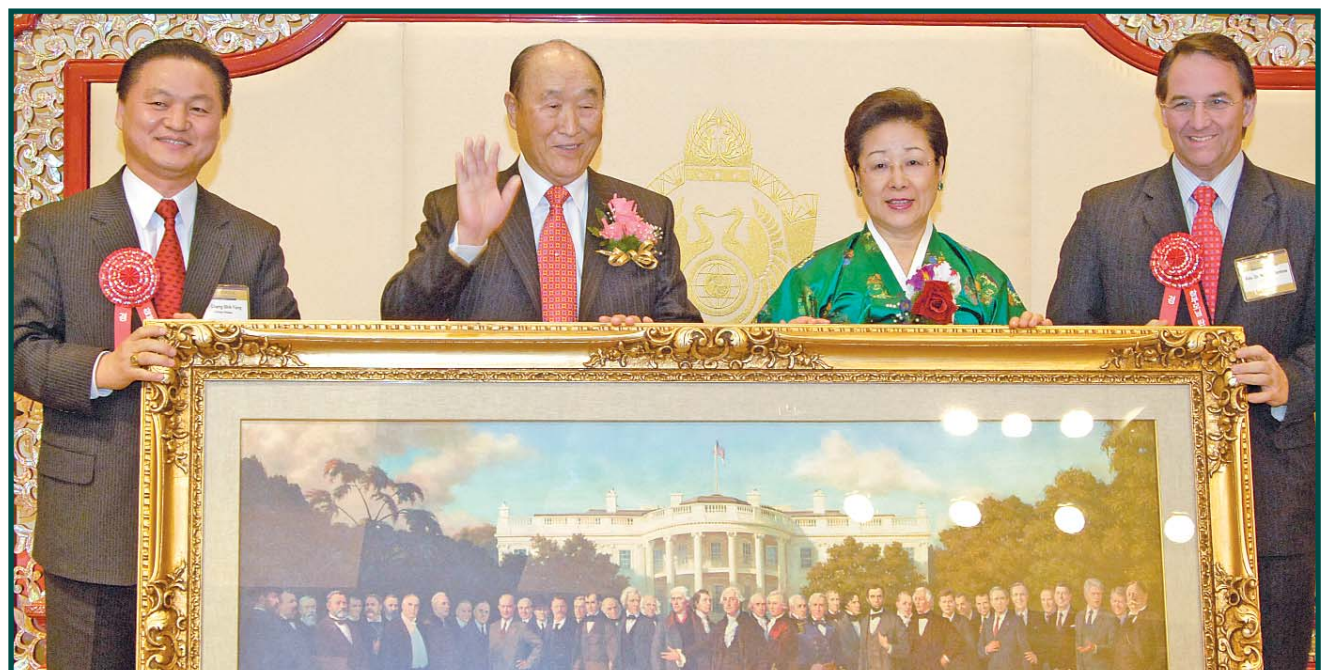
## I N S I D E

Church Calender	2
UPF Peace Summit	6-7
ACLC Prayer Meetings	10-11
UTS Interfaith with Moslems	13
What is STF?	24



NEW FUTURE PHOTO

**True Parents celebrated their birthday in Korea on February 23rd. Below, Dr. Yang and Rev. Jenkins present a painting of all the American Presidents as a gift from the American Church. See centerfold for more Birthday photos.**





by Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon

*This is the address Father gave at the True Parents' Birthday Commemoration and celebration of True Father's Misoo (88th birthday by Korean counting), held at the Cheon Jeong Peace Palace, Korea on February 23, 2007. This is also "Peace Message 12."*

**D**istinguished former and current heads of state, guests from home and abroad who love peace and who have come from every corner of the earth to celebrate and commemorate this day:

First of all, my wife Dr. Hak Ja Jan Moon, our entire family and I would like to welcome you all to this occasion. We would like to express our sincere gratitude for your efforts on the front line in fulfilling your mission of advancing the Universal Peace Federation (UPF) and realizing peace for all humanity.

As you may know, following the coronation ceremonies at which I was acknowledged as the King of Peace - held both in a United States Senate Office Building and at the Korean National Assembly, in 2004 - I founded the Universal Peace Federation in New York

City on September 12, 2005. On the foundation of those victories, on June 13, 2006, we held the Entrance Ceremony for the Cheon Jeong Peace Palace and the Coronation Ceremony of the True Parents as the King and Queen of Peace in Heaven and on Earth. These were each steps toward the establishment of the kingdom of heaven on earth, which in Korean I call Cheon Il Guk.

Heaven's providence is progressing rapidly each day. In its course for the establishment of Cheon Il Guk, a day can feel like a thousand years and a thousand years can feel like a single day.

Distinguished world leaders, this year, 2007, the seventh year of Cheon Il Guk, is a jubilee year in the providence. In this holy year, today is also a meaningful day, because by the Korean way of reckoning, it is the sixty-fifth birthday of my wife Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon as well as my own eighty-eighth birthday. To commemorate this day and to renew our resolve, I would like to convey to you a message that summarizes Heaven's message that my wife,

the three generations of the True Family and I have been conveying to the 6.5 billion people of the world during the past two years. My purpose is to remind you once again of your position and mission from the viewpoint of God's providence and to reemphasize the significance of the era in which we live. The title of this message is "God's Ideal Family and the Responsibility the Citizens of Cheon Il Guk Are Called to Fulfill."

#### God's Purpose of Creation

Respected leaders from around the world, what do you think is God's ultimate purpose for creating human beings? It is to experience joy through the perfection of ideal families filled with true love. What does an ideal family look like? Simply put, an ideal family is the model for absoluteness and peace, wherein its members have secured a parent-child relationship with God and can live in attendance to God as their parent.

God created Adam and Eve and established them as the first ancestors of

humankind with the intent that they form an ideal family that is the model for absoluteness and peace. He committed Himself fully to raising them as His son and daughter, to be encapsulations of the entire cosmos, mediators between the spiritual and physical worlds, and lords of creation who would be joined with Him through true love, true life and true lineage.

#### The Conjugal Relationship

Ladies and gentlemen, Adam and Eve had to establish a model, peaceful, ideal family. God, the absolute being, created human beings as His children in order to instill in them absolute values, which spring from an absolute standard. Thus, human beings must follow the way of that unchanging standard in keeping with the demands of the heavenly path. This means we must follow our destined life course in order to attend God, our eternal parent. In other words, for us to perfect ourselves in resemblance of God and obtain the stature of people of character who can be called sons and daughters of the

## 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)

## M A Y 2 0 0 7

Ahn Shi Il • 6th, 14th, 22nd, 30th

- 1 HSA-UWC Established (1954)  
43 Couples' Blessing (1969)  
Ceremony for the Total Dissolution of Resentment (1975)  
Day of Victory Over Resentment (1974)
- 2 True Parents' Blessing (3/16/60)
- 6 Professors World Peace Academy Established (1973)

- 8 Shin Joon Nim's Birthday (3/22/2004)
- 10 Unification Theological Seminary (1977)
- 14 Shin Rye Nim's Birthday (3/28/05)  
Cheonju Haebang Shik: Ceremony for the Liberation of the Universe (1999)  
National (American) Won Jeon Shrine Dedicated (2002)
- 15 36 Couples' Blessing (1961)  
Citizen's Federation for the Unification of the Fatherland (1987)
- 16 Day of the Love of God (1984)
- 17 Washington Times Established (1982)
- 19 Shin Bok Nim's Birthday (4/3/82)
- 20 Shin Il Nim's Birthday (4/4/81)
- 21 118 Couples' Blessing (1978)
- 22 American Clergy Leadership Conference Established (2000)
- 26 Hyun Jin Nim's Birthday (4/10/69)
- 27 60 Couples' Blessing (2001)
- 30 Declaration of True Parents' Global Victory (1999)

## J U N E 2 0 0 7

Ahn Shi Il • 7th, 15th, 23rd

- 3 Inauguration of the Federation for Cosmic Peace and Unification South American Headquarters (2001)
- 4 72 Couples' Blessing (1962)
- 8 Shin Yeon Nim's Birthday (4/23/90)
- 10 Il-Heung Shipbuilding Established (1986)
- 13 Hee Jin Nim & Hye Shin Nim's Blessing (1998)  
39 Couples' Blessing (1981)  
1st Stage of the 360 Million Couples' Blessing (1998)
- 14 Jeung Jin Nim's Birthday (1982)  
Declaration of True Parents' Cosmic Victory (1999)
- 15 Day of All True Things (5/1/63)
- 17 Declaration Return of the Sea to Heavenly Dominion (2000)
- 21 Rally for the Unity and Completed Settlement of the Parents of Heaven and Earth (2002)
- 23 Il-Sung Construction (1978)  
Day of One Heart (1989)
- 24 Declaration of the Return of the Land to God (2000)
- 29 Ceremony of the Return of the Cosmos to Heaven (2000)
- 30 Shin Goon Nim's Birthday (5/16/02)

C A L E N D A R

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]



# Citizens of Cheon Il Guk Are Called to Fulfill

eternal God, we must follow the path based on the unwavering standard God has determined. The essence of this path is the standard of absolute sexual purity.

The first stage is maintaining absolute sexual purity prior to getting married. After we are born, we go through a process of growth. We pass through infancy and childhood in a very safe and secure environment under our parents' love and protection. We then enter the period of adolescence, which signals the start of a new and dynamic life. This is the moment when we begin to travel the path to becoming a mature human being - internally, through the perfection of our character, and externally, by reaching adulthood. During this time there is a strict requirement that everyone must meet, no matter who they are; that is, maintaining their purity.

Second is establishing the model of absoluteness in the relationship of husband and wife. This heavenly law of total marital fidelity is more precious than life itself. Husband and wife are eternal partners given to each other by God. Through having children, they become the co-creators of true love, true life and true lineage, and the origin of that which is absolute, unique, unchanging and eternal.

How could people who preserve their purity before marriage, and whom God bonds together in purity as husband and wife, ever deviate from the heavenly way and go astray, following a wrong path?

Ladies and gentlemen, absolute and sacred conjugal love is the greatest blessing that Heaven has bestowed on humankind. Yet, without adhering to the principle of absolute sexual morality, the path to the perfection of one's character - to spiritual maturity - is closed. Furthermore, without securing the foundation of absolute sexual purity within a true family of perfected individuals, it is impossible for God to manifest His presence in dignity as the incarnate God of character.

Therefore, if Adam and Even had achieved individual perfection - the perfection of their character - by upholding the strict principle of sexual purity in accordance with God's will, and then entered into conjugal relations through His Holy Blessing, they would have attained complete oneness with Him. God would have dwelt with in their union. Their children would have also been linked to this holy order of true love, and enjoyed a direct relationship with God as their parent.

## The Attributes of True Love

What is true love? Its essence does not lie in receiving but in being the first to give, in living for the sake of others and for the sake of the larger whole. True love gives, forgets that it has given, and continues to give without ceasing. True love gives joyfully. We find it in the joyful and loving heart of a mother who cradles her baby in her arms and nurses it at her breast. True love

is sacrificial love, as with a filial son who gains his greatest satisfaction through helping his parents.

When we are bound together in true love, we can be together forever, continually rejoicing in each other's company. The attraction of true love brings all things in the universe to our feet; even God will come to dwell with us. Nothing can compare to the value of true love. It has the power to dissolve the barriers fallen human beings have created, including national boundaries, the barriers



between races and even those between religions.

The main attributes of God's true love are that it is absolute, unique, unchanging and eternal, so whoever practices true love will live with God, share His happiness, enjoy the right to participate as an equal in His work, and the right of inheritance. Therefore, a life lived for the sake of others, a life of true love, is the absolute prerequisite for entering the kingdom of heaven.

## Heaven and True Love

Ladies and gentlemen, what kind of place is the kingdom of heaven? In brief, the heavenly kingdom is a world overflowing with God's true love. True love is its axis. True love is everywhere, in the outward expression as well as in the inward thought. Everyone's life is filled with true love from beginning to end. In the kingdom of heaven, people are born through true love, live in the embrace of true love and follow the track of true love until the day they pass on into the next world, the spirit world.

The kingdom of heaven is a natural world where all people live for the sake of one another. Consequently, antagonism and jealousy cannot be found anywhere in that world. It is a world that is not governed by money, position or power. There, the success of every person represents the success of the whole, the likes of every person represent the

likes of the whole, and the joy of every person represents the joy of the whole.

The kingdom of heaven is a world filled with the air of true love, where everyone breathes true love. Its life throbs with love, everywhere and all the time. The citizens of that kingdom are all linked together through their common membership in God's lineage. There, the whole world and all its people are connected in an inseparable relationship, like the cells in our bodies. True love, the love that is God's essence, is Heaven's only governing power. Accordingly, God also exists for true love.

only way through which God's lineage can be bequeathed and made to last forever. You must be clear on this point.

## Cross-cultural Marriage Blessing

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, our bondage to the lineage of Satan has caused so much suffering throughout history. Let us now boldly step forth to sever it and be grafted onto the root of the lineage of the True Parents. Why should we foolishly continue to live and die as wild olive trees? Where can we find the path to escape this vicious cycle?

It is through the Holy Blessing. The Holy Blessing Ceremony offers the grace of being grafted onto the true olive tree. It was instituted by the True Parents, who bring God's true lineage to humankind. Without changing your lineage, you cannot change your seed. The best way to restore people to the position of children of God through changing their lineage is through the cross-cultural Marriage Blessing. These marriages contribute to the great task of transcending the barriers of race,

culture, nationality, ethnicity and religion, and to creating one family of humankind. It is a revolutionary occasion, creating the heavenly lineage on a completely new level, transcending the obstacles of race, culture, nationality and religion. It is an act that severs all links of enmity. It is the sacred rite of the change of lineage, through which everyone can be re-created through the True Parents. They are the King and Queen of Peace, the manifestation of God in substance, who enable Him to exercise His providence in the present world.

The path is open wide for all people to change their lineage through the Holy Wine Ceremony that True Parents have instituted. The Holy Blessing is yours that you may establish true families. The responsibility you are called to fulfill is to teach others, without fail, that the perfection of a life of absolute sexual morality through the cross-cultural Marriage Blessing is the ultimate means and method to establish a peaceful, ideal world here on earth.

## A Family of Three Generations

Ladies and gentlemen, the family sets the pattern for living together. The warm environment of oneness based on love and respect between parents and children, mutual fidelity and love between husband and wife, and trust and mutual reliance among siblings is the manifestation of the model, ideal family of peace. This means that you need to establish a true family, wherein the stem of true love emerges from the root of true love and bears the fruit of true love.

In this manner, the three generations of grandparents, parents, and children should live together as one family and serve the eternal God. God desires to see such families, and it is your responsibility as tribal messiahs and ambassadors for peace to strive for

see **CITIZENS** on page 4

## The Importance of Lineage

Do you know what has pained God's heart most, causing Him the greatest grief over the long history since the Fall of Adam and Eve? God lost His lineage. With it, God lost the basis of human brotherhood and even His ownership over the creation. God's lineage is more precious than life itself. Yet, this was lost. Without it, the fruits of true life and true love never matured.

Ladies and gentlemen, lineage is more important than life and more precious than love. Life and love come together to create lineage. Lineage cannot be established if either life or love is missing. Therefore, among the three - love, life and lineage - lineage is the fruit. God's lineage contains the seed of true love. God's lineage provides the context and environment for a true life.

Hence, for us to become the ideal people envisioned by God, that is, people of ideal character, and to create ideal families, we first need to be linked to His lineage. To take it a step further, only when we are linked to God's lineage is it possible to create God's homeland, the ideal nation.

Please inscribe the importance of lineage in your hearts. I cannot emphasize this enough. This is because the parent-child relationship is the highest and most important of all relationships, and the model, lineal relationship between parent and child is the



## FOUNDER'S DISCOURSE ON UNIFICATIONISM

### CITIZENS from page 3

and establish them - families of Cheon Il Guk, the kingdom of God.

Ladies and gentlemen, you should form families that God will miss and yearn to return to after He has been away. He should feel comfortable to visit your home like any parent coming to visit his or her children. This is what it means to live in service to God. Within such a family, God is the vertical subject over your conscience, and your conscience is the vertical subject over your body. Thus, unity with God brings your mind and body into harmony.

Family members who have established that vertical axis can perfect the four realms of love and heart - parental love, conjugal love, children's love, and siblings' love. That family links all direc-

is the way we can expedite the establishment of the universal peace kingdom on earth.

