

FFWPU USA's Blue Dragon Tour and Pilgrimage, Part 2

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From April 5-7, the 5th stop of the Blue Dragon Tour was held at the Chicago Family Church with 304 individuals in attendance. Second-generation participants had transformative spiritual experiences that provided much-needed healing. From April 12-14, the New Jersey Family Church (NJFC) hosted the Blue Dragon Tour's 6th stop. Two satellite locations were set up at the Belvedere Family Church and the Korean Evangelical Association (KEA) Church due to space limitations. Registration in New Jersey included 454 individuals, 138 in New York, 75 at the KEA Church, and 260 more who registered for online viewing. A total of 927 people attended. Second-generation members led 70 percent of the event.



On April 20, 100 American Clergy Leadership Conference (ACLC) members from across the United States arrived in Korea for the events. Upon arrival, they held a praise and worship session, where Bishop Abram Dixon from Houston, Texas, the spiritual son of Pastor Noel Jones, delivered a powerful message. Dr. Michael Jenkins provided a history of True Mother, her Christian cultural background, and the church's history. The pastors then visited Cheongpa Dong Church to pray, followed by dinner with the Korean Christian Leadership Conference (KCLC). The next day, they attended a service at Cheon Won Gung Cheonseung ("Heavenly Victory") in Seoul, where local Korean members witnessed the ACLC standing with True Parents. That evening, the clergy prayed at Cheonshim Won, offering a full bow, and many received revelations about True Parents and True Mother.



April 22, the 5th day of the Blue Dragon Pilgrimage in Korea, was filled with meaningful experiences. The 420 Blue Dragon youth participants attended the International Leadership Conference (ILC) with 100 ACLC members. Second-generation participant Tarlee Teah shared: 'I was able to hear and see just how impactful we are as Americans, and how right now we truly need to work together to help support Korea in uniting and unifying North and South Korea.' ACLC and youth then enjoyed Nami Island's Aviary, coffee at the Aqua Garden Cafe, and the sights from the HJ Cruise. That evening, Rev. Kevin Thompson, Pastor of the Bay Area Family Church, discussed the role and foundation of Christianity in Korea, the Korean War, and the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), in preparation for the following day's events.

On April 23, day 6, all 520 Americans crossed the famous Han River Bridge in Seoul and enjoyed Nodeul Island. They then made their way to the DMZ to pray for North-South Korea unification. Young

Unificationist Desiree Contreras shared: 'I feel like this is a foundation to unite the world. Little by little, I'm starting to see the mission that Mother Moon is trying to bring. I feel like this is the foundation to bring the world to peace and to bring more countries together.' Everyone also visited the Yanghwajin Christian Missionary Cemetery and the Korean War Memorial.

On April 24, day 7, single youth participants received Blessing guidance while brides-to-be prepared for their upcoming nuptials. ACLC couples held their own Blessing Preparation Banquet. High Noon representative Benjy Uyama provided spiritual tools for living a life without shadows. That morning, True Mother officiated the Cosmic Blessing Ceremony, where 21 young couples from America and 40 ACLC married couples received the Blessing. True Parents' Holy Wedding Anniversary was also celebrated. All 420 American youth enthusiastically performed 'Total Praise' for True Mother at the Victory Luncheon that followed. That evening, ACLC and the youth held a 3-hour prayer vigil during which ACLC members shared testimonies, and young members learned how True Mother is reaching the hearts of Christian leaders in America through ACLC.



On April 25, everyone visited Cheon Jeong Gung and received True Mother's words at the Victory Celebration in the main hall. This was followed by a special meeting with True Mother and the key leaders of the Unification Church worldwide. Rev. Demian Dunkley, Regional Chair and National President for the American Movement, reported on the youth who came to Korea.

On April 26, the final day of the Blue Dragon Pilgrimage in Korea, ACLC participated in the IAPD Interfaith Imjingak Prayer Meeting for a Heavenly Unified Korea. Youth participants enjoyed a visit from Professor Yeon Ah Moon, who brought some of True Parents' favorite snacks - Dunkin' donuts, coffee, and pumpkin candy - and shared about True Parents. Participants also heard from Professor Hyun-Sup Do and Dr. Yong-Cheon Song, International Chairman of the Family Federation, about True Parents' course. Many participants, including new Unificationists, then shared their testimonies of their time in Korea. New Unificationist Ramone Richburg from Atlanta, Georgia, shared: 'For anybody that didn't experience Chung Pyung, you definitely want to experience it at least once or twice in your lifetime. It's beautiful out here, especially if you need some spiritual healing. God is good, God is good. True Parents are definitely real, you know, definitely.

Participants flew back to America on April 27, where the Blue Dragon Tour continued with its 7th stop in Indiana from May 3-5, hosting 120 members. It then made its way to Las Vegas from May 10-12 and ended in Atlanta from May 17-19. Many youth testified to having an eye-opening experience hearing True Mother's story and now understand why she is the Only Begotten Daughter and why that is so important.