

# True Peace

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NOVEMBER 2022







# Celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the 6000 Couples

By Michael Balcomb, Regional Group President of Heavenly Europe



Today, October 14th 2022, Fumiko and I and our “blessing classmates” from the 6000 Couple Blessing of 1982 celebrate our 40th Anniversary. We send our deepest appreciation and gratitude to Heavenly Parent and True Parents for bringing us together and giving us God’s eternal blessing. Tomorrow, we will gather together with members of the 2075 for a glorious and happy public celebration in the new city of Milton Keynes.

We can never forget that beautiful Autumn day in 1982 when we gathered at the Gymnasium. For most of us, it was our first visit to Korea. We stood for hours in long lines in the bright but rather brisk morning sunshine, and then we marched twelve abreast between True Parents. I can still feel that moment of bliss as True Mother splashed us on the cheek with the sweet-smelling holy water. In their benediction, True Parents called on God to bless us and remember us always, saying:

“Please record them as husband and wife of goodness in Your eternal book of life and please allow them not to be afraid of any challenge or any persecution. Let them be the heavenly true husband and wife who possess wisdom, who march forward with only victory in mind with courage and pride.”

But why did True Parents choose October 14th for the largest Blessing to that date in the first place? We all know at least part of the answer to that. There can be few more important dates in the providential calendar than October 14th, 1950, when True Father was freed from the Heungnam prison camp by advancing UN forces, with not a moment to spare. In a speech delivered on October 14, 2006, True Father said:

“October 14, 1950 was a perilous day, and Heaven was compelled to create a miracle. It was on this day that I, the person with the seal of the True Parent of humankind, was to be publicly executed. There was no way that Heaven could ignore this. I declare this day, which bears such great providential significance, to be a historic day of victory. Through it, as the True Parent of humankind under the protection of God, I offer glory and respect to Heaven and blessings and love to the earth.”

In short, without October 14th, 1950, God’s providence would have ground to a halt. With no True Father, there could be no True Parents. With no True Parents, there could be no Blessing, no Unification Movement, no Heavenly Parent’s Holy Community. None of us would have even heard about the Divine Principle and, of course, we would not be reading True Peace magazine. So, October 14th 1950 was in truth a day of resurrection for the whole world, and even for God.

What a privilege to share this day for our Blessing Anniversary! 

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# The Original Family of God's Creation

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True Parents, First Hoondokhae at Cheon Jeong Gung (14 Jun 2006, Cheon Jeong Gung)



**T**he world in which we live is not the ideal world that God originally intended. Various religions pursue God's Will over human will. But what is the Will of God? Unless we clearly understand God's Will, it is impossible for us to find the way to fulfill it. God's Will is the fulfillment of the ideal of creation. What is that ideal? God created human beings after creating all things. Ultimately, God wanted not only to exercise dominion over the creation through the first human ancestors, Adam and Eve, but also to bring about a family under His love. In the Unification Church we define this as the fulfillment of the four-position foundation. (80-268, 1975.11.2)

God's Will is the actualization of the ideal of creation; concretely, it is the completion of the four-position foundation. To achieve this, Adam and Eve must be perfected as God's children and receive God's loving blessing on their marriage. Thus they first become God's son and daughter, and later husband and wife. They should have sons and daughters and build a family that God is delighted to see. This means guiding their children to reach perfection. In conclusion, the ideal world of creation is the ideal family of unified love, where God and His children, Adam and Eve, become one. Then, with God's love at the center, Adam and Eve become parents and create unity with their children. (80-269, 1975.11.2)

God's Will is to fulfill His ideal for the created universe; that is, His purpose of creation. God surely had a purpose in creating; therefore, He will bring it to pass. Adam and Eve were at the center of that purpose. In the Unification Church we teach that God's purpose is to complete His ideal of creation. The purpose of creation is to realize God's ideal through Adam and Eve's establishing the four-position foundation. Centered on God, Adam and Eve were to attain total oneness within the realm of God's love, which they could never have left, even if they had tried. Their family would have become the center and the starting

point of love, attending God above as the Father while standing as the ancestors of humanity on the earth below. When God created Adam and Eve, He anticipated the moment when Adam could relate fully to Eve, when the two would attain oneness in heart and body through their union in love. This was the ideal He wished to see become real. Adam and Eve were to become one in love as husband and wife, and give birth to sons and daughters who would be one with their parents. God's Will would then have been fulfilled, based on His love, and the Adamic cultural realm would have emerged. (110-213, 1980.11.18)

God's purpose of creation is complete only when the four-posi-

tion foundation is established centered on God's love. The four-position foundation refers to true sons and daughters, true husband and wife, and true parents; in other words, Adam and Eve and their children, with God at their center. Forming the four-position foundation entails the completion of the three-object-partner purpose. From the perspective of God at the center, there is a path of love going to Adam, a path of love going to Eve, and paths of love going to their sons and daughters. This love is to bear one fruit: children. Sons and daughters are the fruit of the love of their parents, a mother and father, and at the same time, the fruit of God's love. The fact that you can state, "I have true children," means that you are finally standing in the





True Father talking to very attentive members


position where you can relate to the love of the entire universe. (82-276, 1976.2.1)

God's ideal for our first ancestors was that an ideal man and an ideal woman would create an ideal family. But the center of that ideal family would be neither the man nor the woman. The husband and wife would be bonded together, with God's love at their center. A family is ultimately a gathering of parents and children. Accordingly, the completion of God's Will refers to the perfection of husband and wife and the perfection of a family, all centered on God's love. (127-10, 1983.5.1)

God did not create Adam and Eve just to gaze upon them. He did not create men and women to have them age and die. They were created to grow to maturity, to reach the age when their hearts would long to relate to someone of

the opposite sex. Then they were to build the true kingdom of heaven of humanity on earth. They were created to build a cozy home of love with God at the center, a home where the man, Adam, would represent heaven, and the woman, Eve, would represent earth. Thus, although they were two, their horizontal union would unify heaven and earth. When the man and woman achieved perfect unity in God's love, the cosmos would naturally harmonize with them. (21-44, 1968.9.1)

The essence of the Unification Church's teaching is simple: the formation of an ideal family in which God can rejoice. The Divine Principle explains the attributes of God. Among them are the attributes of internal character and external form, and of yin and yang. These are connected centered on God's love. Thus we can say that love is the mainstream of all of

God's attributes. God's love has the attribute of absoluteness. It is also unique, unchanging and eternal. Therefore a husband and wife bound together through God's love are an absolute, unique, unchanging and eternal couple. The same is true for their children. God's ideal is to build families that form the realm of three generations connected to God's love. In such a family, the parents would be absolute, unique, unchanging and eternal parents, and the same would be true for the husband and wife and the children. That united entity, absolute, unique, unchanging and eternal in nature, constitutes God's ideal family. God is present in such a family. As such a family expands to become a tribe, a people, a nation, the world and cosmos, the kingdom of heaven on earth and in heaven comes into being. And in the midst of this, God exists as the Parent, Teacher and King. (391-195, 2002.8.22) 



# Divine Spirit, Truth, and a Church of Love

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Special meeting of heads of providential organizations with True Mother (9 Jul 2014, [5.24 HC])



True Mother at a joint worship service for members Korea-wide for Victory on Foundation Day (11 Nov 2012, [9.28 HC], CheongShim Peace World Center)

**T**he Unification Church originated from divine spirit and truth. The years have passed, our church has grown, and our members have matured, based upon a truly loving heart. In the beginning, when Father was ministering, whenever members came to the church, they never wanted to leave. They wanted to stay with True Parents, even if it meant staying up all night. If there were anything True Father wanted done, members wanted to do it for him, spontaneously, without being asked. That was the life of faith our members led back then. Though ours was a small church, it was overflowing with love. Everyone was united and we overcame the most difficult of times. We need to give Divine Principle lectures in our churches without ceasing, in order to give people rebirth through the Word. Where individuals, families, tribes, peoples and nations practice true love, that is Cheon Il Guk. That is the kingdom of heaven on earth.

*(October 1st, 2012 – Cheon Jeong Gung)*

You have the True Parents with you. You have the Principle and the Word. I will work to vitalize our church. Our church should be alive and breathing. Through our actions and practices, blessed families need to set an example and bring neighbors and clans to follow us. *(October 1st, 2012 – Cheon Jeong Gung)*

### **Witnessing and the creation of the environment**

It is a pity that although you have listened to Divine Principle lectures dozens or hundreds of times, you have not yet grasped those teachings nor can you translate them into action. Our environment was shaped not only at the time of God's creation of the universe. It has continued through the course of the providence of restoration. I have made a great effort to create an environment for the coming generations. What about your parents? Have they fulfilled their responsibility? Have they created the environment that you need? As second

generation, you stand at the center of the Unification Church. You need to clearly understand your roots and create good environment. Simply put, witnessing is the way you create the environment. You need to witness. That is the only way you can avoid accusation. No matter how much the world has honored you, or how strictly you have lived for the providence, without straying even once, if you have a condition for accusation, you will not be free when you go to the spirit world. Please realize this. That has to be your constant motivation. Think about the seven billion people in the world. Our environment is still very limited. *(December 12, 2012 – Cheon Jeong Gung)*

It is not possible to turn heaven and earth upside down overnight. What is important is how much we devote ourselves to embrace our brothers and sisters, our clans, our nations and our neighbors with love. They are the fruits of our witnessing. Think only about how you are going to offer one more life to Heaven, even





True Mother speaking to HJ Cheonwon staff members during a special gathering (June 1st, 2016, Cheon Jeong Gung)

to the extent of forgetting to eat and sleep. You are all blessed members and you probably all have children; so you know how marvelous it is and how much you anticipate the birth of each new life. You can feel Heaven's blessings in that moment. If you can give birth to one new life each day with your own effort, then you will receive a great blessing. (December 12, 2012 – Cheon Jeong Gung)

If you take responsibility and organize activities that are lively and inspiring, the spirit world will fully assist you. What is the wish of those in the spirit world? What is our wish? It is the establishment of the kingdom of heaven on earth and in heaven, Cheon Il Guk. How excited, delighted and grateful we would be to realize that in our lifetime! If we have gone through life feeling that way, how can we now just sit calmly and placidly? How can we not exert ourselves? Our goal will not disappear with the passing of Foundation Day. We have to bless all of the world's people and transform them into Cheon Il Guk citizens. In order to do that, what

should you do? Those in the spirit world will not help people who do only what they are told to do, who just live from one day to the next. I am asking you to become people who report to Heaven every day and who move with Heaven all the time. Therefore, you must work hard, as if having twenty-four hours in the day is not enough. (October 13, 2012 – Cheonghae Garden)

As blessed families in all parts of the world prepare to welcome Foundation Day, they should ensure in this period of time that they have nothing to be ashamed of before Heaven. I have opened all the doors through Foundation Day. I have opened the doors wide for anyone who resolves to be filial, loyal and faithful, and to put his or her beliefs into action. We must practice absolute faith, absolute love and absolute obedience until our last moment on earth, centered on True Parents. If we make such a resolution and carry it out, we will not need to pay indemnity in the future. We need to prepare for the era of Cheon Il Guk that is free

from indemnity. That will come when we fulfill our responsibility. (January 20, 2013 – Cheongshim Peace World Center)

I sincerely ask everyone here to remain loyal, devoted and enthusiastic. On this foundation, we will give birth to the citizens of Cheon Il Guk and nurture them as we expand throughout our nation. But it is not only for this nation. Until we give rebirth to the seven billion people of the world, we will move forward, devoting ourselves completely with life-or-death commitment. We have to offer this nation to Heaven. Before anything else happens, North and South Korea should re-unite. In this context, are you aware of the important role of women? We need to go beyond the work of a daughter, and take on the mother's mission. We should give birth to and raise children. That is our responsibility. (January 10, 2013 – Cheon Jeong Gung) ㄸ

*This text is an excerpt from Cheon Seong Gyeong, Book 12, Chapter 4, Section 3.*

# Heavenly Korea National Pastors' Assembly 2022

## The Second Strategic Conference for Vision 2027

*The Second Strategic Conference for Vision 2027 was the reason for this National Assembly that convened 500 pastors from Heavenly Korea at the HJ Heaven and Earth Training Center.*

*During this assembly, detailed strategies were established for each church, district and subregion to achieve substantial growth during this 60-month course towards Vision 2027.*

**A**t the opening session, Wonju Jeong McDevitt, Chief of Staff, True Mother's Secretariat led the HDH and encouraged the pastors.

