



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

**WFWP USA
E-Newsletter
Summer 2013
June, July, August**



President's Corner

Dear Friends of WFWP,

We hope you had a great summer!

The last few months have been very meaningful and deep for WFWP USA and right in line with this year's theme of "Spirituality, Healing, and Service."

These months have brought us from the Trail of Tears Pilgrimage, through which much healing occurred, to this year's amazing mission to Haiti, during which many young Haitian women responded to work with WFWP, to a variety local Bridge of Peace ceremonies to overcome the friction between enemies on the grass-roots level, and also to a very inspiring and uplifting celebration of Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon's life, legacy, and teachings in Korea on the occasion of the 1st Anniversary of his Ascension.

In addition, this summer has been a season of changes, as we have now moved our WFWP USA headquarters to the Washington, D.C. area. We also welcomed new members on our National Board and look forward to developing WFWP's young women's component this year.

Finally, we look forward to our 21st anniversary National Assembly, which will be held at the University of Maryland on Saturday, October 26, 2013. It is entitled "Learn to Lead: Raising the Next Generation of Women Leaders." The assembly will be preceded by a day of service in Washington, D.C. on Thursday, October 24. We count on your support and participation! Please check our website for details.

Change is upon us. And we believe that in the midst of all kinds of challenges, it is God seeking to raise us up to become better human beings -- if we choose to turn our pain into purpose, and make lemonade from lemons!

Here is to a great fall and celebration of life!

Angelika



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WFWP International

"You Shall Know Them by Their Fruits" Celebrating the Life, Legacy, and Teachings of WFWP Founder Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon on the Anniversary of His Ascension By Angelika Selle, President, WFWP USA

No one could have predicted what was about to occur at this most recent International Leadership Conference (ILC), and in related events in Korea on the occasion of the First Anniversary of Father Moon's Ascension, where our small WFWP USA team participated.

It was truly an unprecedented international gathering extraordinaire! Speakers,



Some members of the Western delegation with WFWP International President Lan Young Moon (center). From left are Nancy Bulow, WFWP USA Administrative Assistant; Carolyn Handschin, WFWP Europe President; Jan Du Plain, CEO of Du Plain Enterprises, a Washington, D.C. PR and special events firm; and Angelika Selle, WFWP USA President.

participants, and longtime leaders and members affiliated with the Unification Movement came together to testify about Father Moon and to commemorate his life, his teachings, his legacy, and the global impact he continues to have on history and on thousands of people.

The conference also highlighted the role and work of Mother Moon, his lifelong, loyal and sacrificial partner for 52 years. Without her, he would not have been able to accomplish what was hitherto impossible.

Why was this conference unprecedented and extraordinary? For me the most memorable point was the seamless collaboration of the participating organizations, the Universal Peace Federation (UPF), WFWP, and the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (FFWPU), all branches of Father Moon's legacy; that brought forth a new type of balance in the Unification Movement. In the words of one participant, there was a "sweetness" to the conference.

Another point was that the Unificationist teaching itself, the Divine Principle, was shared directly with all participants, Unification Movement members and non-members alike. Similarly, the purpose and meaning of

the Holy Blessing of Marriage were carefully examined. The many projects of the participating organizations were explained, bringing home the fact that there is an overall

vision and commission, a common root with different branches, but all with the same goal: making real God's dream of one global family, a world of peace.

A third point was that women and WFP International were featured more in depth and given the opportunity to "show and tell" the amazing work of women over the last 20 years, which surprised many. Several men in the audience later expressed their amazement and respect for WFP and its substantial accomplishments over the last two decades.

Fourth, the audience was exposed to a variety of deep and stirring personal testimonies from many long-term friends of the Unification Movement. They spoke of how Father Moon's life and teaching impacted their lives. Some of them were rather spiritual in nature, such as one by the Hon. Georgina de Venecia, a member of the Philippine House of Representatives, and her husband the Hon. Jose de Venecia, former speaker of the Philippine House of Representatives. They had lost their daughter in a house fire. She said, "That tragedy shattered my soul. I actually wanted to die." After learning from a Unificationist elder that their daughter is alive and well in the spiritual world, they were able to understand one of Father and Mother Moon's most profound teachings, that death does not end a loving relationship. She was able to let her daughter go from her grieving heart. She said, "I began to dream again."

We felt the presence of Father Moon so much in everything, as if he were personally conducting the conference and interested in every detail testifying to the liberation of God's suffering heart through his life and teachings. It was truly astonishing.

On the morning of the opening session, Rev. Kwon Jin Moon delivered the Founder's Keynote Address on behalf of True Mother with such passion and emotion, strength and conviction, holding back tears throughout his delivery. It was just riveting! He received a standing ovation, as he also shared a few words from his heart. He reflected on his late older brother, Hyo Jin Moon, whom he admired for his loyalty toward his father and his understanding of the burden of leadership their father and now the children and ourselves must choose to shoulder.

He said that this is a new age we live in, one which is not about positions. What we need to do now, he said, is to change our mindset from that of a believer to a true son and daughter, who can shed a tear for every living being and for the world, as his Father did. "It is wonderful," he said, "that we are now the people who can do that." He ended by quoting from memory a lengthy portion of the famous St. Crispin's Day Speech from Shakespeare's Henry V, explaining that great people are those who give up their titles and move on to a higher level of a true son and daughter, uplift the people they look after, to become true sons and daughters and true brothers and sisters, so that all can bring about an era of peace.

It was a stirring, electrifying and moving speech. Kwon Jin Moon, the fifth son of Father and Mother Moon, skillfully conveyed every nuance of emotion, as he described his own father, his life for God and humanity and his sacrificial life course.

What moved me personally were the profound prayers, heartfelt messages from faith leaders, and government officials -- men and women alike. It felt balanced and complete. Many of the participants who have known our movement through one of the organizations, expressed that for the first time they "got it." That is, they saw the whole picture, how the philosophy of peace is translated into action through each and every one of the organizations and projects that were introduced and presented.

All was leading up to the highlight, the actual Day of Commemoration of True Father's ascension, which was held in the Cheong Shim Peace World Stadium in Cheong Pyeong. Many expected a rather somber experience, but the opposite was true. The memories, evoked by high-tech media footage of True Father's life, as well as that of True Mother, brought tears to our eyes, as we could feel the depth of their love and heart (shimjung) for all of us. The experience was so strong. There was an inner presence of True Father in me, which I had never felt before.

After all the official ceremonies, dramatic videos of Father's life, and many moving speakers, Mother Moon addressed the gathering of 25,000. "As we watch these videos of my late husband," she said, "we are moved in our hearts. It truly brings us together all around the world. Today we truly have become ONE." And we could feel it indeed.

All of the conference participants were invited to join Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon for a



Americans in Seoul: Mrs. Selle, Ms. Du Plain, and Mrs. Bulow

commemorative luncheon, where more beautiful testimonies were shared, as well as entertainment by the group La Strada. Especially, Dr. Sreerupa Chaudhury of India expressed her heartfelt thanks and admiration for Father Moon. She asked the question: "What has Rev. Moon given to the world?" And she answered, saying, "He gave one thing: To correct fallen nature in humans. He addressed the disease of our minds, not as a social worker, but he gave a pure human mind to all of us. I am very proud of all followers of Sun Myung Moon!"

