Flushing and its Korean Churches
How does Flushing’s Korean Churches impact the Korean-American community?

Remy Moon
Department of Asian and Asian American Studies

Introduction
As of 2010, the Korean population living in Queens, NY was 64,107 (US Census). A majority of these Koreans live in Flushing, NY, which is also known as New York City’s Koreatown. A key characteristic of the Korean American community is the importance of the Korean church. Not only does it serve as a place of worship, but it also serves as a community center. Korean churches provide Korean language classes, Pre-K classes, visa workshops, opportunities to go on missionary trips, and meals for the elderly.

While this seems like an ordinary occurrence, the Flushing area stands out in one key way: the amount of Korean churches. The amount of Korean churches in Flushing, NY is 104, 58% of them being Presbyterian. This sheer number poses several issues for not only Korean Americans but also the surrounding community. When there are churches next door to each other, and even some churches that share the same space, the decision of what church to attend no longer becomes an easy choice. For the community, Flushing’s parking situation is only escalated whenever there is a service, causing frustration towards the growing number of churches. The language barrier between the two only heightens the animosity.

Korean Churches in the Flushing Area

Map Legend
- Red-Pentecostal
- Yellow-Independent
- Light Blue-Evangelical
- Purple-Methodist
- Orange-Presbyterian
- Green-Protestant
- Dark Blue- Baptist
- Brown-Lutheran

Website Proposal
I would like to create an online database for these Korean Churches, much like the popular website Yelp. It would include these key features:
- Search function
- Map
- Church profiles
- Comment section
- The Flushing Korean American history
- Interviews

Most importantly, the website would be in both Korean and English, to avoid any language barrier.

Existing online resources for the Korean churches in Flushing
- Individual Church Websites (25% of the Korean Churches have)
- The Queens Federation of Churches (small portion of Korean churches with very basic data)

Plan for Evaluation
- Look at the ease of use
- Search Speeds
- Test Users

Audience
- Newly arrived Korean immigrants
- Engaged Korean American couple looking for a wedding venue
- Korean Americans new to the area
- Non-Korean community members

Plan for Outreach and Publicity
- Connect with Korean American organizations (Korean Community Services of Metropolitan New York)
- Connect with the Council of Korean Churches of Greater New York
- Korean Church organizations in South Korea (The Presbyterian Church of Korea)

References

Stony Brook University

Interactive Map

References