*"This morning, I reminded Mother that today will be this 2nd strategy meeting, and she conveyed her love through these words: "Today, I pray that all church leaders will pool their wisdom and come up with a strategy for the realization of the 60-month vision." And she has instructed me to tell you absolutely that she loves you all very much. I would like to sincerely thank Mother who is currently following us through video."*

Dr. Yun, director general of the international headquarters, explained the significance of this general assembly.

*"From a providential point of view, if the first course of Canaan at the Cosmic level made it possible to make a great leap to the national level, Canaan's second course at the cosmic level, especially this 60-month course that we must follow, will allow us to make a great leap to the continental level. Since this is a path that the heavenly Parent and the True Parents are taking for the first time in history, we are also taking a path that we have never taken before. I think if we pool our wisdom, take up the challenge of developing an effective strategy and move forward with courage, we can chart a new course again. If we participate in this strategy meeting with a sincere attitude, if we develop an effective strategy and move forward with all our*



(From left)  
Wonju Jeong McDevitt, Chief of Staff, True Mother's Secretariat, read True Parents' words and offered a greeting.  
Yun Young-ho, Director-General, FFWPU International Headquarters delivering the opening remarks.  
Apostle Don Mears, Evangel Cathedral, giving a special report.






Award ceremony for those with the best results during the 1st 40-day special condition

*heart, convinced that we are making a leap forward; even though it could take us a very long time, if we gather our wisdom and develop a powerful strategy, we will be able to continue our progress and be victorious, no matter how difficult it is."*

The program continued with an award presentation to district headquarters and churches that distinguished themselves through their achievements during the first 40-day special activity period in preparation for the 10th anniversary celebration of True Father's Holy Ascension. The award is expected to expand to members of the various churches in the near future.

Before the actual start of the strategy meeting, Pastor Don Meares emphasized that for a church to grow, it is necessary to listen carefully to God's voice and put His words into practice. "You must always do it the way God tells you to do it. There is absolutely nothing, nothing that will ever trump the voice of God to you... Hear God's voice and you will be great..."

The key words of this meeting were 'Cheonbo home-churches' and 'church growth through large groups'. The first presentation of the meeting was on the Cheonbo home-churches. The feasibility of the contents presented was assessed during the discussions. Church growth through large groups was divided into two subtopics. The second presentation was testimony-based and was followed by discussion. This was followed by another presentation and discussion on managing active and inactive members. This was followed by reports from the international headquarters, including those from the director of the Church Leaders Department and the director of the Heavenly United Korea Department, which focused on the planning of the 60-month course and the peace seminars. Participants also took part in a discussion for the final evaluation of the agenda addressed throughout the meeting.

In conclusion, Dr. Yun Young-ho presented a comprehensive review of this 2nd strategy meeting. 



# 40th Anniversary is a Time of Rebirth for the 6000 Couples

*Special Gathering Celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the 6,000-Couple Blessing  
October 15, 2022 (9.20 in the 10th year of Cheon Il Guk), Cheon Jeong Gung*



I am happy to see you. Looking back, you are truly blessed people.

You were blessed during the season when the fruit ripens, during the harvest season, and seeing you now, as you celebrate your 40th wedding anniversary, brings back many emotions.

In the Bible, there is a parable about the time of harvest, isn't there? The farmworkers asked the owner, "There are many weeds in the fields; should we pull them out?" But the farmer replied to them, "Pulling out the weeds might also uproot the wheat, so let's wait until harvest time."

You are truly blessed to be celebrating your 40th Blessing anniversary on this special blessed day when we have ushered in the completion of the providence, the firm settlement of Cheon Il Guk. The history of the Unification Church began from Father. Father.... Father who gives the words of truth. In 1960, I could finally appear in front of Father as God's only begotten daughter born of God, after the passing of 6,000 years. From that day in 1960, which marks the beginning of the history of the Blessing centered on Father and Mother, the history of the Unification Church has been full of turmoil. Since we were unable to gain the support of the Christian foundation, we have walked a truly difficult path while receiving persecution from Christians. However, we have proclaimed Foundation Day and Cheon Il Guk. Through Cheon Il Guk we can realize Heavenly Parent's dream for the first time in the history of God's providence and the history of humanity. Yet there must be people in the nation of Cheon Il Guk. Through the Cheonbo families fulfilling their responsibilities, they must not be like weeds, but like healthy wheat. I urge everyone in this blessed era of the providence, if there is anyone who could not usher in this day among those who received the Blessing with you, to make extra effort.

I hope there are no brothers or sisters among you who end up falling away as weeds despite a successful beginning. You are truly blessed people. How, how, how did you get to meet me?

Father began at the age of 40. You are also celebrating 40 years since you received the Blessing. I pray that your families can begin anew, become the noble, central families of Cheon Il Guk by successfully raising your second and third generation into healthy wheat. ㄸ



# Special Gathering to Commemorate the 40th Anniversary of the 6000 Couples International Blessing

*On October 14, 1982, the 5837 couples from around the world who received the Blessing through the grace of True Parents have become the elder brothers and sisters who can be the examples of true couples and true parents and leaders who can guide the Unification Movement to take the lead in creating true nations and a true world.*

*The 6,000 Couples were invited to attend a special gathering at Cheon Jeong Gung on October 14, 2022. True Parents invited to celebrate the 40th Blessing Anniversary. True Mother gave awards to members who had performed exemplary service and encouraged them to continue to lead the movement toward victory in 2027.*

**O**n 9.20 in the 10th year of Cheon Il Guk (October 15), more than 400 members of the 6,000 Couples International Blessing, along with members of the True Family, attended a special gathering hosted by True Parents in the Chapel Room at Cheon Jeong Gung, to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of their Blessing.

The evening was given even deeper meaning with the screening of a special video commemorating the 6,000 Couples Blessing and a passage from True Father's speech from the 14 October 1982 Blessing Ceremony, which was read by International Headquarters Director General Yun Young-ho before he delivered his special report.

In his report, Director General Yun conveyed, "In 1982 True Parents conducted the 6,000 Couples Blessing in the midst of a very busy schedule both in Korea and overseas. After True Father's Holy Ascension, True Mother urgently moved forward, walking a difficult course, pushing her body beyond all limits and going through unspeakable hardships in order to restore seven nations, to fulfill the enormous vision of one unified worldwide family under Heavenly Parent. This special 40th Anniversary Celebration that we are attending today, in attendance to True Parents should be an occasion that will show us as a model of elder brothers and sisters to the younger couples, so that they can also develop and be strong to attend and support True Parents, so that together, we can all offer our determination to bring victory in 2027."

In her message, True Mother told them: "You were blessed during the season when the fruit ripens, during the harvest season, and seeing you now, as you celebrate your 40th wedding anniversary, brings back many emotions. You are truly blessed to be celebrating your 40th Blessing anniversary. Now, as you mark 40 years since you received the Blessing, I pray that your families can begin



Panoramic view of the special gathering for the 40th Anniversary of the International Blessing of 6000 Couples





1. Cake cutting
2. Offering of gifts
3. Commemorative photo

anew, become the noble, central families of Cheon Il Guk by successfully raising your second and third generation to stand strong and proud like healthy stocks of grain.




Then, Chairman Cho Eung-tae and Pastor Kim Sun-hwan, representing the 6,000 Couples, offered hyojeong testimonies, sharing the results and determination from the efforts of the 6000 Couples.

Chairman Cho Eung-tae shared, "My heart is racing with excitement to be here with True Parents to celebrate the 40th anniversary of our Blessing. We 6,000 Couples have selected a new slogan to express our hearts of determination, 'Let us become 6,000 Couples who can offer the substantial embodiment of hyojeong!' As concrete activities, first, let us become CheonBo families and witness to accomplish the secure settlement of Cheon Il Guk. And secondly, let us move forward with True Parents until 2027. To do that we have searched to find families who were having difficulties and found 1050 (2100 people). Let us show that we are filial sons and daughters by supporting these members so they can come back to True Parents. Thirdly, please learn how to write your autobiographies. Let us tell about our past achievements by writing our autobiographies with the theme 'Footprints of Hyojeong.'" In closing, he added, "In order to experience True Mother's heart, at least a little, let's join together for a breakfast fast relay."



Ulsan District Leader Kim Sun-hwan of Ulsan Diocese spoke on the Blessing of his children. "We have one son and five daughters, and they have all received the Blessing, and are living their lives in obedience to True Parents' words. Having received the Cheon Il Guk Blessing from True Parents, most of them have international Blessings including Brazil, France and Japan. Now we have 17 international grandchildren. Our family is now a global family of 31 people. Without True Parents, how could I have possibly have a Brazilian son-in-law, a French son-in-law, and a Japanese daughter-in-law? I am deeply grateful to True Parents."

The gathering was concluded with a wonderful hyojeong performance by the Home Church Brass Band, which was formed this past June, and cheers of Eog Mansei lead by Greater Daegu District Leader Kim Seok-jin. 





6000 Couples International Mariage Blessing  
(October 14, 1982, Jamsil Gymnasium, Seoul)





# Report on the 51st Annual General Meeting of the 777 Couples, Commemorating the 52nd Anniversary of the 777 Couples International Blessing

Ji Han-Young / newly elected 26th president



**M**arking the 52nd Anniversary of the International Blessing of 777 Couples, the 51st General Meeting of the 777 Couples was held at 1:00 p.m. on October 21, 2022 (9.26, year 10 of Cheon Il Guk) in the Grand Sanctuary on the 3rd floor of Cheon Seung Church (former Cheon Bok Gung Church) with 211 people in attendance. Due to the coronavirus, regular general meetings have not been held for the past two years, and among those who had attended previous general meetings, there are many who are quite elderly and in ill health, so it wasn't clear who would be able to attend. As we organized

it, we were very curious. Would everyone's connection of heart draw them together because they wanted to see each other? Exceeding our expectations, more than 200 people attended the meeting, and the atmosphere was warm and energetic, with everyone delighted to see each other and talking happily together.

