

## Jeff Bateman introduces himself as the UK's Blessed Family Department Director

Matthew Huish  
February 11, 2019



Jeff Bateman on his new role as Blessed Family Department (BFD) Director, joining the movement and having a life of faith.

"Hello!

As of the beginning of February I have assumed the role of Director of the Blessed Family Department (BFD) UK. Many people probably already know my name but as tends to happen, we very rarely know much about each other unless we have spent some time together and even then we may be busy on a project and not have enough time to really talk. So I would like to take a few lines to introduce myself and let you know my plans for the BFD.

I joined the "Family" (as we called the church then) in February 1975. I heard The Principle on the weekend of the 1800 couple Blessing. In my heart I still feel we are very much the family of True Parents. I worked in many roles in the church including many business missions, one of which took me to the USA in '76, which allowed me to attend the Yankee Stadium rally, as well as work for 3 weeks in the lead up to the Washington Monument Rally.

My wife Monika is from Austria. We met in Camberg, Germany in 1981 and were blessed in 1982 in Korea (6000 couples). We have three sons, aged 30, 28 and 20.

Before leaving for the USA again in 1983 I, like a number of other brothers and sisters, became interested in various types of therapy, having read a number of books, among them Jung, Janov and some Christian Counsellors. Whilst in NYC I both attended therapy sessions myself and later trained as a therapist assisting in running weekend healing retreats and giving private counseling and therapy sessions. During this time I faced many challenges and difficulties, sometimes successfully, sometimes not. I understand what it means to struggle and keep going in a life of faith.

Returning to the UK with my wife in '88, I became involved in business missions once again and spent 10 years in sales. My passion for personal balance, growth and development continued during this time, as did my training in things like the use of visualization, meditation and counseling. I have now been pastor in the North London community for almost 12 years but before that I became self-employed as a

counselor and life coach having attended training in other therapies such as CBT (cognitive behavioral therapy) and psychodynamic counselling. I believe this training will assist me in my role with the BFD.

Susan Crosthwaite has been the BFD Director for 22 years and it is impossible to inherit the experience that she has acquired over this time, so I look forward to especially her support and guidance as I seek to build upon the excellent work she has already done.

My initial plan is to get to know the communities around the country and meet as many of you as I can. Additionally, I am working to create an e-newsletter that will be a resource for individual and family growth and development, which can be used by you in your Tribal Messiahship work and be a support for newly-blessed couples, whatever religious tradition they come from. I truly believe we need to be and can be, relevant to society with what we have to offer through love and service.

I feel excited to take on this new task and look forward to your support and participation as we work to promote the value of Blessed Families that are an asset to our wider community."

In order to contact Jeff Bateman, please call 07973 316689 or email: [jeff@ffwpu.org.uk](mailto:jeff@ffwpu.org.uk).



Jeff Bateman



Jeff with his mother in Washington, D.C.