## Report on Archbishop Stallings Visit to Britain

29<sup>th</sup> Jan – 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb 2016

## Visit by Archbishop George Augustus Stallings Jr to London 28<sup>th</sup> Jan- 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb 2016

The work of the Association of British Clergy was revived just before True Mother's visit in May 2015. She mentioned the importance of the Christian foundation in Europe that had spearheaded the spread of Christianity to the world. After her visit our work with the Pastors took on a new impetus as more Ministers began to attend our monthly meetings and more members began to work with us.

I knew that it was vitally important how we introduced our Pastors to True Parents' vision, heart and teaching, as it would be a make or break situation. The most ideal person to do that would be Archbishop Stallings Jr., as he had a deep love for True Parents, a deep understanding of Divine Principle and Christianity, and had his own church. So we were overjoyed to learn that he was willing to take time off from his busy schedule to help further True Parents' Providence in Britain. We took him first to visit the Holy Ground at our Estate in Stanton Fitzwarren, where True Father had planted an oak tree, and enjoyed morning tea with Henry and Avril Masters and their daughter Scilla. Departing next for Cleeve House, a mansion in the country, bought for holding Workshops, where, fortuitously, our own U.C. Pastors were gathered for a workshop with our National Leader, Matthew Huish. The Archbishop shared deeply about our relationship with God and our outreach. In the evening some of our Oxford members were privileged to share dinner with him in Kidlington. On Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> Jan. we proceeded to Lancaster Gate in London for our Afternoon Seminar. I was amazed and deeply moved at how our Heavenly Parents were working to move members' hearts to make the event possible, offering finances

and expertise. We had delicious food at the Reception and Buffet afterwards.

Rev Nathaniel Olinloye introduced the Seminar well, Pastor Collins began with an openhearted, powerful prayer. Our own Queen Ayaba Esther George offered uplifting singing, and Pastor Collins Okololo and Pastor Ena Gustave led the audience in spirited, prayerful song that raised the atmosphere for the Archbishop who was introduced ably by Rev Paul Baiden- Adams.

The Archbishop's address was phenomenal. It felt like a Pentecost, how it must have been in the Upper Room, for there was such a powerful and heavenly spirit present. He was brilliant as he "connected the dots" for the audience, using the bible( a huge old bible dating back to 1870) to substantiate every point he shared, from Adam and Eve, Jesus' mission and that of True Parents, explaining that we needed to become a part of God's Lineage, Life and Love to realise out potential. He spoke with such dynamism and humour, captivating the audience, whose response was overwhelming, as they stamped their feet, raised their arms and called out affirmations, or sat silent, spellbound by what they were hearing. Altogether about 30 Pastors, 10 Christian workers and 40 of our members were present.

One sister reported seeing True Father's face superimposed on Archbishop Stallings, and another saw Martin Luther King behind him.

Afterwards the reaction of the Pastors was incredible as one after another said how grateful they were for his talk, as it had answered questions that they had had all their lives. One Minister urged us to bless his congregation as soon as possible and one lady wanted to join us immediately. Many people wanted photographs with the Archbishop, which he patiently and good humouredly allowed, and participants were given a beautiful certificate to commemorate the event, that Dr. Adams had generously printed. Prince Adewale Adeola and his wife Yetunde very generously provided a bottle of water for everyone.

Archbishop Stallings gave the sermon for the Sunday Service to our members at South London in their Peace Embassy, where 200 of our members had gathered from all over London and beyond. He revitalised our members as he recalled to mind how True Father began his mission, and reminded us to remember how we had felt when we joined, how we could endure difficulties, and how we had all become better people as a result. He inspired us to witness by reminding us of the wonderful gifts True Parents had given us, and the importance of passing our inspirations on to our children. H e challenged us, asking us if we were expressing True Love as learnt from True Parents,"Were we showing it to each other? For you can't take people where you are not going" Members commented gratefully for the way he showed where their allegiance should lie, through his explanation of how True Parents are working today, and what only begotten son and daughter meant. A sister had a dream before Archbishop Stallings' visit to the U.K. about how he transformed squawking, ungainly, aimless chickens into beautiful, sleek fish, swiftly and purposefully, moving through the water. I puzzled over it but now I understand, Archbishop Stallings has a unique gift for transforming people's spirits and motivating them to greater effort. We are truly grateful for the impetus that he gave to inspiring our Pastors and members. He lit a spark that will not die, and we can never express enough our deep gratitude to him. May our Heavenly Parents bless and protect him. By June Darby















## Archbishop George Augustus Stallings Jr.

welcome to

"Divine Principles fo

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2016

































