#### The Dual Structure

Viewing the structure of a human being from another angle, we can perceive that God created us as entities with dual characteristics. He created our physical bodies as miniatures of the corporeal, tangible world and our spiritual bodies as representatives of - and lords of - the incorporeal world. Accordingly, it is intended that we live for a hundred years or so in the physical world and then pass on naturally and automatically into the incorporeal spirit world once the physical body ceases to function.

In this way, though it cannot be perceived by the eyes in our physical bodies, the spirit world is the automatic and inevitable extension of our lives on

This does not mean, however, that the perfection of a spiritual self happens automatically. Only on the basis of your having fully united your mind and body during your earthly life, by expressing true love through your actions, can your spiritual self fully mature.

While living on earth, your every action and movement - without exception - is recorded on your spirit self, with the public laws of heaven as the standard. Accordingly, you will enter the spirit world in the form of your spirit self, on which your earthly life is recorded with 100 percent precision. Your spirit will show plainly whether you have led a ripe life of goodness, or a wormy, rotten life of sinfulness. What this means is that God will not judge you; you will be your own judge.

#### Life Course of the True Parent

Ladies and gentlemen, my life for the

life, which has been for the sake of perfecting the model of absoluteness in conjugal love?

Mine has been a life of misery; by biting my tongue, I have endured for the sake of our God, who deserves pity, and for the sake of the salvation of the world's fallen people who are suffering in the realm of death. Even now, if one person were to look into my heart and speak just one word of sympathy, I would burst into tears and my tears would flow like a waterfall.

Ladies and gentlemen, once someone becomes an old man of eighty-eight, he would normally look back on his life and quietly prepare to enter the next world. Yet, my life begins from now.

It is not because I have many lingering attachments to this life. It is because I still have yet to fulfill the mission for which I received my call as the True Parents - to save people, who are suf-



tions - up and down, front and rear, and right and left. They revolve around each other in everlasting spherical motion. This is the eternal God's model, ideal family, which expands to ideal model nations and a peaceful, ideal kingdom.

This means we need a movement to realize a society of interdependence, mutual prosperity and universally shared values. We need to make humanity one great family, by breaking down the walls in our hearts and eliminating even the boundaries between nations. This movement begins from each family. If only the entire world were filled with such true families! It would be an orderly world where people governed themselves by the heavenly way and heavenly laws, with no need for lawyers, prosecutors or even judges.

Who would be most fully aware of your good and bad deeds? It would be your grandparents, your parents, your spouse and your children. Is there anything that cannot be resolved within the family? When parents and children, husband and wife, and elder siblings and younger siblings set an example of living for the sake of one another, why is it impossible to forgive any mistakes? What reason would they have to commit crime? A world governed by the heavenly way and the heavenly laws is a natural world, an unobstructed world of truth and pure reason. It is a world at the "high noon" of absolute values, without any dark shadows.

Therefore, each of us should bear in mind that it is our providential calling to form and establish a true family. It

earth, humankind's eternal, original homeland, created by God.

The spirit world does actually exist. It is not a world that has been fantasized or imagined into existence. We do not have the right of choice concerning it. It is not a world we can go to if we please or refuse to go to if we would rather not. Just as God is eternal and unchanging, the spirit world He created is also eternal and unchanging. In like manner to our living in the physical world in our physical bodies and forming all sorts of relationships with the existing world, even in the spiritual world we are destined to go on living in our spiritual bodies, and to form and maintain close relationships with all phenomena of the spirit world.

#### Perfection of the Spirit Self

In the relationship between a person's spirit and physical body, the spirit is the more important of the two. The physical body lasts for about a hundred years before it stops functioning, but the spirit lives forever, transcending time and space.

No matter how well a person fares in the physical world, he is bound to die. Therefore, before you pass on to the next world, you should achieve unity between your physical and spiritual bodies by living your earthly life in such a way that you meet the standards of both the physical and spiritual worlds. In other words, you are called to take up the responsibility of perfecting your spiritual selves within your physical bodies based on the finite life you live in the tangible, physical world.

past eighty-eight years has been one of sorrow, marked by inexpressible suffering and persecution. As the third Adam, the True Parents, I need to indemnify and completely reverse all the failures of the first and second Adams. I am responsible to complete not only the mission of the Savior, the Messiah, and the Lord at his second coming, but also the missions of all those major figures from whom religions have sprung.

Bearing similarities to God's creation of the universe, my life has constituted the great work of the re-creation of humanity, where not even the smallest error is permitted. It has been a lonely course that cannot be discussed with anyone, one that took me down thorny paths through the wilderness - paths that I had to follow while utterly alone. Not even God could acknowledge me. Frequently hovering in a state between life and death, even vomiting blood, I still had to rise again like a phoenix to remain true to my promise to God and establish the model of the ideal family and of absolute sexual purity.

I had to endure imprisonment six times, though I was innocent: for working in the underground independence movement in my early days while studying in Japan; for propagating the will of God in Pyongyang, which was under communist control immediately after Korea's independence from colonial rule; during the Syngman Rhee administration after Korea had been reborn as a free nation; and even in the United States, which proudly presents itself to the world as a model of democracy. Who on earth can understand my eventful

fering in the fallen realm, unable to escape from it.

Now the revolutionary Era after the Coming of Heaven, the time of harvest, has arrived. This year, I will continue to guide you in carrying out this universal revolution for the restoration of humanity. Please do not hesitate! Let us hold hands and together uphold the heavenly decree in fulfilling our calling and responsibility! How can we avert our eyes from the situation in which tens of thousands of our brothers and sisters are dying helplessly while waiting for salvation?

#### The Peaceful, Ideal Kingdom

Leaders who love peace! You are now living in the most blessed and exalted time in history. We are in the Era after the Coming of Heaven! I proclaim the beginning of the long awaited new heaven and new earth, which billions of your ancestors in the spirit world, who have come and gone in history, have yearned for. This is the era of kingdom of the peaceful, ideal world. The four great religious founders and billions of good ancestors have come to earth to guide you on the blessed path of heaven. The age when the fallen and corrupt world wreaks havoc on humanity, allowing evil people to live better than others, is passing away.

The Universal Peace Federation, which stands as the "Abel-type United Nations" on the universal level, will work toward a peaceful, ideal world, the eternal ideal God has cherished for the creation, while renewing the existing "Cain-type"

see **CITIZENS** on page 8



by Rev. Michael Jenkins

# Birthday Celebration!

**W**ords cannot describe the emotions we went through on this particular birthday celebration. The former Prime Minister of Korea gave a tribute to Father that was astounding. A few years ago not one Korean Congressman could publicly stand with us, but the reality of Father's education of 20,000 of the top leaders of the nation in Japan over the last two years has had enormous impact. The Prime Minister who also was the former President of the Prestigious Seoul National University. He strongly testified that Father's work was real and substantial and not only the most significant work to bring North and South Korea together it is a well recognized work that is the most significant and comprehensive work for peace combining, all nations, religions and peoples. It is truly unbelievable.

We are in tears here in Korea. Father's life is being recognized. Though we still toil day to day and so many seem to not understand truly the providential time has changed. 88 means a new beginning twice. For Father he feels he is just beginning the true life in the Kingdom.

At the morning pledge at 8 am True Father and Mother came in Silver crowns and glorious golden and brightly orange matching robes. The dignity and honor there carry is beyond words. The UPF conferees were in attendance at the 10 am ceremony and Father and Mother were in western clothes. The former Prime Minister of Mongolia gave a profound affirmation that the leader of the world of peace is Father Moon. The delegates at the conference were a completely different level. So many sitting members of parliament. So many first ladies of countries, former and current heads of state. Without question the world leaders are directly being educated.

At the core the religious leaders stand out. Sheikh Sajid who has gained meteoric recognition by Tony Blaire as the concerns over extremist Muslim acts have put him in a key role. Another very very important Muslim leader was Sheikh Muhammad Kanaan, the Supreme Judge of the Sharia Courts of the Sunni faith in Lebanon, his recent role has done much to hold the country together during these troubled times.

Another key was the Bishop of Jerusalem. Another Key leader was Lord Ahmed the first Muslim house of Lords. He visited Palestine and Jerusalem with me a few times. He met the speaker of the Israel Knesset and had a respectful but very frank dialogue. In the Middle East Peace Initiative he opened the session by saying I must first announce that the largest prison in the world is the Gaza strip. He then went on to give a very balanced view of Great Britain.

To everyone surprise Dr. Glaubach got up and with no shred of anger he said, Lord Ahmed, I agree with what you say. I would like to hug you as my brother. Lord Ahmed said anytime that will be fine. How about now Dr. Glaubach said? He said great and he hugged. Taj Hamad did an



amazing job with this and as always Dr. Kaufman guided the deeper sensitivities of the Religious leaders concerns always working to promote understanding and reconciliation. Imam Elahi gave a strong condemnation of Muslim based

**SEE CENTERFOLD FOR MORE BIRTHDAY PHOTOS.**

violence as an incorrect understanding of Islam and the Koran. He did not mince words however on how serious the west must be to not generalize and discriminate against Muslims who for the vast majority of 1.3 billion are traditional family people who believe that the people of the book must cooperate together to build a peaceful world. They majority of mainstream muslims respect all believers.

Dr. Yang did a very through powerpoint on the MEPI development presenting many statistics gleaned from Palestinian and Israeli sources. All it all it was quite an impact. Bishop Stalling then concluded with a written statement to the conference from Rev. Fauntroy who couldn't attend because of a death of a very close personal friend. Rev. Fauntroy called upon UPF to lead the way to solving the conflict in the Middle East and the North South Korea noting that it is the lead organization most prepared to do this. To our surprise he announced the formation of a Bicameral BiPartisan coalition of high level U.S. congressmen who are backing this efforts along with major Mainline churches from the U.S. and from the Middle East.

The UPF's strength is that it brings

the most significant religious leaders on the ground in the Middle

East to an effort that promotes dialogue and resists the use of violence. UPF offers the highest and most recognizable names in the Muslim, Jewish and Christian world. It is surprising, but that is the reality because the UPF which supports King Abdullah II's similar initiative that Religious Cooperation toward peace cannot be done through "tolerance" of one another but must go deeper to the realm of genuine acceptance that these faith traditions came from God. That has been the core teaching from Rev. Moon for over 60 years. It is documented and very high level people are paying attention.

Most of all Rev. Chung Hwan Kwak and Dr. Thomas Walsh must be given very deep respect and gratitude, UPF is given such a heavy burden but they are successfully leading us to fulfill the providence to lift up to full acceptance the King and Queen of Peace by the leaders of the world

and build the substantial Kingdom of Peace in which war will be no more - beginning with the Middle East and completed with the North and South Korean Peninsula.

Have confidence my brothers and sisters. The Kingdom of Peace is coming and cannot be stopped. All of God's people which is the vast majority of the 6.5 billion people on earth are behind this. They believe in the sanctity of the ideal of One Family Under God. This is our theme and our covenant. There is one God. And we are his people.

Praise God, Glory to the Parents of Heaven and Earth and the King and Queen of Peace. The Scriptures are being fulfilled through True Love. Each family will be blessed and engrafted to the True Olive Tree which come from the one True God (Allah) of mankind. ❖



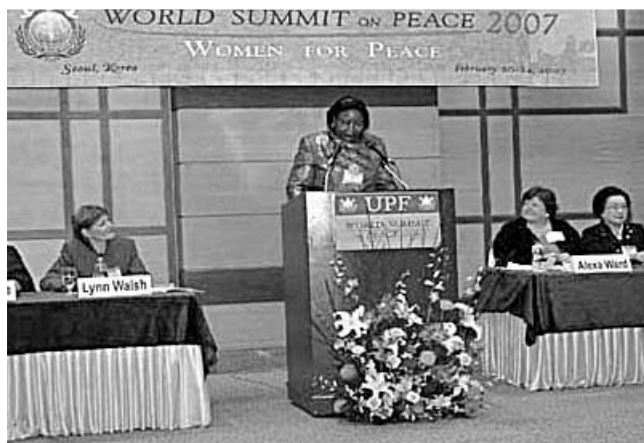


# UPF World Summit: Women for Peace

by Lynn Walsh

The "Peace-building in Action," a concurrent session at the UPF World Summit in Seoul, started with the exploration of practical applications of peace-building principles. Mrs. Susan Bradbury, of The Sound Essence, U.S.A., exemplified "the heart compelled to care for others" by bringing substantial changes in others' lives. She described her successful micro-credit project that provides disadvantaged Mongolians a means to develop financial stability for their families. Mrs. Bradbury was also inspired by how she was experiencing "more than just coincidental meetings" with Summit participants that will facilitate her next goal to expand her micro-credit project to Burundi.

The next speaker, Madame Oya Talat, shared some background of the painful conflict in the past and present in her lovely native island of Cyprus. She reported on her efforts to bring together women from different sides "to listen to each other as women of both communities ... to share our agonies and experiences ... in efforts to destroy the prejudices of both sides and create a confidence-building atmosphere." Madame Talat stated that there is still much work to be done on her island and around the world. She referred to a Turkish proverb, "One watch-



ing while the other is eating is the main cause of the problem." Mrs. Talat pointed out the strength and responsibility of women to continue to work to lift obsta-

cles that are preventing peace and reported that she was very encouraged by UPF's Women for Peace initiative.

Our third presenter, Mrs. Tomiko Dug-

gan, General Manager of World Media Association, brought up a different but critical requirement of peace-building in creating a culture of peace, which is influencing the media to be moral. Through the WMA, Mrs. Duggan has pioneered efforts to challenge the media to practice personal ethics and acknowledge the power and responsibility to promote positive perspectives and moral principles through fact-finding tours, professional collaboration and many educational programs around the world.

The second half of this session was carried out in roundtable discussions. Discussion topics were economic development, leadership, family, reconciliation and education. During the concluding group reports, several people commented that we needed more discussion sessions such as this.

Many reflected that the personal exchange facilitated the experience of a new heart-to-heart understanding of someone from a very different world, and that through such give and take, not only was each person changed by understanding others, but

they could come up with substantial solutions to some of the problems they were addressing. ❖

## ALLIANCE from page 7

that have been committed against us or those we love.

In fact, the very notion of "my people" must be universalized. That is, we must move beyond thinking that "my people" are only those of the same skin color, or gender, or ethnic background, nationality or religious ideology. The circle of "my people" must expand to include and embrace even the enemy.

When we imagine God's viewpoint, don't we think of God as large enough to include and embrace the whole of humanity? This is the vision of UPF: to establish "One Family under God," beyond the barriers of religion, nationality, race, ideology and ethnicity.

Is this an easy task? Of course not. It is the most difficult, and yet the absolutely necessary path we must walk. That is why the great peacemakers of all times have often suffered and endured so much persecution.

If there were an easier way, surely we would all want to go that way. But the easier way does not bring the result. For example, military power cannot bring

lasting peace. Economic power cannot bring a just peace. Peace only comes on the foundation of true love. No adversary submits to power or wealth alone. Rather, peace only comes as we love and serve the adversary. This is the vision and mission of the Ambassadors for Peace movement.

### UPF in 2007

The Universal Peace Federation is developing rapidly as a leading movement for world peace. As we look ahead in 2007 we have a clear mission, methodology, strategy and set of objectives. Today I would like to share with you some of the highlights of our Agenda 2007.

In terms of UPF's mission, we can say confidently say that it is building a world of lasting peace: one global family under God. That is, a world in which people of every race, religion, nationality and culture can live together in mutual respect, love, harmony and co-prosperity.

The essence of our methodology is unselfish love, living for the sake of others. We seek dialogue, reconciliation and cooperation. Peace is not achieved through struggle, opposition, polarization and division. A peacemaker is one who seeks

to build bridges of dialogue and understanding.

There are two primary areas of work for UPF: peacebuilding and human development. We understand both areas in a very comprehensive way.

### What do we mean by comprehensive?

First of all, it means that we understand "peace" or "human development" as related to all the essential spheres of human life, from the individual, to the family, to the community, to civil society, to the nation and on the global level.

Additionally, it means that we understand that both peacebuilding and human development are to be addressed from a multi-sectoral or collaborative perspective or strategy. We do not pursue peace simply from a political or military perspective, or human development from simply an economic perspective. Rather, to effectively address the critical issues of peace and development, we approach problems comprehensively, with all available resources and tools, and pay attention to all relevant factors: politics, government policies, governance, religion, education, culture, family, arts, sports,

media, economics and business.

It is in this respect that the various associations of Ambassadors for Peace such as Women for Peace, Youth for Peace, Parliamentarians for Peace, Business Leaders for Peace, and so on, are critical and essential. Each has something unique and essential to contribute, just like the players on a football team.

Throughout this coming year, we will intensify and upgrade our efforts for peace in the Middle East, in Northeast Asia, and other trouble spots around the world.

