



WOMEN'S FEDERATION FOR WORLD PEACE USA
Living by the Logic of Love

WFWP USA E-Newsletter May - June 2013



President's Corner

Dear Friends of WFWP,

It's healin' time!

As we look back over the last two months, we find that our WFWP USA has been involved in many initiatives and activities that correspond to our theme this year: "Spirituality, Healing and Service."

Most recently, 5 courageous women and two young people returned from a historic 1,000-mile Trail of Tears Prayer Journey, which started in Calhoun, Ga., and successfully concluded in Tahlequah, Okla., with a "Wiping of the Tears Sacred Ceremony." It was conducted by Rev. Dr. Linda Lucero (of the United Native American Council) and Chief George Akeen, who released the pain and resentment inflicted on the Cherokee and other nations 175 years ago. A fuller account will be published in the next issue and on our website.

It doesn't take much to make an impact from one human heart to another (see other articles in this issue) when women decide to "just do it"! It is time for all women and mothers to get involved and use our God-given gifts of spirituality/prayer, healing and service right where we are, in our families, neighborhoods and communities to bring hope and change for the better. No titles and positions are needed for that - just a willing heart, working together, and tenacity to see it through!

With the words of our Founder, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, on April 10, 2002:
"We must all push ahead in the conviction that no matter how wounded and scarred this world becomes, it can be healed and cleansed by the substantial work of women united in the vision of God's true love."

Have a wonderful summer!

Angelika Selle



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OHIO

Love for All, Hatred for None

Bridge of Peace Ceremony with the Ahmadiyya Muslim community

On Saturday, May 4, the WFWP Columbus chapter held a Bridge of Peace and PowerPoint presentation with the Women's Auxiliary of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in Groveport, Ohio.

The leader of the Ahmadiyya group invited the WFWP chapter to one of their meetings. WFWP then suggested that this would be a great opportunity to have a Bridge of Peace Ceremony. The Ahmadiyya group agreed and also invited them to give a PowerPoint presentation about "Women of Faith," which is based on WFWP President Angelika Selle's "HerStory" talk.

"We were a mixed group of old and new, and that made it all the more exciting. Margaret Kim asked an older member of the Ahmadiyya group to be her partner, and while they were talking together, she found out that this lady was directly related to Genghis Khan! It was nice to know a little about our Bridge partner before we crossed over in reconciliation and love," Annette Yamakawa said.



Yusun Abrahams gives the HerStory PowerPoint presentation.

Yusun Abrahams then concluded the program by presenting "HerStory" - the Women of Faith PowerPoint.

Annette Yamakawa and Marcia Schlichting

TENNESSEE

Teens Create a 'Clean Slate' Through Abstinence

Warning local teens of premature parenthood

"How can parents help their teenage girls to see the challenges of early pregnancy and prevent them from engaging in early sexual relations," was the underlying theme of the Clean Slate Seminar held on April 20 near Memphis, Tenn. In her presentations, Mrs. Heidi Iseda, the main speaker, answered those questions and pointed out in very convincing ways why abstinence before marriage is important.

Chairwoman Friederun Abrahams was happy to receive positive feedback from the teens and parents alike.

"They especially enjoyed the interaction exercises that were a part of the presentation," Abrahams said.

The participants were asked to juggle balloons that represented different diseases as well as other consequences that would impact on living a happy life -- for example, juggling school, having a baby, and work. Mrs. Iseda also spoke about the emotional toll premature parenthood can take on a teen because they are still developing.



Heidi Iseda (center) with Clean Slate seminar participants.

HAITI

Offering Hope to Haiti Through Education

*Sixth annual WFWP USA project
June 20-30, 2013*

This year, the WFWP USA president, along with pastors, young women leaders, educators and nurses, went to Haiti to serve the Haitian women, youth and clergy. In addition to medical treatment and health supplies, they brought precious knowledge, communicated through educational seminars and meetings that discussed the importance of character, health and family education, and women's leadership.

Last year, students from the University of South Florida and volunteers from across America went to Haiti for seven days. They were joined by volunteers in Cap-Haitien, Haiti's second-largest city.

Boston Chairwoman Peggy Brewster, who has been involved with the Haiti project for several years, said, "Together, we taught character education, healthcare education and family education and reached over 800 participants."

Read their exciting stories and reports in our next issue!!

MINNESOTA

Learning to Love

Mothers and daughters share their insights

Five women and mothers of interracial backgrounds opened their hearts to a small group of mothers and daughters at the end of May in St. Paul, Minn. WFWP member Eri Pehling started off by giving a testimony on what she learned about relationships within her own family while growing up.

Born in Japan, she witnessed the strength of her family members learning to sincerely love one another while overcoming various differences and difficulties. She also spoke of learning to love a daughter-in-law like one's own daughter.



Former Chairwoman Mary Jane Anderson (left) and other singers entertain the WFWP gathering.

