

Generation Peace Academy Weekly Newsletter - May 27th, 2024

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GPA



Graduates

This week the graduation group learned how they can connect to their community when they return home. They were also able to plug into local events in and activities in New Jersey, like witnessing and attending Sunday Service.

Captains in Training

After arriving in the east coast the Captains in training began a Leader of the Day (LOD) Training. Basically every first year gets the opportunity to be the leader for their fundraising team for a couple days. They plan the schedule, give morning service, lead HDH, and give guidance after fundraising runs.

Missionaries in Training

After the Choir and Dance Workshop in Bay Area, the MITs split off with one team staying in the Bay Area and two teams driving down to Los Angeles to continue their witnessing training. They had enriching experiences with campus witnessing; Divine Principle lecturing; hearing

testimonies from CIG alumni; and immersing themselves into the witnessing environment created through sports, game night, and prayer vigils.



Heavenly USA

Chicago

This week in the Windy City the Chicago team had a wonderful weekend supporting the Midwest CARP Workshop! Participants from all over the Midwest came, from Indiana, Minnesota and Illinois, and we spent the weekend with them, also supporting through raising the spirit through song team and fostering connections to the guests and participants of the workshop. The main focus was learning about God's ideal, reality and the importance (and coming) of God's only Begotten Daughter, and at the very end we held a very spirited prayer vigil where members shared their experiences and testimonies of True Parents and everyone was able to connect to God through spirited prayer. Overall it was a very familial and joyful workshop we were glad to be a part of, and we are continuing to invest ourselves into this wonderful Chicago community while supporting the amazing Heavenly Top Gun missionaries!

Dallas

This week in Dallas has been find but busy. We went for the first time street witnessing with the UPA sisters here! It was a really amazing experience learning to genuinely care for another person and we got one contact!

We were also able to visit two pastors within our time, and really begin to express our gratitude and growing appreciation for Christianity and all that

we've learned within this past year. We have also been trying to have the UPA sisters inherit as much of our Bible knowledge and seeing what we can offer them to inherit as we continue to work together. Otherwise it's been a long week of figuring how to strengthen our bond as a team with team outings to the mall or get ice cream, watching Demonslayer with the local young adults in the community, and general bonding as we navigate what we want to do for our last week.

Going into our last full week in Dallas we are excited and ready to support in any way we can!



Cheon Il Guk Missionaries

Bloom! Pentecost with True Mother, May 17-19th

Five out of six CIG missionary teams had the opportunity to travel to Germany and meet True Mother alongside Blessed families from all across Europe. Sweden and Albania in particular were volunteers for the event, having roles such as ushering, security, and media team to name a few. Albania team also had the honor of bringing a guest along for the event, who had an eye-opening experience. Among the many events happening, the main highlight was the moving speech by True Mother and Yeon Ah Nim's talk during the youth rally afterward. It was a precious, rare experience that all CIGs present will remember for years to come. Below are some testimonies:

"I didn't want to let you see my crying face when I saw you in last year, rather I wanted to show you a bright hopeful future in me. And when you glanced at me for a few brief moments, once or twice I couldn't help but shine the brightest smile. I don't know if you could see me well in the dark with my black media T-shirt, but what I know is that I saw the Only Begotten Daughter and I am so lucky to be living in the same time as you. At the same time, I brought one of your sons from Albania together with me. His name is Bilal, he is young and very new to the movement. He has many questions and doesn't agree with everything, but he shed tears and wept when you said you wanted to see more of your children. He wants to come to GPA, and I hope to raise

him up as another filial son who can attend you. Thank you for loving such a son, for choosing to be our mother. True Mother, as much as we the next generation are the hope for the future, I want to let you know that you are my hope and guiding light. I don't think I'll ever get the chance to have a proper conversation with you, and I'm sorry because I'm sure you'd love to have one with all of your children. Still, I want to be a son who can stand proud in front of you. I, together with my brothers and sisters, will witness and bring back more and more of your children." - Taiyo Shibata, 3rd-year CIG missionary

