March Highlights from the Eastern Europe Sub-region

Spring at the Moldova Peace Embassy

An Inspiring Visit to Shin Albania



From Feb. 27 to March 5, I visited Shin Albania for several purposes:

- 1. Meet with Dr. and Mrs. Balcomb and other leaders to review the progress in renting the available space in the CIG Peace Embassy in Tirana to businesses and organizations and discuss issues with the architect and construction company boss.
- 2. Respond to an invitation from the chairwoman of the Albanian Peace Council to meet in her hometown of Vlora
- 3. Meet with the Albanian Peace Council at the CIG Peace Embassy
- 4. Meet with former President Alfred Moisiu
- 5. Offer two presentations at a members' workshop at Mullet Training Centre
- 6. Attend Sunday service at the Mullet Training Centre

Conclusion: It was a very rewarding visit to see the progress in the Peace Embassy and to feel much hope through the development of Peace Councils and also the education of our young members. – *Jack Corley*







In Tirana, five guests completed the one-on-one DP study and lecturing training and went on to study True Parents' life.

Activities in Albania



In Shkodra, a local journalist gave a talk at our centre about the strengths of women. She brought a TV crew and made a report for the news broadcast as well.



At Sunday Service in Durres, HTM couples learned about making donations. They gladly offered their donations at the end of the service. It was a nice family atmosphere, and people did not want to leave the centre.











Members and guests in the city of Korca sold handmade cards to buy art supplies for disabled children. Our member Melisa and one guest were interviewed by the local TV.

Reports by Manjola Vasmatics



Activities in Albania

• Albanian members started the 40-day Special Grace devotion period by attending a one-day HDH seminar. About 70 members gathered in person in Tirana, and other communities attended online. ... Tirana members were invited to introduce CARP at a Social Sciences class. They will continue the activity at a few more classes. ... WFWP-Albania started the Academy of Peace leadership training program with eight girls. ... The CARP chapter in the city of Shkodra organized an outing which included activities for bonding. – *Manjola Vasmatics*

Moldovan Members Plant Trees with the Nation's President



President Maia Sandu (centre) with Andrei and Diana Esanu and Ilcina Nadejdin



Hard at work planting trees

Moldovan FF member Diana Eşanu (a medical doctor who works with the US Peace Corps) was invited to participate in a tree planting to celebrate 30 years of the Peace Corps working in Moldova. The president of Moldova, the US Ambassador to Moldova, and other international and national officials took part in the activity. Diana Eşanu was joined by her husband, Andrei, and their two small children, as well as two teenage daughters of FF national leader Sabina Nadejdin. The photo (upper left) was made by US Ambassador to Moldova Kent D. Logsdon. Our members were planting close to Moldovan President Maia Sandu, who really was working hard for two hours. Her colleagues told us that in these kinds of activities the president is always very active and strong. We were reminded of True Father's and True Mother's style of working. – *Andrei Eşanu*

Ukrainian Children Honour Their Mothers and Staff on International Women's Day



For International Women's Day, the children in both the Fairy Tale Centre in Anenii Noi and the Sunflower Centre in Chisinau held a celebration for their mothers and prepared gifts for the women staff members. - Sabina Nadejdin





Activities in Moldova – Family Federation



Training session to care for people with special needs

Training on the management of personal data

The Sunflower and Fairy Tale teams attended a Social and Emotional Learning training session on communication skills. ... The FF representative took part in a workshop on keeping and archiving documents in entrepreneurial activity. ... The Sunflower team received a consultation from the Lawyers' Law Centre on temporary protection. ... About 20 people attended a training session on employment in the mental health field for people with special needs. ... An expert from Family Federation is offering sessions on mental health and providing psychological first aid in an emergency. ... Both Fairy Tale Centre and Sunflower Centre had many activities this week. ... Five Moldovan Second Generation children are among the children attending the Sunflower Centre. – *Sabina Nadejdin*

Developing a Moldovan Choir



A Moldovan choir consisting of 12 people of both First and Second Generations under the leadership of Marina Zhuchkova recorded a video of two hymns written by Hans Campman, which will be part of the EUME offering to True Parents on the occasion of the Cheonwon Gung opening. - Sabina Nadejdin

Deep, Moving Moments Felt at Moscow 'Pure Heart' Ceremony



Twenty-five Second Generation teenagers with their parents took part in a "Pure Heart" Ceremony in the Moscow Peace Embassy. A total of 59 people participated, coming from the cities of Nizhny Novgorod, Ryazan and Moscow. In preparation for the ceremony, for a month parents and children read and discussed the book *Purity Is a Gift*. During the ceremony on 25 March Sub-Regional President Jack Corley gave a message of internal guidance. Two lectures followed, and then parents and children formed separate groups for discussion. The actual ceremony featured intimate conversations between parents and children, the "Pure Heart" pledge, white roses, and parents presenting a ring to their child. The program concluded with a waltz danced by fathers with their daughters, mothers with their sons. – *Elena Kalmatskaya*

WFWP-Russia Asks: Is There Life without Obscenities?

