



FAMILY FEDERATION
FOR WORLD PEACE AND UNIFICATION **UK**

Newsletter 29.08.2026

This week, many members across the nation will have the memory of True Father in their minds and hearts for his 14th Seonghwa Anniversary.

In this issue you will find:

- Information on attending 14th Seonghwa
- Stories about True Father

and more!

MESSAGE OF THE WEEK



STORIES OF TRUE FATHER



[CLICK TO READ](#)

[Read](#) the heart-warming stories and memories of True Father from across the nation!

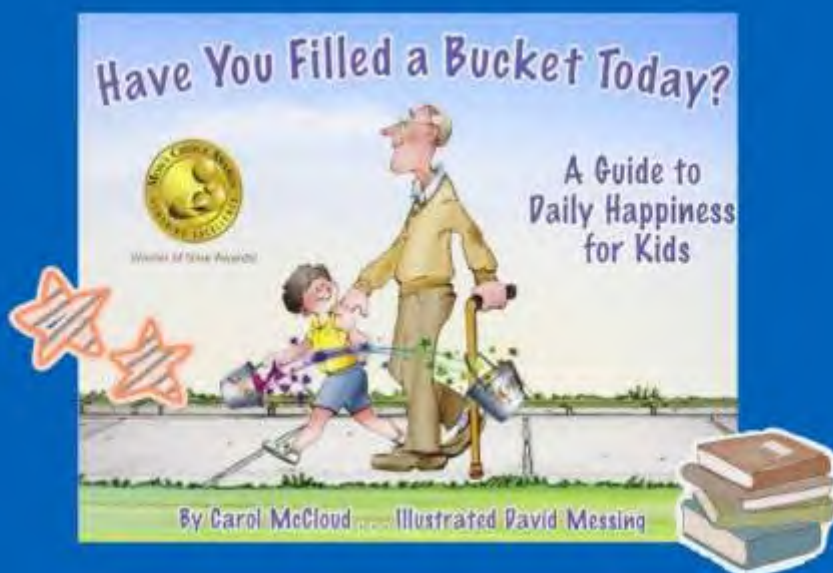
ATTENDING TRUE FATHER'S SEONGHWA



[CLICK](#) to find the schedule to participate. **PLEASE NOTE** this is also part of the Great Works schedule

Check with your local community for group viewing

AUGUST BOOK REVIEW



📖 Have you filled a bucket today? A lovely little book with a big message about kindness and the impact we have on others. [CLICK TO READ](#)

IL-SHIM PROGRAM REGISTRATION



Dear Blessed Families,

We are excited to open our registration form for the Il Shim Program 2026!

This year our 8- week program for Parents and Teens includes an in-person family retreat in Livingstone House on the October Half Term!

Sign up on the link below:

ffwpu.breezechms.com/form/IlshimProgramUpdatedRegistrationPayment77

Registrations close on **Sunday 20th September 2026 Midnight**

We look forward to having you!

Betty and Elliot
UK II Shim Program 2026 Director and Co-ordinator

CHEONBO 1-DAY SPECIAL EVENT



More information on Registrations to come after Great Works

IRFF UK | DESTINY JUNIOR SCHOOL, UGANDA



IRFF UK has been supporting communities and changing lives through the generosity of ordinary people. Now, they're taking you to [Destiny Junior School in Uganda](#).

EMPOWER APPLICATION NOW OPEN



If you feel EMPOWER is for YOU, take some time to read through the website carefully and learn more about the program.

Deadline

Application will remain open until **1st of September 2026.**

[!\[\]\(74d4806277d7e73349d8e8c0897931e9_img.jpg\) **EMPOWER Website**](#)

[Find out more here](#)

REGISTER HERE

WEEKLY DEVOTION

North of Thames Morning Prayer Mondays 10-10:30 am	North and East Europe Devotion Thursdays 6-6:30am
Prayers for Peace Every Other Monday 7-7:30am	UK Weekly Devotion Fridays 6-6:30am
EUME Weekly Prayer Call Wednesdays 7pm	North of Thames Service Sundays 11am
River South Service	

[Sundays 10:30am](#)

Want to share your testimony, experiences, or thoughts?

Get in touch by emailing: comms@ffwpu.org.uk

Your faithful tithes and donations help make all of this possible.

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43LG Conference and Events Venue, London
Peace Embassy, Glasgow
Cleeve House, Melksham
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Haslemere Hall, Croydon

Living for others

Let's build one family under
God. Forgive. Love. Unite.

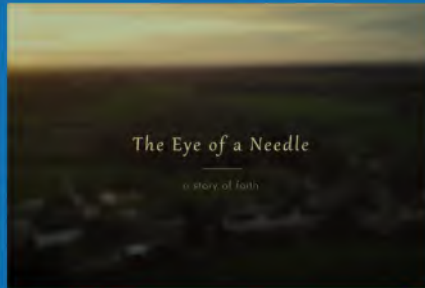
[Find out more!](#)



Our Founders

[Learn more about our founders: Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon.](#)

[Learn here](#)



Our History

[Learn about the history of our movement in the United Kingdom through this mini-documentary.](#)

[Watch here](#)



News & Events

[Read about the latest news from our community and about upcoming events.](#)

[Find out more](#)



PRESS RELEASE - Japan Delivers Historic Blow to Religious Freedom

Japan Delivers Historic Blow to Religious Freedom: Family Federation Dissolved Without a Single Criminal Conviction

In a landmark — and deeply troubling — decision, the Tokyo High Court has today upheld the government's order to dissolve the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (FFWPU) in Japan, formerly known as the Unification Church.