She continued, "I have seen many peacemakers who have been initially discarded by their society, such as Ghandi, Nelson Mandela, and also Rev. Moon."

Mrs. Chaudhury ended by saying, "I am with you, Mother Moon, in your hardship, and I share your grief with you. I will always be available."

The day and the ILC ended with a wonderful farewell dinner banquet on a high note of joy, fulfillment, and new determination by all present to support Mother Moon to complete the legacy of Father Moon in building a peaceful world.

WFWP USA

Bike Tour for the Reconciliation of North and South Korea

By Angelika Selle, President WFWP USA

Mother Moon was very inspired by the initiative of a group of Japanese men who began a bike tour of 3,800 kilometers through Japan and the length of South Korea to promote the reunification of Korea. They had arrived in Seoul for the occasion of the First Anniversary of Rev. Moon's Ascension. Seventy international leaders of the Unification Movement were invited to join in the bike tour's final stretch leading up to the Peace Park directly adjacent to the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ).

Our WFWP U.S. trio -- Kaye Allen, Nancy Bulow, and I -- ventured to participate in this final moment together with the others. We received our bike gear and, together with representatives of many different nations, began circling the Imjingak Peace Park a few times before entering the "arena" amid great applause, tears, and shouts of joy from the Korean people, who could feel the love and support from around the world through the Unification Movement. The rally included speakers, such as Dr. Chang Shik Yang and several Korean officials, who inspired the crowd to believe that unification will indeed happen.



WFWP participates in the conclusion of a 3,800-kilometer bicycle tour for peaceful North-South Korean reunification.

Unbeknownst to the public, Father Moon had been instrumental in bringing down the Berlin Wall, which was explained by Dr. Yang, as he shared words of hope and conviction that surely, with this kind of sustained effort and prayer, North and South Korea shall unite in the not so distant future.

After a beautiful performance by the Little Angels, live doves were released and flew freely over the audience and across the border, symbolizing true peace and the end of the separation between North and South.

It was a privilege to be a part of this worthy effort as we in WFWP continue to support our North Korean brothers and sisters with the 1% Love Share Project which donates funds for humanitarian supplies to women and children across the border, a program initiated by the President of WFWP International, Dr. Lan Young Moon.

The day continued with an international Unification Movement leaders meeting during which each continent laid out their goals and determinations for Vision 2020. If this first anniversary celebration and events are an indication of what will happen in these next seven years, the power of love that manifested and was felt, the awakening and realizations of so many people as to who Father and Mother Moon are, we can expect some extraordinary changes for the better to happen around the globe.

It all depends on our continued and consistent efforts to inherit the Father and Mother Moon's heart and teachings, to practice them, and to "show and tell" what they have invested in all of us.

As one person said, "We can see the fruit of Father and Mother Moon's work in their followers, whom we admire and are proud of!"

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

Chicago Honors WFWP Founder Ascension Anniversary

By Patricia Fliginger, WFWP Chicago Chairwoman

On Thursday, August 22, Chicago held a memorial event at the Best Western Plus Schaumburg Hotel in honor of the one year anniversary of Father Moon's ascension into the spirit world. Our goal for this event was to not dwell in sorrow, but to celebrate his victories and to carry on his will. The event was called "A Legacy of True Love: Honoring the Life of Rev. Sun Myung Moon Through a Celebration of Our Memories."

The program had two components: a local program and a live feed from Korea. The local program was emceed by Rev. Fannie Smith, WFWP National Executive Board, Chicago Chapter Events Coordinator, and Ambassador for Peace. The program consisted of musical offerings from a Chicago band and personal testimonies.

A special display area was set up in the banquet hall by young volunteers. Among them were: Soo Gin Ogden, Karina Sutker, Kuni Ohama, Alan Taka Cooper, Lana Sutker, and Carie Arline.

The area honored Father Moon with displays of Father Moon's photos, a handmade timeline of significant events of his life, trophies and plaques that were presented here in Chicago, albums that people brought from their own homes, a map for people to pin where they joined, and a box where we put our personal memories of Father Moon. This display area created an atmosphere where we could learn and share how his life had impacted and strengthened people's lives.

The second part of the program was a live broadcast of the celebration in Korea. All the participants watched together on a large screen in the seating area. The live feed helped people feel connected to brothers and sisters beyond nationality and culture centering on Father and Mother Moon.



Rev. Fannie Smith



Chicago WFWP members and friends honoring Father Moon

WFWP USA Prayer and Call to Action in August In Commemoration of the Anniversary of Father Moon's Ascension

A major international focus of WFWP in August was to prepare for the first commemoration of the ascension of the co-founder of WFWP, Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon. Mrs. Juanita Pierre-Louis, Vice President WFWP USA, and Mrs. Angelika Selle, President of WFWP USA, sent out a call to all chapters to begin a special prayer and action effort from July 22 until August 23. As our founder, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, has said, "America can solve all problems if America attends God."

The focus points for the prayer included prayer for our founder's health, strength, and protection; for the unity of Heaven, represented by Father Moon in the spirit world, and Earth, represented by Mother Moon on the Earth; for America to be victorious in letting people know about the mission of WFWP and the founders' vision from now to the year 2020; and, finally, for the members of WFWP to understand and fulfill their providential role as true women, true mothers, and true daughters.

Additionally, the action component during that time period centered around daily reading of Father and Mother Moon's words about creating peace in our communities. On that foundation, women and the wonderful supporting gentlemen were encouraged to become paying members of WFWP, to get out and speak to people about what WFWP is doing, and to have events to promote peace through strengthening the family and bringing God's true love back into our communities.

WFWP USA

Parents' Day Celebrated by WFWP USA What Is Parents' Day?

Parents' Day was approved by the United States Congress as a national holiday to be held on the fourth Sunday in July, and was signed into law by President Bill Clinton on October 14,



Parents' Day Celebration in New York City

1994. The establishment of Parents' Day was the result of a bipartisan, multiracial, and interfaith coalition of religious, civic, and elected leaders who recognized the need to promote responsible parenting in our society and to uplift ideal parental role models, especially for our nation's children.

Therefore, during the month of July many WFWP state chapters held gatherings to honor parents and the role of parents.

Two representative articles about Parents' Day events follow.

NEW YORK CITY

Parents Uplifted in New York City

By Juanita Pierre-Louis, Vice President WFWP USA

The one-day event was a joint venture of the American Clergy Leadership Conference (ACLC), the Unification Theological Seminary (UTS), and the WFWP New York City Chapter, celebrating and honoring Parents' Day 2013. Parents' Day is acknowledged in the U.S. as a national holiday, initiated by Father and Mother Moon in 1994.

Clergy, women, and families were gathered to celebrate the occasion with inspirational

speakers, musical performances, and the honoring of six exemplary parent couples. Mrs. Beryl Green, Chairwoman of WFWP New York, welcomed everyone and set the pace for the WFWP afternoon session.

Mrs. Angelika Selle, President of WFWP USA, shared in her keynote address, "Parents and Spirituality," the need for an improved type of parenting centered on "parentism." She called on the parents present to instill most of all moral and ethical values into the next generation and to create an atmosphere of peace and love in the home.

As she spoke, you could almost imagine the feminine aspect of God speaking out on issues that concern the family and man and woman's role as parents to guide not only their own children, but children in their community. WFWP USA Vice President Juanita Pierre-Louis then gave practical tools on health and healing the family, which is a prerequisite for peace.

