

FFWPU and UPF UK Honor of UN Day of Peace 2025 and 20th Anniversary of UPF

Lance Gardiner
September 30, 2025
South London, UK UPF Coordinator



Report on UPF/FFWPU Commemoration of UN Day of Peace 2025 and 20th Anniversary of UPF

"Peace Needs Parents" was a central message delivered by Mr. Bogdan Pammer, UK Director of the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (FFWPU), during the special observance in South London of the UN International Day of Peace and the 20th Anniversary of the founding of the Universal Peace Federation (UPF). Reflecting that just as parents seek to understand the heart of all their children in order to heal divisions, the same spirit of empathy and reconciliation is needed to resolve conflicts in families, societies, nations, and the wider world. His presentation was one of the highlights of a UPF and FFWPU commemorative event hosting the Interfaith Peace Blessing at the Peace Embassy in Thornton Heath, London, on 27 September 2025, attended by an enthusiastic audience of over 40 participants.



As MC, Mrs. Annerose Adams introduced the hosting organisations and set the tone for the event. Mr. Robin Marsh, Secretary General of UPF UK, presented a video outlining UPF's vision of peace and interdependence, inspired by its co-founders, Father Moon and Holy Mother Han. He emphasised the importance of God-centred families as the foundation of sustainable peace. He reflected on UPF's participation in the United Nations 100-day global campaign leading to the International Day of Peace,

which called for dialogue, compassion, and care for the environment. He explained Father and Mother Moon's emphasis on the need for a religious leaders' council within the United Nations structure and decision-making as a recurrent theme.



A centerpiece of the occasion was the Interfaith Peace Blessing ceremony, which was coordinated by Mrs. Cecilie Fortune and officiated by Mr. and Mrs. Adza and Nittaya Mould (FFWPU). The ceremony reaffirmed the commitment of married couples and extended a special grace to all participants. Mrs. Fortune underlined that "Family is not just a social institution, it is a God institution. To build a family is a divine calling. When families are strong, communities are strong and nations can flourish." The ceremony concluded with a celebratory cake cutting and a heartfelt performance of the Barbara Streisand song "Evergreen" by Caroline Fredriksson, adding joy and warmth to an occasion dedicated to unity, family values, and interfaith peacebuilding.



Exemplary Family awards were presented to three families who have demonstrated models of family members across generations working together to serve their local communities. Kevin Plicio, the inspirational figure behind the Yourspace community garden in Sutton, is assisted in his work by his mother, wife and daughter Imogen, who accompanied him in receiving the award. Iryna Gould, a classical musical composer and conductor and the Founder of "Voice for Ukraine UK", accompanied by her son Lucaa, received the second award for bringing hope to the children of Ukraine through providing musical instruments and therapy workshops. Finally, Yogeswaran and Sangeeta Gobidaas presented an example of a beautiful young family active in the local Croydon and Tamil communities.

The programme concluded with an exceptional musical performance by a young singer, Kai Gardiner, and everyone enjoyed tea and cake in each other's company to complete a memorable afternoon.

