

## FFWPU USA: A Hope To Be Able To Bridge True Mother's Heart To America

Demian Dunkley  
August 28, 2023



*Photos courtesy of Los Angeles Family Church*

"I came here with a hope to be able to bridge True Mother's heart to America and America to True Mother's heart," said FFWPU Regional Chairman and National President Rev. Demian Dunkley, who launched a series of Cheon Shim Won 'Rebirth' workshops this summer after being appointed in May to his [new role](#) and mission.

"I'm talking about the deeper realms of True Mother's heart," said Rev. Dunkley in a special video message from the Las Vegas headquarters of Cheon Shim Won USA. The eleventh Rebirth workshop recently concluded in Las Vegas with YAYAM leaders from around the nation. Rev. Dunkley is now bringing the Rebirth workshop to local communities, starting in Los Angeles and another one currently underway in the DMV (DC-Maryland-Virginia) community.



"[This program is] just me giving my testimony about my experience with True Mother and what [she] really wants to say," Rev. Dunkley explained. "It's something we have to come together at the Cheon Shim Won and hear and pray about. What I have felt personally is that this is sincerely a rebirth experience. It's something that we as members should first experience, and then we become the witness; we become reborn." Rev. Dunkley emphasized the importance of leaving behind old concepts as the Unification movement embarks on a "new era and new history," he said.

Pastor Joshua Holmes of the Los Angeles Family Church shared how he was personally touched by the workshop experience, stating, "I was so moved and humbled by the response [to the workshop]." He noted some 120 community members participated in the three-day program.

"People showed up to have this encounter and this experience of renewed discovery of who True Parents are to them," said Pastor Joshua. "I think the overarching testimony that people shared is that they had no idea how much True Mother has gone through over these last 63 years. [We felt] repentful and filial-hearted."



"There was this sense of 'I want to protect my mom,'" he said. "I want to fight for my mom; I want to stand up together for our True Parents ... I think that is the foundation for rebirth."

Participants shared a new determination to serve, Pastor Joshua said, and build a culture of Cheon Il Guk together going forward. "I'm most excited for [Rev. Demian's] rebirth tour ... and the revival that will take place across America."



The current Southeast Cheon Shim Won Rebirth Workshop runs from August 28 to 30 at the Capital Family Church in Washington, DC. Continue to check the Rebirth workshop schedule to see when one is being held in your region.

You can learn more about Cheon Shim Won USA events [here](#).



## North American Leadership Transition to 'A New Era'



Photos courtesy of Graeme Carmichael

"We are an incredible family, and it is time to grow," said Rev. Demian Dunkley. "So we will become a witnessing church. This is Mother's blessing to us."

Unificationists from across North America and abroad joined a special "Farewell and Inauguration Service" on May 28, welcoming newly appointed Regional Chairman and National President Rev. Demian Dunkley and celebrating Dr. Chung Sik Yong and Rev. Naokimi Ushiroda, former regional president and national president, respectively.

Some 600 members gathered for the service at The New Yorker Hotel's Grand Ballroom, and another thousand participants joined the program online. The [live-streamed video](#) has since garnered more than 6,000 views. The program also featured musical performances by Heavenly USA and GPA participants, as well as remarks from several FFWPU USA leaders.

In his inaugural message, Rev. Dunkley thanked Dr. Yong and Rev. Naokimi for their great leadership over the last two-and-a-half years. "I thought, God is great [with] this complementary team," he said. "[Dr. Yong], I can recognize your total investment ... I don't know anyone who can do what you did."

"And I can't think of anything more precious than happy, healthy, public-minded blessed children," he said. "[Rev. Naokimi] you are the VVIP of all

that we're doing; you are a great representative of all of our youth."

Rev. Dunkley and other leaders noted the strong foundation set by Dr. Yong and Rev. Naokimi during a particularly challenging time throughout the world and for the movement. Despite the Covid-19 pandemic, Dr. Yong initiated the daily Morning Devotion program for a total of 941 days, and the American movement was able to donate more than \$6 million dollars to the Cheon Won Gung dedication.

"This is an incredible victory," said Dr. Achille Acolatse, FFWPU USA Southeast regional director. "Dr. Yong and President Naokimi, they revived the church here in America."



The pair's persistent efforts and teamwork left them individually inspired as well.

"[Morning Devotion] is something I am grateful for," said Rev. Naokimi in his remarks. "Dr. Yong really helped me offer devotion. I think many of the members really benefited from having this opportunity to start every day with Morning Devotion."

"I felt it was even beyond Dr. Yong, like it was an offering from America to Heavenly Parent," he continued. "Every morning, in rural areas and throughout the nation, everyone could connect and really offer their *jeongseong* to Heavenly Parent."

Rev. Naokimi said during his presidency he felt called to be "a bridge" between the elder and younger generation, and between Eastern and Western culture. He also sought to improve the national movement's financial, educational, and organizational structure. "Those were my three areas of focus," he said. "I do feel that I was able to contribute to each of those."

Inspired by True Parents' teachings and guidance, Dr. Yong emphasized practicing true love by living for the sake of others. In his farewell




practicing true love by living for the sake of others. In his farewell address, he noted the quality of Jesus's love which was "able to change everyone," he said. "The same goes for our family, tribe, and nation, we must become the Cheon Il temple ... We need to give and give and give, and completely forget what we have given and still want to give more."

"I want to build a church of true love," Dr. Yong said, as he joins other leaders embarking on a new mission to bring about the peaceful reunification of the Korean peninsula.

Assuming his new role, Rev. Dunkley said that witnessing must be the movement's primary goal. "If the truth about the Only Begotten Daughter was revealed properly 60 years ago, then Christianity would not have opposed us," he said quoting True Mother. "This sentence explains everything," he said.

"I can testify this is not a new chapter; this is a new book, a new era, a new history," said Rev. Dunkley. "Together as one, let us totally hold on to True Mother's guidance."

You can watch the full "Farewell and Inauguration Service" [here](#).

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