



**Eastern  
Europe  
Highlights  
February 2024**

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## Romanians Revived by CheonBo Special Workshop

The EUME CheonBo Team held a Special Workshop in Romania from 30 January to 1 February. A total of 18 people, both Romanian members and GPA missionaries, attended the event in the Bucharest Peace Embassy. This was President In-pyo Moon's first visit to Romania. The workshop was held over three consecutive evenings, allowing participants to attend it after work or school. The program included a CheonShim Won Vigil Prayer as well as opportunities for one-on-one consultations with President Moon. CheonBo lecturer Rev. Tibor Krebsz gave a talk on the importance of liberating Central Evil Spirits. The participants included at least one member who had been distant for more than five years but was very happy to participate. At the end, very deep written reflections were offered. – *Miki Predescu*



# Bulgarian CB Event Proves Even a Small Group Can Create a High Spirit



**National Leaders Edina and Martin Dmitrov**



Bulgaria had its first-ever CheonBo Event on 3 and 4 February, as four members of the EUME Cheonbo Team visited the capital, Sofia, to hold a Hyojeong Cheonbo Special Workshop in the Peace Embassy. Although the number of local participants was small (five Second Gens and six First Gens, representing four blessed families, plus a new guest), there was a very high spirit. The program included a lecture about liberating Central Evil Spirits, *Chanyang Yeoksa* sessions, and a vigil prayer which was broadcast to the whole EUME region (to our great surprise). Members could have a personal consultation with President In-pyo Moon, offer Hyojeong Offering Papers, and liberate their ancestors or Central Evil Spirits. – *Edina Zsolcsak-Dmitrova*

# True Parents' Birthday Celebrated in Eastern Europe



Lithuania



Moldova



Belarus



Estonia



Latvia



Armenia



Azerbaijan



Bulgaria

# True Parents' Birthday Celebrated in Albania and Kosovo



Fier



Tirana



Durres



Korca



Vlora



Pristina, Kosovo

# CheonBo Victors Lead Moscow Holy Day Celebration



With an offering table created by the entire community, about 200 people, including five guests, celebrated True Parents' birthday at a festive Sunday service in the Moscow Peace Embassy. The hosts were CheonBo couples, whose purple holy robes transformed the atmosphere and spirit of the celebration. The host couples offered bows, led the prayer and Family Pledge, and cut the birthday cake. The interactive sermon was held in the format of a quest, in which adults and teenagers connected to a special online platform, answered questions and expressed opinions. At the same time, children under 12 years old had their own quest centering on key words from the life of True Parents. – *Alexander Timofeyev*





Tallinn Mayor Mihhail Kõlvart (2<sup>nd</sup> from left)

## Estonians Celebrate Lunar New Year in Korean Style

Korean culture and cuisine were in the spotlight at a colorful Lunar New Year celebration at a community centre in Tallinn. Ambassador for Peace Arina Han, the leader of the Estonian Korean Cultural Association, and members of Tallinn's Korean community organized the event along with Estonian FFWPU and UPF. Tallinn Mayor Mihhail Kõlvart, who has Korean ancestors and is a top Taekwondo athlete, and his wife, Anastassia Kovalenko-Kõlvart, a well-known motorcycle road racer, were the special guests. We told them about the United Korea football tournaments that an Estonian Ambassador for Peace has organized over many years, and we invited them to participate in the next tournament in August. Mrs. Kõlvart was presented with a brochure containing True Father's words on Korean reunification. – *Olga Martinson*





Detail



NL Olga Martinson



# Estonian AFP Prepared a Unique Gift for True Parents' Birthday

The Estonian artist August Aarma is well known in his country for the artworks he meticulously creates using cross-stitch embroidery. He is also an Ambassador for Peace who respects True Parents very much and has attended Estonia's commemoration of True Father's Seonghwa anniversary. At the request of Estonian national leaders Avo and Olga Martinson, Mr. Aarma agreed to create a cross-stitch embroidery of True Parents as a present for True Parents' birthday. He began working on it in September 2023 and completed it in early November. The picture, which is 51 x 58 cm, consists of 69,000 stitches in 59 colours. Mr. Aarma set a very high standard for himself while creating this embroidery of True Parents. He had to keep "100 percent focused" and maintain a peaceful mind. At the same time, he avoided thinking "I must do this," instead focusing on keeping a joyful spirit. – *Olga Martinson*





# A Busy Month in Belarus - I

Reports on 2023 and plans for 2024 were the focus of the first Sunday service of February, in which the national leader and department leaders gave reports and new ideas for developing our community were discussed. ... On 15 February, we concluded the 40-day Jeongseong period with a night vigil. During this period, more than 30 First and Second Gens (about one-third of adult members) took part in night vigils in the CheonShimWon. Together with the online participants, more than 40 people joined the condition. ... On 15 February, members joined True Parents' Birthday online. ... A total of 80 members attended the Special Great Works, including 30 in the church building. – *Olga Plotnikova*



