

## New York District held the Special Grace Ceremony at Camp Sunrise, New York

Edner Pierre-Louis  
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The New York District held the Special Grace Ceremony at Camp Sunrise, New York on Sunday August 21. With over 300 in attendance, participants by and large dressed for the occasion.

The musical accompaniment by Jonathan Gullery and song leadership by Steve Honey was absolutely exceptional. What a high atmosphere they created. All families received the Holy Wine, and the eight pastors of the New York Family Churches were bequeathed the Holy Items for their families and for multiplication among their congregations. Beginning on August 28, ceremonies will begin on the local level. The entire program was done ceremonially: Holy Songs, Cheon Il Guk Anthem, Greeting of True Parents, Family Pledge, and the reading of True Mother's Benediction Prayer. Vice President of FFWPU, Miilhan Stephens, also took the podium to thank everyone for coming and shared about the coming 40th Washington Monument Rally anniversary. At the end, we recognized all the young people who graduated school this year and invited them up to cut the cake.

My wife, Juanita Pierre-Louis, and I emceed the event. Fumiko Balcomb was present, along with all the pastors of the New York community. The ceremony lasted from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Knowing they were coming to camp, participants then dressed down for some camp fun.