In addition to these peace initiatives, there are two core projects that grow out of our human development, and humanitarian work.

The first is the Bering Strait Peace King Bridge and Tunnel Project and International Peace Highway. This is a good example of a project that requires collaborative effort and a comprehensive vision. The Bering Strait crossing will require intergovernmental agreements between the US, Canada and Russia. It will need a clear business plan and substantial financial investment, as well as scientific feasibility and environmental

see **ALLIANCE** on page 8



# UPF SUMMIT ON PEACE, CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

## Forming Alliances at a Time of Global Crisis World

by Rev. Dr. Chung Hwan Kwak  
Chairman, UPF

This address was given in Seoul, Korea, on February 21, 2007.

**D**istinguished world leaders, heads of state and government, religious leaders from all faith traditions, women leaders and first ladies, parliamentarians, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to the Universal Peace Federation's World Summit on Peace dedicated to the theme, "Forming New Alliances at a Time of Global Crisis." Gathered here are nearly 400 delegates from 193 nations.

Our theme for this Summit underscores the sober reality that we live at a time of global crisis. Whereas we all live in hope for peace, we can see that our world does not enjoy peace.

From Iraq to Darfur, from Sri Lanka to the Horn of Africa, from Palestine and Israel to this very Korean peninsula, we see evidence of a world that is not at peace. Poverty persists despite the promises of globalization. Family breakdown, sexual promiscuity, and HIV/AIDS are spreading to the detriment of children, the economy and overall quality of life. Nuclear proliferation and the arms trade continue. Nations, governments and countless citizens have lost their moral compass, surrendering to the lure of materialism and selfish individualism. Human rights violations continue, and the United Nations itself has been unable to perform effectively or deliver on its resolutions.

Among all these problems, family breakdown and the decline of moral standards, especially among youth, are most serious. Even if great effort is made to solve poverty and achieve the Millennium Development Goals, there will be very limited success if we do not address fundamental issues of human character and human relationships. To address human problems, we must also address the human heart and its own corruption.

As we look at our world, we must ask, "Who is really working effectively to solve these critical problems?" "Which nation has a clear vision and sense of direction to bring needed solutions?" In general, nations act for self-centered reasons, known as "national self-interest." In turn, when such nations assemble at the United Nations as member states, it is difficult to move forward effectively. The same could also be said of the community of religions in our world. There is a lack of cooperation and unified direction.

*The UPF Summit was held in Seoul, Feb. 20-24, 2007, on the theme is "Forming Alliances at a Time of Global Crisis" has concluded successfully. Four key groups of leaders from a wide range of professional fields came together, including current and former heads of state and government, distinguished religious leaders, parliamentarians and outstanding women leaders, to explore new options for peace.*

Abel-like institutions, governments, nations and even religions. In fact he encourages the UPF to become an "Abel-type" United Nations, "offering its efforts for peace to heaven and ceaselessly living for the sake of others."

Thirdly, humanity has lost its relationship with the material world. We are not true owners or stewards of the things of this world. Instead, we have been so corrupted by greed and selfishness that we do not take care of the things around us, including the earth itself, and we do not serve the public good in our use of money, power and knowledge. This leads to increased poverty, disease, and selfish materialism that result in environmental decline.

Given this reality, how can we move forward and create a world of true and lasting peace?

### Three Core Principles

When Father Moon first began speaking of a vision of a universal family of humanity, known in Korean as cheonilguk, he said there are three core principles. First, purity and fidelity are needed to protect the sacred value and integrity of marriage and family. Second, we must each have respect and reverence for not only the rights of each and every human being, but for one's heart, that is, each person's essential core, which is their desire to be fulfilled in true love as a son or daughter of God. And, third, we need to have a correct attitude and practice in the use of public money and public goods.

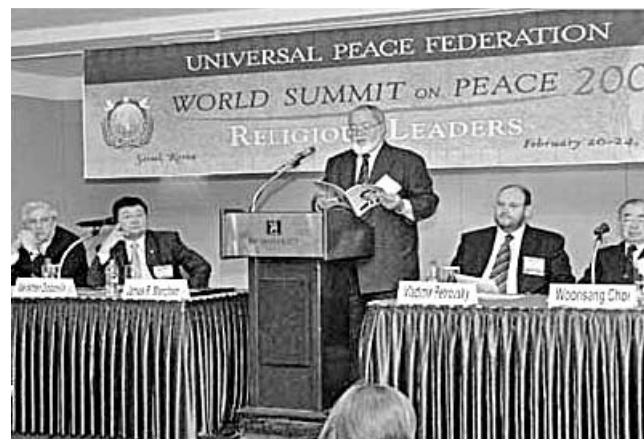
The starting point and front line of peace is not to be found in

some external institution or situation. The starting point is within me. The question we each must ask is, "Can I recognize and overcome the corruptions within my own heart?" Before I ask my neighbor to change, I must look deep within myself, understand my own faults, and set out on a course of self-correction.

The next focus of peacebuilding is with those who are near and dear to me, my own family; if I cannot successfully establish peace within my own family, how can I dare expect to establish peace among strangers?

In the end, Father Moon says that peace is only possible if we each come to develop the strength to love the enemy. Love must conquer resentment and the stubborn determination to redress wrongs

see **ALLIANCE** on page 6



As taught by UPF's Founder, there are three core or root causes of our world's problems. The first relates to lineage, that is, to marriage and family. Unless marriage, as the means of reproduction through love, is fully aligned with a vision of peace centered on God, there is little hope that the next generation will have the tools needed to transform this world. Marriage is to be a partnership of man and woman, and when it is centered on the highest spiritual principles, it is the most powerful instrument of peace that has ever existed.

On the other hand, family breakdown destabilizes not only the husband and wife but also their children and extended family. Families are the core component of our society, and their breakdown through infidelity, promiscuity and divorce undermines peace.

Secondly, there is the loss of true sibling love, that is, the love, harmony and cooperation that should exist between brothers. This tragic reality is seen in the story of Cain and Abel. In the first family, after Adam and Eve had been expelled from their place in God's garden and had children, their elder son, Cain, killed their younger son, Abel. This story illustrates the human problem. As we examine the conflict between nations, religions, races, ethnic groups, political ideologies, and economic classes, we see the recurrence of the Cain and Abel pattern.

Abel was slain by his brother, even though he was relatively closer to God and more pure-hearted. The essence of the Abel-like person is to live for the sake of heaven and for the sake of others. For this reason, Father Moon encourages us to become Abel-like persons, to develop



## CITIZENS from page 4

United Nations. UPF will provide the leadership for this new dimension, the kingdom of the peaceful, ideal world.

The Universal Peace Federation, born through our concerted efforts, represents God's victory and the fruit of the True Parents' blood, sweat and tears. It is the world's cherished hope. It will carry out the role of an Abel-type peace kingdom representing a new sovereignty of universal peace known in Korean as Cheon Il Guk, a counterpart to the existing "Cain-type" UN.

### Our Mission

The Era after the Coming of Heaven that God and True Parents have begun is a time of dramatic change. You have the mission to make this era blossom and bear fruit in blessing and glory.

I have said that in this age we must recover the true lineage that was lost when Adam fell, by receiving the Marriage Blessing through the True Parents. The providence of the Marriage Blessing should be perfected in five

stages - the individual, the family, the tribe, the race and the nation.

This is the time when, metaphorically speaking, the sun is directly overhead, such that no shadow is cast. This signifies that we have passed beyond the Era before the Coming of Heaven, which included the Old, New and Completed Testament ages. These eras have required immeasurable restitution and atonement in re-creating the ideal. The present time, however, corresponds to the era, prior to Adam's Fall, of building the original, ideal world. It refers to the era of true love that is all-encompassing, all-powerful and has overall authority. It is the realm of heart in which the spiritual and physical worlds are bound together as a unified realm with True Parents, the King and Queen of Peace, at the center. In other words, it is the time of the kingdom of peace and unity in heaven and on earth.

Ladies and gentlemen, your mission and position have been made clear. I have explained that within the realm of God's grace through the True Parents the way is laid out for all people to change their lineage through the Holy Wine Ceremony, to receive the Holy Blessing and establish true fam-

ilies. The ultimate way to establish a peaceful, ideal world here on earth is to perfect a life that embraces absolute-ness in the marriage relationship through the cross-cultural Marriage Blessing. The cross-cultural Blessing is the grace by which you inherit Heaven's lineage. You have come to know clearly that the mission for which God has called you is to unfailingly teach these things. Furthermore, as an heir and actual representative of the True Parents, you must now move beyond your concepts and level of awareness to fulfill the responsibility for which you have been called.

There is no time to lose. A fearful day of judgment will come if we fail to fulfill our calling, the responsibility and mission that Heaven has given us in this Era after the Coming of Heaven.

During the Entrance Ceremony for the Cheon Jeong Peace Palace and the Coronation Ceremony of the True Parents as the King and Queen of Peace in Heaven and Earth, held on June 13, last year, I proclaimed the seven basic obligations and mission, based on the heavenly standard, for becoming a citizen of Cheon Il Guk. Please be victorious in fulfilling those basic obligations and mission.

Leaders from around the world, please become true princes and princesses who live in attendance to God as your true parent, for He is the Peace King of the multitudes. Let us build the kingdom of the peaceful, ideal world of the sacred reign of peace by attending True Parents, who have been enthroned as the King and Queen of Peace in Heaven and on Earth in the realm of eternal liberation and freedom - where there is no need for the Savior, Messiah nor Lord at his second advent - and fulfill the dutiful family way of filial sons and daughters, patriots, saints and divine sons and daughters!

Let us establish a model ideal family through which to bring the complete settlement of the ideal realm of liberation and complete freedom in heaven and on earth, and the peaceful kingdom of goodness in which we can enjoy a time of absolute, unique, unchanging and eternal peace and prosperity, and which can become the homeland of peace in heaven and on earth that can be eternally praised!

May God's blessing be upon your family, your nation and the world for all eternity! Thank you. ❖

## ALLIANCE from page 6

impact studies. Through the media, awareness of the enormous potential of this project, as a humanitarian, peace project, needs to be communicated globally. Indeed, in Father's Moon's vision, religious leaders should be at the forefront of this undertaking, assisting in its promotion, fundraising and implementation.

A second area of UPF's human development work concerns the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals. These eight goals aim to uplift humanity, with specific focus on helping the most vulnerable, women and children; ending poverty and disease; and promoting education and development. Of course this is an enormous challenge and requires multi-sectoral support. UPF believes that our resources can be of significant help in this effort:

Enlisting religious organizations to work together in addressing the MDGs. Members of an interreligious volunteer corps, like Religious Youth Service, can work alongside volunteers from other service organizations such as Service for

Peace or the Points of Light Foundation. We also anticipate that the Women for Peace leaders can be at the forefront of efforts to end human suffering.

Strengthening marriage and family. We emphasize the responsibility of men as husbands to love their wives with total and exclusive commitment, and to dedicate their entire lives to the well-being of their precious sons and daughters. This will help empower women and children and reduce the spread of HIV/AIDS.

Encouraging character education in schools. What undermines development is corruption and greed by people who ignore the larger purpose and the rights and hopes of others. Through character education, we can raise up young and old people alike with a vision of not only their legal responsibilities, but also their moral and spiritual responsibilities.

These are some examples of the UPF's approach to peace and development, with reference to some of the specific programs to be carried out this year.

### Our Goals for this Summit

Most of all, we want you to be centrally involved in the work of the UPF.

We believe that each of the four core groups at this summit can contribute greatly to the primary program initiatives of the UPF: Middle East peace, North-east Asia peace, the Bering Strait Project, and the efforts to support the United Nations in the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

Additionally, within the UPF's twelve regions, there are substantial programs and peace initiatives.

Throughout this Summit I hope you can give serious

attention and consideration to the ways in which you might contribute effectively to the mission and work of the UPF. We hope you will participate in UPF's Ambassador for Peace Associations, as well as in the regional and national Peace Councils of the UPF. Heads of state and government, religious leaders, women leaders and parliamentarians all have essential roles to play.

Additionally, in the course of our Summit you will have the opportunity to learn of many other programs and projects being carried by UPF in 2007.

In conclusion I want to thank all the members of UPF's Presiding Council, the Global Peace Council and the Secretariat. Much work has gone into refining and developing the UPF's charter and governing structure, as well as its capacities for implementation. These improvements call for increased involvement of the members of the Presiding Council, the Global Peace Council, the Regional Peace Councils, and the affiliated organizations.

Step by step, we are moving forward. Increasingly the world is taking notice of our work, our vision and methods,



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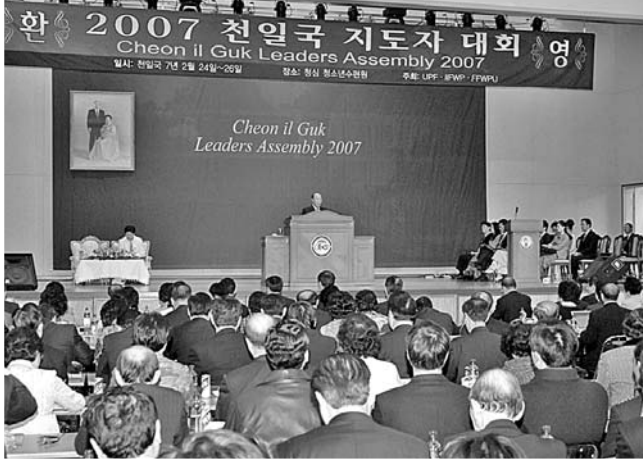
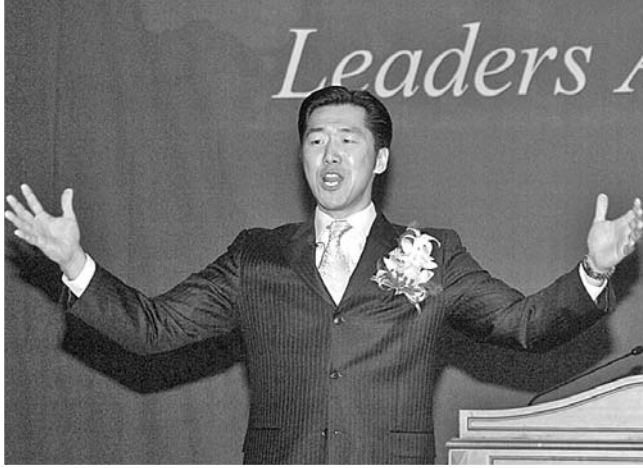
and the outcomes of our efforts. This trend will only continue. In fact, it will increase significantly throughout this year. May God bless each one of you, your family and your nation. Thank you. ❖

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# Chung Il Guk Leaders Assembly 2007

## SEOUL, KOREA • February 24 – 26





# ACLCLC New York Prayer Breakfast

by Rev. Tom Gorley

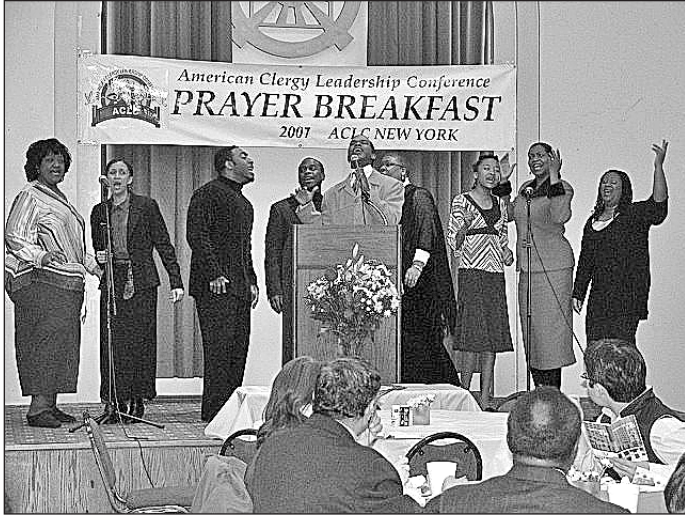
The New York ACLCLC February breakfast meeting was held February 10th 2007 at the Manhattan Family Church located at 4 West 43rd Street in New York City. It is also the home of the UTS extension, which was our host for this month. All participants were warmly welcomed by emcee Sister Davetta Ogunlola.

Dr. Ronald Brown, a professor of world religions and adjunct professor at the UTS extension, was invited to give welcoming remarks. He noted how wonderful it was to see so many people in attendance early on a Saturday morning when so many other things compete for our attention.

Rev. William Shultz read a poem in honor of black history month focusing on two things: people's search for love and their own identity. Rev. Juanita Pierre-Louis offered the invocation, noting that every cell in our body needs prayer, and she asked us all to think of how great God is.