Before the official start of the meeting, ceremony, we had a chance to watch a video of the 777 Couples International Blessing Ceremony personally edited and produced by Senior Vice President Ji Han-Young. Seeing the youthful appearance of True Parents as they officiated the blessing ceremony held at Jangchung Arena 52 years ago, along with the youthful appearances of the brides and grooms who were then in their 20s, everyone was filled with nostalgia as they reminisced on old memories.

The 51st regular general meeting of the 777 Blessed Couples Association opened with remarks by the MC, Kim Dong-heon, the association's auditor, following which Association President Lee Du-sam and Senior Vice President Ji Han-Young presented a beautiful flower basket to True Parents. The program continued with the Cheon Il Guk national anthem, a bow of respect, recitation of the Family Pledge, representative prayer by Vice President Ji Han-Young, and a message from Association President Lee Du-sam. Then, after a congratulatory song, "Little House on the Prairie," from Matthew Jones (2nd generation son of a 777 Couple), Association Auditor Park Jong-kyung's presented the audit report and departmental activity reports were given by Administrative Director Bang Sun-Young, Finance Director Lee Jeong-sook, Cultural Department Director Kim Yeon-hee and Business Department Director Kim Jeong-soon. The remaining agenda included the election of Senior Vice President Ji Han-Young as the Association's 26th president and approval of Jo Jeong-soon and Oh Chang-seop as auditors, and Shin Pyeong-geun as Senior Vice President, and appointments of Kim Dong-heun as Administrative Director, Lee Jeong-sook as Finance Director, Kim Jeong-soon as Cultural Department Director, Lee Seon-sook as Women's Guild President (chosen by the Women's Guild) and other department heads. In addition, certificate of appreciation in the name of all the association members were presented to the 25th President Lee Doo-sam and all the department heads for their hard work as parts of the 25th administrative team.

Next, there was a greeting speech from incoming 26th President Ji Han-Young, an introduction of the members of the 26th administrative team and the new Women's Guild President (outgoing – Jeong Young-ja; incoming – Lee Seon-sook), followed by greetings from the outgoing 26th Administrative Team. All the brothers and sisters born in 1943 or earlier were invited to come forward and were jointly congratulated with a song and the cutting of a rice cake at having reached






1. Ji Han-young giving his inaugural address as the new 26th president
2. Members of the new 26th administrative staff
3. Birthday celebration for 210 brothers and sisters aged 80 and over
4. A view of the 51st General Assembly marking the 52nd Anniversary of the International Blessing of 777 Couples

the milestone age of 80 (Korean age), called “Palsun” in Korean, and the meeting concluded with three cheers of Eog Mansei led by Lee Hwa-beom.

The birthday celebration for the brothers and sisters over 80 was a memorable part of this year’s General Meeting. The idea of having a special celebration for them came up as we were preparing for the meeting, we wondered, and we wondered how many there would be who were aged 80 or more. When we looked at the name list, we were all surprised.

On the list there were 185 men and 25 women, a total of 210. This number is based on their officially recorded dates of birth, but we think there might actually be more, because often in those days, births were recorded significantly later than the actual date of birth. As we wondered how many of them have already ascended, we felt sorry that we were rather late in starting to recognize our brothers and sisters who had turned 80.

We remember when we were young, the banquets for people who turned 60 were really impressive, and people who managed to live 10 more years and make it to 70 were said to have lived a very long life, and we were envious. But now the world’s situation has changed so much that 60 is just middle-aged and it is almost embarrassing to have 60th-birthday banquets. Looking at the situation now, even reaching 70 is not such a big deal anymore, as many people are living into their 80s or 90s. Actually when people in their 80s stop by the senior center, there are lots of people in their 90s and the 80-somethings have to fetch coffee or run errands for the 90-somethings, so even reaching 80 doesn’t feel like much of an accomplishment anymore. So this year, as part of our general meeting, we decided to hold a joint celebration for all members who are over 80 years old, and we celebrated with them. The brothers and sisters were touched by the chance to be recognized and to appreciate the value of living until 80. So, starting from next year, we agreed to prepare a more substantial joint celebration at the annual meeting each year for the brothers and sisters who have turned 80.

Since we knew the Will and have chosen to follow the path of the Will, our motto has always been to live in constant obedience to True Parents. With a heart of obedience from beginning to end, we will become 777 families who are advancing toward victory in 2027 together with True Parents. 





777 Couples International Mariage Blessing  
(October 21, 1970, Jangchung Gymnasium)





# 30th Peace Forum on the Heavenly Unified Korea

*The 30th Peace Forum on the Heavenly Unified Korea was held on September 30, 2022 (9.5 HC) at the Hyojeong Cultural Center in Gapyeong in Gyeonggi Province, hosted by the International Headquarters of the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification, and produced by the Sunhak Global Education Foundation. The topic of discussion for the forum was, "Seeking the Direction for Peace Education for the Establishment of the Heavenly Unified Korea."*



**Y**un Young-ho, Director-General of the International Headquarters of the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification, introduced True Parents' ideology of "Ae-cheon, Ae-in, Ae-guk" which means "Love Heaven, Love People, Love the Nation." He spoke about his recent trip to Niger, and of the importance of character education for young people in achieving a Heavenly Unified Korea. As he spoke about his meeting with President Mohamed Bazoum of Niger, he explained the reality of the young people of Niger, and of new projects in the works to make programs in character education for them and give them new direction and hope. At the same time, Director-General Yun, once again emphasized the philosophical meanings of hyo (filial piety) and jeong (heart), which are emphasized through the concept of hyojeong in the Family Federation's Hyojeong Character Education programs, and also emphasized the importance of education about attending Heavenly Parent as our parent in establishing a heavenly unified Korea and heavenly unified world.



In his greetings, President Thomas Selover of the Professors World Peace Academy emphasized the importance of education in preparing for the era of the heavenly unified Korea. He explained three important factors in that preparation: developing "heavenly unified Koreans" with understanding of the factors such as government, economics, society, and cultural influences involved in establishing a renewed nation; cooperation through a "win-win-win" attitude and post-graduate education and training. In that regard, he expressed his deep gratitude for the contributions that True Parents have made toward the education and training for talented individuals.



Song Yong-cheon, president of the Sunhak Global Education Foundation, said in his greetings, "The role of Education in laying a strong stepping stone for a heavenly unified Korea and a heavenly unified world, is an essential element. The reason why the founding ideology of all the schools established by the True Parents is 'Ae-cheon, Ae-in, Ae-guk' is that they are seeking to teach the practice of true love for the peaceful and prosperous unification of the Korean Peninsula and for the world to become one human family under Heavenly Parent. Based on this founding philosophy and educational vision, the Sunhak Global Education Foundation and Cheongshim Education Foundation are striving to nurture future talent by focusing on community happiness through individual growth rather than focusing on individual success and happiness."



In his keynote address, Jin Seong-bae, chairman of the Hyojeong World Peace Foundation, introduced the definitions of peace and peace-oriented education for unification. He emphasized that contradiction and conflict can only be solved



A view of the academic seminar discussing the topic "Seeking the Direction for Peace Education"

through universal principles of heart, and that among the principles that bring harmony, the Divine Principle is the most effective. He also explained that True Parents' educational philosophy, which has been the guiding ideology of their own lives is most suitable as a universal model for educational philosophy.

A cultural performance followed, and then the second part of the forum, an academic seminar with the theme "Seeking the Direction for Peace Education."

Joo Woo-cheol, secretary-general of the International Association of Academicians for Peace, SunHak Universal Peace Graduate University Professor Jeong Si-gu and Sunmoon University Professor Ahn Yeon-hee presented topic presentations, which were followed by an in-depth discussion by Sun Moon University Professor Kim Min-ji and SunHak Universal Peace Graduate University Vice President Do Hyeon-seop.

The first topic presenter, Professor Jeong Si-gu of SunHak Universal Peace Graduate University, compared and analyzed the educational theory of Adam Smith with the philosophy of "Interdependence, Mutual Prosperity and Universal Values" promulgated by True Parents, the founders of the Philosophy of Education for a Heavenly Unified Korea. He emphasized that moving toward order and peace in a heavenly unified world that can embrace a heavenly unified Korea begins with education, emphasizing that the path to world peace would come through True Parents' true love education. Professor Minji Kim of Sunmoon University suggested that a more detailed analysis of the differences between the two theories was needed, and the forum heated up with a discussion on the theological differences between the two.

The second theme was presented by Ahn Yeon-hee, a professor at Sunmoon University, and explored the idea that peace education on a global level is a fundamental requirement for peace, and he spoke about the awareness of the problem that a religious foundation can bring to peace education, and the possibilities, meanings and solutions for those problems.

Do Hyeon-seop, vice president of SunHak Universal Peace Graduate University, said that if religion is actively involved in a public role for the realization of world peace, and adopts programs of comprehensive peace education aiming at the universal public good, meaningful results could be achieved in the areas of peace character education, peace unification education, peace citizenship education and peace environmental education, and that religion-based peace education can be effective when it is connected to religion-based peace practices. In addition, he said that religion, not only as the driving force for peace education, but also for peace practice, and to concretely illustrate that, he introduced the educational philosophy and peace ideology of True Parents, who have lived their entire lives practicing the pursuit of peace.

The overall direction of the day's discussion, moderated by Uhm Yun-hyeong, director of FFWPU Heavenly Unified Korea movement, with the participation of professors from Sunmoon University and SunHak Universal Peace Graduate University, focused on the meaning and role of peace education in realizing a heavenly unified Korea.

Every month UPF's Forum on a Heavenly Unified Korea invites leading figures from around Korea to provide their views, and to discuss various topics related to the peaceful reunification of the Korean Peninsula, national development, and building a world of peace. 





# THE MARRIAGE BLESSING

## 1. True Parents' Words on the significance of the marriage Blessing

*"The marriage ceremony that takes place in the Unification Church is not limited to Unification Church members. Rather, it is a universal course that all humankind must take.*

*The fundamental cause to receive the Blessing is the Fall of the first human ancestors. Due to the Fall, human beings must go the course of restoration to reach God's realm of dominion. The ultimate destination is to restore true families. To achieve true families, true individuals and true people must emerge. And among those true people a true man and a true woman must emerge. The true man and the true woman must then find each other and form a union through the holy wedding centering on God. Only then can true families appear."*

All people are fallen due to original sin, and it is True Parents' fundamental mission to save them. The centerpiece of this mission is the providence of the marriage Blessing, which eradicates original sin and fallen lineage. The marriage Blessing is the ceremony through which the evil lineage stained by Satan, is converted to the lineage of goodness rooted in God. It is the important ceremony that restores the order of love with God at the center, and eradicates the disordered love engendered by Satan through the Fall. The providence of the marriage Blessing, under the auspices of the True Parents, is the starting point for realizing the ideal of one family under God.