4 March 2026



Families from across the UK join Joy-filled Holy Day Celebration!

Over 300 members from across the UK gathered to celebrate True Parents' birthday and take part in the our annual National Service, with a further 200 people joining via livestream.

3 March 2026



Annual Gathering 2025: A Weekend of Unity and Spirit!

What an incredible weekend we had at Cleeve House in Wiltshire for this year's FFWPU UK Annual Gathering! Over 200 of us came together to celebrate faith, friendship, and community in a truly unforgettable way.

1 July 2025



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COMMS TEAM UK

August 28, 2026 | Articles | True Father, True Parents

STORIES OF TRUE FATHER

Members across the nation remember the hard work, sacrifice, and love of True Father on his 14th Ascension Anniversary. Some members share heartwarming memories and stories about him.

Below are some of these stories



Later Father played table tennis with each of the brothers. Father beat each brother except for one Austrian brother. The games continued for hours

In 1981 European National leaders and American State leaders were called to New York for a 120 day training. In March we visited East Garden to meet True Father. Reagan had been shot that day so Father talked very seriously to us.



and most leaders fell asleep on chairs. After all the brothers had played, Father called back the Austrian brother and challenged him again. Father finally beat him in the third game. I could see Father's determination as he was challenging himself. I could serve Father by picking up the ping pong balls.



Patricia I

At the matching in June 1981 in Camberg: After about 20 minutes into the matching, True Father called out 10 Brothers and 10 Sisters to stand facing each other. All the faces which I could see had the "Look at me" expression. An hour later, he made them sit down again. True Father did not comment at all, but the inner Changes ended with humble faces. This gave a clear message about the frame of mind we all should be in.

Walter M

At our pre-matching talk by True Father, with brothers sitting on the floor on one side of the room and sisters on the other, True Father was walking up and down the aisle. The brother kneeling next to me grabbed hold of True Father's foot and slipper as he walked past us. I instantly thought, "**What are you doing? You might cause Father to trip up**". Which is a normal, genuine concern. Then I was hit across my head by True Father. I was kind of surprised, although it wasn't very hard. The thought came to me that this might be the only time or opportunity for this brother to be so close to or be with True Father, so my thoughts, though sincere, were in the way.

Several years ago, we often heard how True Father is concerned about and loves us. I'd think, oh yes, like True Father doesn't even know I exist; I've never met or been in his company. How can you say these things? It would come to my thoughts sometimes while praying.

Then I had one of what I call my spiritual reality dreams. I was in a big hall together with about 30 brothers and sisters. Several were standing together in smaller groups; I guess those they were more friendly or close to. I stood there just observing the whole scene. Then I saw True Father come into the room; he moved around so quickly, going to each small group, looking at each person and making sure they were okay. Then on to the next small grouping of friends. No one else could see True Father and was oblivious to his presence, but I could, and he never missed even one person, looking intensely at everyone. Then True Father realised I was aware of him and could see him. He gave a brief kind of half-smile, fist-pumped the air, like saying yes, all is okay here. Then I heard God call, simply saying 'Father', and True Father was gone, responding immediately to God calling him... This was when, on the iowc, doing the 21 days in each town or city we went to before moving on for another 21 in a new place.

Christopher L

After the blessing in London in 1978, True Father and two of his daughters and his party came to Scotland for a few days to go fishing. I was pioneering Inverness at the time and had a minibus, and so was asked to drive his party around. Henry Masters drove Father and the children. We stayed in a fishing lodge on the River Dee. He was introduced to fly fishing by a Scottish fisherman and enjoyed it very much and continued to do it in America.

The weather, though, was too hot to catch any trout. After the fishing trip, he had lunch with Professor R.V. Jones, a scientific advisor to Winston Churchill, and his wife. I sat with them and was struck by how Father witnessed to them and how entranced they were by him, asking many questions. Professor Jones attended several ICUS conferences in the 1970s. After visiting the Aberdeen centre and talking to the members there, we drove to the workshop centre in Dunbar where Father again spoke to the members. He spoke for a long time even though Doris Orme told him he'd miss the flight back to London and suggested he stay the night. Eventually he said his watch told him it was time to go to the airport and we drove there in record time. All the way through Edinburgh without a single red light. We arrived after the plane door had been shut, but Col. Han, his interpreter, persuaded them to re-open it, and Father and his party flew back to London. It was an unforgettable experience, and I just wish I wasn't so shy and didn't talk to him when I stood next to him helping him with his fishing rod.

William H

Before COVID, I used to go around my neighborhood alone for one to two hours a day, offering the Holy Wine. It was

incredibly difficult, and it was an everyday occurrence that people simply refused to accept or drink it.

I once had a dream in which I believe True Father was present. I asked him, "What have you been doing recently?" He answered, "I was cultivating a field by myself in a place where there was nothing."

I immediately understood what he meant. He was speaking about me—about how I was going around alone, offering the Holy Wine on land where there was no foundation at all.

I realized that I had not actually been walking that path alone. Father had always been with me.

