

## American Leadership Conference Held in Washington DC

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Washington DC, USA - Forty guests attended an American Leadership Conference on the theme “The USA at a Turning Point: Building a Nation and a World of Peace,” at the Washington Times Beech Room on July 12, 2014. The program began with comments by Dr. Ki Hoon Kim, chairman of UPF-North America, encouraging the audience of Ambassadors for Peace and guests to do their best and work together for peace.



Presentations were then given on "The Significance of Marriage and Family for a Stable and Prosperous Society," by Mr. Ricardo de Sena, secretary general of UPF-North America, and Mrs. Lynn Walsh, director of the Office of Marriage, Family and Human Development of UPF International. Both offered examples of how good marriage develops good character in children and young adults which can lead to a better society.



This was followed by a session on "The Significance of Youth for a Stable and Prosperous Society," with a presentation by Mrs. Kate Tsubata, founder of the WAIT team (Washington AIDS International Teens), who through drama, dance, skits and service bring the message of abstinence in the motto, "You're worth waiting for and so am I," to young people. "It's really about building healthy relationships; science teaches the facts of AIDS, and then we focus on how to build healthy relationships," she said. Ms. Teresa Ferrete, executive assistant of CARP America (the Collegiate Association for the Research of Principles), presented the work of CARP on US college campuses. She said they focus on developing good character and leadership skills on over 40 campuses.



Mrs. Nanae Goto, UPF staff member, offered a moving rendition of the song "You Raise Me Up" just before the Ambassadors for Peace presentation by Mrs. Tomiko Duggan, director of public affairs of UPF International. Mrs. Duggan explained the guiding principles behind the Ambassadors for Peace network and encouraged anyone in the audience who had not yet been appointed to this important role to learn more about it. She then appointed five new individuals to be Ambassadors for Peace:





Mr. de Sena concluded the afternoon and encouraged everyone to work together for peace and bring America to its highest calling to serve and support the best practices and principles that can lead the world to lasting peace.



All participants were invited to the evening banquet in the Grand Ballroom at the Washington Times on the theme “God’s Hope for America,” in support of the arrival of a team visiting 55 prayer grounds in the US that were consecrated by UPF Founder Rev. Sun Myung Moon in 1965. The team has been retracing his 43-day journey, focusing on the healing of the nation and inspiring it to fulfill its God-given purpose to be a light of goodness and godliness to the world.