Adyna Willis spoke about her new 11-month-old baby and what it means to deeply love your child and create an emotional connection with him or her.

Mary Jane Anderson, former Chairwoman of the Minnesota chapter, spoke passionately on the significance of

transplanting one's spirit into the "lineage" of God and her decision to choose a spiritual path to come closer to God.

Rosemary Yokoi, a mother who was born in Austria, concluded the session by speaking about how the Blessing of Marriage can restore mother-in-law and daughter-in-law relationships.

"Prayer at home and honestly cultivating a loving relationship between children and parents is key," she said.

Mikaela Hoegl



Minnesota Chairwoman Jeannette Henry (seated, center) with some of the participants in the mother-daughter gathering.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

"Consistency Works!"

Annual fundraiser for "Sun of Mozambique" School

The Northern California Chapter of WFWP held its annual Schools of Africa fundraiser at the beautiful home of the LeRoy family.

Kristina Seher, head of the local Principled Academy, presented a moving video showing how the untiring work of the Japanese WFWP missionaries who built successful schools in eight African countries have impacted the lives of African children.



"Mozambique is a country still scarred by the ravages of a past 17-year-long war," Pat Fleischman said. "The Japanese women have especially toiled for years to turn their small Sun of Mozambique School into a so-much-needed K-12 institution, so that underserved children can receive outstanding and affordable education."

The uplifting afternoon, which included prayers, Japanese songs and origami work, concluded with a silent auction to help the school purchase two copy machines, which will be used to provide students with free copies of textbooks and other learning materials. The auction raised over \$5,000.



A Japanese Tea Ceremony was offered.

Pat Fleischman



The spirit of Japan was evoked in honor of the eight Schools of Africa founded by WFPW Japanese missionaries.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Bringing the Whole Family Together

Mother/Daughter Bridge of Peace Ceremony ends up uniting both guys and gals

On May 19, the Southern California chapter decided to use the Bridge of Peace Ceremony to bring together mothers and daughters. Unexpectedly, the ceremony also united mothers and sons, husbands and wives, and brothers and sisters.



After embracing in love, two ladies descend the steps of the Bridge of Peace.

The event was held in a beautiful garden where the original Bridge of Peace - used in uncountable sisterhood ceremonies in years past - was carefully built and decorated. Tables provided participants with space for sharing together and with chances for lessons in makeup, having their nails painted or purchasing our local young entrepreneurs' wares.

The Bridge of Peace Ceremony began with an introduction to WFWP given by Southern California Chairwoman Emma Reed. Then Sheri Rueter, former Chairwoman and one of the founding members of the local chapter, gave the keynote address.

Many guests were moved to tears as she described how this Bridge came into existence and how it has been used in the past.

"Thousands of pairs have crossed this very Bridge, seeking reconciliation and friendship with former enemy nations, and later with women of different races," she said.

When two women stand at opposite sides of the Bridge, they bow to each other in repentance for anything they may have done to cause pain to the other. They are then cheered by the remainder of the participants as they descend the stairs in the center of the Bridge.



Relaxing after the Bridge of Peace rite.



Chair Emma Reed (center), speaker Sheri Rueter (right) and others bask in the sun and fun of the day.

After many mothers and daughters had come together in peace on the Bridge, the ceremony was spontaneously opened to husbands and wives, mothers and sons, and sisters and brothers, all of whom welcomed and embraced the same reconciliation.

The ceremony concluded with a prayer of gratitude and a delicious dinner. Of course, the report would be incomplete without mentioning that many generous donations from

businesses and individuals provided for an exciting raffle at the end of dinner.

Emma Reid

WISCONSIN

World Peace Begins Within Myself

Seven Station Prayer Walk for Peace

For the past five years, the WFWP Wisconsin chapter has pursued annual prayer walks for peace, initiated by women and mothers of different generations and faiths in order to seek divine guidance for issues facing individuals, families, neighborhoods, communities and nations - all for the

sake of promoting peace.

This year marked the sixth such Prayer Walk, when on April 29 nine women gathered at the North Family Residence near Milwaukee for a meeting of prayer and inspiration. After Wisconsin Chairwoman Veronica Ferch welcomed everyone and briefly introduced WFWP, Pastor Marian North presented this year's keynote speaker, Mrs. Mary Ann Hannes, a healer, spiritualist and artist, who spoke on "Vista of Angels and Beyond." She eloquently and passionately explained about how angels want to help us and are helping us in our daily lives. All felt very uplifted, enlightened and inspired.



Praying for peace.

Mrs. Ferch then gave a brief overview of the Prayer Walk, the Seven Stations and the topics connected with them:

- * Individual - harmony of mind and body
- * Family - love between husband and wife, parents and children
- * Church/spiritual support group, i.e., within the church family
- * Neighborhood
- * Among faith groups - different paths home
- * Ethnic groups, and divided nations in Korea
- * Nations - and the United Nations



Lifting up prayers at one of the Seven Stations.

