

Special Sunday Service – Gratitude and Hope

Chamarande Training Centre, France, 5. June 2016



This Sunday, June 5th, we celebrated the 54th Day of All True Things and the 62th anniversary of the founding of the HAS-UWC and the 40th anniversary of Yankee Stadium. Having our continental director, the reverend Jack Corley with us was, as we say, “the cherry on top of the icing”.

The members of the Greater Paris Region gathered in our training center of Chamarande after having had pledge

service earlier in the morning in their homes or at the national headquarters in Orsay.

In honor of God and His creation, we sang: “How Great Thou Art”.

David Perry, the MC of the day, led the congregation then to offer the Cheon Il Guk anthem and the reciting of the eighth verse of Family Pledge. Laurent Ladouce, national messiah to Laos had just returned from Hawaii, where he participated in a Lao

Buddhist gathering, shared how he had been, to his great surprise, invited by their gathering to preside a “Blessing of the couples present”. Since he could not contact the local church, he improvised. Nevertheless, he was touched by the sincerity of the couples present and their eagerness to receive God’s Blessing.

The next hymn was in honor of the founding of the HAS-UWC: “Light in the East”. Then, reverend Jack Corley shared his heart and words on the topic “Gratitude and Hope”. There are always thousands of reasons for saying “thank you”, of being humble, of having faith and hope, even amidst trials and difficulties. Everyone’s heart could resonate with his deep sincerity and spirituality.

After his message, the next hymn we sang was in commemoration of Yankee Stadium: “You are my Sunshine”.

At the end of the service, some young Unificationists shared their plans to attend the International Youth Meeting organized by the Catholic Church in Poland, from July 26 to 31, 2016 and presented the theme song of that gathering. They hope to be able to share their faith with other youths.

After the service, everyone enjoyed fellowship with coffee and cake.

Link to the video recording:
<https://vimeo.com/169845103>