

Hiroshi Inose Evangelizes Minnesota

Krista Moon

September 27 - 29, 2013



Rev. and Mrs. Hiroshi Inose pose together with members of the Minnesota Family Church after their three-day visit.

For the first time in five years, Rev. Hiroshi Inose and his wife, Hatsune, visited Minnesota from September 27th to the 29th as part of his evangelizing-boosting speaking tour “Liberation, Resurrection, Revival, and a New Start for the Victory of Vision 2020.” The Minnesota Family Church is currently working towards creating a grass-roots movement, according to local leader, Rev. Rosemary Yokoi. Rev. Inose recently has called upon all Japanese Unificationists nationwide to dedicate five hours a week to doing evangelical outreach – or three hours on a weekend. Many church members are responding.

The evening of his arrival September 27th, Rev. and Mrs. Inose attended dinner and had fellowship. The next day, Saturday the 28th, there was a one-day seminar, at which Rev. Inose lectured about True Parents’ victory; The Las Vegas providence; Who are the True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind; True Father’s Seonghwa; The Meaning of Foundation Day; How we should live after Foundation Day for the victory of Vision 2020; Q&A.

Afterwards, Mrs. Inose gave her testimony about a life of attendance, shared conversation she’s had with True Parents’ and showed pictures, etc. Following her testimony, Rev. Inose gave a presentation about missionary work and spoke about “How to bring victory in witnessing” and “The power of faith in witnessing.” He stressed the necessity and importance of Divine Principle lectures and Divine Principle lecture practice. Rev. Inose fielded questions from the participants and listened to their impressions of the presentations. With fellowship and dinner over, Rev. and Mrs. Inose held a small-group Kodan meeting at which participants gave a two-to ten minute reports. Rev. and Mrs. Inose then commented on each of the reports and answered various questions posed.

The next day at Sunday Service, Rev. Inose gave a 30-minute sermon in English titled “How Great God Is.” “I told how I joined our church and testified to the unconditional love of God and God’s sorrowful heart,” Rev. Inose wrote in his report. Following the service, there was a luncheon and fellowship.

Throughout his visit to Minnesota, Rev. Inose followed the example of Archbishop Ki Hoon Kim, Continental Director of North America, to try his best to act as a mediator between True Parents and the members on the frontline. “I tried to convey to them the wishes and vision of Heavenly Parent and True Parents, the directions of Archbishop Kim, Church President Dr. Michael Balcomb and Headquarters, and how much Heavenly Parent and True Parents love each of the blessed families,” wrote Rev. Inose in his reflective report. He continued: “Also, I tried to connect the prayers and heart of brothers and sisters in difficult situations with heaven. I prayed and tried to listen to questions and comments of the brothers and sisters. When I gave lectures or answered questions, I tried to convey the heavenly heart.”

With coaching from Dr. Michael Balcomb, church president of Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (FFWPU) USA, Rev. Inose’s lecture style evolved to include more about his personal experiences and impressions and went from only being a one-sided lecture to a lecture that included a 30-minute Q&A session. Rev. Inose observed, “As I frankly related my experiences and impressions, brothers and sisters in America listened to me more closely than ever.”

For months prior to the Inose’s visit, the Minneapolis family church has been making outreach a priority. “We were already witnessing Wednesday evenings and Saturday mornings and will discuss and digest the rich material presented,” wrote Rev. Yokoi to Familyfed.org.

“The focus for a grass-roots movement in Minnesota is to create in-reach and out-reach that creates a church that welcomes everyone and embraces all,” she wrote. “We want to get back to the ‘FUN’-damentals and to have a joyful church that works.”

Rev. Yokoi explained that the members were “grateful to have a chance to reflect and review where we are and what our hope is. The reminder that parents should maintain a good relationship with their children no matter what is their situation since the parent/child relationship is eternal was important.”