Mrs. Nandie Bengu Moton, Chairwoman of the Georgia Chapter of WFWP, lifted up a tune that addressed the needs of the heart entitled "He's Concerned," recorded by CeCe Winans. The program ended with song, dance, massages, and makeovers for the ladies.



Mrs. Selle Speaking at New York Parents' Day

LAS VEGAS

National Parents' Day in Las Vegas

By Susan Starr, WFWP Las Vegas

The Las Vegas National Parents' Day (NPD) observance was held on Saturday July 13, 2013 at the Cambridge Recreation Center in Las Vegas, Nevada. Mrs. Kimiyo Anceney, WFWP Las Vegas Chairwoman, took the helm to organize, obtain co-sponsors, and find funding for this year's event.



Mrs. Mimi Morse at the Podium

The location was secured in May and then Mrs. Anceney found several groups who caught the vision of NPD, including, but not limited to, the Asian American Group (AAG) and the Asian Community Resource Center (ACRC).

AAG is the largest organization of Asians in Nevada. Mr. Mike Vaswani, President of AAG, and Mrs. Rita Vaswani, Vice President of the Nevada State Bank, agreed to support the event and introduced it to their contacts. Ms. Loni Andal, Vice President of AAG, and Ms. Emily Higby, Director of ACRC, contributed in making the event a great success. In my opinion, the essential factor for this event's success was the creation of the Las Vegas Parents' Day Coalition. It was comprised of AAG, ACRC, ACLC, UPF,

WFWP, and FEEF (the Family Education and Empowerment Foundation, headed by Mrs. Mimi Morse).

Through the Parents' Day Coalition, the vast experience and resources of the Asian Community Group and the Asian Resource Center became available to those implementing the event. As a result, four elected officials from the U.S. Congress gave awards to the 10 parents who had been selected to be honored on that day. They were the offices of Senator Harry Reid, Senator Dean Heller, Congressman Joe Heck, and Congresswoman Dina Titus.

Ms. Loni Andal and Ms. Mimi Morse smoothly navigated us through the program as our emcees. The program's main speaker was Dr. Anthony Guerra, who elucidated the history and purpose of National Parents' Day, signed into law by President Clinton in 1994.

The entertainment consisted of several wonderful song selections by Mr. Ted Igarashi, and also by a group of Japanese Taiko drummers, who awed everyone with their performance.

Participating in the program were Rev. Thabiti, who opened with the invocation, and Mrs. Hope Igarashi, who warmly greeted the more than 100 people who attended the program with opening remarks. Those in attendance were honored by having Councilwoman Gerri Schroder of Henderson present a proclamation, and by hearing the closing remarks given by Judge Cheryl Moss, a Family Court Judge in Clark County.

At the end of the program, there was a raffle to raise funds for an organization that helps victims of domestic violence. The overall response of the participants was inspiring, and those who cooperated to make this event a success through the Las Vegas Parents' Day Coalition are looking forward to planning for next year's program.



Japanese Taiko drummers performing

FLORIDA

2013 Haiti Summer Service Project Report

By Evelyn Drake, WFWP Florida Co-Chairwoman

The Sixth Annual Haiti Summer Service Project (HSSP), sponsored by the Women's Federation for World Peace USA, took place in Ouanaminthe, Haiti from June 24-30.

Based on an overwhelming response from the participants in last year's HSSP, we held seminars and a mobile medical clinic to reach 500+ clergy, educators, men, women, and children. Nine volunteers from America, including WFWP USA President Angelika Selle, joined with seven volunteers from Haiti for the one-week project. To everyone's delight, the result was that over 850 participants showed tremendous interest and enthusiasm for the teachings and the project.

Although the official program did not kick off until June 24, our team was able to meet with two different women's groups. On Saturday, June 22 we met with a small local women's group of 22 from Ouanaminthe. Mrs. Selle shared about the founder's vision for WFWP. She introduced Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, who established the first chapter of WFWP in 1992, together with her husband, the Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon, in their homeland of Korea. Mrs. Selle explained Dr. Moon's desire to bring world peace through the "logic of love". She said that women have the power to do this because of their motherly heart, which is nurturing and capable of raising others.

The next day, Sunday June 23, the entire team of volunteers spent the morning sightseeing. We visited the newly built Henri Christophe University in Limonade and the city of Vertiere where the Haitians gained their independence from France in 1804. That afternoon, we met with a newly organized WFWP chapter in Cap-Haitien, Haiti's second-largest city. Mrs. Selle shared the same message about the founders with them as with the Ouanaminthe group. The Cap-Haitien ladies sang songs for us and presented a beautiful wood-carved plaque to Mrs. Selle to give to Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon. Our team was deeply moved by their determination to work with us and set up a successful WFWP chapter in Cap-Haitien in northern Haiti.

On Monday, June 24, we began our regular schedule. That morning, we met with 170 Haitian youth to teach the Character Education curriculum from the Universal Peace Federation (UPF) program. First of all, Mrs. Selle welcomed the mixed group of high school students, middle school students and a few elementary school students. She introduced Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon and the work of WFWP. Following her



The WFWP USA team with Haiti Women's Group



Mrs. Selle receiving a plaque from Joanne Pierre-Severe of WFWP Haiti

presentation, Ms. Manasa Kanithi, an International Relations graduate from the University of South Florida, taught an overview of the character education series, "Discovering the Real Me." After this, Mrs. Diane Girard, an International Studies graduate of San Antonio

University in San Antonio, Texas and an elementary school teacher there, shared her advice on practical ways to apply character education. The students responded with many questions and were eager to learn more.

In the afternoon, our team met with 244 women leaders from the entire northern part of Haiti. After Mrs. Selle's introduction to WFWP and its founders, she spoke on the topic of "HerStory: New Era, New Mindset: Women's Role in the 21st Century." She spoke about the history of women from biblical times to the present, of how women are gradually being recognized as instrumental and even crucial in creating world peace. She also referred to the Global Women's Peace Network and shared how women must network to resolve the various challenges we all face in the family, community, nation, and world.

On Tuesday, June 25, we began our presentations for the Haitian ministers. Forty-nine clergy, plus 319 women leaders and youth, heard the Introduction to the Divine Principle given by the Rev. Jeddie King. Also, after a fine lunch, attended by 700 people, Rev. King taught the Principle of Creation. The ministers were attentive and had numerous questions. They were excited to have the revelation of the Divine Principle explain the hidden meanings of the Bible. At 3 pm, the ministers left to attend a minister's alliance meeting. We continued with song and praise and testimonies. After a while, we selected 20 of the women leaders for a planning session to open a WFWP chapter in Ouanaminthe, with Mrs. Angelika Selle presiding over the meeting.

On Wednesday, June 26, 65 ministers came to hear more Divine Principle, plus the women leaders and families, totaling nearly 400 people. Rev. King taught "The Fall of Man" in the morning session and Min. Elma King presented "Christology" in the afternoon session. The ministers were deeply moved by the Fall lecture and asked question after question regarding the meaning of the fruit and the identity of the serpent. One lady minister stood up and said she had received a revelation during the lecture, that opened her understanding about Eve, how Eve's womb was tainted by Satan and lost God's lineage, and how God used Mary's womb to restore God's lineage. Everyone was moved by her sharing and it helped bring more understanding of the seriousness of the Fall of Man.