# A Busy Month in Belarus - II

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Young people from Lithuania and Russia joined Belarusian youths at a two-day Second Gen meeting. The young people helped to prepare for the Holy Days, played games, and held sincere conversations. ... A festive Sunday service was held on 18 February. The Second Generation Department announced the winners of a children's poetry contest dedicated to True Parents. The BFD congratulated families celebrating their Blessing anniversary. The youth inspired everyone with energetic songs, treats from the Offering Table were shared, and the day ended with a viewing of *Raya and the Last Dragon*, an animated feature film. – *Olga Plotnikova*



## A Busy Month in Belarus - III

Seven First Gens and seven Second Gens attended the fifth in a series of Divine Principle seminars at the Morning House training center. Over two days they studied the Principle of Restoration and the path of historical figures from Adam to Abraham. Participants also had the opportunity to experience the emotions of Cain and Abel while cleaning in a local park. –  
*Olga Plotnikova*



# Russian BFD: Forgive, Love, Unite (with Your Husband or Wife)

Habits of happy blessed couples – including forgiveness and striving for unity – were the focus of a two-day workshop held by the Russian Blessed Family Department, which included a special family-themed Sunday service. Forty people from 25 families participated at the Moscow Peace Embassy. An additional 12 from Russia's Central Region and 35 from other cities and countries joined online. The atmosphere was very deep and uplifting. There were four presentations based on True Parents' teachings, an art therapy session and other activities. After the workshop, most of the participants took part in the vigil prayer in the CheonShimWon prayer room. – *Oleg Kuzmin*





## UPF Holds Exhibition at Russian Ecumenical Temple

In honor of World Interfaith Harmony Week, Anastasia Ogorodova, the UPF representative in the Russian city of Kazan, organized an exhibition titled "Through Faith to Peace" at the International Cultural Center for Spiritual Unity – the Ecumenical Temple, which since the 1990s has been built with donations from the family of Ambassador for Peace Ildar Khanov. Over two days, about 120 people, including distinguished academics, visited the exhibition. UPF Eastern Europe Secretary General Konstantin Krylov gave a presentation about True Parents' interfaith work. The founder's brother, Ilgiz Khanov, and his sister Flyura Galeeva also spoke about their experience of interreligious spirituality and the construction of this unprecedented facility. Then Mr. Krylov awarded Ilgiz Khanov with an Ambassador for Peace certificate for his special contribution to interfaith cooperation. – *Anastasia Ogorodova*



# Russian 2<sup>nd</sup> Gen's Korean Experience Inspires Teens

Eastern Europe high school students had their own online Sunday service in which a Moscow Second Gen gave the inspiration. Vasilisa Krylova, who is in Korea studying the Korean language, explained how she balances her life of faith with her studies. She also gave practical points about how and where she lives and how much it costs. It was very interesting, and the audience were very inspired. ... When UPF EUME leaders Dr. Katsumi Otsuka and Jacques Marion were in Korea recently, they invited Vasilisa, the daughter of UPF Eastern Europe Secretary General Konstantin Krylov, to have lunch with her at Heaven G Burger. – *Elena Kalmatskaya*



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## Russian Painter of True Mother Finds Fans in Faraway Spain

Tatiana Kuznetsova, the Russian sister whose picture of two cranes and the moon, made with thousands of pieces of precisely cut paper, was presented to True Mother in 2023, has earned a fan base in Spain. An artist there was captivated by the paintings on her online art page and contacted her. The artist, Antonio, was especially inspired by a painting of True Mother looking up at a full moon, which Tatiana completed in 2021. Recently he organized a presentation about this painting at an exclusive club in Mallorca to which he and his wife belong, because he felt so moved by this painting and by the story and symbolism behind it. Tatiana recorded a video for this gathering and was warmly applauded by Antonio and his friends, many of whom are doctors. At Tatiana's invitation, Antonio took part in our EUME interreligious prayers for peace in 2022, and he knows and respects True Mother. Tatiana continues to witness to him about True Parents and plans to organize an exhibition of his works at her local Palace of Culture. – *Galina Chernomorets*





# Russian Parents Clamor for Pure-Love Lectures in Schools

WFWP of Russia was invited back to a school at the insistence of parents who want their children to hear more pure-love lectures. The WFWP lecturer has been invited to the same classes several times to speak on different topics. The most recent lecture was about following a healthy lifestyle. – *Olga Vakulinskaya*







# Activities in Moldova - FFWPU

The Sunflower Center received visits from two teams of its partners. A representative from our main partner Catholic Relief Services attended two open classes of pre-schooling and enjoyed the arts and crafts. The team from the Humanity First NGO, who are paying for the Sunflower children's snacks, came and worked on their photo-video report on the center. ... We held a farewell party for Bonnie Osborn, a U.S. Peace Corps volunteer who served in the Sunflower Center for the past six months. ... The FF president traveled to the Transnistria region to hold a Deep Listening session for refugees and the local community on the topic of successes and challenges in children's education.

