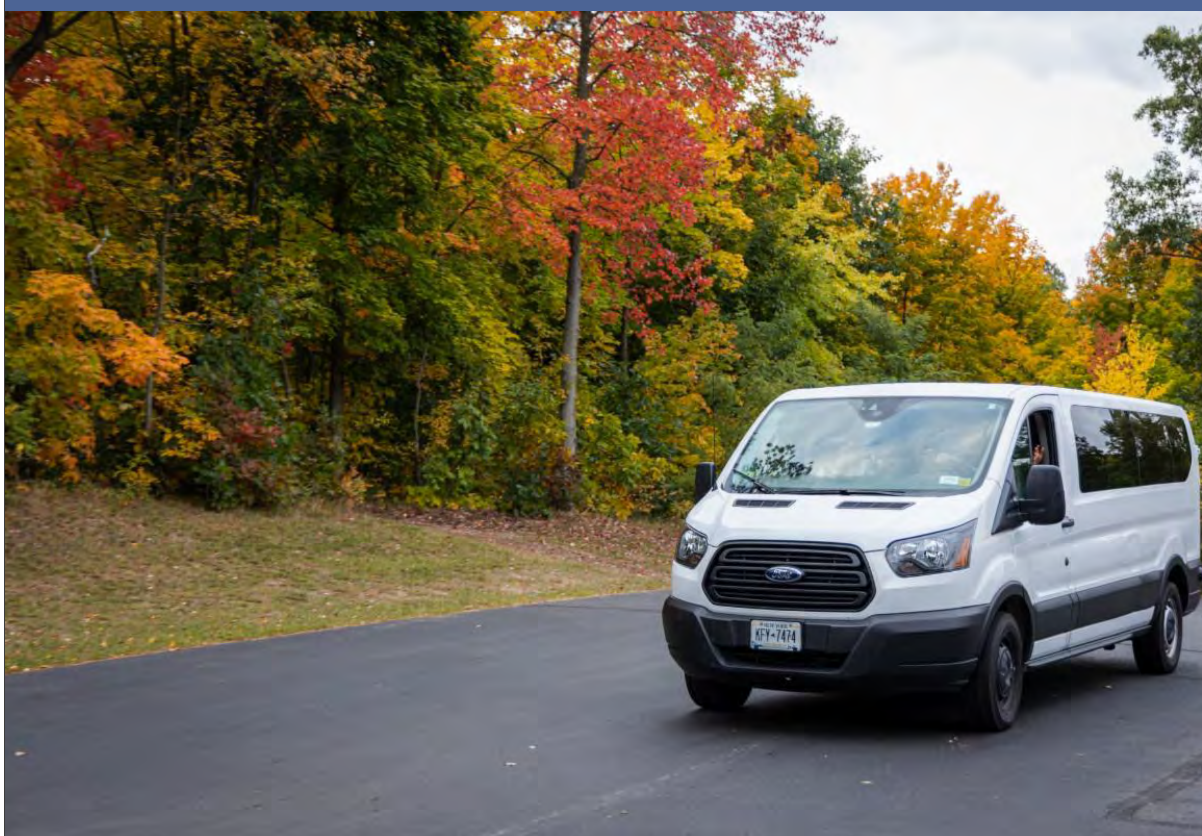


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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER - OCTOBER 7, 2024

Leaves are falling, but the year is picking
up



Pictured above: A Ford Transit in the fall, taken by Hiroshi Suzuki

GPA - Wrapping Up First Condition

Generation Peace Academy is wrapping up their fundraising condition and heading towards Michigan to have their 3-day October workshop.

This condition was focused on growing their character and shifting their internal value system, where they can think beyond themselves and live for the sake of others or a higher purpose.

There were many experiences this condition of participants stretching their hearts, persevering, and growing in their relationship with Heavenly Parent.

A first year participant, Koji Torikai, had a breakthrough in his relationship with Heavenly Parent during his fundraising condition. He was faced with a scarce amount of people, but wanted to keep faith in the area he was placed in.