Importantly, it was announced by Rev. Levy Daugherty that a United Federation of Churches (UFC) chapter would be formed on Friday, June 28, with a selection of 40 ministers from the area.

On Thursday, June 27, the ministers met for a third session of Divine Principle. This time, Rev. Daugherty was the lecturer. He presented three parts: "The Life of Jesus," "The Second Coming," and "The Life Course of Rev. Sun Myung Moon." The ministers were greatly amazed by what they heard and had many questions and comments. Rev. Daugherty emphasized what Jesus meant by "becoming perfect as your Heavenly Father is perfect" -- that is, to perfect one's relationship with God and God's love.



Mrs. Selle, Mrs. Clare Daugherty (speaking), and Mrs. Evelyn Drake (right) answer questions

The Divine Principle workshop concluded with a graduation ceremony. As a result, each of the 117 ministers received an appointment as Ambassador of Peace. Pictures were taken of the clergy and the staff. Following this, 12 ministers and their wives received the Holy Wine

and the Holy Blessing of Marriage. All in all, it was a fitting conclusion to a remarkable three days of religious education.

Friday, June 28 was our final day of the project. We focused on providing a mobile medical clinic in and around Ouanaminthe throughout the day. 70 patients were seen by our volunteer doctors and nurses. Medicines and care were given to all. I want to acknowledge Mrs. Fannie Smith and the Chicago WFWP chapter as well as Mrs. Diane Girard and her church's Sunday School group for donating all of the medicine for the clinic.

In conclusion, I want to thank, first of all, Mr. Douyon Dameus, for his sacrifice and hard work to develop the Haiti Summer Service Project in Cap-Haitien. Without his year-by-year and daily efforts, I don't know how the project would have survived. Also, I am grateful to Mr.



Mrs. Drake, Eric Papouloute, and Mrs. Selle

Eric Papouloute, who attended our seminars in 2012, was inspired and took responsibility to ensure the gathering of the 117 ministers to hear Divine Principle this year. Furthermore, Eric sent out letters of invitation to not only the clergy but to the women's organizations and to school youth leaders. Thanks to Mr. Guy Volmy, for once again supporting Mr. Dameus and to Mrs. Joanne Pierre-Severe for her tireless efforts to raise up the Women's Federation for World Peace in Cap-Haitien.

Thank you to Mrs. Angelika Selle, as the President of WFWP USA for volunteering her time to oversee and participate in this year's project; Mrs. Margaret Brewster, on her fourth tour with

HSSP, for her healthcare expertise and mother's heart; Ms. Manasa Kanithi, on her third tour, for taking on the challenge of teaching character education to the youth; Rev. and Mrs. Jeddie King, who gave so much last year and again this year; Rev. and Mrs. Levy Daugherty, for their wisdom and example; and Mrs. Diane Girard, for her care for the children through the arts and crafts she had donated herself, as well as being my supportive physical sister.

Once again, with the help of our Heavenly Parent, we were blessed with a successful project. Ministers were educated, women leaders met, the youth gained character and the sick were cared for. Altogether, 850 people participated in the HSSP this year. Even now, the ministers who attended the Divine Principle seminar are planning for a special seminar in November for 500 clergy. I know God is moving in Haiti and that the potential is great for God's work to blossom there. May God bless everyone who made this possible and may God bless Haiti.

MINNESOTA

The Courage to Listen: *Greta Anderson's Journey*

BY Mikaela Hoegl, WFWP Minnesota

"I wanted to go places that were spiritually charged, with an open heart, really there to listen." This is what a young lady, Ms. Greta Anderson, said about her motivation on spending a year traveling around the globe. For this particular event, we were lucky enough to have one of our youth here in Minneapolis share her experiences traveling to Israel, Palestine, Turkey, and Uganda, to name just some of the countries she visited.

In her early 20s, she felt as though she wanted to do something different and decided to see how other youth live across the world. She traveled with the intent of witnessing and observing, which turned out not to be such a simple thing to do. She shared stories of



Greta Anderson (blue skirt) after her presentation, with participants

three particular friendships she created, each person from different religions (Christian, Muslim, and Jewish). One of the key points she shared with us was how so many people are stuck in their own bubbles. All three of these people she met really had no concept of each other. They lived within one hour of one another, yet were totally divided by different ideas, traditions, languages, nations, and barriers. However, there was one thing they had in common, and that was their devout understanding of God. She said she reached a point where she asked herself, 'How can I be friends with these three great people, yet they cannot be friends with each other?' She realized that the answer really comes down to learning to pop those bubbles that are so easy and comfortable to be in.

Greta summed up her presentation by sharing a photo of one particular graffiti drawing she saw in the Middle East. There were various symbols in the drawing and her interpretation of it was that, "When our love is with God, we can be with all."

After the presentation, the participants broke into three groups and discussed some questions and possible answers to help resolve the barriers to realize a more connected and peaceful world. There were many young participants who also shared their inspirations for a new vision to bring positive change in their environment.



Globetrotter Greta

Greta Anderson is 24 years old and a recent graduate of the University of Bridgeport, where she studied graphic design and business. In her last year of study, she began to grow weary of the excess of advertisements that her peers were reading instead of literature, while the meaningful and positive content got little attention. Her senior thesis was a student created publication, which was distributed for free and discussed relevant and worldly topics, with attractive design and copy.

After her graduation, her itch to explore and experience some of the misrepresented societies for herself grew, and her desire to enter the advertisement industry shank. Post-graduation, Greta accumulated nearly a year of experience designing for a start-up magazine in New York City, where she saved up enough to travel and see several countries with her own eyes, serve the people with her own hands, and listen to peoples' real stories with an open heart.

MINNESOTA

WFWP Joins Eid Spa Day

By Jeannette Henry, WFWP Minnesota

On Sunday, August 18, the Minnesota Chapter of Women's Federation for World Peace had the joy and the opportunity to join and participate in Eid Spa Day!

This program is set up particularly to celebrate the end of Ramadan fasting by women of the Muslim faith community. Different women's groups were invited and shared their ideas and tools to bring wellness, health, and beauty to women. The program focused on fellowship, dialogue, and fun as a means of sharing these ideas and sharing among the different women's groups.

Our WFWP team participated in setting up an information booth presenting our ideas, vision, and the different programs we share for women's health, spirituality, and healing. Many of the women who stopped to look and learn about our presentation expressed their joy at learning about WFWP and the comprehensive outreach ability to empower women, to educate and inspire them to work to bring peace in our world today. As mothers, teachers, and healers, they understood the power of working together, and some of them expressed interest in participating in our future programs and activities.

Those of us who participated in this event had a lot of fun using the different tools provided for relaxation and healing. And most of all, it was a great experience meeting other women who have a like-minded intention to promote goodness and wellness for



Jeannette Henry (left) and other Eid Spa Day participants

women. It is always a great joy to see how the vision of WFWP inspires women and empowers them to work together to create a more peaceful world.

MINNESOTA

"Love Without Condition"

By Jeannette Henry, WFWP Minnesota

The Women's Federation for World Peace and the nation of Haiti have a longstanding relationship, developing since the tragic earthquake struck



Haitian Drum & Dance Group performs

the island on January 12, 2010. Our dear friend and WFWP member, Rose Gbadamassi, is a leader of the Haitian community in Minnesota. She organized a program to bring her people together in love and unity. Rose has been a regular attendee of Minneapolis WFWP events, so it was natural for us to want to help support and sponsor her event to bring a positive spirit and outcome to Haitians living in Minneapolis.