Following Rev. Shultz, Dr. Lonnie McLeod, who is pastor of the Living Hope Church in East Harlem and professor at the UTS extension, among his many other responsibilities, was called upon to say a few inspirational words. He began by declaring all he ever wanted to do was to provide enrichment and a better life for God's people, and that what attracted him to the Unification Theological Seminary was its focus on the family. Dr. McLeod served as president of the Exodus Transitional Community, an organization that deals with the re-entry of prisoners into society. Many come from broken families. He explained that we can do what we can to fix the cracks that result from mistakes in the foundation, but that unless we solve the problem of the foundation, these problems will only get worse. He said the family is that foundation, and that is why he is at UTS. After all, he said, God started with the family. We cannot hope to unify the nation or the world unless we unify the family.

A hearty breakfast was served as people mingled and got to know each other. As breakfast was coming to a close, David



Bratton and the Spirit of Praise singers created a joyous and holy atmosphere by performing several songs giving praise for God's boundless love. One veteran of the 4th world tour, Dr. Owens, shared the central theme of that tour: one family under God, overcoming all the barriers of race, religion, and ethnicity. Dr. Gilda Price, another 4th world tour veteran, read the goals and objectives of the ACLCLC.

Two readings and a song of praise prepared us for the keynote speaker. The Bible reading was Matthew 25: 31-46, which was read by Rev. Kim Scott, and the ACLCLC founder's words were read by Rev. Raymond Cabbagestack, Jr. Rev. Cabbagestack encouraged all ministers present to share with their congregations and communities about the work Reverend Moon is doing. With the Spirit of Praise, David Bratton returned once again to lift our spirits and prepare our hearts for the upcoming message with the song "Have Mercy on Me." The keynote speaker for February was Rev. Leander Hardaway. His sermon was titled, "I can hear you, but I just can't see you."

Rev. Hardaway complemented David Bratton and the Spirit of Praise for their heartfelt songs of praise. He said when he speaks he likes to have a response from

the audience and that even Unification Theology supports this approach with the explanation of give and take action. He read again the words from Mathew 25 concerning Judgment Day and how the Lord will reward us on that day, concluding the reading by saying, "Don't tell me about it, be about it. I can hear you, but I just can't see you." This scripture, he said, enlightens us clearly that God is going to reward action, not just talk. The devil has been blocking us with a lack of understanding. We are locked in 19th century thinking, which is ineffective for this day and age, while the devil is using 21st century methods. We are now at a defining moment. The NYC school system is plagued by high dropout rates, with the city at the center of the AIDS problem in America. One hundred thousand

people are living with AIDS in our city right now, and 4,000 more contract the disease each year.

"With an all-time boom in housing development, homeless families subsist in record numbers. At a time when technology abounds, many young people cannot read. At a time when money for prisons keeps going up, money for schools keeps going down. At a time when people once earned a respectable living, they are now in the shelter system. It is a time when it is easier to attain illegal narcotics than to afford prescription medicine; a time of rampant drug addiction when the voice of the gang leader is tuned in and the voice of the clergy is tuned out; a time when pseudo intellectuals and policy makers are so confused that they retreat to the ancient doctrine of their forefathers, who never envisioned a world as complex as this; a time when people are crying out in an old way for a new manifestation of the power of God. We opiate ourselves with symbols and rituals; at a time when disillusionment has hit members of the clergy.

"This is a defining moment, but here is where we find Jesus with an irrefutable message of hope toward social action. Jesus is enjoining us, Jesus is imploring us, Jesus is impugning us. Jesus is saying, Don't talk about it, be about it. I can hear you, but I just can't see you. He is telling us that a ghostlike gospel will not work today. If you deny that, just get in your car and ride through the streets of New York, where there is block after block of churches with nothing happening. The situation is getting more intense, more painful and more hopeless, and the response is getting weaker.

"Before I close," he went on, "I have three suggestions which are important to grasp if we are to start 'being

about it.' (1) Stop hiding behind symbolism and rituals. Dipping in pools and drinking wine is just the beginning. Prayer and prayer vigils are just the beginning. There is still work to be done after that. Jesus fed people, Jesus healed people, Jesus brought people back to life, people who were physically and spiritually dead. (2) You can't save souls until you first save lives. Soup and soap can nourish and clean my body, but many words cannot alleviate my condition. (3) Remember the word movement. The word movement switches to the word action. Think about the founder of this organization, the founder of the seminary, author of unity around the world, a man who has dedicated his entire life, his fortune, his family, to building the Kingdom of God on Earth. Yes, there have been speeches and sermons, but they have been backed by corresponding action. The Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon

is extolling us to action, just as Christ extols us to action in the scripture. Rev. Moon is telling us it is time to do something about the human condition."

Following Rev. Hardaway's sermon, Rev. Grodner, with Rev. Wesley and Gladys Samuel, officiated the Holy Wine ceremony. Dr. Winings followed with encouraging words for those present who had not yet enrolled at UTS, saying it would be of great benefit to their ministry. An offering for the keynote speaker was taken up as David Bratton and the Spirit of Praise returned to offer one more beautiful song. Rev. Grodner announced and welcomed one new member this month. Rev. Daugherty shared a few words about the benefits of membership, stating the goal to have a core ACLCLC membership of 3,000 by November 2008.

Mr. Naokimi Ushiroda was introduced, representing CARP. He informed us that Dr. Hyun Jin Moon has asked CARP to get to know and work together with the youth in the churches. Evangelist Nolan from Queens gave a heartfelt testimony about the UTS seminary, and Dr. Winings.

Dr. Lonnie McLeod gave closing remarks and great recognition to Rev. Hardaway and his message this morning. Dr. McLeod again emphasized the value of the UTS experience and how it can really benefit church pastors and evangelists. Rev. Hardaway offered the benediction, asking God's blessing on all present. ❖



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# Los Angeles ACLC Prayer Breakfast

by Joy I. Garratt

The first prayer breakfast of 2007 was held by the Los Angeles American Clergy Leadership Conference on February 24 in the Fellowship Hall of Hayes Tabernacle CME Church located in South Central Los Angeles near the famous Watts Towers.

Even before the official program began, ACLC members and guests began networking. This was due to the fact that one of the first two guests to arrive proved to be "Sweet Alice" Harris, executive director of Parents of Watts (POW) in Los Angeles, and probably one of the most gifted, effective networkers to ever walk the halls of California's state capital. As a veteran community activist of 35 years and the winner of the Lieutenant Governor's 2002 California Woman of the Year award, Sweet Alice—yes, everyone calls her Sweet Alice—presides over more than 15 community based programs striving to empower people in every aspect of their lives. Because of her years of caring involvement, she knew nearly every minister and guest who attended and they all knew her. Teacher Jack Ashworth, who has worked and fished with her for many years, invited her.

Dr. Nicholas Benson, First Summit Evangelical Church pastor, served as MC and brought the breakfast to an enthusiastic beginning as well as asking for a moment of silence to remember ACLC former co-convenor Rev. God-

win D'Silva. Rev. Ronald Stovall then opened with the invocation. Rev. J.L. Briggs of Christian Light MBC Church gave the New Testament reading from John 15:8-19, and Lutheran pastor

Williams and Magdalene Millsap, Sadoc Christian Peace Family Church choir leaders, had them clapping and stomping to their inspirational music while they waited.

her review of the ACLC National Goals and Objectives. Rev. Dr. William R. Johnson's keynote address, "The Renewal of Community and Dissolving Racial Barriers," set the program on fire. Rev. Dr. Johnson, Los Angeles ACLC co-chairman and pastor of Hashaway Community CME Church, traced the history of racism in the United States and then drove the point home that there is no place for racial dissension if we are to renew the community and fulfill the mission of ACLC as modeled by Rev. Moon and embodied in the Word of God through Christ.

His prophetic words echoed as the Sadoc Christian singers reprised the Middle East peace anthem, "Peace, Shalom, Salaam Aleikum" during the offering. Supt. Charles Moore, of the Greater All Nations Pentecostal Church of Jesus Christ gave the offering prayer.

The inspiration continued to flow as Norma Foster, president of the Hollywood Bowl Easter Sunrise Service, invited all the attendees to participate in the

April 8th Easter event. ACLC actively supports this ecumenical, community-wide event. Father Pedro Contreras of the Old Catholic Church wrapped up the program with a report on the impact of his recent trip to Mexico on behalf of "Married Priests Now." Participants then circled the hall and joined together for the closing song "Let There Be Peace on Earth" and the final prayer. ❖



Rev. Carlos Torres read excerpts from "The True Owners in Establishing the Kingdom of Peace and Unity in Heaven and Earth" by Rev. Sun Myung Moon.

Gracious Hayes pastor, Dr. Joseph Gardener, then offered the table grace prayer before the delicious breakfast buffet began. The more than 80 attendees did not mind waiting for their turn in the buffet line, either, because Keith

As breakfast ended, Dr. Benson introduced Darlene D'Silva who thanked the many ACLC members who had visited Godwin and her family to comfort and pray for them. Darlene warmed up the audience by reminding them how powerful God's love is and how real the spiritual realm is.

Rev. Margaret Tate, co-pastor of Christ Community Truth Church, then ignited the core breakfast program with

# N. Ohio ACLC Prayer Luncheon

by Keiko Biddle and Joel Lindstrom

February's ACLC Cleveland Prayer Breakfast was held February 24, 2007 in the Greater Gospel Temple OHCOG. What a bright spirit this church has inside and out.

All gathered in the dining room for a down-home breakfast complete with fish fry. 30 people enjoyed the meal and then moved to the bright sanctuary for fellowship. Rev. Louis' prayer echoed with love and power and Evangelist Anita Wilkins testified boldly to Jesus. Sister Ann Grace recited a beautiful poem and Sister Green sang a wonderful gospel hymn. Dr. Thelma Johnson, our 6th District Co-Convenor, spoke about ACLC goals and objectives and called on local members to stand and be recognized. Keynote speaker Evangelist Carol Sowell was introduced by her sister Rose Sowell and shared her message on the "Power of Love" which is our current theme. We all felt a loving heart of a mother through her words as well as the great meal she had just prepared for all of us. She is truly a talented and warm sister who is living proof of love's power in her daily life.

Brother Joel Lindstrom gave a beautiful prayer over the offering and Rev. and Mrs. Biddle performed the True

Love Blessing Ceremony. A nicely prepared closing statement was given by Dr. Johnson. We offer our sincere thanks to her for working so hard and her sensitivity to make this event a success. Thanks always go also to our supportive 2nd Generation kids who help to make a rich and joyful spiritual atmosphere at our monthly gatherings.

This meeting brought mostly new people to fellowship with us. Surely it will take time for new friends to understand well about ACLC. However all new contacts are clearly inspired by this unique and diverse group of saints and will come back to learn more.

Let us continue with faith to make this one world of friends and family under God! Aju! ❖



## PASTOR WANTED

The Family Church of Omaha, Nebraska is seeking a qualified blessed couple in good standing, with high English proficiency and demonstrable pastoral experience (especially in youth ministry), to lead our church. References will be required.

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For more information, call Eugene Curtin at (402) 201-2509



## UPF Character Education in Japan

Mr. Robert Beebe recently completed a trip to Tokyo, Japan, to present UPF's Character Education Initiative to a forum of Ambassadors for Peace on January 26 at the Hotel New Otani. Present at the forum were approximately 20 Ambassadors for Peace, including several professors, religious leaders, social workers and politicians. Mr. Katsumi Ohtsuka, president of UPF-Japan, opened the program with some words about the importance of character education and how countries around the world have been adopting such programs in response to mounting youth problems. This was followed by Mr. Beebe's PowerPoint presentation entitled "The Need for Character Education" in which he introduced UPF's character education curriculum, "Discovering the Real Me."

The topic at the UPF Forum was especially timely as the Japanese parliament (Diet) recently passed a reso-



lution calling for reform in its education system to promote more family values. In the discussion following Mr. Beebe's presentation, many at the forum expressed the opinion that UPF's curriculum should be presented to the Ministry of Education as a resource in the creation of a curriculum in the implementation of the new resolution.

Steps were taken in that direction through meetings with three members of the Diet's House of Representatives during the day before the evening UPF Forum. Mr. Beebe and Mr. Yoshio Watanabe, secretary general of the Federation for World Peace of Japan, met with

representatives from Diet. All three were very responsive to information about the UPF curriculum. They specifically asked for copies of the books for translation and offered to organize meetings with his contacts in the Ministry of Education to discuss the possibility of utilizing UPF's curriculum in the education reform package.

On the following day Mr. Beebe spoke to a group of teachers, presenting the "Discovering the Real Me" curriculum and going through the interactive methodology recommended in teaching the

material in the classroom. One art teacher also presented a service project he did with his junior high school students to remove graffiti in the neighborhood surrounding the school. A lively discussion followed in which the teachers explored ways they could promote character education in their schools.

Following this short seminar was an inaugural meeting of the Ambassadors for Peace Teachers' Forum. Through this forum they plan to outreach to their colleagues and other teachers throughout Japan. ❖



## RYS Builds Children's Playground in Thailand

by Delia Javanasundara, Project Director

UPF-Thailand together with the Foundation for Development and Peace and the International Cultural Educational Foundation were the main organizers of the Thailand-Cambodia Religious Youth Service Project 2006 which was held on December 14-28, 2006 under the theme "Building a Culture of Heart and Character through Service."

One of the objectives of this RYS was to encourage interreligious youth to develop a deeper understanding about their own religions and to encourage, promote and contribute to meaningful dialogue between young people who represent the religions of the world. On December 16, at



the Roundtable Discussion on "The Meaning of Volunteerism in my Own Faith", we invited 5 speakers from different faiths: Bahai Community, Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism and Islam.

The RYS project in Thailand was co-hosted by the Office of the Governor of Samut Prakarn. There were 17 government and private agencies involved for the preparation for the project and to welcome our participants. Another project

which is part of the RYS project in Thailand was the Clean-up Campaign co-hosted by the Regional Office of the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) in Asia

and the Pacific which was held on the morning of December 17. It was attended by 300 youth including RYS participants and local officials of Samut Prakarn. The Deputy Governor, Hon. Wannida Bonprakong came to welcome the RYS participants and the volunteers for cleaning up the Bangphu Seashore and also to treat the polluted water.

The construction work of the children's



playground and painting the old school building of Krong Bang Phu School were the centerpiece for everyone to come together. The local people, 15 students from Samut Prakarn Technical School, more than 20 high school students and 5 five students from Suan Kulab came as interpreters joined in to work together with the participants. Some local persons came with bread and juice to feed the participants and the local volunteers. The

Department of Health and the Police Patrol were there everyday at the worksite to look after the safety of the volunteers and RYS participants. We were not worried about the safety of the participants in the evening since we stayed at the army barracks.

It was really very effective to ask the local government and the community to be involved in the project. We were able to get free medical treat-

ment for two Australian participants: one had a food poisoning in Malaysia before coming to Thailand and the other had colds. Every time we leave the barracks, the police patrol always there to guide the bus. We were able to get half price for our accommodation, free entrance for our tour at the Crocodile farm and the Ancient City.

At the Closing Ceremony for the Thailand project in Samut Prakarn, the Mayor came to give his Congratulatory speech to thank the participants for giving their time, effort and money in the small school of Bangphu. The head teacher and head of the village were very grateful that because of the RYS, the local government built a bus stop station in front of the school, which they never had before RYS came. Dr. Suthin Nophaket, Commissioner of Human Rights in Thailand and UPF Committee member and Peace Ambassador gave the Closing Remarks on behalf of UPF-Thailand. On that evening, it was like a festival for the entire village. We sing, dance together even an 80 year old grandmother came up the stage and dance together with our participants. Grandmothers and mothers shed tears when our participants said goodbye to them. ❖



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# UTS Advances Interfaith Program With Visit by Local Muslims

by Chris Antal  
photos by Chung Hee Bessell

**O**n Friday February 2nd students, faculty and staff at Unification Theological Seminary (UTS) welcomed seven Muslim guests from Massachusetts and New Jersey to the Barrytown campus for a day of interfaith dialogue, common spiritual practice, and discussion on steps to develop UTS as a premier institution for inter-religious peace-building.

Participants from Massachusetts included Imam Rasul Seifullah, spiritual leader of the Al-Baqi Mosque in Springfield, Massachusetts, and his wife Medina; as well as Khalilah Karim Rushdan, Chaplain and Muslim Advisor at Smith College, and her husband Imam Dawud. Participants from New Jersey included Imam Dawud Assad, President Emeritus, Council of Mosques, USA; as well as Imam Ameer Salahudeen, Islamic Center of Passaic/Patterson and Co-Chair of the New Jersey Council of Imams, and his wife Zakiyyah. All of the Muslim participants are also Ambassadors for Peace (AP) with the Universal Peace Federation.

