FFWPU USA: The Epic Expansion of High Noon

Demian Dunkley November 15, 2023



Photo courtesy of Natalie Padigo

"Our vision is big -- to have a network of High Noon people accessible to everyone around the world," said Andrew Love, executive director of the grassroots Unificationist organization, <u>High Noon</u>, which provides sexual integrity, intimacy, and marriage education. In a recent podcast episode, "The Epic Expansion of High Noon," Andrew shared about their milestone achievement of advancing their international reach with new chapters in Europe, the Philippines, Japan, and soon, Korea. A pre-existing chapter in Latin America also has new leadership.

"A year ago, we decided to make chapters our main goal," Andrew recalled during the podcast. "We travel a lot and we meet so many people ... [who] are transfixed by the [High Noon] experience."

Although guests have been guided to the faith-based programs of High Noon -- founded in 2017 by Unificationist couple David and Mitsue Wolfenberger -- they don't necessarily follow-up and join, Andrew noted. This prompted a search for chapter leaders to support regional interest.

"We want to plant roots in different places through chapters," said Sammy Uyama, High Noon's assistant director, during the podcast. "It really goes back to our ethos and what we're all about ... creating a culture and community that helps people and helps one another."

The search quickly yielded some unexpected candidates, Andrew said, calling it a "humbling" experience. "God was working in every way," he said.



Latin America

Melissa, an American of Brazilian and Canadian descent, speaks Portuguese and moved to Brazil last year to join her husband. Though adjusting to a new culture and community proved challenging, Melissa felt inspired to contribute and serve in some capacity. With prayerful consideration, she pursued the chapter role. "I felt if God wants me to work for High Noon, it will happen," she said in a follow-up podcast episode. "Since then ... I've felt very much that I'm supposed to be here."

Melissa hit the ground running, stating that a lot is happening every day. The thriving Latin America chapter was previously led by Carina, who was appointed the new BFM USA Director in September.

"[Carina] established a really cool system in Latin America," Andrew said. "They have their own podcast and programs in Spanish ... but the Portuguese-speaking leg was very weak."

"There is a lot of energy in Brazil and the Brazilian church is massive," he continued. "[This] is really exciting because Latin America has a lot going for it ... [and] Melissa is going to take it to the next level."

Europe

In Lithuania, Andranik was ready for change and seeking a new direction with work. "There was this kind of click inside that [High Noon] is important," he said during the podcast. "I haven't had many of those kinds of moments in my life. I'd been thinking all year that there's a need within me to switch up my life a little bit." An active member of his community, he decided to take a leap of faith. "[I wanted to] do something more meaningful for the world in general," he said. "High Noon was it."

With differing time zones and members widely spread out geographically, High Noon's leaders wanted to better accommodate Europe with its own chapter. "Europe is a huge base of our membership going back decades," Sammy said. "We have strong relationships and a strong foundation there with a lot of participants ... [but] we needed someone who could make personal relationships there, with the leaders there, and who travels around speaking to communities."

"[Andranik] is a serious and creative person," Andrew added. "When [High Noon participants] get together, we want to capture that energy ... He's going to go around and give talks at some of these places and stir up that fire again."

Philippines

For Jude, little did he know that an introductory High Noon webinar he joined in 2020 would lay the groundwork for him to eventually transition into the role of local chapter leader three years later. "I've always thought of High Noon as a step up to pure love, but never really got deeper into that," said Jude, who previously served as YSP youth leader in Manila. "God made this possible," he said, reflecting on an elder leader's encouragement for him to fill the position.

"The church community is amazing in the Philippines, they have a lot of hope and a lot of vibrance," said Andrew. "Jude is young and he's got a lot of passion ... All the members there are so young; there is a lot of potential. There's no gray hair in our leadership over there, so it's going to be really cool to watch these young people grow."

