

Getting Back on Track Retreat -- August 15-18, 2013

Phillip Schanker and Michael Balcomb July 2, 2013

Memo: BFD 2013-06-14

Dear District Pastors, Community Leaders and Blessed Central Families;

This summer there is an opportunity for young adults who have had a sexual relationship outside of the Blessing to come to a retreat made just for them. "Getting Back on Track" is a weekend retreat that gives participants, who were raised in the Unificationist tradition, the opportunity to reevaluate their faith, renew their spiritual life, and consider a path to the Blessing. In the past, Getting Back on Track was specifically for Blessed children. However, we have determined that this ministry be open to Blessed children as well as children whose parents joined when they were young.

The Details

What: Getting Back on Track Retreat Where: New York Area (location specified upon registration) When: Thursday, August 15 through Sunday, August 18 How: Register by e-mailing <u>backontrack@unification.org</u>

This Ministry Is Dedicated To

Creating an environment of support and total acceptance where you can:

- -- Connect and share with others who have had similar experiences, challenges, and insights.
- -- Reflect on the values of the Divine Principle and what the Blessing may mean to you.
- -- Find answers to your important questions.
- -- Create a personal path of renewal to realize the Blessing in your life.
- -- *Experience* the unchanging love of God in an authentic way.

How Parents Can be Involved

The retreat is designed for young adults and their parents. However, parents can attend only at the invitation of their participating son or daughter. If you'd like to come with your parent, we have seen a lot of understanding and healing through that and we encourage you to come together. Likewise, if you'd prefer to come on your own, that's fine as well. Lastly, if you're a parent who would like to come on your own to learn more about this ministry and discover ways to reach out to your child or those in your community, then you are also welcome. Parents have their own group for discussions and learning and there is also a parents association involved with this ministry.

We Take Privacy Seriously

Getting Back on Track is rooted in the respect we hold for each other. Everyone who comes to this retreat

agrees to confidentiality, and the inquiries and communications we receive are treated in the same way. If you're interested in any aspect of this retreat, feel free to send in your questions to <u>backontrack@unification.org</u>. For further information or to talk, please feel free to contact a member of our ministry team:

Maio Baiocco, *Getting Back on Track Ministry* Phillip Schanker, *National Blessed Family Department* Debby Gullery, *National Blessed Family Department* Dave Hunter, National Youth Ministry

Spread the Word

We all know someone to whom we could reach out. Spread the word about this ministry, and the upcoming retreat, by forwarding this note or sharing the email address for inquiries. Sometimes it only takes a simple invitation to open up a new life for another person.

Sincerely,

Dr. Michael Balcomb President

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Rev. Phillip Schanker Director, Blessed Family Department