The day began with an address by Imam Sei-



fullah and a subsequent discussion on "Engaging Muslims in Inter-religious Peace-building: Towards Cooperation without Compromise." The dialogue was an honest and authentic discussion and covered such issues as carnality and claims that "God is a Parent", and God has a "lineage;" and the claim that Reverend Moon has been "anointed by God" and whether such a claim conflicts with the teaching in the Qur'an that Mohammed, peace be upon him, is the "Seal of the Prophets." Also a proposal was made that the Arabic equivalent of the Korean phrase Aju might be Mash'allah, meaning "whatever God wills has been done."

Following the breakfast, Gillian Corcoran, the Mother of the Labyrinth Ministry at UTS, lead the group through a labyrinth walk in the UTS chapel. Then the group met with five UTS professors for the first Advisory Council Meeting for the development of UTS as an inter-religious peace seminary.

To conclude the day, the Muslim guests traveled with UTS faculty and staff to the Friday prayer, (Jumu'ah) at a local mosque, the Masjid Alnoor in Wappingers Falls. After Jumu'ah, the APs and UTS faculty and staff met members of the Masjid Alnoor, including the resident Imam, the General

Secretary and the President of the Executive Committee, to discuss the ways in which UTS can serve the needs of the local Muslim community.

The program was held to commemorate Four Chaplains Day, which is honored on February 3rd across



America in order to preserve the legacy of "interfaith in action" as demonstrated in the heroic sacrifice of four military chaplains of different faiths who gave their lives on that day in 1943.

When their ship was struck by a torpedo, the four Chaplains were among the first on deck, calming the men and handing out life jackets. When they ran out, they took off their own and placed them on waiting soldiers without regard to faith or race. Approximately 18 minutes from the explosion, the ship went down. They were the last to be seen by witnesses; they were standing arm-in-arm on the hull of the ship, each praying in his own way for the care of the men. ❖

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### Part Time Admissions Office:

UTS is looking to hire a part-time person for the NYC Extension Center Admissions office. The Extension Center is looking for someone who is detail-oriented, has skills in filing, basic computer functions and can operate a database. This position will support the work of the Recruitment Officer by finalizing all documents for the new student as well as supporting the retention of our students through developing a good relationship with our

student body. The successful candidate will be able to demonstrate basic office skills, be able to complete detailed tasks, and be able to get along with a diverse student body.

### Part Time Administrative Assistant:

The Doctor of Ministry Degree Program at UTS is seeking to hire an energetic person who can take initiative to work part-time as an Administrative Assistant to the Program Director. The responsibilities of this person would be to support the key areas of admissions, recruitment, and program support. The successful candidate will be able to do such tasks as large mail outs utilizing a database, on-going communications with students, general office work, monitoring the phones and general record keeping. This person should be organized and be detail-oriented and be able to work alone.

*It is possible that, with the right candidate, the two part-time positions may be combined into one hire.*

Please send resume and 2 letters of reference to: Dr. Kathy Winings, c/o UTS, 481 8th Avenue, 9th Floor, NYC, NY 10001, IRFFint@aol.com. For full job description, please call Dr. Winings at: (212) 563-6647, ext. 104. Please indicate which position you are seeking to fill

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# HAPPY BIRTHDAY







# BIRTHDAY





## IN MEMORIAM

## Rev. Godwin M. D'Silva

January 2, 1958 to  
February 12, 2007

**G**odwin Macarius D'Silva was born on January 2, 1958, to George D'Silva and Christina Fernandez D'Silva in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. His parents, natives of India, had moved to Malaysia for his father's job. The oldest of six children, Godwin was soon followed by Lourette, Susan, Bernard, Annet and Cameila. Raised in the Roman Catholic faith, Godwin attended high school at Victoria Institution, a prestigious prep school and the oldest school in Kuala Lumpur. He won a scholarship to Oxford University where he majored in computer science and sought to understand the deeper meaning of life. In 1979, he met Ralph Latchman of the Unification Church. After studying the principles and deeply praying and mediating, he joined the church on September 16th and moved into the Oxford CARP Student Center where he lived for two years.

In 1980 Godwin came to the United States in order to serve as a missionary. Through participating on a mobile fundraising team and witnessing in Ohio and New York City, he came to deeply understand the challenges people faced both individually and collectively in their lives and made a deep commitment to working in America. In 1982, after working for Master Marine for a brief period, he brought his practical skills in finance to a job as an accountant with News World Communications in New York City.

It was while working at News World that he was blessed in Holy matrimony by the Rev. and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon on July 1, 1982 to his beautiful wife Darlene Antoinette Stewart. Their cross cultural marriage introduced Godwin to the soul food and soul music of Darlene's Detroit hometown and introduced Darlene to the richness of Godwin's South Asian heritage.

When News World opened a Spanish newspaper

division in 1984 in Los Angeles, Godwin was the natural choice to head up the accounting department. By 1987 he was serving as the general manager. Meanwhile, Godwin and Darlene began their family life in Alhambra. Godwin cherished the birth of his daughter Priya on July 4, 1987, and the birth of his son Urian on November 6, 1989. He was deeply moved by the opportunity to grow his heart not only as a



husband, son and brother, but as a father as well.

In 1993 Godwin returned to his deep calling to do religious and interfaith work and became the state leader of Southern California for the Unification Church, ultimately becoming the first vice regional director in 2000. With a desire to deepen his understanding and knowledge of not only Christianity but the world's great religious traditions, he entered the Unification Theological Seminary after finishing his B.S. at Regents College of the University of the State of New York. In 2003, he graduated from UTS with a Masters in Religious Education and returned to Los Angeles where he fulfilled the post of state leader of Southern California.

During his years as state leader, Godwin helped to start the Ocean Challenge Project in 1992 and has continued to serve as a board

member. He worked on The California Times; helped organize a National Parent's Day program for the City of Southgate;

and has organized and taken responsibility for numerous of church-related inter-religious, educational, community and social outreach programs. Multilingual in Spanish, Malay and Indian languages, his skills always proved valuable in Los Angeles.

In late 2004, Godwin discovered that he had colon cancer and began a variety of treatments embracing the best of what the East and West had to offer. One of the most effective treatments proved to be the faithful prayers of his mother combined with her home cooking. No matter how challenging his health, Godwin kept his spirit strong and continued to involve himself in the highest levels of providential work. He visited the Middle East with the peace initiative, helped organize the world tours of the Rev. and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon in India and Malaysia and continued to actively develop programs and relations with ambassadors for peace. One of his proudest moments was presenting the crown of India to Rev. and Mrs. Moon at the opening of the Chyeong Gyeong Palace.

Godwin passed away on February 12, 2007 at 1:23 a.m. at home surrounded by his beloved family and friends. He will always be remembered for his beautiful smile which reflected his deep heart of faith, love, loyalty and eternal curiosity about the people and the world around him.

He is survived by his beloved wife Darlene, his daughter Priya, and his son Urian and a huge loving family. That family includes his mother, Christina D'Silva and his siblings: sister Lourette and her husband Canute Magimay and their three children, Jeannelle, Jonathan Joseph and Jessica; sister Susan and her husband Sam Martin and their two children Lisa Marie and Liam; brother Bernard and his wife Allison and their four children, Alexandria, Dylan, Daniel and Jude; sister Annet and her husband Don O'Mara and two children, Kristen and Chelsea; and sister Cameila (Priya) and her husband Philji Johns and their daughters Georgina and Hanna. He is also survived by his mother-in-law, Quincy Stewart and his brother-in-law, Keith Stewart and family and his sister-in-law Deborah Stewart and her children Charmaine, Antonio, Junior, Le and Styron. ❖

## IN MEMORIAM

## Lloyd Anderson

**I** first met Lloyd Anderson the day I walked into the Baltimore Church in October 1976. He was sitting in a chair reading a book. He looked up and gave me a slight grin and looked down back into his book. Lloyd was an unusual man in the truest sense of the word. He was uniquely different from the rest of the members. He was very outspoken, a bit arrogant and unafraid to challenge anyone.

Lloyd was very intelligent and he captured my attention and respect from the very beginning. We fundraised together, witnessed together and went to our Home Church area together. As an elderly man Lloyd worked surprisingly hard. He went out in the rain, snow, sleet and the heat. He was thoroughly dedicated to all aspects of Church life. There was nothing that he wouldn't do (sometimes with complaint?).

I remember one morning going to the kitchen for breakfast and Lloyd was in there making batter for biscuits. He made

the biscuits and the members sat down to eat breakfast, we tasted the biscuits and quietly looked at each other and then neatly took the biscuit from our mouths. Then we all laughed with Lloyd in unison. This was the beginning of Lloyd's great cooking career.

As we all knew in the Baltimore Church, Lloyd cooked many great delicious meals. He then went on to become the cook at UTS. It was at UTS in 1982 that I spent another 2 years working with Lloyd. He was always a delight to see everyday. Lloyd was a great man. In his quietness and lonely moments he was always thinking about God's providence and doing the will of True Parents through his God given talent, preparing sustenance for the physical development and well being of Heaven's Elite Leaders- the thousands of UTS students and grads.

God Bless You Lloyd Anderson My Dearly Beloved Brother!

Chaplain Daryl M. Clarke ❖

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**PAUL  
CARLSON**

Mr. Carlson is involved with marine aspects of the Providence in the Bay Area

These columns have been fairly mild of late, so it's time we tackle some hot issues. In order to wrap it up properly, this one is longer than usual. Certain rumors and misunderstandings still plague our movement, through a handful of professional "negos," a coterie of leftist bloggers, and a mainstream media that often sympathizes with them.

#### DECEPTION?

Heavenly Deception, or "doing evil in the cause of good," is perhaps the most common accusation we've faced. Was it ever real? For evidence, 'nego' activists will point to one sentence, in a 1972 speech in the Master Speaks collection. It contains the phrase "tell a lie."

That's one single line, out of at least a million sentences in print! In 1972, Bo Hi Pak had been on the job for about a year, and has since apologized for his poor translations. Also, the English transcription was not rigorous. (Later on, my mother Serenity Carlson standardized that whole system.)

Concerning those early speeches, the very use of the word 'Master' points to a culture clash. Martial arts students used to say Master as well, but now they use Sensei instead. Same traditional meaning, but it's easier on American ears.

In regard to the concept of deception, my wife Fujiko has pointed out some older talks in which True Father said things like, "Satan tricked humanity, and now it's time for God's people to trick him back, and regain everything." This makes plenty of sense within Asian cultures (from Iraq to Korea and Japan), but it's almost impossible for an American listener to \*not\* misunderstand.

Remember James Clavell's "Shogun," the hit novel and miniseries? In describing the newly-encountered Japanese, Rodrigues tells Blackthorne, "They are six faced and three hearted."

Your author is reminded of a famous cartoon. It depicts two Lenape Indians selling Manhattan to a Dutchman. One Indian asks the other, "Is \$24 worth of trinkets a good deal?" His companion replies, "Don't worry. When we get our casinos running, we'll take it all back."

Note: I am sure that westernized Asian activists will take offense at the above. If they are for genuine multiculturalism, then don't parade the 'good' stuff and keep the rest hidden. Every culture has positive and nasty aspects.

Then where did that notorious phrase originate? Author Chris Elkins implies that he coined it. (He certainly popularized it with his 1980 book.) A recent blog entry on a 'negative' web site states:

"I was involved with the Unification Church for three years and later wrote a book, "Heavenly Deception" which also became a movie of the same title. While all of this has now been 25+ years ago I have continued to watch the Unification Church over the years. While heavenly deception was never a taught tenet of their faith, it was at very least implied in how they measured results, particularly fund raising."

<http://christianblogs.christianet.com/cgi-bin/christianblogs.cgi?q=1165954470&mode=viewmember&name=Chris>

# PERSECUTION

Elkins describes some alleged overzealousness, displays a sour-grapes personal attitude, and makes factually incorrect assertions.

#### FUNDRAISING

A related quandary arose in 1972 with the Belvedere Project, our very first American fundraising drive. At first, True Father floated the idea of purchasing a surplus battleship, to sail around the world, witnessing at every port. One member pointed out the difficulty of explaining such a thing to potential donors. Father reportedly answered, "Tell them whatever you want." It was a display of trust and a call for resolve, not an injunction to deceive.

The American UC had few charitable activities at that early stage. In retrospect, purchasing the Belvedere Estate was a better use of those funds. Charities were soon launched, and these days I could go on for an hour, describing the wonderful projects I've helped with.

Years ago, at a major airport, I met a young woman with an ISKON membership badge. She was fundraising, and told me, "I'm a moonie." Seemed an odd thing for a Hare Krishna to say. If they hoped to deflect persecution, it probably did—but they forgot an important spiritual law. Too bad . . .

I recently saw the movie "The Astronaut Farmer." Great film, and it mentions moonies. I was grateful to note that, after 25 years, Hollywood has finally stopped getting us confused with the Hare Krishnas.

#### BRAINWASHING?

The concept of brainwashing is a strange and flexible one. The 1962 film "The Manchurian Candidate" brought it to public attention, and since then it's been applied to a wide number of situations. The basic idea is much older, as seen in widespread Apostate Horror Stories. Exploitation, nakedness, and horned humans have been "seen" at Catholic nunneries, inside Mormon Temples, and before that, with medieval Jews. None of it was true then, and it's not true now.

The 'modern' brainwashing process is said to involve grueling work and study, badgering by leaders, and an ongoing lack of sleep. Hmm—are we talking about a UC workshop or Donald Trump's "The Apprentice" TV show? Perhaps some MIT students or resident physicians? Not to mention, any military boot camp on this planet.

In the 1970s such accusations spread quickly. Many religions were said to be brainwashers, then various political and other organized groups, and finally, subcultures such as lesbianism. (By that ludicrous and tragic stage, deprogrammers were ending up in prison.)

The tales became lurid. In Austin, Texas (in 1976) I saw a full page newspaper interview with a deprogrammed ex-UC member. Claimed he'd been taught to use his gaze to directly affect the brain waves of people he approached. This caused them to fork over money, if not follow him straight back to the church center. While reading this, I could only imagine the wistful envy of a thousand insurance salesmen . . .

#### SEX?

Decades ago, Park Chong-hwa's "Six Marias" book was much ballyhooed among Korean and Japanese Christians. This had echoes in the USA, but later the book was repudiated by its author.

Were there actual sex rites? I personally know several elder Korean sisters; people who would've been in the thick of such activities. If there had been a lecherous young leader and some naïve groupies, from whence did all these noble, wise, faithful women emerge? In reality, a pure tree has borne Godly



fruits.

Apparently, one Korean spiritualist group did take the Bible quote about "being naked and unashamed" a bit too far, in hopes of restoring humanity to Eden. This was not a sexual activity, and anyhow it was not the UC. (These days, that particular mantle is worn—or is that not worn?—by Naturist groups.)

Eight years ago, the ugly divorce of Hyo Jin and Nan Sook made headlines. Painful allegations became public, and most were acknowledged as true, with serious consequences for all concerned. Things have quieted down on that front, and those hurt in the fray continue rebuild their lives.

Why the mess? I've heard first-person accounts of Hyo Jin's childhood. How he was taunted in Tarrytown's schools, and chose a Bart Simpson-ish way to gain favor among his classmates. In cartoons, such hijinks are always cleaned up within 30 minutes, but in real life this might take 30 years, and there are no guarantees . . .

In history, spoiled VIP offspring are a dime a dozen, but Americans hold a religious leader's kids to an unblinking high standard. One hopes that our Unificationist PKs will follow the course of the Rev. Franklin Graham, in regaining their sobriety and personal faith.

Most of the True Children, and recently the older True Grandchildren, have stepped up to the providential plate. They've taken on serious responsibilities, and given talks all over the world, like during our recent speech campaigns.

#### MOTIVES

Why do people make such nasty accusations? Why do Apostate Horror Stories resemble each other across so many nations and centuries? Several reasons.

All humans have the same fallen nature, and basic temptations. Hence, by simple projection, accusers will envision their declared opponents doing the same nasty things they might do. In the event, personal rivalry can blossom into careers

built upon loud opposition.

Unfortunately, not all the horror stories were imaginary. There have been harmful religious movements. Some, like Jonestown, mostly destroyed themselves. Others, such as China's 19th century Taiping Rebellion, brought about massive slaughter. The sad truth is, no major world religion is free of such taints.

Why do people feel inclined to 'cover up' actual problems?