Taeko E

I would like to share two of my personal experiences with True Father.

When I was in Washington, D.C., True Father visited our church and spoke to us. I was chosen to present a bouquet of flowers on behalf of our congregation. When I handed it to him, I did not expect him to reach out and hold my hand. I still remember that feeling vividly. My hands are quite bony, but True Father's hand was warm and soft, completely covering mine. I felt an amazing flow of love and strength pour through my entire body. It was an unforgettable experience.



Photocopy of True Father's birthday card.

Another experience occurred when I was chosen to design True Father's Christmas card. He gave me a sketch of what he wanted, and I created the card. True Father was very happy with it and sent it to all his contacts. Later, I was asked to design a card for his birthday. This time, I was free to design whatever I wished. I drew a picture of True Father and Mother in traditional Korean clothes, dancing together with small children while a group of VIPs watched from behind. At his birthday celebration, True Father proudly showed my card to hundreds of members in the grand ballroom of the New Yorker Hotel. He laughed as he displayed it, recognizing the various main leaders of our church and some of our VIPs from that time. I designed other cards for True Parents, but those 2 cards were the most memorable ones.



*May all the seasons of your life be filled
with Love, Peace and Hope*

REVEREND and MRS. SUN MYUNG MOON

Françoise M

My special experience with True Father happened in 1978, and it was in the Ballroom at Lancaster Gate.

True Father was here in London then, and after having conducted the Blessing of 118 Couples, he went on to hold a Matching, which I was included in.

Back at that time, he could not speak English well, so a Korean elder brother was translating for him.

We were a huge number of members in the Ballroom, including a large number of Japanese brothers and sisters. At one point, True Father asked that anyone wishing to be matched to someone Japanese should raise their hand. I had been considering that I would like to, but a little unsure, so I did not raise my hand.

Many couples were matched, so the number waiting in the ballroom gradually grew smaller. True Father selected each couple very carefully. It took many hours.

Suddenly, to my amazement, True Father, with his translator, walked towards me and stopped in front of me. Through the translator, he asked which nationality I was, and then which nationality I would like to be matched to. Slightly dazed, I said either Japanese or Korean, if True Father thought that was okay.

Immediately he pointed to one Japanese brother and signalled to us to go out of the room to talk. That was Kazuhiro, my future husband. We agreed to accept the matching, returned to the room and bowed to True Father (as all the matched couples did). True Father's heart to make sure that each matching would work well was incredible and moving to see.

Anne K

As UTS graduates, we were called to a meeting with True Father at East Garden in Tarrytown, NY. in 1988. It was my first experience where Father, with extreme harshness, shouted and scolded us for our failures. We felt defeated. Then he told us to spend the remaining night repenting. We had sleeping bags and barely had any rest that night, feeling so much pain and sorrow. Early the next morning at 5am, Father called us again. He explained that he spoke harshly so that we could pay indemnity to begin a new Providence. He then initiated Campus Ministry and lovingly made us Campus Ministers. He asked "how long will it take you to establish campus ministry? I wanted to give hope to Father and shouted out "6 months"! Father heard me and said, "OK, I will give you 6 months." I determined to fulfil my promise and was able to register Campus Ministry on the University of Vermont in Burlington. With the help and support of my finance (John), and all centre members, we witnessed and organized our first event on campus before 6 months with 21 participants. It was an unforgettable experience I am grateful for.

Ginger N

After I heard the Divine Principle and accepted True Parents, my heart was often moved to tears when I saw True Father's face on pictures and videos.

I felt like I was his daughter because of his amazing love for God and humanity, and therefore for me.

I was deeply affected by the great works True Father was doing to build God's kingdom and I definitely wanted to support him and do my best to be part of this providential work.

On my first 40 day Divine Principle workshop in Camberg, Germany I told God I always want to be on the frontline of the Providence, so I could help True Parents.

Looking back on my life and missions I see God heard my prayer!

I will always remember the love, the sacrifices and the victories of our beloved True Father, Cham Abonim. He has the biggest, most sensitive of hearts.

I will forever be grateful that I lived at the time when I was blessed to meet him and receive the Holy marriage matching and blessing by him. Because of that my family could be connected with different races and cultures, becoming a global family.

When True Father invited Sisters to attend a workshop in Korea and then go pioneering in the 1990's, I jumped at the chance. My pioneering city was in Masan. It was a very lonely time for me as I couldn't speak the language but had to witness all day. I would think of True Father's lonely early days and struggles and how he kept going with strong prayers. I followed his example: God became my only friend who gave me the strength and courage each day. I was very thankful for True Father's way of life that became mine during those 40 days. And I felt very close to True Father.

Another time I volunteered to join members in the south of Korea, after attending a workshop in Cheong Pyeong, when I heard they needed help to hold Rallies for Korean Unification.

It was an exciting time going house to house inviting people for the rallies. At the rallies, those of us from abroad would testify to the great peace works of True Father and True Mother. We would talk about our international and intercultural marriages arranged by True Father, for the sake of world peace.

As the time for me was coming to an end and I had to return to my country, I felt very sad to leave this wonderful work for Korean Reunification. One night I prayed in tears repenting to God and True Father that this was my last day, so I couldn't

Korean Reunification. One night I prayed in tears repenting to God and True Father that this was my last day, so I couldn't continue this important activity.