The program entitled "Love Without Condition" was held at the beautiful Christo Rey Jesuit High School in Minneapolis. There was a special theatrical performance, as well as a display of different Haitian dishes offered with a joyful heart of service and love to all the guests. Families with children came to watch the program at the beautiful and modern school theater.

Outside the theater, the WFWP display table was headed by Elizabeth Patterson, who shared some of the overviews of the different projects and activities of WFWP.

The program began with introducing Rose as the coordinator and leader of the Haitian community. Her idea for putting the program together, as she said, was "to pull the community together for the sake of unity through unconditional love among her people." There were several acts that featured much of the Haitian culture in the form of music, drums, dance, and some acting. It was inspiring to hear, see, and feel the joyous spirit of the island people and their heartistic expression of life.

A duet musical offering by Scott and Keiko (from WFWP) introduced the theme of peace. Then Mrs. Gudrun Gavin introduced the Women's Federation for World Peace as an organization founded to help realize true peace in the world.

"WFWP is an organization that focuses on empowering women to work on important areas, including improving the health of the individual, the family, and the society, as well as teaching that today's women hold the keys for such success," Mrs. Gavin said.

She shared her own experiences working in Haiti alongside the many other WFWP volunteers who are involved in Haiti relief efforts, who strive to bring to Haiti a message of hope during desperate times. "Efforts such as these will bring opportunities to realize positive changes and real peace," she said.



WFWP information was available at the event.

NEW JERSEY

The Power of Women's Prayer

"Let Us Pray For You"

During the summer, Mrs. Denneze Nelson and her dynamic WFWP team in New Jersey initiated a praying series to use the power of women's prayer to bring about a better life through praying for those in need of prayer.

Women's Federation for World Peace
Presents...
"THE POWER OF WOMEN'S PRAYER"
An ongoing prayer series to use the power of women's prayer to bring about a better life.
Every Wednesday 7-8 PM
521 Van Houten Ave Clifton, NJ
Focus Prayers for Peace
WEEK ONE - Prayer for the Individual/Family
WEEK TWO - Prayer for the Community
WEEK THREE - Prayer for the Nation/World
WEEK FOUR - Prayer of Love for the GOD
For more information and RSVP call Denneze at
973-640-9190 or e-mail at wfwpnjnewjersey@gmail.com
If you would like to join in by telephone please contact Denneze to register.

According to Mrs. Nelson, when a person prays for others, love for others and for oneself is the result. People who pray and are prayed for are healthier, recover more quickly, and live better lives. Developing love is the key to our feeling and doing better.

The group began meeting and praying for an hour each Wednesday: week one to pray for individuals and families, week two for the community, week three for the nation and world, and week four for the love of God. People could join either by attending in person or coming onto a conference call line to allow more people to participate.

In an interview with Mrs. Nelson, she said that the response has been so great that they have decided to continue the series to the end of 2013 and maybe beyond. She added that every week they decide as a group what to pray for, and then they will evaluate how the prayers are answered at the end.

CALIFORNIA--SAN DIEGO

Mary's Heart and Hands

By Mary Nelle Dagenhart, WFWP San Diego Chairwoman

WFWP San Diego has begun working with "Hearts and Hands, A Yarn Ministry." I have been busy preparing items to donate. The pictures are hats for the homeless and cancer patients in the San Diego area.

The women of the Hearts and Hands group also make lacy shawls, baby blankets, and hats that will be donated to homeless men and women in San Diego, cancer patients, and new mothers who might not have any money for clothing or a blanket in a hospital, and they knit and crochet much much more for charity. They donate items to Ronald McDonald house charity, to parents staying at Ronald McDonald House, to the homeless men, women, and

children in San Diego. They also donate to the poor people in Romania, to the children's hospital in San Diego, to low-income mothers, who are giving birth to new-born babies who would otherwise have nothing.

Several churches in and around the San Diego area are coming to the conference that will be held, as well as women who either want to serve by donation, or serve by making, by learning to crochet or knit, or learning new techniques from other sisters, to make more things. All yarn is donated by several organizations, people, churches, etc. They take what they want to make that week, including borrowing the tools to make the item, and return them back to the group to be donated to the charities.

This is a yearly donation, and the group is meeting weekly. They even have a man who knits, who just started recently. He has mental challenges and loves to share stories, discuss life while knitting, as do we all.

So it's exciting to offer a warm blanket, shawl, hat or scarf to an adult, child or senior who is in need.



Hats from the heart

NEW JERSEY

Journeys of the Heart Bring Unity

By Denneze Nelson, WFWP Regional Chairwoman (New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware)

On April 28, 2013, WFWP New Jersey and Sadaqa, Inc. co-sponsored the 11th Annual Women's Interfaith Symposium in Paterson, New Jersey. Sadaqa is a non-profit community-



Standing, left to right: Ms. Zakiyyah Salahuddin, Ms. Ruby Cotton, and Ms. Denneze Nelson

based organization established in 1999 by the late Imam Ameer P. Salahuddin. Sadaqa means "voluntary charity." The group's goal is to extend that charity to those in need. Since its inception in 1999, members have established a Sadaqa Soup Kitchen, Scholarship Fund, After School Youth Programs, and a Resource Center.

The theme of the symposium was "Heart to Heart," and it was truly a gathering of heart. The event was coordinated by Mrs. Claire Haider, Interfaith Director of WFWP New Jersey, and has been seven years in the making.

The content of the presentations was based on who each presenter is as a woman, and were made by women of various Muslim sects, by Christian ministers, by Jewish representatives, and by Unificationists of various ages. The presenters shared their very personal and moving journeys of faith. WFWP/FFWPU representative, Ms. Sandra Stott took the focus a bit higher and based her presentation on the words of WFWP co-founders Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, and focused on how to build ideal families.

Mrs. Ruby Cotton, Councilwoman-at-large, presented a proclamation to both WFWP and Sadaqa, Inc. Then a Bridge of Peace Ceremony brought the afternoon to a moving and joyful climax. The stories about how the many sisters encountered each other were unimaginable. The experience proved to be very moving for the WFWP members present as well. Many ladies were struck by the differences among the diverse presenters and felt inspired to search their souls to find ways to establish stronger bonds with Sadaqa, Inc. and other communities of women.

According to Zakiyyah Salahuddin, wife of the late founder of Sadaqa, Inc., "The event was a success, as there were over 60 attendees. There were some who were a little skeptical when they arrived. But when they had the opportunity to listen to each other testify, I saw women shedding tears, and after we all embraced, had a beautiful dinner, they all left on a happy note. We held hands and prayed. At the end of the day, we were truly Women United Heart to Heart."



Victorious heart of Bridge of Peace sisters

PENNSYLVANIA

Celebrating Marriage and Life Through the Bridge of Peace

By Alice Kaady, WFWP Philadelphia Secretary

On August 31, 2013, the Philadelphia Chapter of WFWP celebrated the 21st anniversary of the 1992 Blessing of Marriage that was initiated by the founder of WFWP, Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon. The event focused on the saying, "Behind every great man is a great woman," emphasizing that women guide their husbands and children on the path toward creating God-centered families.