Everyone wants to avoid embarrassment, and put the best possible light on themselves and their affiliates. Unificationists have this tendency in spades.

That USA-Asian culture clash may have amplified things. In olden times, the Emperor of China was the axis of the Confucian cultural sphere. In pinyin his title was Huángdì, or roughly, God/Sage King. His residence in Beijing is still known as the Forbidden City. The lower classes weren't allowed to gaze upon its precincts. For that matter, an inconsiderate remark aimed at the Emperor could earn the death penalty.

For Korean and Japanese Unificationists, steeped in Confucian culture, who fills the role of Emperor? Where is the Forbidden City of his overseas residence? As the reader can imagine, their determination to cover up any goings-on at East Garden must've been powerful.

In America that kind of respectful secrecy is unpopular, and doomed to fail. That's not a bad thing. The USA has long been called a 'melting pot,' and Father deemed us the Elder Son nation. From now on, it's up to us to harmonize those clashing cultural sensibilities.

There are a hundred good stories for every painful one. Look at Bayou la Batre, in Alabama. There, a small group of Unificationists took over an old boat building facility, and established an industrial complex. The locals, primed by vicious 'nego' reports, reacted with hostility.

Lucky it was not a century earlier, or policies and lawsuits might've been overrun by pitchforks and torches. (Just ask any Mormon about Kirkland or Nauvoo.)

Now we've gone from feared intruder to City Council and High School valedictorian. From shunned minority to leaders of a private school that welcomes students from all backgrounds. Following Hurricane Katrina, local folks pitched in to get those industries going again, and right away.

Similar experiences have been repeated all over the country. Our Bay Area Family Church has excellent relations with the local community.

Remember, popularity will draw many people, including the insincere. Later on, that much influence will attract the selfishly ambitious. We can have a great effect on society—more than we already have—but our standards of purity must be maintained.

I was very impressed by Rev. Shanker's new lecture about forgiveness, and the several ways in which people regard it. He speaks about how people tend to 'coast' on the expectation of forgiveness. It's true that God will never forsake us, but we can all too easily prolong the hellish suffering of ourselves and humanity. We mustn't be lax in repenting, and in living principled lives. We can set a loving example for our own children and for new converts. Then those nasty accusations will never again find a toehold in reality. ♦



## THE NEW VOICES OF OUR GENERATION

### Congrats Sara & Megan! Gold and Silver



Sara Crry (left) & Megan Dickson (Right)

congratulations - Way to Go To Our Next Generation - You make True Parents Proud !

Megan Dickson and Sarah Curry from Beaverton H.S. in Oregon are gold medal national champions in HS racquetball!

Megan took the Gold medal in Mixed Doubles - Division 1, Silver in Girls Doubles (Division 1) and 4th place in Girls Individuals (Division 1). Megan was also named a Girls HS Racquetball All-American. Megan is the daughter of John and Louise Dickson of Beaverton, OR.

Sara took the Gold medal in Girls Doubles - Division 2, plus the Gold medal in both Mixed Doubles and Girls Singles in Division 3. Sara is the daughter of Wayne and Toni Lee Curry of Beaverton, OR.

Their school - Beaverton HS - also took first place team honors, and so is the overall HS Racquetball National Champion. Congratulations!!!

Below - Megan with her coach and the school's national champion trophy



## So, Here's What I Thought of...

Here are the responses from our readers for the article, "Empower Them and They Will Build It, from our march 2007 issue of Unification News.

From a sister in her twenties living in the Metropolitan Area

I just think our whole system is WAY off point and that's why our movement is dying. We are SO exclusive! We say things like "we want to build a nation" when we have no idea how to interact with the nation around us. Do any of the people who participated in this article know what's going on in the nation right now? Drug abuse? Casual alcoholism? Unhappiness?

Yes, everyone can SAY that in "the outside world" people are seeking these sort of short term methods of twisting perception so a victim doesn't have to deal with the anxiety of time, but have any of these church members (bcs) actually seen it, up close, face-to-face?

Right now I am sitting in my room. 20 feet from me my brother is sitting by himself, alone, in his room, hallucinating. I can analyze his situation and see that the root of his abuse is a hole in his heart. I mean, he certainly has to take responsibility for his actions as does my family, but as a "church community" I can't say I'd find any help from my local community because people don't seem to understand the extreme nature of my

brother's situation. They don't seem to understand the reality of EVIL, even though this is what they say they fight. No one in our "CHURCH" "MOVEMENT" knows how to deal with this!

But this is the reality of our world!

If we're a "movement", we need to be able to "move" people; we need to be able to understand people and connect why they do the things they do with a spiritual and psychological solution.

How much hoon Dok Hae has everyone read? What do you think the purpose of Hoon Dok Hae is? We're supposed to be learning from this, Not becoming mindless pawns! If we stop saying "let's get to the point where we look forward to going to church, we look forward to going to another speech, we look forward to going witnessing, etc.," I think we'd be that much closer to the ideal of Cheon Il Guk. We have to stop lowering our standards of desire to these whims of "looking forward" to the short-term, near-sighted bits and pieces that don't connect to a long-term vision that we can "look forward" to.

Life isn't about speeches, or going to church. It's about aligning your mind with the principles of the universe and being able to BE happy and pursue your passions and all those wonderful things! The only reason we have to go to church is because people are spiritually, emotionally, and mentally retarded.

We need to stop hole-ing ourselves up in this exclusive community, stop being AFRAID of the world and get out there and realize that even though other people are not "BCs", many non-church people have amazing and intelligent minds and you can learn from them and work with them.

You know, you don't witness by going around handing out surveys. That's so impersonal, and people feel used. You witness through your actions, your example. There's a whole big messy world out there. What we need to learn to do is navigate through it.

I support things that are for a good cause I just don't think our movement understands the world, and we try to shelter ourselves from it, and that's why it's dying.

I think we need to get rid of the concept of "the outside world" because it's totally made up. We're LIVING in the outside world. And we can't pretend we don't.

Anyway, yes, I'm not bashing anyone. I'm actually a very positive person. I'm just exasperated because I don't want to be a part of something that gives people a false perception of reality it often feels like that's what we are creating with these terms we use. Plus, we DO and CAN create our own reality. Anyway, this is a bigger discussion and probably needs more structure. peace. ❖

### 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](mailto: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.

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## THE NEW VOICES OF OUR GENERATION

# One Good Year; A Look at Short-Term Homeschooling



by Laura Brodie

My ten-year-old daughter, Julia, was never a good fit in the public schools. Her teachers described Julia as a "very creative child," with strong emotions, obsessive interests, and little patience for group activities and social norms. In the classroom, she sat with a book perched on her knees, sneaking dragon stories under her desk and missing the teacher's instructions. On the playground, she avoided the girls' cliques and boys' noisy games, and sat alone in the shade digging for fossils. Every day she came home with another large rock.

By third grade, Julia was complaining of being burned out on her elementary school routine. The mixture of boredom and anxiety, weekly tests, increasing homework, rote memorization for standardized exams--all had left her knee-deep in a puddle of misery, and I, as a parent, shared in that swamp. Nevertheless, I encouraged her to tough it out. Most children had their own classroom complaints, and our elementary school, with its small-town community, seventeen-to-one student-teacher ratio, acres of green fields, and generally caring and intelligent teachers, was, by national standards, idyllic.

But as the year went by and the complaints increased, I sympathized more and more with Julia's plight, partly because of my own memories of public school drudgery, and partly because, as a professor of English, I understand the need for sabbaticals. If adults benefit from intellectual rejuvenation, then why not children? Why shouldn't a child have time off to pursue her own research and writing?

The breaking point came during Julia's fourth grade year, when I lost her for an hour. She had been sitting at home on our living room carpet, pressing tiny Legos into colorful dragon bodies, and so I was surprised to get no reply when I called her name from the kitchen. For the next half hour I searched the house, the yard, the shaded recesses of our backyard creek. I scanned the surrounding pastures for the silhouette of a wandering child, then telephoned our neighbors. They had

not seen Julia. They would call if she dropped by.

Assuring myself that a fourth-grader was old enough to wander alone, I stretched out on my bed and tried to concentrate on a novel. After twenty minutes I heard a rustling noise in my closet, and I opened the shuttered doors to find my sheepish daughter, crouched on a pile of old shoeboxes.

"Didn't you hear me calling?"

Yes, she nodded.

"Why have you been hiding there?"

"I heard you say that it was time for me to do my homework."

Every child has a misery quotient, the line at which mere whining turns into real unhappiness. Some children are born miserable, their glass always half empty; others are made miserable by the adult world. And when it comes to squashing a child's joy, there's nothing like homework. In Julia's mind, homework was the shadow haunting every day--the shapeless dread that grew larger with each passing year.

I sympathized with her aversion. Today's public schools seem to have responded to the endless cry for *achievement!* by adding more worksheets to the homework pile. Math worksheets, grammar worksheets, bland spelling exercises. I wouldn't mind so much if the work seemed more valuable--if Julia was asked to perform a fun science experiment, or to walk outside and compose a poem about the sounds in her yard. What rankles is the monotony of colorless paper, the columns of equations and fill-in-the-blank history.

As it turned out, Julia's homework was minimal that afternoon. Once she climbed out of the closet and sat down in front of her books, the whole ordeal took barely ten minutes. She had spent an hour hiding to avoid ten minutes of schoolwork, and the thought of that warped equation broke my heart. It confirmed what I had been thinking for the past year--that my daughter needed a break, an escape, some air. Julia needed something to quell her growing misery.

My mind did not turn naturally toward homeschooling. I had always thought of it as a drastic measure. Homeschooling was for Mormons, for Bible-thumping Baptists, for children with disabilities, mental or physical, and for families who lived off the grid with solar heat and composting toilets. Homeschooling was a little bit weird. But in the chameleonic world of modern parenthood, we mothers must constantly change colors to meet our children's needs. We become accomplished fundraisers when our preschools need a fruit sale chair. We

take up the violin when the Suzuki method calls for parent-child lessons. And when my daughter decided that she would rather hide in a closet for an hour than complete ten minutes of homework, I knew that it was time for me to become a schoolteacher, if only for a little while.

I told Julia that for one year we could try something different. Starting next September we could stay at home and follow a curriculum that combined her unique interests with the public schools' idea of fifth grade essentials. She could study dinosaurs and dragons, as well as American history. She could learn some conversational French with her fluent father (on the afternoons when I taught part-time), and her daily violin practice could take place during school hours, rather than cramming it into her after-school schedule. Above all, we could plan field trips to Washington, Williamsburg and Jamestown, to art museums and science fairs and bookstores and concerts. I had only one caveat, stemming from my years of teaching freshman composition. Whatever Julia studied, I wanted her to write about it.

Of the three traditional "R's" in elementary education, writing is the component most often neglected. It's a time-consuming enterprise, overlooked by many teachers who feel burdened with the exigencies of test preparation. Having no such burdens myself, I knew that if I was going to homeschool my daughter, I wanted her to compose essays and short stories and science reports, to write drafts and polish revisions, and keep the best of it in a portfolio.

Julia seemed willing enough when I described my plan. Lured by the promise that her only daily homework would be to write a page in a journal and read for an hour--something she did habitually--she agreed to my terms. And so from April to August of 2005 I gave myself a crash course in homeschooling.

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It turns out that homeschooling is one of the fastest-growing trends in American education. According to the National Center for Education Statistics (part of the U. S. Department of Education), in 2003, 1.1 million children were being homeschooled in the United States--about 2.2 percent of America's school-age population. Brian Ray, founder of the National Home Education Research Institute, places the total higher--somewhere between 1.7 and 2 million. Most experts agree that the number of homeschoolers seems to be expanding at a rate of about 7 to 10 percent per year.

It's impossible to describe a "typical" homeschooled student in America, though the 2003

government study provides a rough profile. Overall, white children in America appear about twice as likely to be home taught as their black peers, and four times more likely than Hispanic children. Most homeschoolers come from two-parent families where only one parent works full-time. Households with one or two children seem equally drawn to homeschooling, but in families with three or more kids the odds of full-time home education double. Families with an annual income of more than \$75,000 are less likely to homeschool, and rural homeschoolers outnumber their urban counterparts ("urban" being defined as 50,000 people or more). Finally, the South is the U. S. region with the most homeschoolers--the Northeast has the fewest. (Northeastern states also tend to have the most strict home education requirements, with more detailed specifications for curriculum and testing.)

These statistics, however, are sketchy at best. According to Neal McCluskey, an education policy analyst at the Cato Institute in Washington, D.C., who specializes in school choice, "You can't get systematic data on homeschooling because most homeschoolers want to be left alone." In other words, parents who shun government education also tend to avoid government tracking. The one thing McCluskey asserts with confidence is that homeschooling is "definitely expanding," and this expansion has taken it well beyond its traditional base.

When homeschooling first emerged as a populist movement in the 1970s, it was spearheaded by two groups: Christian conservatives who favored Bible-based teaching and who deplored what they saw as a lack of moral values in America's secular schools; and a more free-form crowd, alternately called "liberal" or "libertarian," who chafed against the constraints of institutionalized education and sought more "organic," child-based forms of education. New York University professor Mitchell Stevens, in his book *Kingdom of Children*, explains how the Christians, with their tight social networks and strong organizational skills, surpassed the loosely based libertarians to become the predominant strain in American homeschooling. That's why today, when the word "homeschooling" comes up in conversation, many Americans envision a fundamentalist Christian mom sitting at her kitchen table teaching creationism alongside algebra.

But over the past decade that stereotype has been fading. In the Department of Education's 2003 study, less than half of the

see **Good Year** on page 20



## THE NEW VOICES OF OUR GENERATION



### Good Year from page 19

respondents cited religious motivations as their chief reason for homeschooling. (It might be one reason, but not the primary focus.) Instead, concerns over safety, drugs, and peer pressure topped the list. In addition, the study found more parents turning to homeschooling for purely academic reasons. As Neal McCluskey explains, "There's a rise in people who want their children to learn more, faster and better."

This expansion of home education doesn't mean that Christian conservatives are taking a back seat. They remain the most solid, well-organized block in the homeschool world, and the new faces in the crowd--me included--who have turned to home education without any religious or philosophical compulsion, owe a debt of gratitude to the early pioneers who suffered jail time and substantial fines to blaze the homeschooling trail. Because of those groundbreaking efforts, home education is now legal nationwide, with fifteen states funding and supporting cyberschools, where homeschooled children can take courses with online instructors. California has even opened brick-and-mortar charter schools specifically designed to support homeschooling families, with teachers who provide enrichment classes, textbooks and videos, counseling and administrative aids.

Many homeschool traditionalists deplore these new developments as the U. S. government's backdoor method of getting its bureaucratic tentacles back into their homes. For them, real homeschooling means that the parent is the teacher, not some intangible cyberinstructor with fifty students on her roster. Nevertheless, these new public initiatives show the legitimacy that home education has gained across America, and with this growing legitimacy comes an increased confidence and curiosity among so-called "mainstream" parents who are seeking educational options for their children.

That's where short-term homeschooling comes in. The expansion of home education among America's mainstream has made it a viable alternative for parents who are dealing with short-term problems. These problems might range from a bad principal to a persistent bully to a homework-phobic child hiding in a closet. Whatever the motivation, more and more parents are deciding that, when faced with problems at school, they don't have to stick it out, or pay a fortune for a private academy. Instead, they can take a "do it yourself" approach to their children's educations, teaching their kids at home for a limited time, with the intent of returning to the public (or private) schools at a not-so-distant date.

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There are no statistics on how many parents have tried short-term homeschooling. The Department of

Education does recognize "part-time homeschoolers"--students who spend less than twenty-five hours per week in school, and devote the rest of the day to learning at home. In 2003, eighteen percent of all homeschoolers fit the part-time mold. (Although guidelines vary across school districts, homeschoolers have the legal right to insist on access to some public classes. Even as I write this, a local friend has just embarked upon part-time home

reported receiving a gazillion phone calls after Columbine from parents who wanted information about homeschooling. No doubt some switched over but then switched back after the shock wore off."

In her book, published in 2000, Lyman writes about a Massachusetts widow with a home business who removed her youngest son from

middle school, homeschooling would be mandatory.

Short-term homeschooling also has a special appeal for families on the move. Kelly, a Georgia mom who also frequents the About:homeschool site, explained that she homeschooled for a year when, in the midst of relocating, her family lived in a neighborhood with a weak school system. Once the move was complete, her son was back in the public schools. "I do not regret my decision to homeschool," she says. "I would do it again if needed. I also do not regret putting him in this particular school and teacher. She is great and does a superb job with my son." Kelly described short-term home education as a valid choice, since many families today are transient.