That night I had a profound dream where I was sitting amongst a large audience whilst True Father was on the stage. Suddenly my name, Joyce Suda, was called to go on the stage.

As I approached True Father, he beckoned me to go close to him. Then he kissed me on my cheek, thanked me for my hard work, and said I could go back home to my family in the UK.

I woke up feeling very grateful that True Father had given me his Blessing to return home. I felt so much love and grace from him.

Thank you True Father, I will continue to work with True Mother until the end.

Joyce S

True-Father-Story-June-D.pdf1 / 3125%+

TRUE FATHER

There is no way that I can ever forget the Love, Guidance, Understanding and Support that I received from Abbonim. He truly has the biggest, most sensitive and compassionate of hearts. I will forever be grateful that I lived at the time when I was blessed to meet and know him personally. For just to be in His presence was an indescribable experience. You felt safe and secure and His Spiritual power so energised you that I felt I could run up the most difficult mountain in a moment as lightheartedly as a bird!

After being blessed I wondered what my relationship with him would be like. For we had made our personal confessions directly to him, and He had conducted our Engagenent Ceremony joining our hands together with His hands. I didnt wash my hands for a week after that!

True Father Story – June DDownload

June D

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OTHER ARTICLES YOU MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN



Two Heavenly EUME 21-Day Workshops



Summer 2026 Great Works

Communications | 5 August 2026

Dear Brothers and Sisters of the EUME Region, We are happy to announce two Heavenly EUME 21-day workshops taking place before the end of the

Dear Brothers and Sisters of the EUME Region, We thank you deeply for your continuous devotion and dedication. We are pleased to announce that registration



Hyojeong Cheonshim Cheonbo EUME Yeongseong 21-Day Workshop

Communications | 10 July 2026

We are delighted to invite you to apply for the 8th HYOJEONG CHEONSHIM CHEONBO EUME YEONGSEONG 21-DAY WORKSHOP, which will take place from September 4th



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TRUE FATHER

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After being blessed I wondered what my relationship with him would be like. For we had made our personal confessions directly to him, and He had conducted our Engagment Ceremony joining our hands together with His hands. I didnt wash my hands for a week after that!

The National Leader asked me to take a photo of Rev Moon to a well known Medium in Edinburgh. When he looked at the photo he said, "This is a photo of your Father". Then he looked at me and said, "But it cant be, but it is! It cant be but it is, and he loves you very much. But he will mainly be relating to people in High Office in the world "

He was astounded that an Oriental man had a Western daughter!!

And that was my answer. True Parents had in reality become my Parents through the Blessing, I had been engrafted to their lineage, to God's lineage, life and love.

When I was pioneering in Jordan in 1970 it was a very lonely time for me as first a Civil War was brewing in the country and people didnt socialise easily, so it was difficult to witness. When I went into the city centre to study Arabic I would pass cars bristling with guns poking through the car windows!

I was working long hours in a hospital and felt so desperate for congenial society that I was very tempted to accept some of my invitations to visit even though I hadnt been able to witness to them. I had actually decided to visit someone one day when a copy of The Way of the World plopped through the letter box. It had been sent from Korea! And when I opened it there on the frontispiece was a sermon by Father. And it said "No matter how lonely you get never deviate from the Religious Path". I was shocked by his understanding and felt overwhelmed by his kindness .

Soon after that when I was in Korea Mrs Won Bok Choi told me that Father used to speak about me every day because he was worried about what might happen to me if I got too lonely.

I went to my room and wept as i was so moved by his love and concern for one little missionary when he carried the burden of World Salvation on His sboulders.







COMMUNICATIONS

August 21, 2026 | Announcements, Articles

Attending True Father's 14th Seonghwa Anniversary

Donations

Dr Michael & Fumiko Balcomb, Continental Directors of FFWPU Heavenly Europe & the Middle East, have issued a reminder and an adjustment to the donation request for True Father's Seonghwa Anniversary. If you are interested, please find the request by [clicking here](#).

Important: please ask your pastor where to send the donation.

***Please note the request is made in USD, so please check the exchange rate with GBP.**

Find below the schedule of Vigil prayers and when to join for True Father's Seonghwa. *This is also part of the Great Works schedule.*

ZOOM LINK: <https://zoom.us/j/478639638>

August 28 (Fri)

01:00 – 01:40 UK Time – Chanyang Session

05:20 – 06:00 UK Time – Chanyang Session

11:00 – 11:40 UK Time – Chanyang Session

13:30 – 17:00 UK Time – Cheonshim Won Special Vigil Devotion & Commemorative Ceremony for the 14th Anniversary of True Father's Cheonju Seonghwa

August 29 (Sat)

01:00 – 01:40 UK Time – Chanyang Session

05:00 – 07:30 UK Time – Ancestor Liberation Ceremony / Hyojeong Offering Ceremony

08:20 – 09:30 UK Time – Ancestor Blessing Ceremony & Blessing Ceremony for Unmarried 1st Generation Spirits

10:30 – 11:10 UK Time – Chanyang Session

12:00 – 13:00 UK Time – Tree of Love Busking

14:00 – 17:00 UK Time – Cheonshim Won Special Vigil Devotion

August 30 (Sun)

02:00 – 03:30 UK Time – Special Worship for the 14th Anniversary of True Father's Cheonju Seonghwa

05:20 – 06:00 UK Time – Chanyang Session

The full program for those in Korea:

<https://www.hjcbt.org/special/2608/en/table?lang=en>

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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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Heavenly Parent's Holy Community

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August 15, 2026

Dear Families,

A Reminder and an Adjustment to the Donation Request for True Father's Seonghwa Anniversary

We are just two weeks away from the 14th Anniversary of True Father's Holy Seonghwa Anniversary, as we all know. Every year since Fumiko and I came to Europe nine years ago, we have written to all families inviting you to participate in the memorial donation fund that is requested each time. And you have always responded.