True Parents said that through the marriage Blessing, we need to establish the traditions of true husband and wife, true parents, true children and true siblings, with true love at the center. They particularly emphasized that true love incorporates the rights of inheritance, equal status and shared participation. So the ideal of the kingdom of heaven can be realized when people inherit the tradition of the true love of God and True Parents through the marriage Blessing and disperse that tradition throughout their societies, nations and the world.

True Parents have made it clear that blessed families need to be concerned about and live for their tribe, their people, their nation and the world before their own family. When a blessed husband and wife honor each other as the person who stands in the position of God, they set the example for those around them. As such, blessed families are to take the lead in the restoration of their tribe, their nation, the world, and all of heaven and earth. True Parents organized them into trinities and emphasized that the couples in each trinity need to live together in the same house, experiencing the love of brothers and sisters. They are to establish the tradition of community life through which all people can live together and love one another, transcendent of nation, race and religion.



1. 3 Couples Marriage Blessing (16 Apr 1960, Original Cheongpa-dong Headquarters Church, Seoul)
2. 36 Couples Marriage Blessing (15 May 1961, Original Cheongpa-dong Headquarters Church, Seoul)
3. 72 Couples Marriage Blessing (4 Jun 1962, Original Cheongpa-dong Headquarters Church, Seoul)
4. 124 Couples Marriage Blessing (24 Jul 1963, Seoul Civic Auditorium)
5. 430 Couples Marriage Blessing (22 Feb 1968, Seoul Civic Auditorium)
6. 43 Couples Marriage Blessing with members 10 countries, stage 3 (1 May 1968, Tokyo Headquarters Church)



## 2. History of the Blessed Families

The marriage Blessing held by the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (FFWPU) is a sacred rite during which couples vow to maintain true purity and build true families. FFWPU's marriage Blessing is True Parent's core mission. It is a holy and sacred ceremony where participating brides and grooms tie the knot as eternal husband and wife and vow to maintain true love, true life, and true lineage centering on Heavenly Parent.

True Parents officiated their first marriage Blessing attended by three couples on the 4.16 by the lunar calendar in 1960. Since then, Blessings have been carried out on the tribal, racial, national, and global levels through the Blessing ceremonies of 36 couples (1961), 72 couples (1962), 124 couples (1963), and 430 couples (1968) respectively. The ceremonies took on the aspects of an international marriage Blessing ceremony for the 777-couple Blessing (1970), 1800 Couples (1975), 2075 Couples (1982), and 6000 Couples (1982). Going further, a new era of Korean-Japanese cross-cultural Blessings began with the 6500-couple Blessing in 1988, 36 Second-Generation Couples (1986), 72 Second-Generation Couples (1989), 1275 Couples (1989) and 30,000 Couples (1992).

After the 360,000 couples Blessing (1995) it became possible to bless people in the spirit world. This brought about the era of a lineage of goodness through True Parents' love. On November 29, 1997, during the 40 Million Couples International Marriage Blessing, the Blessing ceremony was offered to spiritual beings for the first time, paving the way for the liberation of the spirit world and an environmental realm for the cosmic Blessing.

The marriage Blessings centering on True Parents passed through a period of providential development during which True Parents tore down the boundaries between the satanic world and the heavenly world opening the path to heaven. These Blessings included the 360 million couples





1. 1800 Couples Marriage Blessing (8 Feb 1975, Jangchung Arena, Seoul)
2. Second Generation 36 Couples Marriage Blessing (12 Apr 1986, Little Angels Performing Arts Center)
3. 6500 Couples Marriage Blessing (30 Oct 1988, Ilhwa Training Center, Yongin, Korea)
4. Second Generation 72 Couples Marriage Blessing (11 Jan 1989, Little Angels Performing Arts Center)
5. 30,000 Couples Marriage Blessing (25 Aug 1992, Seoul Olympic Main Stadium)
6. 400 Million Couples Marriage Blessing, Stage 1 (13 Feb 2000, Seoul Olympic Main Stadium)
7. Marriage Blessing of World Religious Leaders (27 May 2001, Hilton Hotel, New York)
8. True Parents' Settlement of Heaven, Earth and Humankind 10.14 Marriage Blessing (10 Oct 2010, Sunmoon University)
9. 2012 Marriage Blessing to welcome the age of liberation opened by the victory of True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind (24 Mar 2012, CheongShim Peace World Center)

Blessing (1998), 400 million couples Blessing (2000–2005), the Marriage Blessing of World Religious Leaders (2001), the 144,000 Clergy Couples Marriage Blessing (2002), the 2100 couples Marriage Blessing and Rededication Ceremony (2002), and Special Marriage Blessings (2004–2005). Through the Cross-cultural Marriage Blessing Ceremony in the Sacred Reign of Peace (2007), True Parents established the condition for all humankind to participate in the marriage Blessing. This made it possible to carry out the ceremony of changing the blood lineage through the re-creation of humankind which allowed Heavenly Parent to carry out His work directly on earth through the True Parents.

The 10.14 Cosmic Marriage Blessing (2009) laid the foundation for the 11.16 Second-Generation Marriage Blessing (2009), The 1.4 Cosmic Marriage Blessing (2010), the 10.14 Marriage Blessing based on the Completion of the settlement of the True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind, and the Marriage Blessing to Welcome the Era of Liberation Opened by the Victory of the True Parents (2012). In turn these Blessings completed the foundation to attend the True Parents of humankind as an





1. 2013 Cosmic-level Marriage Blessing officiated by the True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind, (17 Feb 2013 [HC 1.8], CheongShim Peace World Center)
2. 2014 Cosmic Blessing by the True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind (12 Feb 2014 [1.13 HC], CheongShim Peace World Center)
3. 2017 Hyejeong Cosmic Blessing Ceremony Officiated by the True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind (7 Sep 2017 [7.17 HC], CheongShim Peace World Center)
4. 2019 African Continental Summit Hyejeong Family Blessing Festival (7 Dec 2019 [11.11 HC], FNB Stadium, Johannesburg, South Africa)
5. 2020 Hyejeong Cosmic Blessing Ceremony (7 Feb 2020 [1.14 HC], CheongShim Peace World Center)
6. 2021 True Parents of Heaven, Earth, and Humankind Hyejeong Blessing Festival (25 Apr 2021, CheongShim Peace World Center)




entity united in spirit and body having achieved complete unity with Heavenly Parent.

After True Father's Cosmic Ascension, True Mother said, "Before I die, I will establish Heavenly Parent's Cheon Il Guk on earth without fail," and she took decisive action to advance without ceasing for the day we establish Cheon Il Guk, the nation that Heavenly Parent and all people have longed for. True Mother achieved oneness in heart, body, mind and harmony with True Father in the spirit world and on the groundwork of the declaration of Heaven's long-awaited Foundation Day on the 13th day of the 1st month on the heavenly calendar (February 22, 2013), she held the first Cosmic Marriage Blessing officiated by the True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind (2013–2016).

With True Parents' immense sacrifice and love, the Marriage Blessing ceremony was then renamed the "Hyejeong Cosmic Marriage Blessing" on September 7, 2017 (07.17.05 on the heavenly calendar).

On the foundation of True Mother's victorious three-year period of memorial jeongseong, she directed that beginning from True Father's 4th Cosmic Ascension Anniversary that the Blessing events be elevated and held in conjunction with the Seonghwa Festival. This was to emphasize a new opportunity for all blessed families on earth and in the spirit world to inherit the standard of True Parents' hyojeong toward Heaven and become beacons to the world.

The realm of the Marriage Blessing has expanded from the continental level, beginning with the African region on November 21, 2019 (10.14.07 on the heavenly calendar), to the global level. It is transcending the boundaries of race, religion, ideology, culture, and nation—becoming a Hyejeong Peace Festival at which all humankind can grow as true children, true husband and wife, and true parents in attendance to Heavenly Parent and True Parents. These Blessings are truly a festival where people are united through a culture of heart under the vision of "one human family under Heavenly Parent." 



# Family Love Peace Nuri

Kim Young-gil

Director, International Headquarters Family Department

*"I was electrified and moved as if I had attended ten Divine Principle workshop."*

*"I felt as if I was hit by a huge spiritual tsunami!"*

*"I believe this was a gift from True Mother!"*

The True Family Academy of the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (FFWPU) International Headquarters is hosting "Family Love Peace Nuri" every Sunday under the concept of a "Replay Wedding".

A Replay Wedding is a special event to renew wedding vows and take the time to reflect on the significance and value of True Parents' Blessing, and then reflect on our family relationships as a spouse, a parent, a child and a sibling. The event was also designed to offer the Blessing to new couples and spread the culture of happy true families to our local communities, our nation and the world.

The Peace Nuri Replay Wedding is for all Family Federation members and is carried out like a five-stage gift set called "Create Happy Families and Happy Communities." The five stages are the Family Game, Family Love Classroom, Proposal (Flashback), Family Photo Shoot, and Family Covenant of Love.

The Family Game is a common and simple game of popping balloons. Popping balloons by squeezing them between two people is a game that increases intimacy. Husbands and wives who participated in the game were hesitant at first, but they quickly began to enjoy themselves. All the couples that attended hugged and kissed in front of many members and many negative emotions that had accumulated over long periods of time were dissolved. Couples experienced exciting emotions that they hadn't had since they first got to know each other.

The Family Love Classroom is a role-playing game of creating a happy family. The game's goal is to improve healthy communication between family members and present an opportunity for all family members—particularly parents and children—to build solidarity. Family members who





participated in this improvisational game learned how to solve and how to communicate unresolved conflicts between husband and wife or parent and child through actions or words they could not previously express. Through this they gained the chance to think about what conditions are necessary for building a happy family.

The Proposal (Flashback) and Family Photo Shoot reminds couples and families, who have walked their entire lives together with intense love and devotion, of the butterflies they felt when they were newlyweds. This is a time reserved for them to realize one each other's value and strengthen their bonds.

The Family Covenant of Love and Family Photo Shoot is a time to make a commitment to foster love and happiness between husband and wife, parent and children, and brothers and sisters in front of Heavenly Parent and True Parents.

A participant shared in his testimony, "I thank True Parents for creating this warm and meaningful program to create memories with my spouse and my family through the Replay Wedding. My wife was as happy as a child in her beautiful dress and seeing her like that was the happiest day of my life. From now on I want to spread this healthy family culture with others."


The Replay Wedding creates unforgettable memories with one's family while simultaneously forming close relationships with other individuals from your family, your church and your local community. It also plays a synergetic role in achieving True Parents' vision for an "Ideal world built by true families".

The Family Love Peace Nuri hosted by the True Family Academy has been held twelve times so far. Since it began the average attendance rate has increased to two or three times. This is thanks to the love of True Parents love, the hard work of International Headquarters, and the sincere efforts of our head pastors and their families. Furthermore, I believe that these results were possible through the renewal of our Blessed families in Replay Weddings.

Unification Thought emphasizes human beings' five percent portion of responsibility. International Headquarters and the True Family Academy did not waste any energy in preparing this program. In addition, core members at local churches created prayer teams and these three groups formed a trinity with which spirit world could cooperate. When we invest all our devotion and love, we will already know how many people will attend before the event. On the basis of this foundation, I am certain that as we move forward, True Family Academy's Family Love Peace Nuri will play a large role in Heavenly Parent's Holy Community.