Finally, there are the mothers who simply want more time with their children, or vice versa--the children are asking for more time with Mom. In the same year that Julia and I were playing geography games on our living room floor, at the opposite end of our county Christi and her ten-year-old daughter, Susan, were sitting at their kitchen table doing art projects. They, too, had entered homeschooling on the one-year plan, at Susan's request. Although Christi was initially inclined to refuse, in the end she thought, "You know, they grow up so fast." Meanwhile, Rebecca, three miles away, was reviewing multiplication tables with her fourth grade daughter, who also had asked to stay home for one year.

I often wonder if short-term homeschooling has a particular appeal for mothers and daughters. Most of my acquaintances who have tried it describe a need for "special time" with their girls. Of course my musings on this topic are wholly unscientific. The Department of Education's homeschooling statistics show that girls and boys are almost equally likely to be homeschooled full-time, and since there are no studies on short-termers, I can't say how their numbers break down by gender. It may be mere coincidence that among the twelve mothers who shared their stories for this article, seven were homeschooling a daughter, usually in response to their girl's emotional needs. "I really got to know my daughter," explained June from Alexandria, Virginia, a mother whom I located through the Virginia Organization of Homeschoolers. Homeschooling allowed June and to have long bedtime conversations with her eighth grader, rather than trying to finish homework and hurry to get minimal amounts of sleep. "We are so much closer now," added Sarah, my local acquaintance, who loved her months with her middle-school daughter, but would never do it again. "I'm not cut out for teaching."

And therein lies one of the greatest challenges behind short-term homeschooling: How can you do it well, when most parents have no

see **Good Year** on page 21



"Other parents see the perils of middle school as a driving impetus for home education, especially for young girls facing the sort of nasty peer pressures documented in books such as *Queen Bees and Wannabees* and *Odd Girl Out*."

education. Her eighth grade son takes band, geography and algebra in the public system, while she teaches--or arranges for private tutors--in English, science and music.)

Short-term homeschoolers, however, remain well beneath the radars of both the U. S. government and most homeschooling organizations. *The National Home Education Research Institute* (one of the biggest clearinghouses for homeschooling data), draws a blank when it comes to data on short-termers, as do the folks at the Home Education Association of Virginia. "Sorry, that's not part of our mission," the receptionist said when I called their offices for information. Nevertheless, if you ask homeschooling advocates, authors and parents if they know of short-term-homeschoolers nationwide, the anecdotes come pouring out.

Isabel Lyman, author of *The Homeschooling Revolution*, has met with several short-term home educators. "I've talked with parents whose child had a personality conflict with a particular teacher, or who had to face bullies, as reasons for short-term homeschooling," she explained to me in a recent online interview. "Also medical issues or an accident or a school violence incident can drive families to this choice for a brief time. Colorado homeschool advocates

elementary school for a couple of years when she became turned off by the school administration's politically correct style. The boy apparently thrived, but he returned to the conventional system once middle school began, when a new cast of administrators was in his life.

Other parents see the perils of middle school as a driving impetus for home education, especially for young girls facing the sort of nasty peer pressures documented in books such as *Queen Bees and Wannabees* and *Odd Girl Out*. Sarah, a mother in my own corner of southwest Virginia, removed her daughter mid-year from the seventh grade when the viciousness of her child's pre-teen peers began to wear visibly on the girl's psyche. "She was awake at midnight, crying," Sarah recalls. By eighth grade the problems had smoothed over, and mother and daughter were back to their normal routines at work and school. Another mom in South Carolina, whose story I encountered after posting a query on the About:homeschool forum, withdrew her daughter from middle school after the girl repeatedly came home with injuries, including marks on her neck from a choking incident. That parent informed her other children that they could stay in the public schools for their elementary and high school years if they wished, but when it came to



# THE NEW VOICES OF OUR GENERATION



**Good Year from page 20**

professional training as educators and must try to go from zero to sixty in a matter of weeks? A mother may be the expert on her own child (and I stress mothers because women are the primary home educators nationwide, especially married women who aren't employed full time), but most moms have no expertise in sifting through curriculums and pedagogical methods. Long-term homeschoolers have years to hone their craft, plenty of time to make mistakes and plot course corrections. But short-term home educators--in particular those who view the experience as an opportunity for enrichment, an educational bonus, not just a stop-gap measure--need to catch on fast if they want to make the most of their brief time. "I imagine that, as in any new endeavor, there's a learning curve," says the Cato Institute's Neal McCluskey. A parent can spend much of her first year "just trying to figure out how best to do it." That was precisely the case for June, whose experimentation with teaching methods lasted well into the school year: "I was still trying to figure out our homeschool style (Charlotte Mason? Unschool? Classical?) when my husband declared, "You have six months left! Pick one and be done!"

As I discovered during my own sharp learning curve, there aren't many resources to guide the short-term crowd. A basic Internet search yields a wealth of sample curriculums, how-to guides, and book-length pep talks, all designed to help novice homeschoolers get started. But most of these are written by authors with an all-or-nothing approach--parents who have removed all of their children from the public schools, or who never tried those

schools in the first place, and who often have negative attitudes toward public education, ranging from mildly dismissive to openly nasty. None of these authors consider the pros and cons of supplemental homeschooling, i.e., how to build on the public schools' foundation, to give a child one good year.

Some folks might question whether separate advice is needed for short-term homeschoolers. "Supplemental homeschooling isn't all that different from the regular deal," one Internet correspondent told me. "All the usual books apply." But that's not quite true. While the homeschooling books on today's shelves are a crucial starting point for any curious parent, in their philosophies, their curriculums, and their pedagogical methods they often offer advice that doesn't apply to one-year dabblers.

Take, for instance, *The Well-Trained Mind*, one of the most impressive homeschooling guides available, written in 1999 by the mother-daughter team, Jessie Wise and Susan Wise Bauer. These women advocate a classical education in which global history is the guiding principle, with literary masterpieces and scientific discoveries taught in a historical chronology. In this model, the first through twelfth grades are divided into three repetitions of a four-year pattern: the ancients (5000 bc to ad 400), medieval through early Renaissance (400 to 1600), late Renaissance through early modern times (1600 to 1850), and modern times (1850 to present). Grade school children study each time period at a simple level; fifth through eighth graders delve into the same subjects with increasing complexity, and by high school, students should be reading original sources in translation.

It's an ambitious agenda, and not without flaws; the authors often slight

children's creativity, and they minimize the importance of music and art and the need for play. Still, reading *The Well-Trained Mind* provides an education in itself, and offers an ideal vision of human intellectual potential. For me, however, the book was also a major guilt trip. It reminded me of how, in our imperfect worlds, we mothers are constantly falling short. The best I could hope for Julia was that, by year's end, she would have read some children's versions of *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey*.

At the other end of the spectrum stand the advocates of "child-centered education," who let the curriculum follow each child's interests (an approach which, in its loosest variety, takes the form of pure unschooling). David Guterson's *Family Matters: Why Homeschooling Makes Sense* (1992) offers beautiful descriptions of how he nurtured his sons' curiosity about salmon: "Feeding the salmon fry, weekly, at a nearby holding pond, and measuring their growth and development, graphing changes in water temperature and flow, examining eggs, weighing out feed." Not to mention the days they spent "visiting the Elwha River hatchery, the fish ladders at the Rocky Reach dam, the Science Center Display on the Nootka people."

It all sounds wonderful--extended field trips and hands-on learning and long, winding conversations. These are the freedoms that homeschooling allows, whether short-term or long. But unschooling in its freest form doesn't appeal when re-entry into the public system hovers in the near future. At a minimum, short-term home educators must ensure that their children do not fall behind the public benchmarks in math and English, as well as any foreign language track where the child wants to keep up with her peers. Even in the Guterson household, his wife insisted that their nine-year-old spend a few hours every morning at the kitchen table with her, practicing math and writing.

Short-term homeschoolers usually remain tethered to their school systems' educational priorities. "That's the biggest difference between short-term and full-time homeschooling," explained Rebecca, who chose to stick closely to her elementary school's curriculum when teaching her fourth grader. Rebecca was content with Virginia's Standards of Learning (SOL) model, and wanted to be sure that her daughter didn't miss anything.

Other parents start out with

their school's objectives in mind, but leave them behind as mother and child gain their own footing. So it was for Sarah, hunkered down with her seventh-grader at the other end of our town. They began in January with a stack of heavy textbooks, planning to follow the middle school assignments which were posted daily on the Internet. But civics was never meant to be learned from a book, and neither were half of the other school subjects. For Sarah, the greatest "Aha!" moments came when she set aside the texts and followed her daughter's budding culinary passion. Lessons in Mediterranean cooking expanded into explorations of geography and history.

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My own plan was to use the public curriculum as a foothold, and try to climb the fifth grade mountain from there. Math provided a typical example. I was surprised that my ten-year-old had never encountered Roman numerals. Nor did she have any concept of where "Arabic" numerals came from, or the history of zero (why didn't the Romans use it?). So I wanted to back up and look at the history of counting and examine early Mayan and Egyptian numbers before we continued with the public agenda of fractions and decimals and long division.

The same was true with social studies. Julia was bored with her school's heavy focus on American history. She wanted to study the Maya, Aztecs and Incas. She also loved natural history, especially dinosaurs--a topic our school had removed from its first grade curriculum, since dinosaurs are not included in the Virginia first grade Standard of Learning topics. And so we tried to do it all, beginning with the Big Bang (and a brief nod to creationism) followed by an overview of the planet's development and the evolution of successive life forms through multiple ice ages. We leaped from *homo habilis* to the Maya, then in January spent a month on Native Americans before we ever reached Columbus. In the end we squashed the usual fifth grade history curriculum into three months, and spiced up the SOL basics with more provocative women, like Anne Hutchinson. "That's ambitious," one homeschooling mom laughed when I described our course. In other words: "That's too much."

The danger of trying to balance a public curriculum with personal interests is that you can fall into a game of "Anything you can do, I can do better." If the public school fifth graders are adding and subtracting fractions, then your child should be multiplying and dividing them. If they are studying place value through the billions, you should consider trillions and quadrillions. This is not as difficult as it sounds, since the public school day includes an enormous amount of repetition

see **Good Year** on page 22





## THE NEW VOICES OF OUR GENERATION



### Good Year from page 21

and wasted time. But keeping tabs on your local school produces paranoia. Is my child missing something essential? Will she fail her first sixth grade math test because I overlooked a key concept?

Trips to the local bookstore can further feed the short-term homeschooler's paranoia. In my town's cozy cat-inhabited store, with its children's section twice as large as that at any Barnes and Noble, Julia and I spent wonderful hours soaking in the new titles. And yet, whenever I passed the Education shelf, my stomach lurched. There was E. D. Hirsch, perched atop his hill of Cultural Literacy, expounding on *What Your Fifth Grader Needs to Know*. Julia hadn't been exposed to most of Hirsch's third grade essentials, which included Constantine and the Byzantine Empire, and scientists like Charles Babbage, Ada Lovelace and Elijah McCoy. Even I, with my Ph.D., didn't know half the stuff.

Equally intimidating were the displays of *Summer Bridge Activities*--those big paperback reams of worksheets, designed to keep your child grinding away over the summer months. The fifth grade book placed a major emphasis on human anatomy, which convinced me that Julia was missing something essential. So she and I spent two futile weeks learning the names of all the bones in the human skeleton. (The metacarpals are connected to the...phalanges).

So much to learn, so little time. Full-time home educators have the luxury of years upon years spreading out before them: "If we don't get to the Maya this spring, there's always next fall." In addition, homeschoolers with strong religious and philosophical approaches tend to be weaned from the public schools' competitive mindset, in which children are constantly graded, ranked, and compared. They don't feel the same pressures to keep up with age-based curricular models. As one mother from Earlysville, Virginia, told me in an e-mail:

In short term homeschooling I personally felt very tied to the school system, to make sure my son was "keeping up" with his peers. But the families I know who make homeschooling a long-term commitment see it as a lifestyle, and they feel much less pressure to stay the course... It's about learning as a way of life, and finding what makes you happy.

In the end, every parent must cling to his or her own pedagogical rock, whether that involves lifelong learning, religious teachings, or, in my case, a belief in the value of the written word. So long as Julia was constantly writing, I felt that we were on the right track. My confidence grew with the length of her portfolio.

At the same time, I was glad that Julia and I didn't entirely abandon the public curriculum, because Virginia's standardized

learning topics inspired some of her brightest epiphanies. Take, for instance, the time when we studied the earth's layers--core, mantle and crust--one small component in Virginia's fifth grade requirements.

"We should make a model of the earth's interior," I said to Julia one morning. "What would you like to use? Playdough?" I imagined concentric rings of clay, balls within balls, cut in half to reveal the multi-colored stratum. "Or would you like to slice a Styrofoam ball in half? You could paint the earth's layers onto the flat center."

Julia shook her head.

"Well, what do you want to use?"

"Fruit," she said.

"Fruit?"

Yes, fruit.

From the basket on our kitchen table Julia lifted a kiwi, then took a steak knife and cut it in half. She

held the green fruit to my eyes, and there was a model of the earth: the white core, surrounded by the squishy green mantle, with black seeds like the rocks that float in the earth's magma, and on the outside, the thin dry crust. I felt completely humbled, reminded that all life is connected in repeated patterns--as when one learns that the ratio of water to land on our planet is the same as the ratio of liquid to solid in the human body.

The lesson continued for ten minutes more as Julia and I took turns cutting tectonic plates into the kiwi's crust, carving a drippy Ring of Fire. "Look," said Julia, "when the plates shift, the mountain ranges form." She squeezed the kiwi, and a ridge of lumpy green flesh emerged on the surface. I couldn't have been more proud if she had painted the Mona Lisa. My daughter could see the world within a slice of fruit.

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One final challenge for short-term homeschoolers rests in the arena of social life--how to keep it active for both the child and mother. Socialization is a key concern for all homeschoolers. Fortunately, with the nationwide expansion of home education, more and more communities have established support networks, with families gathering for field trips and pot lucks

and classes taught by visiting experts. "Those are life-savers," says Luis Huerta, a professor at Columbia's Teachers' College in New York who has studied homeschooling. According to Huerta, the potential for alienation is one of the biggest reasons why some parents give up on home education. It's an enormously difficult job, and mothers who take it on usually need strong support groups.

But Huerta didn't know whether the majority of homeschool networks would welcome short-term visitors into their midst. His research into homeschool charter schools revealed bitter divides between parents who want nothing to do with government-funded education, and those who are willing to take advantage of classes or resources offered at public sites. One mother in Huerta's study contrasted the early

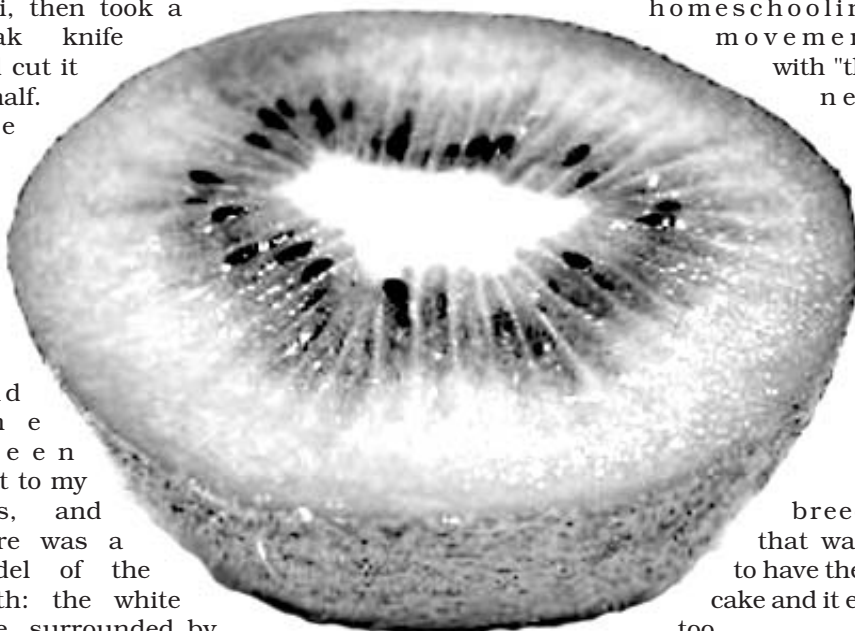
"people of conviction" in the

homeschooling

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with "the

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breed"

that want to have their cake and it eat too.