Yesterday, we received a memo from the World Mission Headquarters reminding us all of this sacred devotion, and this memo is attached for you to read for yourselves. Unexpectedly, the memo announces a REDUCTION in the suggested donation amount. Let me reproduce the relevant text here:

- Heavenly USA: USD 130 or more per family (USD 70 or more per unmarried adult member)
- Group 1: USD 100 or more per family (USD 50 or more per unmarried adult member)
- Group 2: USD 70 or more per family (USD 40 or more per unmarried adult member)
- Group 3: USD 40 or more per family (USD 20 or more per unmarried adult member)
- Group 4: USD 20 or more per family (USD 10 or more per unmarried adult member)
- Group 5: USD 10 or more per family (USD 5 or more per unmarried adult member)

If you're not sure what group your nation is in please check with your pastor or National Leader.

We do have a proud tradition in Europe and the Middle East of being generous givers. So if you can, we would like to suggest you to "upgrade" the requested donation. One way to do that is to give the requested amount in Euros (€) rather than dollars (\$) which represents a 15% increase. Another way is to give the requested amount for a higher group. Or both! All this is up to each one of us, and we know we will do our best.

One more thing we have to mention. As of today, Saturday August 15th, only 10% of our regular givers have donated. Yes, we all have a lot of other things on our minds, but please, let's not fail or forget this chance to show our love and devotion for our True Father. We all miss him so much and none more so than True Mother. But she is in hospital and cannot even pay her respects at his grave.

Let's step up and show our love and support! If you plan to make this offering, please do so as soon as possible and **at the very latest by Sunday August 23.**

Sincerely

Michael & Fumiko Balcomb
Continental Director, FFWPU Heavenly Europe & the Middle East

Schedule

[8/28 \(Fri\)](#)
[8/29 \(Sat\)](#)
[8/30 \(Sun\)](#)

Time (Korean time)	August 28 (Fri)		
07:00 ~ 08:00	Breakfast (07:00 – 08:30)		
08:00 ~ 09:00			
09:00 ~ 10:00	Chanyang Session (09:00 – 09:40) [Live Stream]		
10:00 ~ 11:00	Special Prayer Room Prayer (After Chanyang – 12:00)	Testimony on the Ocean Providence (10:10 – 12:00, On-Site English Interpretation Chinhwa A Building, 5th Floor)	Caricature Event (Main Building, 1st Floor Lobby, 10:00 – 15:00)
11:00 ~ 12:00			
12:00 ~ 13:00	Lunch		
13:00 ~ 14:00	Chanyang Session (13:20 ~ 14:00) [Live Stream]		
14:00 ~ 16:00	Special Prayer Room Prayer (After Chanyang – 16:00)		
16:00 ~ 17:00	Holy Ground Pilgrimage		
17:00 ~ 18:00	Dinner (17:30 – 18:30)		
18:00 ~ 19:00			
19:00 ~ 20:00	Chanyang Session (19:00 – 19:40) [Live Stream]		
20:00 ~ 21:25	Individual Devotion		
21:25 ~ 01:00	Cheonshim Won Special Vigil Devotion & Commemorative Ceremony for the 14th Anniversary of True Father's Cheonju Seonghwa (Main Hall) [Live Stream]		
01:00 ~	Rest and Sleep		
* Please note that the schedule is subject to change.			