Ms. Karen Bradley, pastor and teacher of the Evangelical church, spoke about knowledgeable, talented, and God-centered women. She said that success in history is made by women who, through their suffering, bring forth a righteous civilization.

The participants were warmly welcomed by Mrs. Jizly Dohou, Chairwoman of WFWP in Philadelphia. She showed a video highlighting WFWP's activities and its affiliation with the United Nations.

Mrs. Denneze Nelson, WFWP Regional Chairwoman, introduced the Global Women's Peace Network (GWPN), encouraging the audience to participate in this networking system that has the purpose of strengthening and empowering women leaders all over the world in spirit and in practice.

A Bridge of Women ceremony was conducted by Mrs. Joy Lascari. Before the ceremony, she spoke deeply to the participants on how to prepare their hearts in humility, so that when they crossed the bridge, real reconciliation could bring a new beginning of heart for each one. She put an emphasis on how the participation of each family could contribute to revival within their communities.

International food was served for everyone's enjoyment. Entertainment included singing and dancing hosted by Mr. Ryan Hawskin, one of Philadelphia's most renowned DJs, as well as an entertaining song by Gospel singer Ms. Madelyn Wright.

As the coordinator of this event, I realized just how important it is to celebrate marriage of one man and one woman here in Pennsylvania. It is important that we educate ourselves and others about how to build committed marriages in order to strengthen our communities and our nation.



PENNSYLVANIA

Pennsylvania Launches Purity Essay Contest

By Alice Kaady, WFWP Philadelphia Secretary

In Philadelphia, the radio station KYW, known as the most famous radio in town, announced the WFWP Purity Essay Contest to their listeners. From comments of thousands of the station's listeners, this project to encourage and promote abstinence for the youth, is the right project, right on time, and it's the right activity for students this year. WFWP is visibly sending out the message that to wait and control is the best solution to the problems facing our youth faced with the culture of premature sexual activity rampant in our schools today.

This was the first essay contest ever held in Pennsylvania. Religious institutions and a Christian school participated enthusiastically by sending in their essays. Marquis Brown, who won the first prize, is a middle school student, and his essay was very thoughtful and enlightening.

At the Awards Ceremony on June 1, 2013, over 50 people attended. Mrs. Jizly Dohou, WFWP Pennsylvania Chairwoman, welcomed everyone and, to begin the program, showed a video introducing WFWP.



WFWP Philadelphia Purity Essay Contest Awards Ceremony honors winners

As it turned out, Mr. Jamal Johnson, a speaker from Relationship Intelligence, Inc., was the highlight of the event. He gave a powerful presentation on the topic, "Abstinence." Workbooks were given out to guide the participants through the presentation.

Ms. Dorothea Dixon, a guest speaker from the Restoration Pentecostal Church, entertained the participants with her comical yet logical explanation of abstinence. In addition, a short video presentation of the Metro DC Purity Essay Contest was shown to inspire the group by seeing other young people who are determined to keep their purity, even though the culture in schools is primarily against this stance.

Entertainment was provided by singer Ms. Cassendre Xavier, pianist Mr. Raymond Lerng, and the Hung Ga Academy, members of which gave a demonstration of the Dragon Strike Kung Fu style.

The closing remarks were given by Pastor Shota Iwasaki. According to the participants, the event was educational and full of excitement. The Philadelphia Chapter of WFWP is looking forward to having our second purity essay contest in 2014.

WFWP USA Announces:

Launch of the 1% Love Share Project in the U.S.

The 1% Love Share Project is a campaign of sharing carried out by donating a minimum of 1,000 Korean won (about 1 USD) every month, to help women and children suffering from poverty and illness across the world.



Your sharing will inspire the hearts of those in need.

The 1% Love Share Project nurtures the hopes of women and children. The 1% Love Share Project is a campaign of sharing. By donating \$1 monthly, we can help women and children suffering from poverty and disease around the world.

Countless children suffer from hunger and disease. More than 1.2 billion people in the world live on less than \$1 a day. The 1% Love Share Project is a unique campaign initiated by WFWP International to facilitate the continuous practice of true love and living together in harmony.

The small offering you give will help warm the hearts of our neighbors in the global village. The 1% Love Share Project is not a one-time event, but rather the continuous practice of true love, the love of the mother who gives what little she has and gives and gives again and forgets that she has given.

VIRGINIA

1% Love Share Launched in Virginia

By Debbie Loew and Zena Ruf, WFWP Virginia Co-Chairwomen

[Editor's Note: Northern Virginia has new WFWP Co-Chairwomen: Ms. Debbie Loew and Ms. Zena Ruf. Debbie was inspired to start the 1% Love Share Project in Virginia in August. On Sunday, August 24, 2013, Northern Virginia WFWP had their first 1% Love Share Bake Sale and raised \$201 to offer to Korea.]

Greetings from Northern Virginia Co-Chair Team!

Mrs. Debbie Loew: Zena and I would like to introduce ourselves and share our excitement and vision for our NOVA (Northern Virginia) WFWP.

My journey began last spring when I attended the Unification Church in Bridgeport and was so inspired by WFWP member, Robin Baum Sullivan, who every Sunday baked cookies and brownies on a solo mission to support the WFWP 1% Love Share Project. I thought that I could do that for WFWP, and began the process of asking church leaders and making a plan for a monthly Bake Sale.

Zena found a beautiful quote from True Mother about the 1% Love Share project

for our flier, and it reminded me of a special time in my teenage years when my uncle, Marine Lt. Major Don shared his thoughts after returning home from the Vietnam War. He said the way to win the war was by giving and serving the Vietnamese people. I was so moved that I almost wrote President Johnson a letter about my uncle's great idea for victory in Vietnam.

And again I thought of my uncle when Rev. and Mrs. Moon started the Home Church program. I really felt called by God to do this 1% Love Share Project. He is so patient and gentle with us, nudging us to do a bit more.

Zena and I joined the WFWP Prayer Call for the anniversary of Rev. Moon's Ascension. Again I thought I can offer this. When our precious WFWP Virginia leader, Katherine Cromwell, decided to become the newsletter editor, Zena and I decided we could co-chair our WFWP chapter.

We did have our 1% Love Share Bake Sale and our generous NOVA Church bought and donated \$201.00. We will have a monthly Bake Sale for this precious peacemaking project.

Mrs. Zena Ruf: My journey of starting to be active in WFWP began a few years ago when I joined Judie Lejeune, Carmella Ciemny, and Debbie Haratian working in a WFWP small group that we called in the beginning "The Four Realms of the Heart" (parental love, conjugal love, sibling love, and children's love). I was drawn to the idea of working to create a culture of heart and of doing that through education. Judie developed several different talks and we publicized them and held meetings in different neighborhoods. I think we only had a few guests in total, but it was a process that helped me to clarify my own thoughts and feelings.

Later, my youngest daughter, who is in college, and I talked about the value of doing service -- not just talking the talk, but doing the walk. She is involved as a leader in youth ministry and felt that our church/movement has a weakness in not doing enough service or actually practicing what we preach. I also really would like to give opportunities to encourage parents and children to work together more. I have observed that the young people seem to have a much lighter and more natural spirit, whereas I feel I am a little heavy and old-school oriented.