WFWP-Russia representatives visited a school dormitory in Moscow to give a talk on "The Consequences of Using Obscene Words." Though 20 students had registered for the lecture, a total of 35 came to listen of their own will and without being pushed by teachers. The atmosphere was serious, and almost none of the students looked at their telephone! The reflections written afterward by the students moved us to tears. Many of them wrote that the lecture made them feel ashamed of using bad words and that it motivated them to change for the better.

A similar programme, sponsored by FFWPU, took place in Ufa city, in the Russian Autonomous Republic of Bashkortostan – Olga Vakulinskaya





WFWP school education programme in Moscow





Education programme in Ufa City

Russian Children Spread Joy on International Women's Day









International Women's Day is one of the most beloved holidays in Russia, and WFWP and Angels of Peace helped elderly people celebrate by giving them a charity concert. Even though many of the children became sick right before the concert, the group still gave a good performance. Both the elderly residents and the administration of the senior home were very happy and grateful. – Olga Vakulinskaya



UPF-Russia Webinar on IAPD Draws 30K Views

 After interviewing Russian religious leaders in a recent series of online broadcasts, UPF-Russia held a webinar to introduce UPF's Interreligious Association for Peace and Development (IAPD). UPF-Russia President Maria Nazarova and UPF-Moscow leader Dmitry Samko described True Parents' various initiatives for interreligious dialogue as well as their proposal to reform the United Nations. As with a previous webinar to introduce UPF's International Association of Academicians for Peace (IAAP), they relied largely on True Parents' words to explain the vision behind IAPD. Because this type of webinar now is very important, UPF-Russia will hold a webinar to introduce each of the UPF associations. The IAPD webinar received 30,000 views. – Maria Nazarova





Romanian CARP Holds 2-Day DP Workshop





2 Days Workshop

– Miki Predescu



Romanian CARP Roll Up Their Sleeves and Clean

• Bottles, cigarette butts, plastic and all kinds of trash are no longer in Bucharest's Vacaresti Park after 12 Romanian CARP members spent a day cleaning. The park is the largest in Bucharest and is also a nature reserve with many kinds of flowers, birds, rodents and small animals. Hundreds of people visit it every week. CARP members had long desired to do something for the community, and the beautiful spring weather encouraged them to make the park beautiful again. As the members gathered as many bags of trash as possible, passers-by expressed their approval and parents explained to their children the importance of caring for nature. The park security guard took a photo of the cleaning team and thanked them for their hard work. After they finished cleaning, they recycled the glass and plastic that they had gathered. Finally, they sat down together to eat rice balls and talk about their day cleaning the park. – *Miki Predescu*

CheonBo Seminar Brings Power to Lithuanian Community



Cheonbo Europe Branch staff members Tibor Krebsz and Mont-Lang Colleter came to Vilnius to conduct a two-day educational Cheonbo seminar. A total of 46 participants, including Second Generation children, attended the lectures and Chanyang sessions, prayed at the Cheonshim Won prayer room, and submitted Offering Papers. In their reflections, members said the seminar created a strong sense of unity in the presence of True Parents and gave them answers to their deepest questions. – Aram and Roma Karagezian





In the Riga Peace Embassy, a three-day seminar was held for Second Generation schoolchildren with the theme "I Am God's Child." Eight schoolchildren participated in full, and two schoolchildren and one pre-schooler attended for some of the time.

Day 1 featured a hike and a "quest" in the winter forest along the dunes. At the top of the hill, the children received internal guidance on "My Relationship with Heavenly Parent."

During the workshop there were three presentations: Vertical Relationship, Horizontal Relationship, Relationship with All Things. The children also had lecture practice.

There was a master class in weaving beads to create a Tree of Happiness, and sports and team games. And the children took turns giving their testimony.

The program included a joint HDH in the mornings and a worship service on Sunday, as well as a Korean lesson and a movie night. --Janis Vjaters

Activities in Latvia

Bulgarian Assembly: A Chance to Discuss, Learn, But Also Have Some Fun

The Peace Embassy in Sofia was the site of Bulgarian members' annual National Assembly on Sunday, 19 March. Seven people participated in person, and there were an additional three in other countries who participated online. The day's events started with Sunday service. Gani Rroshi, the UPF leader for the Balkan Peninsula, appeared online to give the sermon from his native Albania. Next was the official business: a report on activities and finances, followed by the re-election of the Board. During lunch the members discussed plans and ideas, especially regarding the Special Grace. In the afternoon, there was a Divine Principle lecture for both guests and members, which recently has been a regular Sunday event. In the evening everyone went to a concert of Hungarian folk music and dance, which was organized in honour of the Hungarian national holiday on 15 March. – *Edina Zsolcsak*



Thank You!