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	Cheonshim Flower Prayer Meditation (10:20 ~ 11:40, In Korean Only, Chinhwa A Building, 5th Floor)	
11:00 ~ 12:00	Pilgrimage to Mother's Path (11:00 ~ 12:00, In Korean Only, Starting at Tree of Love)	
12:00 ~ 13:00	Lunch (11:30 ~ 12:30)	
13:00 ~ 14:00	Ancestor Liberation Ceremony / Hyojeong Offering Ceremony (13:00 ~ 15:30)	
14:00 ~ 16:00	[Live Stream]	
16:00 ~ 17:00	Ancestor Blessing Ceremony & Blessing Ceremony for Unmarried 1st Generation Spirits (16:20 ~ 17:30) [Live Stream]	
17:00 ~ 18:00	Dinner (17:00 ~ 18:30)	
18:00 ~ 19:00		
19:00 ~ 20:00	Chanyang Session (18:30 ~ 19:10) [Live Stream]	
20:00 ~ 22:00	Tree of Love Busking (20:00 ~ 21:00) [Live Stream]	
22:00 ~ 01:00	Cheonshim Won Special Vigil Devotion (22:00~01:00) [Live Stream]	
01:00 ~	Rest and Sleep	
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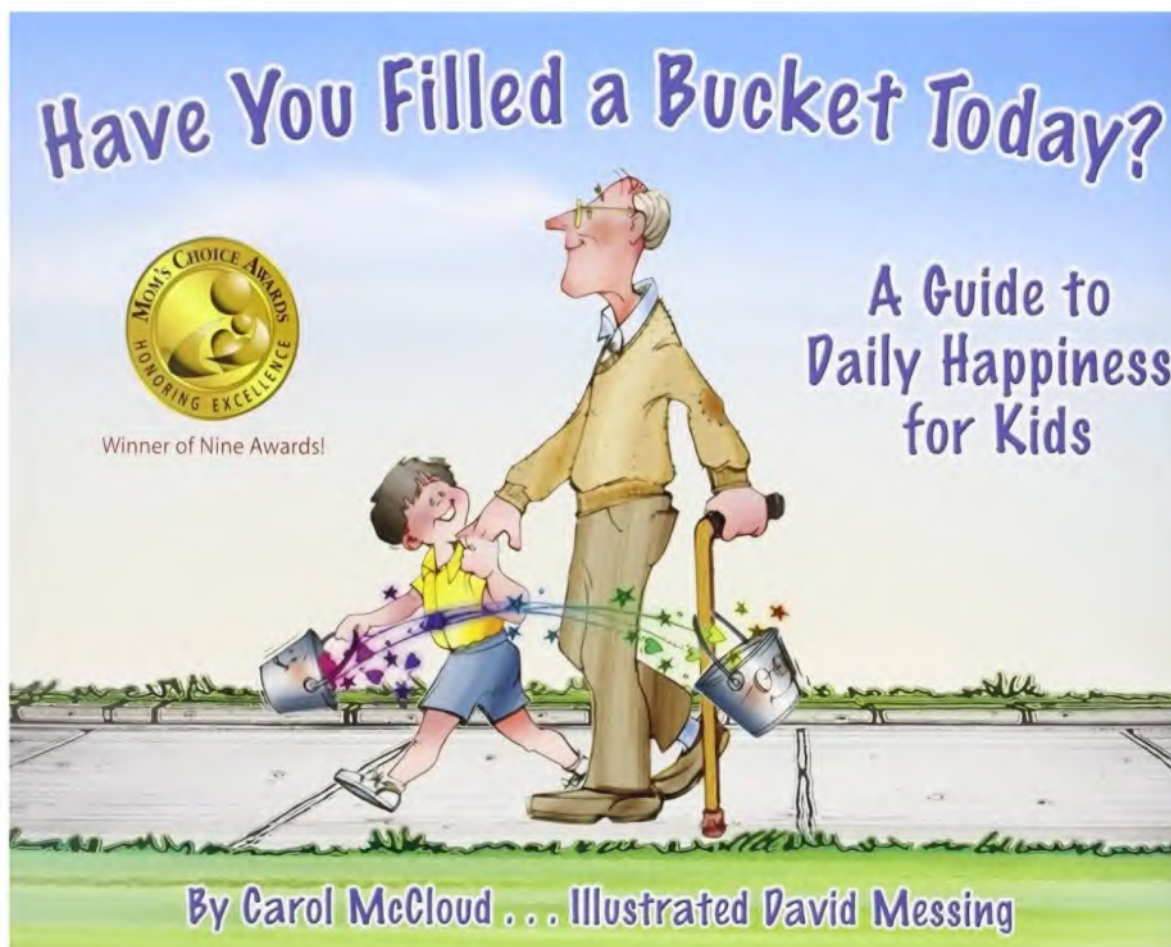
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Time (Korean time)	August 30 (Sun)
07:00 ~ 08:00	Breakfast (07:00 – 08:20)
08:00 ~ 09:00	
09:00 ~ 10:00	Ancestor Liberation Ceremony (08:20 – 09:10) [Recorded Stream]
10:00 ~ 11:00	Special Worship for the 14th Anniversary of True Father’s Cheonju Seonghwa (Main Hall, 10:00 – 11:30)
11:00 ~ 12:00	
12:00 ~ 13:00	Lunch(11:30-13:00)
13:00 ~ 14:00	Chanyang Session (13:20 – 14:20) [Live Stream]
14:00 ~ 16:00	Special Prayer Room Prayer (After Chanyang – 16:00)
16:00 ~ 17:00	
17:00 ~ 18:00	Dinner (17:00 – 18:00)
18:00 ~ 19:00	Chanyang Session (18:00 – 18:40) [Recorded Stream]
19:00 ~ 20:00	[Online Streaming Schedule] * You can watch the VOD in all available languages except Japanese from August 29th (Sat) at 6:00 PM to August 31st (Mon) at 6:00 PM. * After that, from August 31st (Mon) at 6:00 PM to September 6th (Sun) at 6:00 PM, the VOD will be available in English only.
20:00 ~ 21:30	
21:30 ~ 01:00	
01:00 ~	
* Please note that the schedule is subject to change.	



ALA ZUBOVSKIS

August 26, 2026 | Articles

Book Review: Have You Filled A Bucket Today? By Carol McCloud

"Through living for the sake of others, we pledge to perfect the world based on the culture of heart... by centring on true love."
— Family Pledge No. 7

What a beautiful goal to carry with us as we begin a new school year—and one that connects wonderfully with this month's book, *Have You Filled a Bucket Today?*

I hope you had a lovely summer holiday and enjoyed plenty of opportunities to read wonderful books together with your children and grandchildren—and perhaps fill a few "buckets" along the way!