Therefore, my inspiration for this coming year is to work on doing a mother/daughter service project. We are all daughters, so that would include all of us and then those of us who are mothers with daughters (who have an interest in serving) could participate in a regular project together. I have contacted one organization in Prince William County, ACTS, and hope that we can work with them. Please let me know if you would be interested in helping with something like this.

I would also like our local WFWP to support the Food Bank that Nancy Fellenz is collecting food for and am working on how I can remind myself to bring in some cans of food on Sunday.



Women's Federation for World Peace USA
1% Love Sharing Project
For the Unification of North & South Korea



"This year (2002) we initiated the 1% Love Sharing Project to practice true love and help our compatriots in North Korea, particularly women and children. In my view, this campaign exemplifies the spirit with which WFWP was founded. As a campaign that emphasizes the practice of true love and sharing, this project is being developed in many nations around the world. Transcending religion, race and nationality, it is rising above the established conflict-centered framework, to bring peace in a tangible way."

Dr. Hak Jg. Han Moon,
Founder of WFWP, International
April 10, 2002



WFWP USA

Why the Trail of Tears?

Peacemakers for Sacred Healing Prayer Journey

By Katherine Cromwell, WFWP Virginia

WFWP partnered with the Peacemakers for Sacred Healing in a Trail of Tears Prayer Journey taken early this June. WFWP members drove along one of the routes Native Americans call the Trail of Tears, beginning in New Echota, Georgia and finishing in Tahlequah, Oklahoma, to honor and liberate the Native Americans who lost their lives on the trail. This was in repentance for the atrocities committed by the American government and people against America's First People, specifically after the passage of the

Indian Removal Act of 1830 that resulted in Native populations being forcibly removed from their ancestral homelands to "Indian Country," now known as Oklahoma.

WFWP members around the country supported this reconciliation initiative with prayers and donations in the spirit of fulfilling their mission as women and mothers to bring reconciliation and healing in the family, community, nation, and world. All of us who traveled the Trail of Tears felt those prayers and remain eternally grateful for the thoughts, prayers, and money that was given so generously by WFWP members. Truly that support allowed us to go forward and complete this prayer journey.

Many months of preparation went into this endeavor. For me one of the most significant was when I told WFWP President Mrs. Angelika Selle about the Prayer Journey and asked if WFWP could sponsor it. She enthusiastically agreed, citing the 2013 focus of, "Spirituality, Healing, and Service." She spoke about the mother's heart to heal the wounds of the past, the historical trauma that invades and destroys individuals' joy in life and ability to create a loving home to raise children and empower communities to live for the sake of others.



"We're ready to begin the journey!"

All throughout our journey, from Virginia and other starting points, to Georgia, through Tennessee, Arkansas, and finally into Oklahoma, it was powerful for all of us to know that WFWP women and supporting gentlemen were praying for us to reach the hearts of those we met, and to empower them and give them hope. We were giving them the message that people in America are waking up and learning what was done in the past, are humiliated by what our ancestors have

done, and are determined to find ways to repair the damage, and never allow such atrocities to recur.

Mrs. Brenda Miller, Peacemaker from Maryland contacted Chambers of Commerce in the cities along the way, and found people who were more than willing to set up meetings, to speak to us about how their cities had experienced the removal of America's First People through their communities. There are many routes that the people took, but after Ms. Miller's tireless research, we chose to follow mainly the Bell Route.

People of Native descent welcomed us and shared with us their stories. She contacted those who have been working to research and preserve the stories of the Trail of Tears, like Mr. Graydon Swisher, who took us along the way. He even arranged for us to have an event and ceremony of reconciliation in the Chickasaw Heritage Park near Memphis, TN, where Mrs. Friedrun Abrahams, WFWP Tennessee Chairwoman, came and participated with us, videotaped the ceremony, and supported us while we were there. Ms. Miller made sure that everything was prepared for every stop along the way. Her heart and efforts made the trip seamless.

She set up meetings in Pulaski, TN, where Ms. Joyce Woodard, Director of Tourism arranged for Ms. Vicki Garland, Cherokee, to speak to us of her work to put signage up along the trail. In Bolivar, TN, we met Ms. Monita Corlin, Director of Tourism, who arranged a live radio broadcast for us and we were hurried off to the station as soon as we arrived after travelling for many miles to reach Bolivar. Rev. Claire Daugherty spoke powerfully of our



"Why can't we go back home?" Joy with statue in Pulaski, Tennessee



Mr. Graydon Swisher and Ms. Brenda Miller

desire to retrace the Trail of Tears and repent for what had happened, to remember and tell the story for those who can no longer speak.

After that, Ms. Corlin spoke to us of the fact that there was nothing written by anyone about the time over 600 people were marched through the city. There was not a trace. Only receipts tell any story at all.

Rev. Dr. Linda Lucero-Nishikawa, Pojague Pueblo and our spiritual guide, had spoken strongly to us of the protocol when listening to Native Elders and being with a people whose very faith and culture had been ripped out of them by people who thought they knew better and imposed their way of life on them. Because it was the Creator who helped Native people survive for thousands of years in America, how could they leave behind the gifts that had been so lovingly given to them by God? Because of her tutelage, we learned how to be humble and to receive even harsh messages from people who have been so hurt and betrayed and



Ms. Joelle Cornier, Dr. Nishikawa, Chief George Akeen, and Mrs. Brenda Miller in Tahlequah, Oklahoma

abandoned.

Dr. Nishikawa also worked before the journey and then into the night with Chief George Akeen, Chief of the Cheyenne in Oklahoma, to officiate at the "Wiping of the Tears Ceremony" on Saturday, June 15 in Tahlequah, Oklahoma, where the Cherokee were sent and established a new homeland.

One of the most remarkable things that was accomplished as we traveled the Trail of Tears was that we were gathering up the victims of the Trail, those who had lost their lives as they journeyed to the West. We gathered them and brought them with us and sang them an Honor Song. When someone "walks on" to the next world, the family sings an Honor Song for them to guide them on their way. Those who had died on the trail, had never been honored and so were lost and wondered even why

they had been born at all. So Dr. Nishikawa taught us how to comfort them and bring them with us to come to the Wiping of the Tears Ceremony so they could be liberated and sent to a good place in the spirit world.

Many of us who call ourselves Americans are either of Native descent or have an ancestor who is. We must revive all that is good in the culture of America's Original People and not lose it. America cannot exist without embracing the people that the Creator, God, our Heavenly Parent, nurtured and raised to care for Mother Earth with sacred ceremonies.

Rev. Claire Daugherty gave us many books and reference materials and told us of the difficulties that America's First People have suffered at the hands of those who came here from Europe. She gave us a foundation upon which to see the reality that we were standing upon as we traveled the Trail of Tears. She was the one who inspired us to take this trip. It was she who was moved by her relationship of heart with the Creator to help the Native people find value and honor in the hearts of all of us. She inspired all of us to walk the walk, not just talk the talk. For it is in doing that we can really help those people find release and we can all walk together as family members of God's great family of humanity.