The Prayer Walk wound around through a forested area and had seven interspersed prayer stations, at each one of which all paused and one person offered a prayer. Though Mrs. Hannes and her husband suffer from arthritis and require canes to walk, both joined in for the walk.

May the spirit of prayer and spirituality spread across the nation, help us to find solutions for our social ills, heal ourselves and each other and usher in this new age of love.

Veronica Ferch

COLORADO

Never Too Old to Take Action

An inspired 83-year-old woman decides to build a shelter for women

"We celebrated this year's Mother's Day luncheon on May 25 with a couple married 64 years and various women who have graduated with honors from within the Four Great Realms of Heart - child, sibling, marital, parental," Shirley Chimes said.

A delectable lunch was prepared and Tami Tamayo presented a video featuring WFWP founder, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, and the importance of the Bridge of Peace Ceremony.

The highlight of the event occurred when an 83-year-old lady decided, to everyone's surprise, to become a member of WFWP USA so she could fulfill her dream of building a homeless shelter for women on 20 acres of land given to her three years ago. "In fact, she joined before the program began, inspired about our vision statement somebody had read to her," Chimes said.

Another first-time guest, who revealed she owned and operated a construction company, told her she would help build the shelter for her.

NEW YORK CITY

Wealth, Healing and Peace

Recharging and Empowering Women Seminar

On March 30, the Women's Federation for World Peace New York City Metro Chapter and Life Line Healing Ministries hosted a "Health, Wealth, Healing and Peace" seminar at the Learning Center in New York City. The aim and purpose was to empower both women and men to better understand the function of the whole self (spiritual and physical) and to provide sustainable care for a long and healthy life.

Dr. Gilda Price from "My Win Ministries" gave the opening invocation, which set the spiritual compass moving in the right direction. She then followed up by playing skillfully on her violin the well-known Christian hymn "Amazing Grace," which melted each person's heart. We could feel the spirit of Resurrection in the room.

The mistress of ceremonies, the young, beautiful and eloquent Ms. Vanya Trotman, was introduced by New York City Chairwoman Rev. Beryl Green.

WFWP USA Vice President Rev. Juanita Pierre-Louis, who is also founder of Life Line Healing Ministries, gave a presentation on how the physical and spirit selves can function in a reciprocal relationship for the betterment of the whole self. She also told the women how they can actively heal themselves.

Pastor Marlene Thomas, a graduate of the Unification Theological Seminary, shared about how she heard God's calling and is now on the path of spiritually coaching others.

Rev. Green gave an enlightening talk about the work of the WFWP New York Chapter, such as fundraisers for the Schools of Africa Project, Japan relief efforts, Alabama hurricane support and more.

She also talked about the local effort to support families through their Gifts of the Heart program. The program helps support families who were affected by Hurricane Sandy.

Rev. Green then shared some of the views of WFWP Founder Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon regarding the role of women in the 21st century and why we should all live by the "logic of love."

Toward the end of the program several health coaches gave tips and insights to the audience as to how to help others and themselves to get healthy and stay healthy. Each woman was offered a massage, which made her feel well taken care of and pampered, releasing stress and letting her feel a bit of Heaven and relief. Everyone left smiling and feeling much better than when they came in.

"To our WFWP team who worked very hard to make this happen and to the presenters who took time out of their busy schedules to be with us, we thank you!" Rev. Green said.

Healing the Trail of Tears Through Prayer
Peacemakers of Sacred Healing Prayer Journey ends successfully



Some of the Peacemakers for Sacred Healing group members and participants at the kickoff of the Trail of Tears Prayer Journey. (Photo courtesy of Tom Cutts)

"Outside our Centreville, Va., home, in the pouring rain on that early Friday morning, June 7, 2013, cars began to gather and we began to place our belongings into the two vehicles - one van and a car - to begin our long journey to New Echota, Georgia, where we would begin our Trail of Tears Prayer Journey.

Sandra Lowen from Albany, N.Y.; Reiko Jenkins from Manassas, Va.; Claire Daugherty from Norfolk, Va.; Brenda Miller from Hyattsville, Md.; Joy and Joseph Williams from Northern Virginia and myself, Katherine Cromwell, from Centreville, Va., packed our belongings and then stood in the rain with Pastor Ernest Patton to pray and bless the trail that stretched before us.

Leaving husbands, children, and animals behind, we journeyed forth with our Heavenly Parent before us and a new appreciation of life within our hearts...."

Katherine Cromwell

Stay tuned for a detailed account of their life-transforming experiences on the Trail of Tears in the next issue!



Coming in October!

21st Anniversary National

Assembly

"Learn to Lead"

Empowering Women for Leadership in the 21st Century



Editor's Note:

We would like to thank Tamara Starr, as she moves on to other endeavors, for her valuable and heartfelt investment as our Newsletter Editor!



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