"As the time grew nearer to seeing True Mother, something struck me from one of Uncle Markus's lectures. I realized that I need to prepare not only internally, but externally as well. What substantial gift or result can I offer to Mother when I see her? The first thought that came to my mind was bringing results through witnessing. So in the last few weeks before seeing True Mother, I made more effort to both go out witnessing to meet new people, as well as go further with my current guests. I could really feel God working through this, because I could meet some really amazing people in the last week before going to Munich. Being in Munich was an amazing experience, and before I knew it, I found myself sitting in front of the Only Begotten Daughter. My experience seeing Mother this time around was definitely different from many of the other times I've seen Her. I was sitting next to Bilal, who is Taiyo hyung's guest from Albania, during the whole event. This was his first time seeing True Mother, and I could see how his experience was firsthand. He at first seemed very skeptical, but after Mother left the stage, he started crying like crazy. I felt really moved, and even though I didn't know what he was going through or why he was feeling that way, I could see the power of True Parents and how they can change people's lives. I'm really excited to hear more about Bilal's story and see how he continues to grow in his faith." - Joshua Buerji, 2nd-year CIG missionary

"During Omani's actual speech, I wasn't able to understand because the translation wasn't working. After trying to scramble to make it work during her speech, I decided to just sit there with her and understand her with my heart and be present in the room for her. I would be able to read and understand the speech later. I decided that I didn't want to drain Omani's energy as she sat there and talked with us. I think we all have hungry eyes and hearts to receive Omani's love and take from her. We all want to catch a glimpse of her and feel greediness to want to be the closest to her and feel jealous of others who are closer. I mean, this is normal for kids to feel towards their mama. I wasn't very close to her. But I felt this time I just want to sit there AS I AM in my full sincerity, with all my faults and strengths, and show Omani that she has me here and that I am strong for her. When I saw her again, it didn't feel like I was seeing some celebrity like it did the first time I saw her. But this was the third time I had seen her in the past year and this time it felt like I was just seeing my mom, being able to be with her. I remember after the last time I saw her, I felt like I missed her so much afterwards and was longing to be in her presence again. It was too long away from my mom."

- Kienyen Chen, 3rd-year CIG missionary



Albania

Wanting to leave a deeper impression on guests, the Albania team hosted a praise & worship-style CARP Talk. Opening the floor with an activity called "Radar", guests could share more openly and understand that others also go through similar things in life. After singing songs led by the team, they danced to traditional Albanian music and enjoyed time together.

After the Bloom Festival, due to flights being late at night, the team had free time and spent the day touring around Munich together with Shin Top Gun members from Fier. Seeing a castle and a church, and eating traditional German food, it was a cultural experience. Along the way, the team also ran into the Romania team, Shin Chul Nim with UPA members, and Albanian church members. With a renewed spirit, the team has a couple weeks left to invest their utmost into Vlorë.

Austria

The Austria missionaries held another Peace Talk on Thursday night! Geoffrey Q. gave a presentation about active listening and participants practiced how to be a good listener to have better communication with others. Two guests and community members came. In addition, there were five meet-ups in total this week. Three of them were new guests who received presentations on the introduction to the Divine Principle, 5 core principles of peace, or just spent some time getting to know each other. One of the guests studied about the mission of the Messiah and a local Holy community member also joined a study to connect more to Divine Principle.

Poland

Besides the meeting with Wang Eomma, GPA is climbing to new heights! Janelle's guest Kudzai is now starting actionizing and Ju-Young's guest Sandro finished their 2nd Level Seminar. The team really faced a hectic week before seeing our Wang Eomma. They say it is because spirit world knows they are seeing the Only Begotton Daughter, and they want to push for their descendants to be there with and connect to her.

Zambia

This week, the Zambia team continuously invested into their witnessing efforts as well as taking care of the CIG CA members. The CIG CA members have been leading the Divine Principle workshops and fun activities for guests to be educated while having fun. They also have been doing lecture practice while the CIG team grades the CIG CA's lectures and gives feedback on their lectures in preparation for giving lectures to guests in the future. On Wednesday evening, Captain Philip came to talk to the CIG and CIG CA members about True Mother's new direction for Africa. On Saturday, the CIG CA and CIG team met with the regional leaders of Africa to talk about reports from International Headquarters (IHQ) for Africa and receive reports from the participants about their experiences so far. This past week, the CIG team participated in a 7-day workshop with HTG missionaries and HJ Rang to support them before they depart.



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