Claire Daugherty at Rev. William Allen's church in Tennessee

Minister Reiko Jenkins activated the vast membership of ACLC to host the Peacemakers for Sacred Healing at their churches and hold events like the opening event in New Echota, Georgia, where WFWP Georgia Chairwoman Mrs. Nandi Moton worked together with ACLC Executive Director Rev. Tom Cutts. They brought together an amazing group of people who totally validated what we were setting out to do. Min. Reiko-san also brought together a very special group of lady ministers for the final event in



Min. Reiko Jenkins, Dr. Linda Nishikawa and Rev. Claire Daugherty

Oklahoma. Rev. Marilyn Kotulek worked very hard to prepare the ground for the Wiping of the Tears Ceremony in Tahlequah, and took excellent care of the many ACLC dignitaries who came to Oklahoma for the final weekend of Ceremony and the Father's Day Pow Wow on that Sunday.

Dr. Sandra Lowen joined us for the whole journey, adding her vast experience and understanding of her own Cherokee ancestry. Her aunt, who died on the Trail of Tears at the age of 5, was finally liberated of her fear and the

freezing cold that had robbed her of any life at all. Dr. Lowen shared many stories with us and let us feel what had really happened to people. This helped us experience the Trail of Tears as a reality, not just a story.

Joy and Joseph Williams, daughter and son of Bruce and Rhonda Williams, drove with us from Virginia in Joy's car. It was wonderful to have younger people with us with a completely different way of seeing and experiencing. They have Cherokee ancestry and learned a lot about that ancestry through joining this prayer journey.

For them it was particularly painful as they got into a car accident. Although the only people-damage were bumps and bruises and a few cuts, Joy's car was totaled and we had to rent two additional cars to hold both the people and the things that they had agreed to keep in their car during the journey.



Dr. Sandra Lowen, Dr. Linda Nishikawa, Mr. Joseph Williams

Ms. Joelle Cornier, daughter of Dr. Nishikawa, was another young person who joined our pilgrimage.



Joelle Cornier and Joy Williams chillin' in Arkansas

As we journeyed, we began to notice that we were picking up ticks, so we scanned each other daily. One morning in Benton, Arkansas, after we had walked on the Trail on the Military Road, Dr. Lowen found at least 6 ticks on Joelle. Three were embedded under the skin so we had to take Joelle to the hospital to have them removed. The doctor worked as her mother stood by, wishing that the ticks had chosen to bite her instead of her precious 14-year-old daughter. Joelle was brave and strong and didn't complain through it all.

Blood, sweat, and many tears were shed along the Trail of Tears, but it was nothing compared with what happened 175 years ago.

Our friend and WFWP Maryland member, Mrs. Dottie Chicquelo, who is also Eastern Band of Cherokee, also wanted but couldn't come with us on the Trail. However, she would be in Nashville for her mother's birthday, so she organized a side trip for us to go to Bon Aqua, Tennessee, to the Longhouse of Venus Brightstar and stay with them. That evening we had the distinct honor of being invited to participate in a Sacred Pipe Ceremony in the woods at night. It was powerful, educational, and gave us all a taste of the beautiful religious culture of America's Original People.

To experience it firsthand, to be invited to

participate as brothers and sisters of One Creator, God, was a unique experience, and one that is in line with WFWP's principles and mission, to create a culture of One Family Under God, all brothers and sisters, all honored and respected as family members.

It was also in Bon Aqua that we first met with Mrs. Cynthia Myers and her lovely daughter, Katie, who are from Massachusetts, and were traveling the Trail of Tears with us, but taking the Northern Route. They joined us at the Longhouse and participated in the Sacred Pipe Ceremony in the woods. When the ceremony was over,

the sky opened up and rain poured down on us in torrents. It was as though the heavens opened up to cleanse us of our iniquities and we were healed, each in our own way. It was refreshing to be in God's nature and just experience without concepts.



Mrs. Cynthia Myers with Dr. Linda Nishikawa

Again in Tahlequah, Oklahoma, Mrs. Myers and Katie added their very special presence and gifts, joining us for the Ceremony and the Pow Wow with Chief George Akeen and his wife Eleanor.

We may have traveled separately, but our hearts were one, as we all were looking for redemption, repenting for the wrongs done to a people who love and honor God. Dr. Nishikawa told us something unbelievable: Did you know that the Native Americans have been continually persecuted and even put to death for performing their religious practices? And even with the Native American Religious Freedom Act of 1978, those religious rites and ceremonies were not allowed, were not legal? It was only

when the amendments to that act were passed in 1993 that America's Original People were no longer put to death for practicing their religion. America, the land of the free, where "all people" have religious freedom. It's ironic and tragic that those who lived here and welcomed others to this land were stripped of rights that are supposedly guaranteed to all people by the Constitution of the United States.

One of the things that I did as a core member of Peacemakers for Sacred Healing as well as WFWP Virginia Chairwoman at that time, was to connect with Elders of America's First People here in the Virginia, Maryland, and DC area, and ask them to bless our journey. Chief Steven R. Adkins, Chief of the Chickahominy in Charles City County, VA, opened our journey in prayer and gave a powerful blessing to us before we left on the journey. He prayed in this language and in English, and we each experienced the power of the Holy Spirit fused with Native Spirituality. Dr. Nishikawa added her prayer and we felt that the intention for our offering of repentance and prayer was being heard by God and that the journey had begun in a sacred way.

Members of our small group met with other prominent Native Americans in the area including Mr. Jay Winter Nightwolf and Ms. Verona Iriarte, co-hosts of the Nightwolf Show on WPFW 89.3 FM, and long-time advocates for Native American issues around the United States, and with Mr. Marcellus Williams and Ms. Dottie Chicquelo. As active members of the Cherokee Nation, they gave their support and blessing to our endeavor. I could also feel their presence with us as we traveled along the Trail.

Through the Trail of Tears Prayer Journey, we all hoped and continue to hope and pray that the American People will wake up and say, "Enough is enough!" America's Original People belong on this land. Let's learn to live together and learn to honor and take care of this sacred Mother Earth as the Creator has instructed them to show us. We are indeed one family under one God!

AHO! AHO! AHO



Mrs. Chicquelo signs the Declaration



Chief George Akeen Honors the Peacemakers for Sacred Healing At the Cheyenne Pow Wow

WFWP USA

Announcement of New Board of Directors

On August 1, 2013 the Board of Directors of WFWP appointed the 10 members of the Board for this term. The Board of Directors include:

Mrs. Angelika Selle President, Chairman
Mrs. Juanita Pierre-Louis Vice President, Director
Ms. Fannie Smith Director
Mrs. Ichiko Sudo Director
Ms. Adrienne Thornton Director
Ms. Sammi Vanderstok Director
Mrs. Alexa Ward Director
Mrs. Lena Yasutake Director

Mrs. Fumiko Balcomb Ex officio Director
Mrs. Hatsune Inose Ex officio Director

The Board would like to thank the outgoing members of the Board for their unwavering investment and commitment to the mission and vision of Women's Federation for World Peace.

Editor's Note:

As we embark on this journey together to create a newsletter that honors all that Women's Federation for World Peace is, thank you for all your contributions and let's make each newsletter more inspiring than the one before.

21st WFWP Assembly: LEARN TO LEAD

Empowering Women for Leadership in the 21st Century



****Thursday October 24: Service Project in Washington, DC****

****Saturday October 26: Main Event on the University of Maryland Campus****

Create change?

Create new leaders!

After 20 years of empowering women, WFWP USA is shifting gears to empower the next generation. Representing all ages of women, we can call upon all abilities to lead and serve.

Register now: www.wfwp.us



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WFWP USA**

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