Park Ok-Ja, of the True Family Academy shares how she experienced Heavenly Parent while praying at Cheonshim Won.

"At Cheonshim Won I asked Heavenly Parent, 'Why do I have to go out to the field each week when it makes me struggle so?' and looking at True Mother's portrait, I saw Mother smile broadly and say, 'I am the one who sent you there.'

I truly felt that Peace Nuri was True Mother's gift to support local communities so that our blessed families can achieve goal of becoming ideal families. Thank you from the bottom of my heart, True Parents!" 



# The Path of Life True Parents have Made for Me

By Yuichiro and Hisako Watanabe  
(777 Couples Blessing)

In 1970, I received the blessing with my husband, Yuichiro Watanabe, as one of the 777 couples. Now, I am truly grateful as I have been walking the path of my life, being wrapped with the love of True Parents.

In 1973, I was assigned to the U.S. and began witnessing activities as an IOWC member, and participated in all the campaigns from the Carnegie Hall to the Washington Monument, thereby I could keenly feel Heaven's desire for the U.S.A. Meantime, I gained 3 spirit children, who participated in campaign activities, and were able to participate in a seven-day fasting together with me in front of the United Nations, which was a memorable and gratifying experience.

Shortly after then, I started a family life with my husband. When my oldest son was 6-months old, I began my mission as an itinerary worker, being involved in nation-wide witnessing activities. Even though I conceived more children - oldest daughter, second son and third son, they were all raised in the nursery due to my public mission.

My oldest son was already 7-years old, when we started an actual family life finally together with all my 4 children. Not being able to take good care of my 4 children all at once by pouring out my heart to each one, I have had so many regrets and remorse about the way I feverishly raised them. And I have been searching for a way to restore them.

Around 1996, the National Messiah Providence began. As a National Messiah of Peru, my husband and I spent one year there. Although we could not accomplish the providential mission, we are grateful as we were able to experience and understand the providential hope for South America.

Subsequently, due to the economic situation, I became a schoolteacher and continued it for several years.

While participating in morning devotions that started 2 years ago, I have begun my life of repentance and determination. Especially for campus witnessing, I have been trying to go out to the campus almost every day, repenting for my past indifference to the college despite its geographical closeness to my home.

Now, I am leading a life of gratitude every day by experiencing guidance from the spiritual world when meeting students, and grateful for the opportunity to learn from and get energized by young people's sensibilities.

Thank you very much. ♪



# True Father Told Me about My Matching in a Dream

By Jacob and Annette Kamga Fotso  
(6,000 Couples Blessing From 2075 Couples Group in 1982)



**M**y name is Jacob Kamga Fotso, and I was blessed with my wife, Annette Kamga Fotso, by True Parents at Madison Square Garden, the USA, in 1982. We had been matched in England in 1978 and were among the 2075 couples matching, which is part of the 6000 couples blessing. I want to share my experience with True Father at the 1978 matching ceremony in London during that match.

First of all, I want to say something about my wife, who joined the church in 1969 in Germany.

She was a missionary to Australia in 1972, Congo in 1975, and DR Congo in 1977. During her mission in Congo, she also experienced 77 hours of imprisonment with her missionary friend Pamela Stein from the USA. Afterward, her American missionary friend had to leave, and Annette stayed alone to continue the mission. Back then, Congo was under communist rule. One night, Annette had a dream of True father coming to Africa to a hut full of splinters, and in her dream, she asked how can we prepare for True Father to come. She received a reply saying that True Parents would bless her to a black man.

I joined the church in 1972 in France as the first African of our movement. After six years of fundraising, I was invited to London for the matching of 120 elder couples in June 1978. Once in the matching hall, before even starting, True Father pointed at me and asked me: "Where are you from? And how old are you?" I told him I was 35 years old and came from Cameroon. Then he said to me: "Your wife is not here, but you can try." True Father then showed me a black Caribbean sister who worked in London. We went out to discuss, but I did not accept her as a match for me because the first words True Father said to me kept ringing in my ears: "your wife is not here." Some leaders tried to persuade me throughout the night to accept this matching. And to avoid the pressure from these leaders, I went to the kitchen to wash dishes and serve coffee to newly engaged couples who came in and out happily, hand in hand. While cleaning the dishes, I pondered on if I should accept the matching.


The next day, True Father pointed at me again and asked me about the matching proposal: "What is your answer?" I felt I should accept out of obedience and devotion, but before I could say a word, True Father added: "I want your yesterday's answer, not your today's answer." I then happily replied that yesterday's answer was "no," and I felt liberated.

During my 80 days of "Home Church" in the UK, I felt as if I had betrayed my race by rejecting the black lady; as such, I served a Nigerian man in my area daily. On the night of the 12th - 13th of



September 1978, I had a dream in which I saw a plane coming from Africa, and I was told that my wife was there but was not African. Still in that dream, True Father hugged me and said, "I will make another matching in London, and your wife will be there; the only issue she might have about you is your age." In the morning, at breakfast, I shared my dream with the brothers and sisters, and later on that very day, our leader got a phone call asking everyone to go to London for a matching ceremony.

In the matching room, True Father said: "All members who are over 30 years old should go out as well as those who have been here in June for the previous matching." On my way out, Rev Won Pil Kim blocked the doorway and prevented me from going out. True Father noticed, called me again, and matched me to my wife, a German missionary who had just flown in that night from Africa as I had seen in my dream. We were the first couple matched by True Father on that day.

With my wife, we have three beautiful children who have great faith and work with us daily. We also have five grandchildren who live in different countries. We are happy and thank Heavenly Parent and True Parents for everything they have done for us. 



# A Blessing from True Parents, Becoming a CheonBo Family

By Dr. Venus Agustin & Youn-sook Cho  
(6,500 Blessing couple)



I joined and became full-time on April 14, 1982, in Manila, Philippines, while my spouse (Korean) joined later through her mother. After 6 years of being in the frontline mission in the Philippines, our couple was matched on October 30, 1988, at around 2:00 AM at McCol Factory at Yong-in and joined the Blessing Ceremony on the same day after breakfast. The interesting happened was that though we couldn't understand each other mutually agreed to meet at 9:00 AM at the same spot where we both parted after we mutually accepted each other and discussed the details.

Just after the blessing, my spouse devoted herself as full-time assigned at Tongil-gyo Chungpa-gu church for at least 3 ½ years and was tasked to wake up early morning distributing Segye-Ilbo Newspaper. She carried along such bundles of heavy loads alone and distributed it to many houses where she was assigned. Meanwhile, I was then the National President of WCARP Philippines and Tong-Il Moo-Do Philippines, focusing to witness the youth and

students. Later, elected as President of the International Peace Leadership College and became CEO & General-Manager of Il-Hwa Philippines. My mission then expanded later to the Asia Pacific, and I am appointed as Vice-Chairman of UPF Asia Pacific and Executive Vice-President of the World Tong-Il Moo-Do Federation. We started family life in 1991, and later my spouse lived in the Philippines a year later. Our couple went through such unimaginable tremendous trials and difficulties (wilderness course as an international couple), facing challenges as a public person and at the same time taking care of family matters. What keeps us moving is our attitude toward doing public missions. Since my spouse is a Korean, she was assigned to the Philippine Church HQ started from the kitchen for many years, and later in-charged of the Finance and Filipino-Korean Blessing Couple Department. Blessed with one filial son named Seuk Joon who is now 22 years old (23 by Korean age) and a candidate for matching.

What makes our couple significantly aligned with True Mother's wishes? We were able to accomplish our mission as Cheonbo Victors and were officially awarded as Cheonbo Couple on the 10th of October 2020. Though we have already accomplished our mission, we didn't stop there, we continue aligning to the wishes of True Mother by raising up our 43 blessed core couples to become Cheonbo Couples and four (4) among our 43 blessed core couples have already become Cheonbo Victors and awarded as Cheonbo Couples. The Blessing coming from True Parents indeed is our attitude to participate in restoring the 7.7 billion population of the world by continuously witnessing our relatives through our HTM Tribe, our neighbors, our community, and ultimately the nation and the world without ceasing until the reunification of the Korean Peninsula and the Kingdom of Heaven on Earth is finally substantially established. 



# When I Make My Wife Happy, Heavenly Parent is Happy!


By Ronnie D. Sodusta & Weeranut Sirimusika  
(The "10.14" Cosmic Blessing Ceremony – 12th Anniversary)



**W**e lift high all the glory and honor to our Heavenly Parent and our victorious True Parents of Heaven, Earth, and Humankind. Time flies so fast, and it seemed just yesterday when we attended our Blessing Ceremony, yet 12 years quickly passed. We are Christian and Buddhist, Man and Woman, Strong and more Strong from the Philippines and Thailand. We go beyond these differences and barriers. We challenge conventional beliefs and still hold each other for 12 years and will make an effort to continuously keep each other's hand until our hair turns gray.

If not for the grace of our True Parents, I do not know how I can meet such a beautiful and strong wife. It was not an easy 12 years. There are many ups and downs. We both struggle to understand each other and overcome many difficulties. Going through a rough seven years separation period, a long-distance relationship, and differences in attitude, thinking, family, and religious background is not

an easy task; there are several occasions in the past when we almost gave up our blessing. Thanks to the words of our True Parents and the guidance of many elders in faith, we can realize many things and be determined to protect God's lineage entrusted to us.

I am not a singer. To surprise my wife on our 12th Blessing Anniversary, I asked someone to compose a song based on our love story. People who know me know that I am one of the worst singers in the world. However, I gathered all the strength and confidence in the world and asked for someone's help to record a song as we celebrate the 12th Anniversary of our Blessing Ceremony. I want to express my gratitude and love for my wife, who bore me her heart and soul, gave birth to our two daughters, and understand my lapses and unreasonable anger sometimes. The title of the song is "Wife for Life." She was so happy listening to the music. One of the many realizations that help us move forward in this blessing is that God is happy, when my wife is happy. ChamOmonim, there are still many difficult paths in the future. However, we will move forward with the determination to become Cheonbo victor and raise our children in principle. Thank you so much, we love you, and we long for you. 



# TRANSITIONING TO [NEW STYLE] OF WORSHIP SERVICE FOR HEAVENLY PARENT'S HOLY COMMUNITY

**T**his article is to help explain the changes and new format of Heavenly Parent's Holy Community worship service by taking a look at the history of worship.

## The origin of the word “worship”

The term “worship” originates from the Old Testament Hebrew word “abad (עָבַד)”. Abad means to serve God as one’s master in a manner similar to a slave serving his owner. It also means to be dedicated to God, and obey God’s commands. Another Old Testament word in Hebrew is “shachah (שָׁחָה)” which means to prostrate on your knees in front of God. Placing your forehead to the ground in this position expresses one’s recognition of the value of worship through submission of one’s entire body in front of God.

The Hebrew word “yare (יָרֵא)” means “awe” which expresses fear or reverence.

