



The Unification Church
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Parents Matching Convocation in NY- November 18-20, 2011

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October 13, 2011

MEMO: BFD 2011-10-13

To: District Directors, State & Church Leaders, Blessed Central Families
From: National Blessed Family Ministry
Re: Parents Matching Convocation: November 18-20, 2011 at UTS in Barrytown, NY
Date: October 13, 2011

We are pleased to invite parents to the final Parents' Matching Convocation (PMC) this year on November 18-20, 2011 at the UTS Conference Center in Barrytown, NY. Blessed Children aged 24 and older are invited to participate, to learn about the parents' matching process and take a more active role in their own candidate search. There is a discount for early registration, and a penalty for late registration. BFD Representatives and Matching Advisors are, as always, encouraged to attend to support parents and candidates, at a greatly reduced fee.

The PMC provides an excellent opportunity for parents to understand the matching process, learn from those who have matched their children successfully, network with other parents and consider potential matching candidates. We strongly recommend that parents attend a PMC well before beginning the matching process with their children. Parents whose children are at least 16, who plan to support them in finding a match but have not yet attended a PMC should participate simply to learn and prepare.

Participants will be able to learn the specific guidelines for the parents' matching process and receive the newly published Family Matching Handbook. They will learn about the matching websites, the international matching process and other resources to support them in matching their children. They can also meet Matching Advisors who are prepared to assist and support them.

November 16-18th Convocation Information:

I. Location

UTS Conference Center

30 Seminary Drive, Barrytown, NY 12507

<http://www.uts.edu/>

II. Schedule

Onsite registration will open at 4:00 PM Friday afternoon, November 18th (pre-registering online will save you money and time at the conference registration). The program begins with Orientation at 7:30 that evening, and closes at 2:00 PM on Sunday, November 20th in Barrytown.

III. Who Should Attend

Parents of matching candidates, matching candidates 24 years or older, and Blessed siblings of matching candidates are also welcome. Parents of younger BCs are encouraged to attend, to understand the process and their role and begin developing a family plan for matching their children.

IV. Registration (Meals Included)- Save Money by Registering Early!

The PMC registration process and submitting of candidate information and photos will be entirely online. To encourage prompt registration and facilitate planning and organization, participants can save money by registering early. You can now pay directly online by credit card:

- **Pay by October 31st:** \$110/individual; \$170/couple; \$70 for each additional family member
- **Pay after October 31st:** \$130/individual; \$200/couple; \$80 for each additional family member
- **Pay after November 16th:** \$150/individual; \$230/couple; \$100 for each additional family member
- **BC Candidates 24+:** \$70/person before October 31st, \$80 after Oct. 31st, \$100 after November 16th

The registration fee covers the convocation program and materials, a Matching Handbook, snacks and refreshments during the program, and 5 meals: Saturday breakfast through Sunday lunch. Accommodations are the responsibility of each participant.

To register, visit www.blessedfamilies.org, and click on the pink PMC registration banner on the right side, above the Matchbook logo. Or visit the members' area at www.familyfed.org/members, and click on the PMC banner near the top. Candidate profiles and photos can also be uploaded at the registration site and should be completed by **November 11th**. If you need assistance registering for the PMC or uploading profiles and photos, contact your district BFD or Email us at BFDadmin@unification.org.

V. Accommodations

While meals are included in the registration fee, accommodations are the responsibility of each participant. Housing choices include UTS dorms (at \$16 per person per night), UTS private rooms (\$60 per room per night) or semi-private rooms (\$40 per room per night), nearby hotels, or with friends. A very small number of private rooms for one or two persons, and four family rooms with private or semi-private bathrooms are available at UTS on a first-come, first-served basis. To reserve any of these, contact Lloyd Humphrey at housing@uts.edu, or call him at (845) 752-3000, ext. 221.

VI. Preparing Candidate Profiles

Parents may attend the PMC without displaying a candidate. Candidates can also be displayed at the PMC without their parents being present. But candidates can only be displayed with their permission and involvement. No parent should attempt to display their adult child as a candidate or pursue a match without the candidate's involvement.

To be available at the PMC, every candidate and family should do the following:

- A. Complete the candidate profile page at the PMC registration site. This will allow candidates to participate in Matchbook, PMCs, or both, and to designate their preferred level of accessibility.
- B. Complete the additional 9-question personality profile at the profile page. This is optional for Matchbook participants but required for candidates at the PMC. Candidates should complete these profiles themselves. NOTE: Unless all 9 questions are answered, the profile cannot be printed for display.
- C. Upload three good-quality photos at the profile page: one half-length (head & torso) and one full-length of the candidate and one family photo. The profile and photos are required, but do not necessarily need to be uploaded at the time of registration. They must be uploaded by **November 11th**. If parents bring photos or profiles to the PMC that require scanning or copying to be displayed, there will be a \$20 charge, and we cannot guarantee how quickly the material will be ready for display.

Some other good ideas for preparing candidate profiles for the PMC:

- Visit the link below and use one or more of the resources recommended there to more fully

understand your adult child's character, and prepare a fuller profile:

http://www.familyfed.org/members/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=949&Itemid=626

➤ Be creative! A poem, photo montage or personal story also conveys who you are, and can be added to your profile at the PMC. Parents can also prepare "contact cards" with the candidate's picture and your family's contact info to give to other parents at the PMC.

IMPORTANT: If your candidate's profile has not been updated since 2010, you must contact us at bfdadmin@unification.org if they still wish to be displayed. We strongly recommend profiles be updated and improved, with your adult child's permission and participation. We will not display any old profiles unless we have heard from the candidate that they wish to be displayed.

For additional information visit the registration site or contact BFDadmin@unification.org. We look forward to seeing parents at the PMC and to supporting candidates in the process of matching and Blessing.

May God be with you and your family.



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