“After a while of walking and not seeing anyone around me, I began to reflect on my run, thinking, 'What is God trying to tell me?' Even coming back to the van with only a few dollars in my pocket, I still thought, 'God what lesson did you teach me? What are you trying to reveal to me with this tough run?' After some thought, I realized that God was trying to show the fatherly and motherly aspects of his/herself. God's motherly love was gracious, kind and allowed me to hit my run goals for the first two runs. But, I felt God's fatherly love as he was teaching me lessons, keeping me humble, and guiding me towards growth. I left it at that, but there was still a feeling inside me that told me I'm missing the bigger picture. I kept going back to how I felt during every interaction, that I even when I got rejected, I was grateful that I could at least talk to somebody. It was only until I went back to my God's words from the HDH that morning that I was able to understand what God was showing me. 'That is a secret of being God's son. It is to be utterly obedient to God's will. Only in this way can you make God happy.'”

This is just the beginning, and already they are having experiences that are deepening their faith.

CIG - Center Life!

This past week, the CIG missionaries have split off into five communities – Bay Area, Los Angeles, Indiana, Georgia, and New Jersey! Scroll through to read what each community has been up to.

Bay Area

One CIG team is staying in the Bay Area during this 2-month long mission of testifying about True Mother as the Only Begotten Daughter (OBD) to God's children through witnessing.

This is the team! From left to right, Jon Davis, Ryuji Hoshino, Mihyang Belmonte, and Unja Tanaka at the Twin Peaks.



They are now living in the Bay Area CARP House with the CARP members, UPA missionaries, and the Morita family. Throughout this week, they witnessed on Chabot College campus, visited the first holy ground True Father established in America, and participated in the local events and Peace Starts with Me seminars.



The team is feeling determined to leave a positive impact on the Bay Area for the love that they received from the community.

Coming up next week are the CARP 3-day workshop and WFWP “Self Care Isn't Selfish” events.

See you brothers and sisters next week!

Los Angeles

This has been an incredibly packed week for the LA team, so let’s unpack what they’ve done these past seven days!

They went to witness on the campus of Pasadena City College (PCC) in order to familiarize themselves with the ways of witnessing in LA. They participated in the CARP talk there, and also had the opportunity to witness with the CARP members and the UPA missionaries.

However, for most of this week, they were gearing up in preparation for the large event that was held on Saturday, the North and South Korean Unity Symposium. Given that the event was in Koreatown, some of the missionaries went out to the streets to pass out flyers to promote the symposium.

Overall, the event was successful, and a whopping 130 attendees showed up. The investments made came into fruition, making it a very victorious week.



Indiana

The CIG Youth Missionaries of Indiana have arrived in Indianapolis, Indiana from Bay Area, California, where they settled in the Indianapolis Family Church to plan for their mission forward.

During the first day, they met with the pastor of the church, Hebangja Kisile, who helped settle them in, as well as giving updates on recent or ongoing news that the group could collaborate with. One big event given was the church service happening the upcoming Sunday.

With the 21 Day witnessing condition coming to a close, the church focused on inviting the local community to the church service in hopes for success in gathering new members. The missionaries supported the final push for this condition through witnessing in the neighborhoods and preparing for the program's scheduled events.



Georgia

The Georgia team was greeted by a beautiful young couple, Yeonsun and Nami Tariq, and two HTG missionaries from Japan.

They went witnessing, and hosted an event called Winner Dinner on Friday. There they met more members of the Georgia community, and also some invited guests. It's a beautiful community with strong love for God, strong Christian foundation, and open hearts.

There was a service project called the Kings Table, they supported, where they gave out food, housing supplies, and daily necessities to people impacted by Hurricane Helene.

On Sunday, we were warmly greeted by the whole community, and attended a beautiful service about putting Faith into Action.

New Jersey

From CIGYM, a team of four missionaries were chosen to serve in the community of Clifton, New Jersey.

Upon arrival, they began their journey by offering a prayer in the Cheon Shim Won to pledge declarations and hopes for these two months. The following morning, they enjoyed a delightful breakfast with New Jersey Pastor Naokimi and Assistant Pastor Takino. Over a tasty assortment of fine pastries, We introduced ourselves to Pastor Naokimi and shared what personal goals they have for this mission.

During the week they experienced witnessing in NJIT campus as well as Montclair University campus. With the help of Heavenly Top Gun (HTG)

Missionaries Daeyung Lee and Gino Song, they talked with students about how to create peace in the environment and invited them to Peace Starts With Me events. The events included CARP talks on campus, where they went deeper into the topic of peace.