In the New Testament, the most common Greek word for worship is “proskuneō (προσκυνέω)” which means to kiss the hand of or prostrate oneself toward another in token of reverence. The Greek word “latreuō (λατρεύω)” emphasizes the act of worshipping a god or performing religious services.

The interpretation of the word “service” that we commonly use in English originates from the act of ministrations or worship seen in the Bible. “Worship” is a compound of “worth” and “ship” meaning offering reverence and worth to God.

We can observe the term worship throughout the ages and conclude that worship should be an act of obedience, submission, service and worship to God.



# How worship changed over time

## 1. OLD TESTAMENT AGE

Era	Characteristics	
Cain & Abel	Individual worship	- Build a relationship with God by placing offerings onto an altar
Noah & Abraham	Worship as a Family / Tribe	- God's presence and personal response (Offer sacrifices on an altar) - Patriarchal era: family worship
Era of the Ten Commandments	Worship as a people (Ten Commandments)	- A prophet converses with Jehovah on behalf of the whole. (transfer of the Word) - Portable temple (ten commandments, sanctuary, establishment of systematic offerings and rituals) - Centered on acts [of worship]
Era of the United Monarchy	Worship as a nation (Temple)	- Worship in a [permanent] temple built by King Solomon. - Development of worship practices (music, benediction and praise, prayers, processions, preaching, reflections, confessions, etc.)
Era of the Prophecies of Babylon	Worship as a community (Chapel)	- Led by rabbis - Worship in any location (praise, prayer) - Centering on the Word

## 2. NEW TESTAMENT AGE

Era	Characteristics	
Jesus – Apostolic Age (Primitive Church)	Worship as a faith community (Rites)	- Worship format: informal, impromptu - Baptism (gathering, call and response), the Lord's Prayer, Eucharist (bread, wine), sacraments, confirmation, Bible reading, lectures, catechism - Holy communion, sacrament, propagation of the Gospel
Patristic Period (Early Church)	Worship as a community: Large chapels (God's Word)	- Origins of today's Christian worship style - Gathering, memorandum (God's Word), recitation, Bible reading (sermon), Eucharist (bread, wine), prayer, etc.
Medieval Church	Worship centering on the priest (sacrament)	- Catholic Church is recognized as the national church of Rome - Ill-effects occur - Deterioration of community system characteristics (worship is led in Latin, exclusion of the congregation) - Formalization of the sacraments, elaboration (service format changes)
Religious Reformation & After	Reformation of worship (doctrine, sermons)	- Movement for the Word and reviving the Holy Spirit - A new history for the Church - Division of religion and state - Sacrament style after the religious reformation: Protestant Church, Roman Catholic Church, Episcopal Church
Modern & Present Era	Renewal of worship	- Church is renewed with the proper understanding of worship. - Change to the worship format ① God's Word = Communion (horizontal fellowship) ② Community worship = Encourage congregation participation ③ Worship leading method=local language ④ Expressions of worship = Use of visual aids (format centering on communication)



1. True Father giving a sermon in front of members gathered at the Mount Gwanak(1957)
2. Thanksgiving Worship (19 Nov 1960, Original Cheongpa-dong Headquarters Church, Seoul)
3. Christmas Worship (1970s)
4. 19th God's Day Commemorative Service (1 Jan 1986, Original Cheongpa-dong Headquarters Church, Seoul)
5. Worship Service for the 36th Anniversary of the founding of HSA-UWC (1 May 1990, Headquarters Church, Seoul)
6. 35th True God's Day Midnight Speech (1 Jan 2002, Cheongpyeong Heaven and Earth Training Center)

## Limitations in modern worship

- ① Reduction of church-owned schools (As of 2021: 43% of churches don't operate schools and 57% do.)
- ② Reduction of attendance (anti-social undercurrent, emergence of COVID-19)
- ③ Change in awareness of religious ceremonies and life of faith (Vertical ⇌ horizontal, religious ⇌ non-religious)
- ④ Competency of ministers: Difficulty establishing themselves online
- ⑤ Financial problems

## Changes to modern worship

- ① Open services: Less traditional services (prayer and praise services)  
— centering on the search for truth: emphasize the meeting between God and the seekers of truth (the pastor and congregation have a horizontal relationship)
- ② Establish worship theology: No change to the essence of the Word.
- ③ Multimedia service: multimedia, provide visual aids (next generation, encourage newcomer attendance)
- ④ Prepare changes across all levels (prevention of cliques)
- ⑤ Worship in daily life (expansion of maturity in faith and personal growth for people of faith. ⇌ Acceptance of each individual ⇌ Trust, satisfaction, and maturity ⇌ Development of small local communities ⇌ Outreach)



## Heavenly Parent's Holy Community's worship service

Heavenly Parent's Holy Community believes that the relationship between Heavenly Parent and human beings is a parent-child relationship and should manifest as such. Moreover, worship service is a time to attend Heavenly Parent as our parent, recognize True Parents as the returning Lord, and express appreciation and praise as their true children. Heavenly Parent's Holy Community aims to realize a global community by attending Heavenly Parent and True Parents and practicing their heart and true love during worship service and in our own lives.

On May 5, 2020 (4.13 year 8 on the heavenly calendar) during the Special Gathering to Celebrate the 60th Anniversary of True Parents' Holy Wedding, True Parents declared the start of Heavenly Parent's Holy Community, which is to embrace everything from the Blessing and True Family Movement to our world peace movements. They established a new culture and tradition for the settlement of a heavenly unified world.

True Parents said that the Heavenly Parent's Holy Community "will be Heavenly Parent's great umbrella. And under that will be all the various activities that we have done and all the NGOs, UPE, FFWPU, WFWP.... Everything will come under this great umbrella. And we need to testify to Heavenly Parent 120 percent." They continued, "the age of Heavenly Parent's Holy Community is the age in which True Parents unite with Heavenly Parent."

In step with the direction of the providence, on January 25, 2021 (12.13 year 9 on the heavenly calendar), Director-General Dr. Yun Young Ho spoke at the national True Parents' Special Assembly for Korean pastors. In his presentation he said, "From now on, the format of the worship services for Heavenly Parent's Holy Community's should change, incorporating multimedia elements in order to engage people of all generations and bring them together to attend Heavenly Parent and True Parents. This format should allow the congregation to engage in a two-way give and receive action with the presenters and between congregation members."

The new worship paradigm for the Heavenly Parent's Holy Community will be transformed according to generation and each called Hyojeong Nuri, Hope Nuri and Peace Nuri.

"Nuri" is a pure Korean word meaning "world"; therefore, we are using the term to express the sentiment to worship throughout the world.

### 1. HYOJEONG NURI (HYOJEONG WORLD)

Hyojeong Nuri is a new format for Sunday school using a remote platform adopted during the COVID-19 period when social distancing is necessary, and further developed to provide a well-produced and engaging Sunday worship experience suited to our younger members and their families, which can be shared with all the churches in Korea and overseas through internet broadcast platforms.

The world "hyojeong" is a new term introduced by True Mother in 2016 after the completion of her three-year period of memorial jeongseong following True Father's Holy Ascension in 2012. "Hyojeong" contains the following three meanings. First, during True Mother's three-year period of memorial devotions, there was no one who had achieved a perfected heart of filial piety. Therefore, True Parents established the standard of hyojeong toward True Parents and presented this standard and attitude that all humankind should possess. Second, hyojeong connotes the longing our children should have to practice a heart of filial piety and inherit and promote True Parents' will for the settlement of Cheon Il Guk. Third, it signifies the life of Moon Hyo-jin, True Parents' eldest son, who helped to bridge the gap between the hyojeong as a concept and as a substantial reality by completing his duty as a true filial son.

In a child's realm of heart, the heart of hyojeong is the origin and core motive in the four realms of heart: filial love, sibling love, conjugal love, and parental love. Another way to understand hyojeong is as the essence of the human heart. The parental position that hyojeong strives to reach is Heavenly Parent. Therefore, the concept of hyojeong refers to the identity of human beings as the absolute object partners who attend Heavenly Parent as subject partner. Hyojeong Nuri maintains the essence of worship and True Parents' words while adding elements of entertainment for the children to enjoy. Hyojeong Nuri worship has been taking place in the form of a festival and has been conducted 12 times since August 22, 2021 (7.15, year 9 on the heavenly calendar).

These programs were designed to engage kindergarten- and elementary-school-aged children to participate in hoondokhae, listen to the message for the week, sing and dance in praise, join Yes-No quizzes, watch musicals and join other games. Hyojeong Nuri is one of the ways we can pass on our



faith traditions to the upcoming generations. Even now after the long-term COVID-19 social distancing guidelines have been completely lifted, we will continue with Hyojeong Nuri as it has become a worship platform where three generations can participate together from all over the world through media.

## 2. HEEMANG NURI (HOPE WORLD)

Hope Nuri is the new name for the Heavenly Parent's Holy Community weekly worship for Seonghwa students, program with elements which today's MZs (Millennials and Gen Z) can related to, fusing worship, the arts, culture, and media.

The MZ generation can connect well to a hybrid online and offline experience for service and workshops. Moreover, it gives us a platform to be able to develop the "shape of life" for future generations through education and mentoring.

In comparison with former worship styles, the goal of Hope Nuri is to establish worship as a way of life rather than a religion. It is a channel through which participants can experience the love of Heavenly Parent and True Parents in their lives.

## 3. PYEONGHWA NURI (PEACE WORLD)

The wide-appeal main worship and fellowship platform of Heavenly Parent's Holy Community, Peace Nuri has three main configurations: 1) Ahn Shi Il service 2) peace festivals 3) Rallies of Hope.

### 1) Ahn Shi Il service

On April 19, 2004, True Parents declared the establishment of Ahn Shi Il (安時日), a Day of Settlement and Attendance. On April 19, True Parents directed that, starting from April 27, 2004, every eighth day would be designated as Ahn Shi Il, so the first Ahn Shi Il was held on May 5. Ahn Shi Il is a tradition similar to the Judeo-Christian Sabbath, which comes every seven days. Although in recent





years, it has been primarily celebrated through family worship at home, in this age of Heavenly Parent's Holy Community, it has been expanded to an on- and off-line community worship.

Holy Parent's Holy Community Ahn Shi Il service is offered at 6:00 a.m., which gives the whole family the opportunity to join together online, strengthening their family traditions, and making a meaningful start to the next eight days.

## 2) Peace Festival

The Peace Festival is a festival style worship service for Family Federation members and peace-seekers all around the world to gather every Sunday in attendance to Heavenly Parent and True Parents.

These Peace Festivals began on April 4, 2021 (2.23, year 9 on the heavenly calendar) as a hybrid event. Peace Festivals have been held under various themes, including Blessings, Joy, Gratitude, Happiness, and Hope and each of the events are made up of three parts (Part 1: Who is Heavenly Parent; Part 2: Who is the Mother of Peace; Part 3: Who am I).

Sub-themes are on different topics such as politics, economy, society, and religion upon which key personnel in these areas have attended to give a message or testimony. The event promotes communication, and through the content of the program, Family Federation members and peace seekers have a chance to discover answers to questions they may have.

