

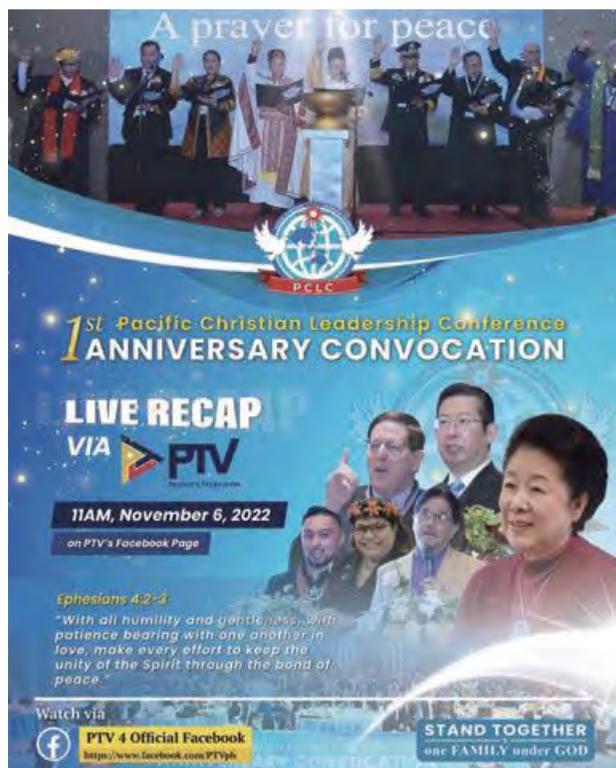
Heavenly Asia Pacific: 1st Pacific Clergy Leadership Conference 1st Anniversary Convocation

Robert Kittel
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God gave them a time period in their life
in which they were to grow.

The Pacific Christian Leadership Conference (PCLC) have successfully celebrated its First Anniversary Convocation held on October 26, 2022, on the theme "The Providential Role of Christianity in Creating a Heavenly Community." The convocation was conducted both live at the Luxent Hotel in Quezon City, Manila, Philippines and online platforms. The event brought together Christian leaders across the Asia Pacific region to join hands in prayers for peace and to discuss ways to assist Christianity in fulfilling its destiny as a beacon of freedom, faith, and family throughout the world. The conference's theme was drawn from Ephesians 4:2-3: "With all humility and gentleness, with patience bearing with one another in love, make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."



Attended by religious leaders and members of the clergy from fourteen nations across the Asia Pacific and the world, the event drew 161 onsite participants composed of 135 local and 26 international delegates while 201 joined through Zoom and more than 5,000 watched via livestreaming on YouTube and Facebook platforms.

The Opening Plenary, which was moderated by Rev. Gregory Stone, Secretary General of PCLC Executive Committee, started with a short PCLC video, and a song rendered by the Lanao Del Norte Interfaith Council from Mindanao, Philippines. After which, the Water of Life Ceremony followed suit with nine representative leaders from different nations who also recited the Prayer of Peace together with the audience.

Peace is when "all Christian clergy come together in front of heaven, by the love of Jesus Christ, the heavenly love," said Rev. Masaichi Hori, chair of the PCLC Executive Committee, in his opening

remarks at the Luxent Hotel in Quezon City, Philippines.

"We are foremost sons and daughters of God...we are one human family under God," UPF International Director General Dr. Yun Young-ho said in remarks delivered by Dr. Julius Malicdem, vice chair of the PCLC Executive Committee.

Bishop Grepur Butch Belgica, Presidential Adviser from the Office of the Presidential Adviser for Religious Affairs from the Philippines; Bishop Dr. Ki Hoon Kim, Chairman of the World Christian Leadership Conference (WCLC); and Dr. Luonne Abram Rouse, Co-Chair of the American Clergy Leadership Conference (ACLC) also gave their congratulatory messages expressing their cheers and felicitations to PCLC for all its accomplishments in its first year.

In between these messages, Hillsong, gave a mesmerizing musical performance with the song, "Here I Am to Worship". It was followed by the audience watching a playback of the "Mother of Peace" video.

Then, Dr. Robert S. Kittel, Co-Chair of the PCLC Organizing Committee, gave a powerful introduction to True Mother who delivered the founder's address.



In True Mother's video remarks, she said that despite the suffering and chaos that has befallen humanity throughout history, God never gave up His dream of seeing His children live in the Kingdom of Heaven on Earth. "Throughout history, religions have guided human beings," she said. "Now, however, it is obvious they have reached their final destination. This means the hope of humanity is to actually fulfill the original ideal that God had at the beginning of creation. God, our Heavenly Parent, wanted our first human ancestors to become true parents -- ancestors of goodness connected to God as a couple."

The PCLC sessions focused on how Christianity can instill high moral standards and a sense of altruism, empathy, and kindness in young people, and how churches can strengthen marriage and family as "building blocks" of a heavenly community.



Among the conference speakers were: Bishop Joharni Bendoy, Evangelical Bishops Conference of the Philippines; Rev. Jimmy Sormin, Executive Secretary, Communion of Churches in Indonesia; Min. Joshua Holmes, National Co-Director, Young Christian Leadership Conference/Assistant Pastor, Manhattan (USA) Family Church; Ptr. Raniera Pene. Minister and Youth Leader, The Ratana Church of New Zealand; Rev. Ronnie D. Sodusta, Regional Vice President, Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (FFWPU)- Asia Pacific Region 2; Msgr. Joseph Lalo, Priest, Eastern Catholic Church: Neo Monastic of St. Thomas, Philippines; Hon. J. Uduch Sengebau Sr., Vice President, Republic of Palau; Mrs. Wendy Francis, National Director for Politics, Australian Christian Lobby; Msgr.

Pedro Gerardo Santos, Parish Priest of St. Andrew the Apostle Parish, Makati City, Philippines; Abp. Antonio J. Ledesma, Archbishop-Emeritus of Cagayan de Oro, Philippines; Rev. Gregory Stone, Secretary-General, PCLC Executive Committee; Rev. Yutaka Yamada, Sub-Regional Director, FFWPU-Oceania; and Rev. Demian Dunkley, President, FFWPU-Asia Pacific Region 1.

The PCLC nations include Australia, Fiji, Indonesia, Malaysia, Marshall Island, New Zealand, Palau, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Tonga, and Vanuatu.