Lastly the team of brothers attended events at the Clifton Family Church such as Homebase, where youth can come to connect with one another, and ultimately feel at home.



HUSA - Understanding American History

Hello everyone! This week we continued with our mission in Little Rock, Arkansas.

We had Reverend Clarke from New York give several lectures during our American Christian Providence workshop titled "Ending Racism, the False Ideology in Building Cheon Il Guk." Analyzing 400 years of American history and this country's providential role as the "Elder Son" nation, what pushed us forward with the providence, and what held us back.

Kyungwhi Sakuwa, a second year on this program shared his reflection on the lectures. "It opened up my mind to the idea that we can work with other organizations too, which is what, you know, WFWP probably is already doing, but just like on an individual level. What's to say we can't do something like that again— you're working with influential movements that are actually making a big change together!"

There were many more initiatives leading up to the praise and worship service. We prepped lunches with love and gave them to the homeless with an intention of spreading hope. We did a flash mob performance in front of a Walmart and touched the hearts of many with our songs and praises, and reached out to talk about peace.

We also started witnessing and Divine Principle lecturing at the University of Arkansas. For many of our members, it was only their 2nd or 3rd time going one-on-one witnessing, so we were unsure of what to expect. With a prayerful heart, the group split up into trinities, walking around the campus trying to find those who God had prepared. God and spirit world were working very hard that day, we all clearly saw it. Here is a testimony from a first year HUSA sister, Sophia Nix.

"My first time witnessing, I met this guy named Rakesh while on [the]

college campus. He was a 20 year old boxer in training and had an African spiritualist background. While asking him what peace meant to him, he told me 'Peace is harmony.' It's understanding although everybody doesn't sound or look the same, we can all unite and create something beautiful, as if we were doing a symphony. My second time witnessing, I met this young guy named Austin. At the time, my determination was to find the children that God was longing to find and talk to. Austin was a 20 year old guitar player that grew up Christian but lost his faith. I really felt God's heart while talking to him, because it felt like I was able to talk to His long lost son, wanting to form this relationship between parent and child again."

We started practicing lectures based on the series "Peace Starts with Me True Love Seminar" by Dr. Andrew Compton. This new content is to keep up with the changing times of our movement. Practicing with each other, we worked on our public speaking skills as well as expressing the heart of the content.

Joyce Konan, a 3rd year HUSA missionary met Sam, a 21 year-old boxer from Dallas training in Arkansas, who came along with these various initiatives. We were able to bring him to our own Little Rock Family church as well! He also came to our service project to feed the homeless, and started to read the *Mother of Peace*. Sam also started to receive the Peace Start with Me education from Rev. Compton.

We hosted a board game night at True Brew cafe, which is connected to the Little Rock Family Church. Snacks, lattes, and mocktails were set up for guests and friends. Throughout the night of board games, Just Dance, Super Smash Bros, and improv, we were able to cultivate and experience a culture of heart to connect with those who came.

We attended two bible studies, one at the Faith Temple Full Gospel Deliverance Center and one at New Life Church, to get to know these congregations and to understand their heart towards God and Jesus Christ.

"I really enjoyed this bible study session 'cause it connected a lot to how God was speaking to me today. Lately my faith has been very shaky and I've been more of a fan of God rather than an obedient follower. I love the things he does for others, but I myself didn't desire grace from him because I felt I had to earn it. My central figure pointed this out to me today, to which I was very grateful. To live a life devoted to God means you cannot continuously go back to your old self. It made me think back to Jesus' quote in the Bible. "So, because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of my mouth" –Revelation 3:16. I also noticed that I was displaying an act of self righteousness throughout these weeks, when instead I should've been more humble and seeking God's guidance. This bible study helped me hear God's voice and direction clearly. Now I understand what I must do now going forward in my life of faith" –Nasaan Benson.

We learned a lot about center life from Christine Froehlich, understanding the significance of how the culture we create influences our life of faith. And based on the culture, we can either have a positive or negative impact on one another. As young missionaries we need to learn how to work in harmony with one another, which starts by have compassion and seeing each other from God's perspective.

There was a lot that happened this past week and a half. Next week we will talk more about our prep and execution for the October 6th, praise and worship event. Mansei!

This newsletter is for you, if you have a suggestion or something you'd like to see, respond to this email and we'll see what we can do.

Thank you for reading! We'll see you again in next week's newsletter
In the meantime...

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