As we prepare for the new school year, we may experience a mixture of excitement and uncertainty. There are new adventures, discoveries and friendships, but also new responsibilities and challenges.

Carol McCloud's *Have You Filled a Bucket Today?* encourages children and adults to think about how our words and actions affect others. Through the simple metaphor of an invisible "bucket", the book shows how kindness, encouragement, appreciation and caring can **fill someone's bucket**, while unkind words and actions can "dip" into it.

The beautiful message is that **we can all be bucket fillers**. A smile, a kind word, helping someone, saying thank you or simply listening can make a real difference.

This is particularly helpful as children return to school. We can encourage them to think not only about **how they are feeling**, but also about how they can help others feel welcomed, valued and supported. It can become a simple family challenge:

"Whose bucket can I fill today?"

At the end of each day, you could ask:

- **Who filled your bucket today?**
- **Whose bucket did you fill?**
- **What kind thing could you do tomorrow?**

Small acts of kindness, repeated every day, can help create a more caring family, classroom and community. This lovely book reminds us that, whatever our age, we can all make a difference in someone else's day.

"Why not decide to be a bucket filler today and every day?"

Age: 3+

Available on: [Amazon UK](#)

 **Read Aloud on YouTube:** [Have You Filled a Bucket Today? by Carol McCloud](#)

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UK II Shim Program 2026 Registration Form

Description

Dear Blessed Families

Thank you so much for choosing to register your family for the UK II Shim Online Program, we are looking forward to a fascinating journey ahead with you this autumn.

Key Dates:

Kick-Off: **Online Saturday 3rd October 6-8pm GMT**

Family Retreat Weekend: **Saturday 31st October 10am to Sunday 1st November 4pm at Livingstone House, Chislehurst.**

Graduation: **Online Saturday 21st November 6-8pm GMT**

Program Fee Information

The program fee ranges from £110 to £195 depending on optional add-ons to cover the costs of the following items:

The Program Registration Fee includes the Family Retreat for Parent and Child **£110 (£55 per person)**

1. Workbook printing, binding, posting (**£20**)

This is a workbook for our teenage participants. The physical book is *optional*, alternatively you will receive a digital copy (PDF) and print yourself.

2. Purity ring and postage (**£60**)

(The commitment ceremony and ring is *optional*; for ring design and price options and information to be included in the Welcome email).

3. Certificate printing & postage(**£5**). Optional Printed Certificate on completion of the program.

Community financial support for the program is available, please contact your Local Pastor /Community leader for more information.

How to Pay

To assist with keeping track of our finances, please complete your details and select the appropriate payment option below.

Payment via this form will use paypal, so if you prefer to pay another way, please select the custom/by pass option on the payment options, and send a **bank transfer to the FFWPU HQ account with the reference 'BFDILSHIM26 + Your Surname'**, and we would appreciate if you can *send an email confirmation* of payment to bfd@ffwpu.org.uk, together with *proof of payment*.

Metro Bank

FFWPU-UK

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23-05-80

Registration Information

For the purpose of preparation of teams, ordering books and rings, and preparing for the weekend retreat we will require the following information:

For Teen Participants: **Please confirm your availability, ring (ring size), and gmail account.**

For Parent Participants: **Please confirm your availability for the joint and parent-only sessions.**

📅 **8 Week Program Every Saturday Evening 18:00 - 20:00 GMT (19:00 - 21:00 CET) From 3rd October - 21st November 2026* 7 Weekly Saturday Evening Video Calls. New this Program: In-person Family Retreat on Saturday 31st October to Sunday 1st November in Livingstone House, Chislehurst**

Please fill out this II Shim Program Payment form to help us keep track of payments and click submit.

Many thanks,

Betty and Elliot
Il Shim Program Director and Co-ordinator
Blessed Family Department UK
BFD@ffwpu.org.uk

About You - The Parents/Carers

Parent/Carer 1 Name *

First Name 

Last Name

Email *

This address will receive a confirmation email

Phone *

Address (for Postage) *

Street Address 

City -- Postal

Parent/Carer 2 Name

Parent/Carer 2 Email Address



Local FFWPU Community Region, Country *

Name of Local Pastor or BFD representative

Parent Session #1 Introduction to Program - Availability Saturday 3rd November 6-8pm GMT (7-9pm CET) *

Select Option 

Family Retreat (In-person, Llivingstone House, Chislehurst) *

☐ Saturday 31st Oct 9am - Sunday 1st November 4pm

Parent Session #4 Graduation Session 6- 8pm (Select all availability that applies) *

☐ Saturday 21st November 6-8pm GMT (7-9pm CET)

☐ Sunday 22nd 6-8pm GMT (7-9pm CET)

About Your Child - The Participant/s

We would be delighted for all our participants to complete all homework to graduate. If they choose to, they are invited to make a purity pledge and receive a ring (or jewellery of your choice) from their parent, however this is not a requirement to complete the program and we are very happy to go on this journey with your family with whichever decision with which they are comfortable.