Japan and Korea

As central hubs of the international Unification movement, Korea and Japan are key markets for High Noon's mission. A.I., who was first introduced to High Noon five years ago in Tokyo, felt called to become Japan's new chapter leader after recently meeting True Mother in Korea among some 7,000 youth. "True Mother needs our help [as young Unificationists], and now is the time that I felt this [organization] is something that can really bring back her children," A.I. said. "A lot of reasons that came up were not enough to say 'no' [to this role]. I really felt called; that was the 'yes' for me."

Though the chapter role in Korea has yet to be filled, High Noon's momentum continues steadily. "Raising up leaders is a huge part of what we value at High Noon -- it's how we've operated since the beginning," said Sammy. "We've grown exponentially and that's what the chapters are about. We're going to the next level of leadership and operations within our organization."

"The essence of chapters is of course to have representation in these places," Andrew added. "But each chapter is going to be very unique because they are all starting at their own places in terms of their foundation and where the church is [located], and also because each person is very unique ... I'm excited about the possibilities."

You can learn more about the ongoing work of High Noon <u>here</u>, and follow the podcast <u>here</u>.



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#198- High Noon Europe with Andranik Karagezian



#197- High Noon Latin America with Melissa Manor



#196- High Noon Philippines with Jude Cedrick Montifar



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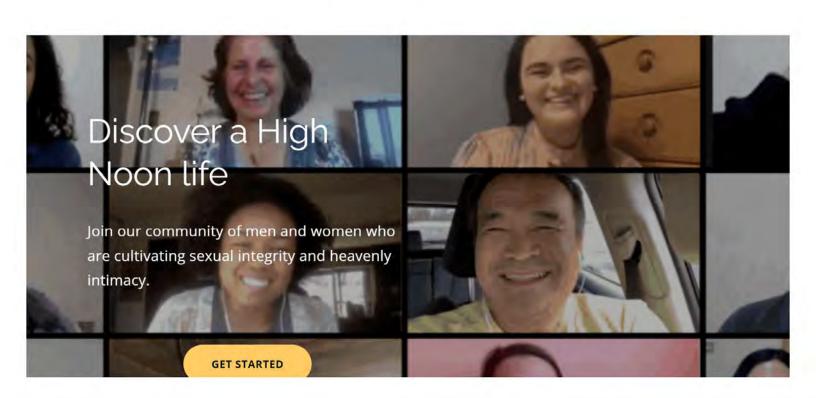


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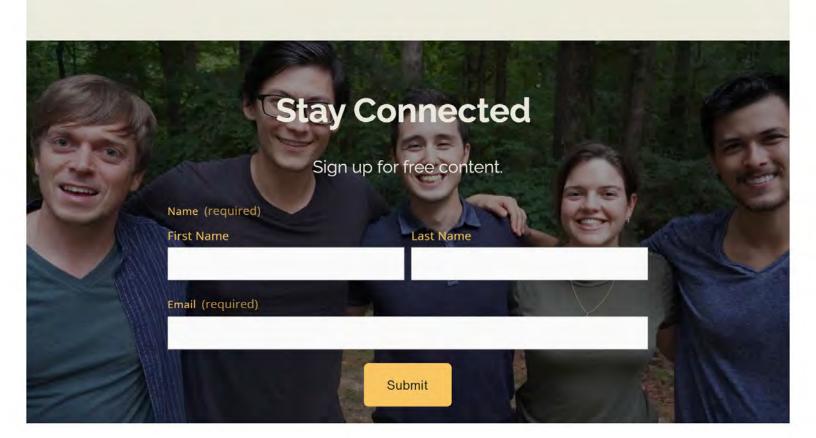


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n the heart of the Land of the Rising Sun, something extraordinary is happening. The High Noon movement, which has established its chapters around the world, is now venturing into the enigmatic realm of Japan.

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#198- High Noon Europe with Andranik Karagezian

Andranik's High Noon journey began in South Korea at the Global Top Gun Workshop. The impact was immediate, igniting to reveal what his going through internally. He felt he met the right people to talk with, about his personal struggles.

