



Interreligious Festival and Devotions for Peace

Luscha Alm, Bad Eisenkappl, Austria, July 22, 2018

By Alfred Waldmann

The annual peace festival on Luscha Alm was attended by around 70 participants from Carinthia, Styria and Slovenia. The theme of the festival was „Peace Starts With Me“. This event was planned and organized by the Family Federation Carinthia in collaboration with the Organic Christ Generation Carinthia (OCG). This year, we particularly focused on an interreligious aspect and invited two organizations, Bahai religion and the community “Universal Life” to introduce themselves.

Mr. Gottfried Ibounig from the Family Federation Carinthia lead us through a diverse program and explained us the

meaning of the chapel, which was built by Florian Sadounig, a World War II veteran, as a gathering place for “Sincere Reflection and Communication among People, Nations and Religions”. This purpose was clearly reflected in our program: Mr. Gustav Egger presented words of peace taken from the book “Faith and Reality” by Rev. Sun Myung Moon. Next, Cornelius, member of the Organic Christ Generation, performed two original songs of peace. English and German fellowship songs, sung by the whole congregation, as well as a Slovene popular song, presented by 20 Slovene participants, contributed to the interesting and colorful program.

Alfred and Janine Waldmann, responsible for the Family Federation Carinthia, testified to the meaning of the family as a corner stone for a peaceful society, based on mutual respect and love. In conclusion, Manuel and Markus Wölscher from the OCG offered a special peace prayer for the whole region, which marked the ending of the first part.

After the peace service, everyone gathered in front of the chapel to enjoy a beautifully prepared buffet, a great opportunity for sharing and conversation. After that, some took part in the two-hour hike to Slovenia, concluding this very successful event.