I count myself among this new breed (although I've never laid eyes on a charter school), because I want my daughter to experience what's best in the public system, supplemented by whatever I can offer as a homeschooling novice. If homeschooling purists feel antagonistic toward their long-term peers who have taken advantage of government-funded charter schools, I can imagine how they'd roll their eyes at folks like me, deeply entrenched in the public system and using homeschooling as a temporary sabbatical--an approach which, admittedly, cannot yield any of the long-term benefits of home education. In fact, one thing that short-termers must get used to when reading most homeschooling literature is the chastising tone toward parents who maintain bonds with the public schools. Even Isabel Lyman, an otherwise open and helpful homeschooling advocate, had this to say in a 2003 blog interview with author Peter Brimelow: "Why in the world would any parent with half a brain place their precious child in an American public school?" ("You have to remind me how punchy I can sound, huh?" she replied when I showed her the quote in an online exchange.)

There is bound to be a social

see **Future** on page <None>

void between committed homeschoolers and the short-term crowd. Some temporary homeschoolers with strong religious roots have reported being welcomed into local Christian support groups. Meanwhile June, from Alexandria, found homeschool Girl Scouts to be a godsend. But not everyone can expect the same social support. In our own small town, Julia and I attended a few of our local homeschooling functions, including one very good trilobite dig, but while everyone was nice enough, it was clear that we were merely observers in these families' world. We were neither as religious as some, nor as liberal as others. The high school kids were too old for Julia, the first-graders too young. If we had possessed vast amounts of time to get to know them all, the distinctions in ages and beliefs might have faded. But social bonds require years to grow, and we never became regulars on their e-mail list.

At the same time, Julia missed out on the social rituals of the public school year. At our elementary school's annual Halloween parade, when the costumed children marched through the school's neighborhood, Julia stood beside me on the curb, watching the long procession of fairies and wizards, her sisters among them (who've so far been content with their school routine), waving their butterfly wings. When the principal spotted Julia, she stepped out of the parade long enough to give her a hug, and I pitied my daughter in her homebound exile.

Later that year, when her fifth grade friends performed a musical version of *Schoolhouse Rock*, I glanced at Julia, sitting in the audience by my side, thinking that now she must surely regret our decision to homeschool.

"Would you have liked to be in that play?" I asked when we walked out.

She shook her head. "No way."

Julia didn't miss the plays or the concerts, the kickball games or field trips (we had plenty of our own). What she missed were the parties. Her elementary school was a party heaven, with Halloween bashes, Thanksgiving mini-feasts, Christmas celebrations and birthday cupcakes. "Can't we have a party?" Julia asked on Valentine's day. So we went to our local tea room, where one can dress in wild hats and tiaras and long white gloves, and we sipped Moroccan Madness tea while munching on cookies and sorbet. But a mother in a boa does not a party make. Julia received no Valentines that year, except from Mom, Dad, and Grandma.

Of course, Julia was constantly meeting other human beings--chatting with historical re-enactors; counting change with shopkeepers; asking questions of librarians and park rangers and musicians. Her after-school schedule included dance classes and tennis lessons with schoolmates who asked

see **Good Year** on page 23





## THE NEW VOICES OF OUR GENERATION

### Good Year from page 22

about her homeschooling with curiosity and envy. "I wish my Mom would homeschool me," one little dancer lamented. "I hate school."

But despite the social contact that I took pains to schedule, for many, many hours in the week Julia and I sat alone in our quiet rural house, while outside the cows and ducks and herons moved in slow motion. After a while one understands why homeschooling is most common in households with three or more children. The family becomes a social unit, taking the scrutiny off one child, and distributing the parent's attention and frustrations. In the one-on-one homeschooling that I and most of my acquaintances practiced, the dangers of isolation and resentment loomed large. "I did feel at times that there was a noose around my neck," confessed Christi, reminiscing on her year with her ten-year-old. The rope was less tight than when her children were babies--those wonderful and terrible days of diapers and bibs and bottles had been the most claustrophobic experience of her life. But homeschooling had its own quality of constriction.

So it was for Sarah, who had felt relieved, years earlier, when all her children were off at school. At last she could have time for herself, working at a job that she enjoyed. Homeschooling meant paring that job way down and returning to the house for much of her day. Inevitably there were tensions, especially when her daughter failed to meet her end of the bargain, becoming uncooperative, or surly, or slow.

Most homeschooling books never speak of these tensions--the power struggles and resentments and irrational moments of fury that emerge in any family, however loving. Many authors, even the secular ones, have an evangelical, sometimes self-congratulatory tone, trying to persuade other parents to join the fold. Reading them, one would think that homeschooling is an endlessly rosy enterprise, filled with brilliant, cooperative children well on their way to the Ivy League. In all my reading I never found a book that addressed what I feared most--the battles.

Julia and I have had power struggles since she was two. Getting her out of bed can be a Sisyphean task. And so I never expected our year to be smooth sailing; but neither did I expect that I could so easily be pushed into raging temper tantrums. Halfway through our year Julia nicknamed me "the volcano," because of my tendency to swing from a state of calm, green dormancy into a heap of spitting lava, especially on those days when Julia seemed to get nothing done.

This is where advocates of unschooling are bound to wave their flags. "Follow the child's interests," they always say. "Then she'll be self-motivated. Let dragon books lead to lessons in flight and fire, studies of winged dinosaurs and the legends of ancient China." In fact, we tried all of that. But whether the subject was

dragons or fractions, the result was always the same. If I was not nearby to push and prod and cheer, Julia would muddle through her tasks at the pace of an aging sloth.

One afternoon at our public library I described my concerns to a seasoned homeschooler, a teacher-certified mother with an advanced degree in early education. I expected her to tell me what I was doing wrong. Instead, she sadly shook her head: "That's the story of my life."

The more mothers I queried, the more confessions I heard. Many moms had similar trouble keeping their young learners on track, and the relentless foot-dragging sometimes drove the parents crazy. "I was sobbing" one mother put it; "absolute fury" said another. "There were days," according to June, "where I felt that if I didn't get away from my daughter I would plotz." Maryanne, who'd expected to be a long-term home educator when she removed her two sons from the local middle school, gave up on the plan when she found herself locked in ugly confrontations with her elder son. "Look at what this is doing to you," her husband finally said. Her boys were back on the school bus the following fall.

Social bonds with other homeschoolers are essential, if only to allow a mother time to air her frustrations. In my darkest moments I was glad that my homeschooling was limited to one year. That light at the end of the tunnel served as my guiding star. But when the light expanded into the sunshine of mid-June, I felt surprisingly sad. For in the end, it had been a good year. Julia and I had grown closer through our moments of triumph and anger. She had read and written and calculated more than ever before in the public schools. And now that she has entered a conventional middle school, and is once again oppressed by the combination of piles of homework, little fresh air (no recess in middle school) and endless multiple choice tests (multiple choice is the greatest sign of the failure of American education), she often grows nostalgic.

"Remember last October when the leaves were turning? We walked around town identifying trees with our field guide, making photographs and leaf rubbings and writing a paragraph about each one?"

"Yes, I remember. That was fun," she said. "Let's do it again."

Julia has even begun to ask about homeschooling for the eighth grade, a possibility that I have not ruled out. But in the meantime, my daughter needs more time away from Mom (excessive mothering is one of the most common concerns about homeschoolers). A third-party adult can often inspire a child more deeply than pleas from dear old Mother, which is why many homeschoolers hire tutors. In addition, the presence of a peer group in a public classroom can keep a child on task, who might, in a home setting, have problems staying focused, and the social diversity in the public schools can't be matched in today's homeschooling

communities.

In the end, I believe in supporting public education in America, especially in districts like ours, where the schools are small and safe. But in return, the public schools should be supporting America's families, not filling our children's family time with more schoolwork.

While I am willing to leave my daughter's education in the hands of the public schools until three o'clock each day, after-school hours should be devoted to exercise, art, music, and unstructured play--all of the highly educational activities that many schools, in their test-bound shackles, have cut to the bare bones. When excessive homework gets in the way of family time--time for long conversations, as well as visits to museums and parks and concerts--that's when the schools have crossed

my line in the sand. And that's when Julia and I will be back in our local coffee shop, spending our Wednesday mornings speaking bits of French over a game of chess. ❖

If you would like to respond to this article, please send your response to



**newvog@gmail.com.** All responses will be posted in the next issue of UNEWS in the NEWVOG section of the paper.

### Curriculum Mini-Grant Program

The **Center for Education** at UTS is announcing the Curriculum Mini-Grant Program. The mini-grants program offers grants between \$500 - \$1,000 for the creation of professional curricula and teaching tools for the diverse age groups within the Unification movement. The Center for Education at UTS wishes to encourage the development and publication of effective and creative curricula or teaching tools that can be used throughout the country.

There is a tremendous need for effective curricula in each of the target age groups. Currently, some centers are using the national curriculum while others have simply done their best to teach Divine Principle or the Bible or a combination of the two. Then there are other church centers that are not doing any kind of educational program because they don't have any type of curriculum or outline from which to work. Therefore, we wish to encourage those with the desire, experience or means to develop curricula that can be used in: K-6 Sunday Schools, Youth Ministries, Young Adult Ministries and even Adult Ministries.

In addition, there is a need to create effective teaching tools such as games, activities, specialized felt board teaching tools, dramas and similar creative tools for use in each of these ministries. Have you designed a game or teaching tool that you have found to be effective? Why not professionalize it or expand it so that others can use it?

Those who wish to apply need to review the grant requirements and submit an application. go to **www.centerforeducation.net** for more Grant Information and details.



## THE NEW VOICES OF OUR GENERATION

### Surviving STF: What is STF Anyway?

By Chris Breland

**S**o you're thinking about going to STF? You've got your bags packed, your school plans put on hold for a bit, and yet, even as you stand at the edge of this unknown journey, you might find yourself wondering: Is this what I really want? Is this the way I'm going to truly find my faith? I think that for anyone who is considering this course for the next year of their lives, it's very important to get some sound advice on what you should do to prepare. And because I've been in your shoes before, I might have advice that could help you. Whether you are not even considering the idea in the least, or have already signed up for the STF initiation, here's some thoughts that might help you make that next step.

Some of the best advice that I can convey to you is: Have a realistic idea of what STF really is. Take the next few minutes to just think about all the things you've heard about STF. You've probably learned a lot of good things, as well as some bad, about what STF is. You probably know it has a lot to do with fundraising and finding your faith with God. Would you be willing to bet that this will be one of the most difficult experiences of your life so far? How about that it will possibly leave you to be hurt and disillusioned about your faith? Or possibly that it could be the one experience that defines your life as a whole? I would be lying to you if I said that STF could not be any of these things. For me, it was probably a combination of all those choices. However, irregardless of what STF is or what you may think it is, you have to know a few things that STF is not. Here a few things that STF should not be for you:

STF is not the place to be if you have serious doubts about yourself and your decision. Once you are there, STF is a hard decision to turn from. And while many have decided to back out in the beginning or middle of their course, it leaves you with very few options. I hope that if you are thinking about doing this, you are thinking seriously and you have an idea of how committed you are to seeing it through.

STF is not for everybody. If you've heard this before, believe me, it is definitely true. While many people have found STF to be a great way to strengthen their confidence in their

faith, it doesn't necessarily mean it's the best method for you. Some people just don't need to go fundraising to find out their identity and faith in God. In fact, I know some people that probably would have been better off had they not gone to STF. You have to consider carefully what your attitude is now and how that could change in a year. Try to envision how your life would be if you didn't go to STF.

STF is not your "community service" required to be a member of this church. I don't like how people sometimes feel "pressured" to go to STF because of others. Friends, family, or even leaders in your congregation may be influencing you to make this decision and do it fast. While you should not completely disregard their advice, I would take everything you hear with a grain of salt. Know that you won't be ostracized or set apart from the crowd if you decide not to go to STF. In fact, feeling obligated to go to STF is probably the worst attitude to have, because afterwards you'll just feel you

I'll tell you a few things that STF can be for you:

STF is probably the only place that you can go to see the world in a way you've never experienced. I'm sure that at some point in your life you've wanted to travel the world and see everything there is to see. STF is unique because it gives you an extreme, in-your-face guide to the human condition and how people live. You will get to see, first-hand, the way people are and how to feel a close connection with them. You will get to see the best



Chris (far back) with his Philly Witnessing Team

new people. I can't say I wouldn't have done this on my own, but I am grateful to STF for bringing me to that achievement very quickly.

Finally, STF can give you the experiences and friends that will never leave you. There is something about spending a year in a van with someone that makes you best friends. In fact, in my case, one of my former van buddies eventually became my wife! It truly is a testament to STF whenever you see friends get together and talk about their crazy experiences together on fundraising teams. And it truly is an experience you can only get from the STF experience.

I hope you can consider all these aspects and get a better idea of what STF is and what it could be for you. Please consider your decision carefully, and if you have any questions or comments, feel free to contact me. I'm eager to hear your thoughts. God bless you! ❖



Chris in Philadelphia with the Garden Harvest Service Project Team

were forced into the whole thing. Your desire to go to STF should come from only one thing: your own initiative. If you don't have that, and people are telling you that you should, please don't be pressured into it! You will regret it in the long-run, and it won't be in the best interest of your spiritual life.

You might be thinking now that STF wasn't as great an idea as you thought it was. But let me reassure you of one thing. If you have a clear idea of what STF is and why you are going, you can have the most amazing experiences that you will never have anywhere else.

lifestyles, and some of the worst, and learn how to relate to them all. Seriously, if you learn nothing from STF, you will absolutely learn things about people that you've never known before.

STF is the best way to overcome a shy or reserved character. I was never the most outgoing person. In fact, at times I was downright frustrated at how shy I was. STF was an opportunity for me, as well as many other shy people I knew, to get over ourselves. Did it work? Well, after about two weeks on STF I no longer have any fear or reservation when it came to approaching

Chris Breland is a two-year STF alumnus, currently attending school at Drexel University in Philadelphia, and majoring in mechanical engineering. He was blessed in December of 2004 in East Garden at Father's matching. His email, if you would like to contact him, is

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## THE NEW VOICES OF OUR GENERATION

### Second Gen with Hyun Jin Nim at the Movies

by Kimikami

I thought the gathering at on February 13, at East Garden was great, not to mention a lot of fun. Since it was an invitation from Hyun Jin Nim for anyone to join, there was a wide variety of people there. I remember there was the entire STF there, CARP's NLTP team, the ILTP team, and also a bunch of college students from all over. I saw people from Boston, Bridgeport, huge groups from New York and New Jersey, and several from Maryland and Virginia. This was on a weekday, so a bunch of college students cut class for this. But it was definitely worth it.

The main point of the gathering was to celebrate the success of Hyun Jin Nim's Speaking Tour. To be honest, that's all I remember everyone doing, enjoying each others' company and celebrating. We had really intense yute games. Now, I'm not the type to enjoy yute



Hyun Jin Nim joined in with the Yute semi-finalists and watched *Pursuit of Happyness*

because I could never understand all the screaming and yelling over a bunch of sticks, but there was lots of synergy when we played. Especially, the New York/New Jersey team. We turned out doing pretty good, not too shabby; we won a handsome amount in cash prize. That kind of made me more proud of being part of the tri-state. Other things we did during that day were listening to ministers' testimonies about their experiences with the tour and True Parents; watching movies at the theater, over 200 of us and enjoying songs and performances all together over a nice Korean meal.

As for what Hyun Jin Nim actually said at the time, I honestly cannot remember (I forgot to take notes), but I do remember one thing. I remember that he was happy. And so was Dr. Yang and everyone else that was there. I can't even forget the huge grin that was on Reverend Jenkin's face at the end of the day. It was just a happy time. ❖

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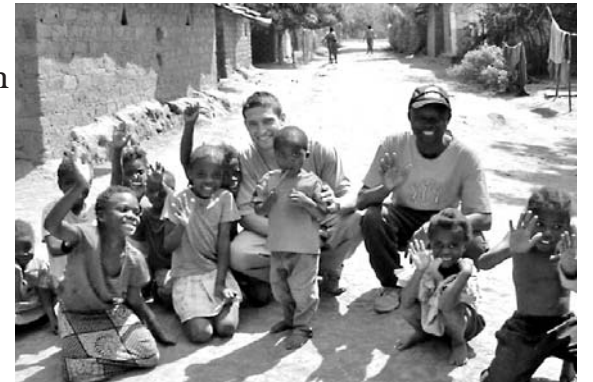
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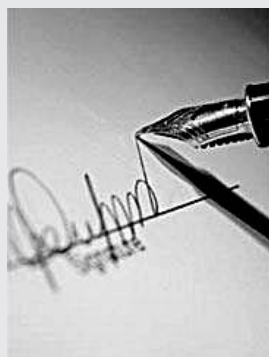
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### The Encyclopedia Project

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](mailto:robert@encyclopediaproject.net)

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