Pyeonghwa aewon, or "peace associates," meaning all people who love peace, is a new term that refers to new members of Heavenly Parent's Holy Community.

The Peace Festival is a festival style worship service where peace associates can attend Heavenly Parent and True Parents and comfortably experience Heavenly Parent's Holy Community worship culture.

## 3) Rally of Hope

The Rally of Hope is the new Heavenly Parent's Holy Community worship paradigm. It takes place locally in one sub-region each time, with True Parents attending virtually. Leaders and staff from providential organizations including UPE, WFWP, and IYSP are invited to join these on-line events as






an opportunity to revitalize their Family Federation connections. The Rally of Hope events are divided into two parts and they rotate between the sub-regions. A series of them was held beginning on January 17, 2020 (12.5m, year 8 on the heavenly calendar) in sub-region 5 (Yeongnam provinces) followed by sub-region 2 (Gyeonggi and Gangwon provinces), sub-region 4 (Honam provinces and Jesu Island), sub-region 1 (Seoul and Incheon cities), and sub-region 3 (Chungcheong provinces).

Part 1 of the Rally of Hope is structured like our pre-existing worship style, and in Part 2 True Parents give a message, which is followed by a celebration. During one series of Rallies of Hope True Parents bestowed each heavenly nation sub-region a national flower—azalea, magnolia, hibiscus, forsythia, and daffodil—and encouraged the members of each region to resemble the spirit of their flower and advance toward the settlement of a heavenly unified world by uniting with Heavenly Parent and True Parents.

The Rally of Hope is a new worship style and worship culture of offering hyojeong to Heavenly Parent and True Parents as well as an opportunity to reach out and tell the whole world about Heavenly Parent and True Parents. The Rally of Hope has the following characteristics. First, it transcends holding church service at a specific time and place by being held online. Second, a standard order of worship is followed through the online livestream. Third, it is a combination of both traditional worship characteristics and modern characteristics. The Rally of Hope is for all generations to come together and through the participation of each individual, Heavenly Parent can communicate directly with our members. Its focus is concentrated on building a stronger relationship with Heavenly Parent.

We have taken a look at how worship has changed from era to era. In each era, worship changed and adapted because the circumstances of that era demanded a new style. The transformed Heavenly Parent's Holy Community worship style is a formal activity for faith communities that combines symbolic acts of attendance and introspection with the social acts of worship. It gives us a chance to not only builds our personal relationships with Heavenly Parent and True Parents, but also encourages each of us to reaffirm and examine our behavior on personal and social levels within our faith community. 





# HOONDOKHAE

## Establishment of Hoondokhae


On September 1, 1997, at the commemoration of the 8th Anniversary of Heavenly Parentism in Belvedere, New York, True Parents, saying, “Today we are entering a new age,” gave guidance for a new faith tradition for this new era of reading True Parents’ words. On October 13 at the Victoria Plaza Hotel in Uruguay, True Parents named this practice “hoondokhae” and emphasized its importance saying, “All blessed families around the world should spend one hour every day in the practice of hoondokhae, beginning at 6:00 a.m.”

Hoondokhae is a life tradition we should follow absolutely, because reading True Parents’ words strengthens our faith, and gives us the resolve and motivation to practice the things that we have just read about in our daily lives. True Parents said that we need to live by the Word as the absolute standard, and instituted hoondokhae to establish such a tradition.

## A life of hoondokhae

Hoondokhae is a gathering of people to study True Parents’ footsteps, sympathize with their hearts, and aim to become substantiations of the Word in order to become one with True Parents and inherit their victorious realm. The ultimate purpose of hoondokhae is to realize God’s Will and fulfill it by achieving oneness in heart with Heavenly Parent through the practice of reading True Parents’ words.

The word “hoondok” means to engrave God’s Will on your heart and mind by reading aloud. By reflecting deeply on the words and their meaning as you read, you will find lessons contained in True Parents’ words. Moreover, its purpose lies in experiencing the hearts of Heavenly Parent and True Parents by understanding interpretations of the Word from both a theological viewpoint and from the aspect of heart.

True Parents said, “The purpose of hoondokhae is to resemble Heavenly Parent who is the original substance of the Word. You should practice hoondokhae to become the second True Parents. If you practice hoondokhae often spirit world will cooperate with you. Heavenly Parent resides where Heavenly Parent’s Word is read.” That is why True Parents said we should value hoondokhae even more than eating food and practice it every day. 

*"The purpose of hoondokhae is to resemble Heavenly Parent  
who is the original substance of the Word.  
You should read hoondokhae to become the second True Parents.  
If you practice hoondokhae often spirit world will cooperate with you.  
Heavenly Parent resides where Heavenly Parent's Word is read.  
Good spirits in the spirit world are resurrected and carry out works of cooperation.  
Therefore, hoondokhae is the path to receiving support from the spirit world."*


*"You should read at least one hour every day.  
If you cannot do it in the morning,  
then you should read before you go to bed at midnight or 1:00 a.m. I am doing this too.  
While touring South America, I practice this even if it is past midnight,  
no matter how tired I am. You must not miss a single day.  
Do you understand?"*





# Nationwide Family Worship, Morning Jeongseong, Implementation of Church Innovation

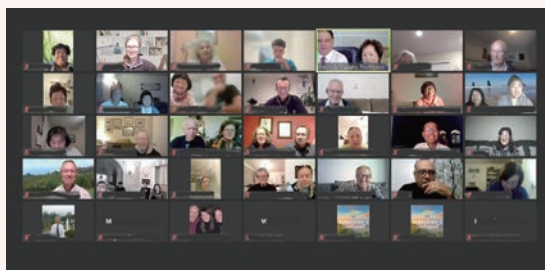
By Kevin and Masako Thompson  
Heavenly American 5th District Directors

Every Sunday after National Family Service (NFS), different communities in subregion 5 would gather on zoom to share their thoughts and reflections. It was vital for members as a way to connect with one another and with the providence during the pandemic. It brought a sense of unity as we were all watching the same thing across the subregion and nation. Some members formed small groups to watch the live stream of the service and online festivals. CARP and Young Adults hosted their own zoom gatherings reflecting on NFS and attending the online festivals. Members were excited to create small groups and host watch parties together and would invite guests to join as well. It was a very engaging and uplifting way for the community members to connect more personally with one another while not being able to meet in person during covid. It brought hope and movement forward. 


## 21-Minute Prayer Jeongseong Every Morning

### Subregion 2

It all began as a 40-day, 21-minute Prayer condition to receive Dr. Yong to our Subregion 2. Rev. and Mrs. Patton and Dr. and Mrs. Acolatse invited our SR2 members to join a 7:30 AM zoom prayer condition. Dr. Yong's trip was postponed and we ended up doing three 40-day prayer conditions. The heart of God was touched. Our numbers grew from around 20 to over 50 people within our SR2 family. Nobody wanted to end our gatherings and the numbers continue to increase. Now it has become a culture of heart experience via zoom, every day after



Morning Devotion.


Why? Our gathering consists of 21 minutes of prayer for the successful accomplishment of our SR2 goals, and then inviting people to share their successes and struggles as they continue, on a daily basis, their witnessing, teaching and raising new people to receive True Parents. We also receive the most up-to-date announcements from Dr. Achille about upcoming events along with True Mother's and Dr. Yong's guidance. Each person on the call receives personal support and is empowered to "never give up" as the heart and vision of their brothers and sisters is shared. The power of the holy spirit is strong. We laugh, we cry and we encourage each other as a real, substantial family of God. Based on this foundation, church service attendance has been increasing and also members reading EDP. Thank you, Heavenly Parent and True Parents! 

## Innovation: HJ Stars

**H**J Stars is a virtual talent show fundraiser to support our Youth & Young Adult Ministries (YAYAM) in North America. This event allows talented youth to share their talents as well as support their talent endeavors with cash prizes. Funds raised from this 3 weeks program will go towards future events and programs dedicated to building our Youth & Young Adults in North America. Some of the events and programs include Winter & Summer Workshops, Retreats, Il-Shim, and Devoted.

The virtual talent show and fundraiser was designed to have three rounds: Auditions, Semi-Finals, and Finals. The three rounds brought in a total of 6,479 views with contestants,

families, and our community at large joining in this event with a total of \$7,800 of its \$10,000 fundraiser goal. We invited 56 participants to compete from all ages from across the world including America, Kenya, and the UK. From dancing, drawing, singing, instruments playing, and poetry speaking, all talents performed were diverse and inspiring.

HJ Stars proved the power of art and gave great opportunities for people to share their talent and connect with people from across the county. Through this innovative event, we hope to be able to see more talents in the future and continue to encourage our youth to pursue their artistic ambitions to further share the culture of Hyojeong. 





# Philippines Church Innovation Report

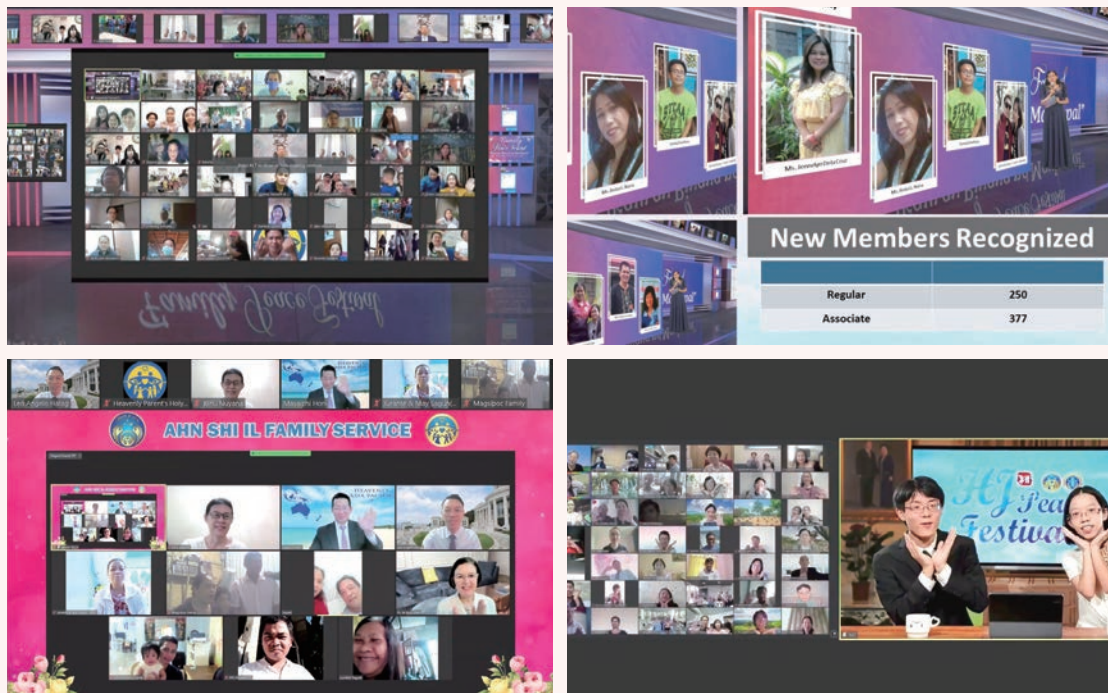
Leo Angelo Halog / FFWPU Philippines National Leader

First of all, I would like to offer my deepest love and gratitude to our Beloved Heavenly Parent and True Parents of Heaven, Earth, and Humankind!

