

Young Hwi Kim speaks in Northern California

Kevin Thompson
November 10, 2013



In San Leandro, CA, home to the Bay Area Family church, about 600 people gathered to receive Rev. Kim's message about True Parents on Sunday, November 10, 2013.

On a beautiful California autumn day, almost 600 people gathered at the Bay Area Family Church in San Leandro, CA to receive True Mother's message carried from Korea by elder brother Rev. Young Hwi Kim. This was the largest gathering ever assembled in our church building. Rev. Kim was specially dispatched by True Mother to inspire and uplift the family members in America. This was his second stop on a five-city tour, and members from all over Northern California and Reno, Nevada joyfully received Rev. Kim as if they were receiving True Mother directly.

True Mother had opened the Bay Area Family Church by cutting a ceremonial ribbon in 1999 and said, "This is the kind of building we need all across America." Her heavenly spirit has always been present in our church building and we have missed her physical presence. Rev. Kim's visit re-connected us to True Mother in a beautiful way.

As one of the first of three couples to receive the Holy Marriage Blessing of the Unification Church, Rev. Kim has been a key disciple of True Parents through so much of the providential course and therefore could give a first-hand account. Rev. Kim, of course, is well known by early American church members as a Divine Principle lecturer from True Parents' early days in this country.

Congregational singing began early as the atmosphere was set. The official program began with the singing of the Cheon Il Guk National Anthem in Korean and an invocation given by Mrs. Myrna Lapres, Chairwoman of the District 11 Council. Pastor Kevin Thompson then led the congregation in a bow of respect to Heavenly Parent and True Parents before introducing Dr. Ki Hoon Kim, Continental Chair of North America and the Caribbean. Dr. Kim presented opening remarks and showed us a copy of the new English version of the Cheon Seong Gyeong, which raised a mighty cheer. We then viewed a new video about True Parents entitled, "We are Happy People," which highlighted many of the recent speeches True Mother had been giving in Korea and Japan.

The Emcee welcomed the new Vice-President of the World Mission Department, Dr. Thomas Hwang. Dr. Hwang was recently appointed to his new position by True Mother after serving as a missionary in China for many years. He presented the formal introduction to our keynote speaker, Rev. Young Hwi Kim, who proceeded to deliver a message of great hope and inspiration. He articulated so much of True Parents' life course and what Father meant when he said he had "completed everything." His message described not only where we have been, but also where we are going. Rev. Kim also clearly taught us the foundation of the Cheong Pyeong providence and the value of the work taking place there. His message was like a breath of fresh air for all brothers and sisters.

After a presentation of flowers by Shinghi and Junghwa Detlefsen, we concluded the program with three cheers of Eok Mansei from KEA (Korean Evangelical Association) Pastor Rev. Kwang Min Kim.

Thank you, True Mother, for sending Rev. Young Hwi Kim to the San Francisco District!



Unificationists young and old felt hopeful after listening to the rich, significant history of True Parent's life course.

Reflections

“When words are spoken with such a rich understanding and history, they are life-giving. Hearing True Mother's words was heaven being expressed on earth.”

“It was so comforting and reassuring to hear what Rev. Kim testified about True Father's life and his explanation of what True Father and True Mother have done for us. I feel more confident about being Second Generation and I want to go to Chung Pyung soon to liberate more spirits. Thank you True Mother for sending Rev. Kim to the Bay Area.”

“The message—deep, simple and to the point, given by Rev. Young Hwi Kim was sincerely needed. Everything became crystal clear, and our purpose was moved again onto the front burner. Also, the video of True Mother's words made a strong impact in my heart. It shows so clearly what True Mother feels and is concerned with.”

“The program was great, I feel so much hope. It was nice to get clarification about ancestor blessings. So, let's liberate our ancestors and do lots of Hoon Dok Hae. That I can do!”

Rev. Young Hwi Kim's next visit on his five-city speaking tour is Chicago on Wednesday November 13 at 7:00 PM, at the Elk Grove Holiday Inn Express.