

Kevin Thompson and the Bay Family Area Church Host “Stand up for Marriage” Event

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With a little bit of creativity and initiative, Unificationists of the Bay Area Family church successfully took an original idea and hosted the “Stand Up For Marriage and Family” banquet on February 23, 2013.

After the victorious Foundation Day, which was celebrated around the world, the Bay Area Family Church families held a celebration for members and friends at the Oakland Hilton, with 231 people in attendance, 67 of whom were guests.



“We wanted to find a way to connect our guests to Foundation Day,” Rev. Kevin Thompson, District Pastor of Northern California, told Unification News. “We, as Unificationists were receiving a great blessing from True Parents, so we wanted to be able to pass this blessing to our guests who did not participate. This event was a golden opportunity for us to spread the joy and victory of True Parents by including guests and giving a kick-off to our Tribal Messiah work for the next seven years.”

Carl Hagen, the master of ceremonies, presided over the event. Church and gospel music from Rick Joswick and his band provided a wonderful atmosphere to celebrate, according to Rev. Thompson.



Nick Buscovich delivered the main message of hope and joy in the glory of God-centered marriages. Then everyone participated in taking Holy Wine and rededicated their marriages to God and the evening concluded with a meal and dancing.

“About two months before foundation day, a group of the Bay Area Family Church families got together and talked about how we wanted to start a movement that brings together liked-minded people who are concerned about marriage and families in America,” said Rev. Thompson.” The event, which we plan to make an annual event, was a product of this idea to create such a movement that stands up for the values of marriage and families.”



Despite the absence of the district pastor, “The ability of our brother and sisters to take responsibility, unite and believe in God to work through us, allowed us to have a successful event. As True Father has said, we are each supposed to be a Tribal Messiah and take responsibility and I think we are following that path,” Buscovich told Unification News.

“Even though their District Pastor, wasn’t there because I was in Korea during and after Foundation Day, it was wonderful to see the members put together the event without me. When the leader is around, sometimes, things can get bottlenecked, but this event was example of the local members taking responsibility. “