- Sabina Nadejdin



# Activities in Moldova – YSP - I

World Interfaith Harmony Week was celebrated by YSP. The event included True Parents' words on interreligious harmony, a quiz and a nice movie on the topic. The participants represented Moldova, Ukraine and India. – *Sabina Nadejdin*





# Activities in Moldova – YSP - II

The weekly volunteers' meeting welcomed a young man from China who recently has been volunteering at the Sunflower Center. Altogether there were 16 young people from six nations in a night full of youthful energy and pure joy.

– *Sabina Nadejdin*

## True Parents' Grandson, Wife Arrive in Albania with UPA Missionaries

Shin Chul Moon, True Parents' grandson, and his wife arrived in Tirana, Albania, on Saturday, 24 February, as part of a group of six UPA missionaries who have been assigned to Albania for at least one year. After arriving, they were introduced to the Albanian team with whom they will be living in the Tirana center. They impressed the Albanians as humble, friendly and ready to jump into the mission and do whatever is needed. The next day at Sunday service they introduced themselves and sang *Country Roads*. The Empower team gave a testimony about witnessing, and after the service the UPA and Empower teams spent time talking together. On Monday, the UPA team were given a tour of the Cheon-il Guk Peace Embassy, where they watched a presentation about Albania's providential journey and had lunch together before going out witnessing. – *Manjola Vasmatics*



Attending Sunday Service



Visiting the CIG Peace Embassy

# Respected Dignitaries Attend UPF Event for Kosovo



**MC. Methasani**



**Pres. Moisiu**



**Pres. Sejdiu**



**Amb. Durmishi**



**Dr. Xhufi**



**Mr. Gani Rroshi – UPF**

To mark the 16th anniversary of Kosovo's independence, UPF Albania and the Tirana Peace Council organized an event at the Balkan Peace Embassy in Tirana titled "Independent Kosovo, Success Story for Peace." About 190 dignitaries, Ambassadors for Peace and friends of UPF filled the conference hall. Defrim Methasani, a well-known journalist and chair of the Tirana Peace Council, was the moderator. Respected dignitaries from Albania and Kosovo gave meaningful messages: former Albanian President Alfred Moisiu; former Kosovar President Fatmir Sejdiu; the ambassador of Kosovo to Albania, Skender Durmishi; and Professor Dr. Pallumb Xhufi, a historian and researcher. President Moisiu presented the Tirana Peace Council's "Person of the Year 2023" award to well-known doctor and humanist Dr. Sali Kurti. Ambassador for Peace certificates were awarded to 11 personalities from Kosovo and Albania. – *Gani Rroshi*

# Year of the Dragon Brings Change to Romania

The Year of the Dragon was welcomed at the most recent Romanian Sunday service, which also focused on *Hyojeong*, or filial heart. Romanian blessed families, CARP members, and Generation Peace Academy (GPA) missionaries from the United States gathered in the Bucharest Peace Embassy for the first Sunday service of the Lunar New Year. ... At the end of the Sunday Service, two changes of mission were officially announced. Gabriela Fondos, who took care of CARP for many years, will be the project coordinator for the International Relief Friendship Foundation (IRFF). She will focus on a social project that will be enacted this year to benefit Romanian society. Alina Patrascu, who was witnessed to by the GPA team two years ago, will become the national leader of YSP, which will be activated in Romania this year to build a stronger youth foundation. ... After the Sunday Service we shared *Tteokguk* (sliced rice cake soup), a traditional dish that Koreans enjoy at the Lunar New Year. – Miki Predescu





# Romanian ‘Blessing Ball’ Celebrates Married Love

The Romanian holiday *Dragobete*, which is similar to Valentine’s Day, inspired FFWPU Romania to hold a “Blessing Ball” in which couples were offered Holy Wine. The event was held on 24 February in the Bucharest Peace Embassy with 25 participants, including four guest couples. The event started with a song offered by two GPA missionaries and a presentation about FFWPU and the purpose of the Blessing Ball. After that, there was a fun game in which couples answered questions. Then each couple explained how they met each other, with the opportunity to reflect on their relationship and apologize for mistakes. As the couples received the Holy Wine, they were happy to restart their relationship at such a meaningful occasion. After the main program, everyone enjoyed food and drinks, photo sessions for couples, a lottery, and dancing. The program went very harmoniously from beginning to end, and we will continue to guide them toward the Blessing. – *Miki Predescu*

# Lithuania Holds Programs for Children and Teens

During winter break, Lithuanian members organized two programs for children and teens. The first was a Winter Day Camp for 19 Second Gen children aged 5 to 11. The four-day camp was devoted to deepening the children's relationship with True Parents, as well as developing stronger bonds among themselves. Crafts, Tong-il Moo-do training, a cooking challenge, a mini-quest, board games, football and a pilgrimage to the Vilnius Holy Ground were the activities. ... Right after the children's camp ended, a HARP workshop for high-schoolers began. The theme was "True Mother Is My Mother." Lectures and discussions focused on True Parents and Heavenly Parent. After hearing testimonies from older members about fundraising, the teens tried it out themselves. – Roma Karagezian and Tamila Kavalskiene





Thank You!