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#197- High Noon Latin America with Melissa Manor

In the vibrant landscape of Latin America, a story of unexpected leadership and unwavering dedication is unfolding. Melissa Manor, the newly appointed Chapter Leader for High Noon in Latin America, embodies the spirit of transformation and community that the organization stands for.

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#196- High Noon Philippines with Jude Cedrick Montifar

In the heart of the Philippines, a powerful movement is unfolding, one that is transforming lives, fostering love, and nurturing a vibrant community.





#195- The Epic Expansion of High Noon

We've embarked on an exhilarating journey, and the latest episode is here to share it all with you. Get ready to dive into "The Epic Expansion of High Noon." $\widehat{\mathbf{n}}$

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Dive into Love Life and Legacy's latest episode, Larry Moffitt's wisdom is a game-changer!

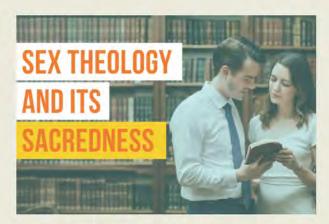
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#186 - A Small Act of Courage

We disregard the greatest technology in the galaxy, the human body, operating on autopilot, neglecting to feed it the right thoughts and choices, but we are the miracle, and as we connect with each other, even through a simple hug, our hearts send a powerful message of wonder and love.

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#185 - Sex Theology with Dr. Tyler Hendricks

In this episode of Love Life and Legacy Podcast, Dr. Tyler Hendricks discusses the profound complexity of human technology and the need to appreciate the beauty in the small things.

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#184 - Entitlement VS Responsibility

In this episode of Love Life and Legacy Podcast, I dive deep into the theme of entitlement versus responsibility and how it impacts our sexual integrity and overall well-being..

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#183 - How Sexual Integrity Will Prepare You for Matching & Blessing

In this episode of Love, Life, and Legacy, we explore the importance of sexual integrity in preparing for matching and blessing. It's vital for a strong, healthy relationship.

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#182 - How To Dominate Your Schedule

In this episode, we talked about the "Have to" attitude and how it often traps us in the demands of our schedules and routines —that hinders us to pursue activities we truly desire.

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#181 -How Fatherhood Shapes the World with Patrick Erlandson

In this episode, Patrick Erlandson points out two key factors that have deeply motivated him to advocate the importance of a father's presence while an individual is growing up.



#180 - Consistency vs New

This episode opens up with an intriguing discussion on the duality of consistency versus the new.



#179 - Assimilating in High Noon Culture with Andi Pock

In this episode, Andi Pock shares his fun yet transformative experiences during High Noon's Europe Tour.

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#178 - Why We Do The Things We Do with Phillip Schanker - Part 2

In this second part of a two-part episode, Phillip will talk more about attachment and how it affects our mental, social, and physical lives as adults.

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#177 - Why We Do The Things We Do with Phillip Schanker - Part 1

In this episode, we look into the fascinating world of human behavior and the underlying factors that shape our relationships. Join us as we explore the profound insights of Phillip Schanker and find out how attachment theory helps us understand our actions and habits.

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#176 - Productivity Hacks

In this episode, we'll explore a variety of strategies, including active commuting, deep rest techniques, the power of walks, and many more—all of which would lead you to a journey of personal growth, enhanced focus, and maximum productivity.

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#175 - Starting Your Marriage Off with a Bang!

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#173 - How to Beat Phone Addiction

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#172 - Spiritual Nakedness

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#171 - The Importance of Mental Freedom

Mental freedom is the highest form of self-love and a testament of our strong relationship with ourselves.

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#170 - European Tour (Behind the Scenes)

We returned to Europe with a renewed goal—that is, to convert their gained knowledge into immediate practice by providing them proper guidance and the right tools necessary to facilitate positive transformation in their lives.

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