In line with our Beloved True Mothers' direction through the International Headquarters implementation of the four major innovations specifically centering on the Church innovation to encourage Church growth, the Philippines for several months is regularly conducting the Ahn Shi Il Family Service every Ahn Shi Il Day. From the usual Sunday services for members, we have changed it to regular Ahn Shi Il Family service every after the 8th day focusing on our core membership. It is being done at the national level but mostly via zoom/online, especially on weekdays from 6:00 am to 7:30 am. But if it falls on a weekend, especially on Sundays, we are doing it on a hybrid setup, where there is a physical gathering at the Headquarters attended by members and blessed families nearby and participated by all other members nationwide via zoom/online. For September, an average of 373 members have joined through zoom every week, and an average of 1,110 have watched via Facebook live every week or every Ahn Shi Il Service.

Last year, on May 2021, the Philippines conducted two (2) series of Family Peace Festivals. This Family Peace Festival was a grand celebration for all members, Ambassadors for Peace, Peace Associates, and even for new invites. This festival highlighted the "Welcoming of New Members" to our Heavenly Parent's Holy Community and was recognized by our entire community. It is a very good program that encourages members and new people to be part of our community and build a peaceful world together.

Starting next month, November 2022, the Philippines will start our National Open Sunday Service specifically for new members, HTM members, and Peace associates, and for new people to rebuild a stronger church foundation, continuous development, and church growth. Thank you very much! 🙏



# Malaysia – Report on Family Festival

By Lai Peng Keong / National Leader of Malaysia

Greeting to all the leaders and members worldwide, it's my pleasure to share with you about the main event of church innovation in Malaysia, the Family Festival. On 4 September 2022, we have successfully organized the 1st Family Festival in Peace Embassy with more than 110 members participated physically and via online platform. With the special theme of Mid-Autumn Festival, we have a very welcoming atmosphere and hall decoration to receive our new members.


A total of 15 new members have participated for this special monthly event. They are from 4 homegroups and 1 center, namely 6 from Shining Hope, 2 from L3, 3 from L3 hope, 1 from Dream Tornado and 3 from Sg Long Center. Flowers are given to each and every new members as a special gift for their presence.

Besides, the Heavenly message on the topic of "Life of attending Heavenly Parent" is presented as to guide our new members in their beginning of life of faith. Members are invited to give their testimonies too about their experiences with Heavenly Parent. The event ended warmly with the delicious food prepared by our Love Kitchen and everyone has a nice chat during the meal time.

Basically, Family Festival is a physical Sunday Service for new members and it's quite similar to the Peace Festival conducted by our IHQ. During the COVID-19 pandemic, we have successfully witnessed some new members online through our online self-coaching class and homegroup gathering. However, these new members with Buddhism background have not yet attend our worship service on Sunday as we knew that our Sunday Service is more to Christian-feel and the sermon might be too deep for them to understand.

We need to have some program to worship Heavenly Parent and True Parents in an easier way for these new members to adapt in our church. Thus, after some discussion with my team, we have come to a conclusion of transforming our Sunday Service to a family festival. We have specially designed our sermon to be livelier and more understandable version for all our new members. Translation is provided in English and Chinese so that everyone can get the message in their mother tongue. Moreover, we invited our members to give testimony on how self-coaching has changed their lives. This is very helpful for new members to understand that how their lives can also be improved.

The choir team also prepared their performances with the songs that are famous in the society so that the new members can sing along. In addition, each and every new members are given a flower as a gift to welcome them to join our community. At the end of the family festival, lunch is provided to everyone on a donation basic. Eating together is the best time for us to build up our relationship with new members. In overall, this Sunday Service for new members, so called as Family Festival is very successful as our new members are all very happy and our old members are inspired with the arrival of new members too.

In short, I feel that this church innovation is truly important as to welcome and embrace more people joining our community. We will continue to conduct Family Festival in the 1st Sunday of every month. Let us bring more people back to HP and TP side! Aju! 





## 52 International Couples Celebrate Their Ruby Wedding Anniversary

**T**he ruby wedding celebration denotes forty years of marriage; in this case the couples had been wed in one of two 'mass wedding' celebrations in 1982: the 2075 couple Blessing in New York on 1 July, or the 6,000 couple Blessing in Seoul, Korea on 14 October of the same year.

One of the aims of the Blessing is to foster international and interracial harmony and the wide range of nationalities of the cruise participants certainly reflected this. Although this celebration was primarily intended for couples living in Germany, we were happy to welcome several participants from Holland, Luxembourg, Belgium and the UK.

Reports in the press about the discontinuation of Rhine traffic due to the low water level made many, including the organizers, very uncertain as to whether the event could take place at all. But thankfully the only outcome of the drought was that the location of the shore sightseeing stop had to be changed.

From Koblenz, in the German state of Rhineland-Palatinate, at the convergence point of the rivers Rhine and Mosel the Augusta would carry the celebrants up the Rhine to the legendary Loreley before the return sail, an excursion of eight hours.

There was an excellent balance between time allocated for chatting with old friends and making new acquaintances, for soaking in the magnificent scenery and castles on the banks of the Rhine, for enjoying the plentiful and tasty lunch buffet and later coffee and cake, and for enjoying the varied entertainment program.



After wonderful introductory background music from our band, Sarah Z. officially opened the event and guided us through the morning program. She referred to True Father's comments at the Blessing in New York when he told the couples that they had graduated from being 'Moonies' who reflect light, to 'Sunnies' who radiate light.

Dieter and Ana Schmidt (German National Leaders), blessed in New York, and Michael and Fumiko Balcomb (European Continental Leaders), blessed in Korea, then offered congratulatory remarks. Michael, Fumiko and Dieter had returned only the previous day from the Seonghwa festival marking the tenth anniversary of the Holy Ascension of True Father in Korea, and Dieter commented that he again was struck by what has been established internationally and how much this is a testimony to how far we, as blessed couples have developed. Ana, happy to see her husband again remarked how important it was to look into the eyes the other.

As we have come to expect from Michael and Fumiko, we were given some 'homework', demonstrated by them, to kiss our spouse! We were truly happy that both couples could participate in the celebration, after such a strenuous trip to Korea.

We then reminisced with short video clips from the original ceremonies in New York and Seoul, accompanied by pictures of the couples, many of whom had submitted 'then and now' photos. The appearance of each couple on the screen was received with enthusiastic and sincere applause.


Several people were inspired to share short and sometimes amusing testimonies, but Claus D. divulged a real thriller: he read an excerpt from Gerhard Peemoeller's book 'Bodyguard for Christ'. On the day of the July 1 Blessing, those responsible for the event were warned by the New York Police Department of a possible attack on Rev. Moon. The ingenious measure taken: True Parents were not driven as usual in a VIP vehicle to the main entrance of the venue but in a camouflaged dirty electrician's van to a back entrance.

After time to enjoy the background music, to chat, or simply to marvel at the scenery, the sumptuous lunch buffet was opened to be savored on a location of choice on the ship. Those on the top deck had the best view of the famous Loreley; shortly afterwards the ship turned to make its return journey, with a short stop in St Goar. There most took the opportunity to stretch their legs and briefly explore the town.

Back on the ship, the afternoon program, led by emcee Catriona V., was opened with ceremonial cake cutting. This honor was determined by lottery and fell to a German / American couple, Lothar and Marcia S. But coffee and cake did not signal the start of a relaxed afternoon; the emcee encouraged active participation from the audience, several of whom volunteered to sing (Fumiko J., Hubert and Yoshiko A., Brigitte M., and Margaret S.), or perform a sketch (Gudrun M. and Monique S.). And then the couples were encouraged to get up on the dance floor—which resulted in much chaos and hilarity and occasionally successful dance steps!

But we were approaching Koblenz and there was still an important program point: the lottery draw. The whole event was made so much richer and more enjoyable by the music provided by the talented trio of Stefan (percussion), Hans Campman (piano) and Taka Wakayama (bass guitar). Oivind H. was called on to bring out his guitar and accompanied by his wife, Magda, inspired a further mixture of impromptu singing and dancing.

The final task of the band was to accompany a heartfelt rendition of 'Saranghae' which was sung by all in a circle, followed by a moving prayer offered by Sarah and three manseis led by Dieter.

We, the organizers, want to express our deepest gratitude to all who supported and contributed in whatever way. Special thanks to the European Blessed Family Department and German Family Federation for financial support, including the unexpected contribution of the lottery prizes. Thanks also to Ben and Joyce Baron for photography and miscellaneous support, and to Peter V. who provided months of invaluable behind the scenes practical support and advice. 



# Church Renovation in 2022 in the Region of Heavenly South America

By Dong-Woo Kim / Continental Director, Heavenly South America

**W**e are currently preparing to have large groups of local Home churches and Cheonbo home churches for the church innovation to bear wings. Now, we have Cheonbo families in heavenly South America, mainly Brazil. We have started the goal of 43 substantial Cheonbo Families, and we are planning to spur the restoration of the region through the heavenly Village Movement from next year. We will intensely start the Cheonbo Home Church and materialize church innovation through the realization and expansion of open worship services.

First, our Ahn Shi-il worship services are held online in each country, and the family gathers together. Each family starts with attending our Heavenly Parent and reading the Word.

In 2021, we started the Cheonbo School, which is held every two weeks. All South American Cheonbo families attend, and the success stories of Cheonbo families and the heavenly Tribal Messiah activity in the field are shared in detail so that all other families can inherit. Through this, heavenly South American Cheonbo families are moving in the same direction with clear goals and roadmaps.

Many family members use the main lectures shared through the Brazilian YouTube channel for evangelism. With the videos, they have succeeded in doing small workshops for up to 7 days workshops.

Divine Principle lectures, videos were produced in various ways; one includes daily training and a sample lecture that explains the principle in plain language. Many watch and discuss it with their spiritual children, showing an exemplary form of online worship.

Through local channels, Heavenly South America live broadcasts and rebroadcasts of the Rallies of Hope and the Blessing Festival were actively conducted by sub-region 3. The Seven countries in Bolivia's three districts did not stop there. They worked with several broadcasters in a media union and the Washington Times and regularly introduced content on creating healthy families with the cooperation of TV channels. As a leading example of the online era, Sub region 1 & 2 are also working on live broadcasting and rebroadcasting events through local pages and Facebook of Peace ambassadors, focusing on UPF.

YSP provides Hyejeong cultural content using Instagram, Facebook, and TikTok, mainly used by the younger generation. Each program has more and more followers, approaching 10,000 in total, with thousands and thousands of likes. We are trying to contact more people by providing various events centered on YSP through live online broadcasts. In addition, we are trying to lower the church threshold and connect more young people to the church by conducting offline youth open worship services.

True Mother asked that Heavenly South America becomes a magnet for Heaven, and I will do my best to accomplish that by holding on to those worlds. Thank you! 