

New Hope Family Church Council: A Heavenly Parent Holy Community in DC area

Jim Boothby
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Dear New Hope Family Member,

We know that you have been longing to hear from us and understand the situation with our Melford space. We are sending this letter out to clarify what steps we have been working on and the outcome. We are grateful for your support through these long months and that we can report a positive ending. As of October 31, 2020, we were able to terminate our lease with St. John Properties for the space at the Melford location. We are free to pursue our search for a better location for worship and activities.

This letter from the council informs you also about an emerging, exciting new vision of a unified Heavenly Parent holy community in the national capital **metro area (DMV)**. **Reflecting about our own on communities' state as well as** considering the current political and social polarization it seems incumbent for Unificationists to set an example of inclusion, caring, sharing, collaboration, and leading our communities and institutions with the principles True Parent have been teaching and practicing since they arrived in the United States.

On the initiative and under the leadership of Pastor Ernest and Pastor Achille a new vision is emerging which consists of two components:
(1) centralizing ministries and worship in the DMV area – including the youth ministry, young adult ministry, Sunday school ministry, music ministry, prayer and care ministries, and so forth; and
(2) decentralizing the congregations into smaller community units for closer spiritual and social interaction and support.

The focus of this new vision is
(1) fulfilling True Mother's mandate to reach out to 1/3 of the population in our sphere of influence — especially through social impact;
(2) develop Tribal Messiahship and Cheon Bo families;
(3) raise, develop, and educate new leadership.

You might think of it as a hybrid system which includes best practices from when we were a unified community in the 1980s, 90s and early 2000s and the time we separated into three congregations in Washington D.C., Northern Virginia (Nova) and Metro Maryland (New Hope Family, NHF).

Pastor Achille is in the process of constituting a new pastoral and ministry leadership team. He has given the three councils in Washington DC, Nova and New Hope Family the suggestion to merge, and the NHF council is working on a comprehensive proposal to do this during the next three months.

Thank you!
New Hope Family Council

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