Participant 1 Name *

Participant 1 DOB *

Participant 1 Gender *

- ☐ Male
☐ Female

Participant 1 Gmail address *

**Participant 2- Participant 2 Ring - Are you likely to order an II Shim Ring?
(Ring sizing will be part of homework in week 2 -4) ***

Participant 2 Name

Participant 2 DOB

Participant 2 Gender

- ☐ Male
☐ Female

Participant 2 Gmail Address (Participant 1 Gmail address

**Participant 2 Ring - Are you likely to order an II Shim Ring? (Ring sizing
will be part of homework in week 2 -4)**

**Number of Workbooks to be ordered to Print (+ post from UK) NB if in
Europe the book will have to be printed locally, due to time constraints. ***

- ☐ None (I prefer the PDF file)
☐ 1
☐ 2
☐ 3

By completing this form I am consenting to have my personal data stored and
used by FFWPU (UK) as outlined in the Privacy Policy.[Privacy Policy –
FFWPU-UK Community](#)

I also confirm that I meet or am above the legal minimum age for data consent,
which in the UK is 13.

I am aware that I may contact FFWPU (UK)(privacy@ffwpu.org.uk) for a copy
of the data they hold on me and/or to have my data removed at any time and
that I must allow up to 30 days from the request being made for this to be
carried out.

**Yes, I have read, understood and agree with the FFWPU (UK)Privacy
Policy. ***

- ☐ Option

Registration Payment (Select Option for Paypal or Bank Transfer)

Submit & Pay £110.00

Ignite the spark within you and bring light unto others

EMPOWER is a missionary and faith-based development program for young adults ages 18-30 to help them find and live their faith by growing their hearts and love for God, True Parents, and others.



Start Your
Application

Our Year's Focus



CHARACTER/IDENTITY DEVELOPMENT

Engage with God's Words

During our program, we offer a strong foundation in our core teachings. Participants are introduced to the basics and, throughout the year, can deepen their understanding through seminars on the Divine Principle, True Parents' teachings, and their life course.

You will deep dive into the core of Unificationist teaching, as you study and practice to give your own lectures. During the outreaching portion of the program you will have the opportunity to share and discuss with others what you learned.

As you engage with the content of the Unificationist teachings you will get the opportunity to develop your own faith and ground your identity within.



FUNDRAISING

Evolve your character

Grow your character and strengthen your foundation of faith as you experience face-to-face outreach to support the activities of the EMPOWER year.

By meeting different people and cultures, expand your heart and practice embracing others differences and cultivate your personal identity.



WITNESSING

Expand your worldview and experience serving others

Learn about a new culture, language, and people by traveling to different communities in Europe. Through experiencing a culture different from your own grow your heart of service by finding creative ways to give to the community.

You will take ownership in volunteer service, organize your own projects as a team, and inviting others to join your initiatives and practice serving the

Testimonials



Jakob Slezak

1st Year Participant

Empower has been a journey. A journey on which I could experience God's trust, God's grace and Heavenly Parent's incredible love for me more times than I can count. It was exciting, it was hard, it was meaningful.

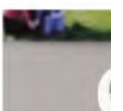
During the fundraising days, every day brought a new lesson. I could feel myself grow, hitting rock bottom and then soaring again on the wings of Heavenly Parent's grace and the sheer power of right motivation. I could truly deepen my relationships with Heavenly Parent, True Parents, and even with my own parents. True Parents aren't just my role models anymore. They are my parents. [...]

Though more subtle, witnessing was just as profound, if not more so than fundraising. I could experience the desperate heart of Heavenly Parent and feel, even if briefly, the heart of a parent toward my guest. That had to be one of the most unique and unforgettable experiences of my life.

I could, of course, learn about many other things like the heart of a brother, the true power of conditions, how to mobilize the spirit world and see it working in my every day life, connecting to God through worship, the logic and beauty behind the Divine Principle and the Chambumo Ron, cooking, Spanish and so much more.

But taking a few steps back, what EMPOWER really gave me is an unshakable faith based on my own experiences, deeper relationships in all directions, the vertical and the horizontal, with an added bonus of a new family, the EMPOWER family, and a strong realization that Heavenly Parent needs us, the Pure Water.

Now, when hope in the world is rare, we must become the lighthouses. We are Heavenly Parent's hope. And with all the love and grace Heavenly Parent has given me, I cannot but give it back to the world. Heavenly Parent and True Parents' dream is my dream.



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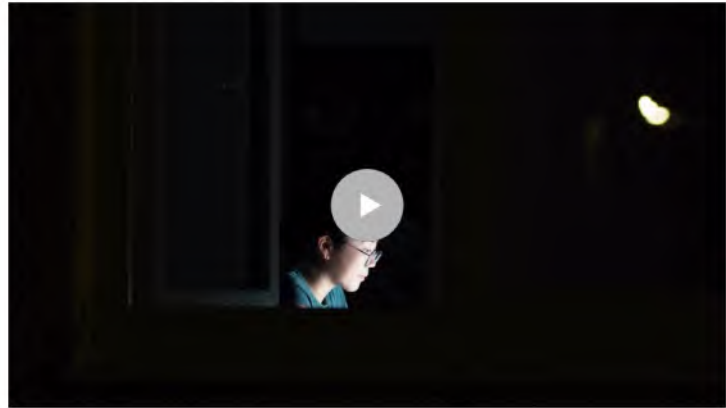
Joe Smith

Email *

joesmith@gmail.com

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COMMUNICATIONS

August 18, 2026 | Announcements, Articles | EMPOWER, EUME, Young Adults, Youth

Application For EMPOWER-HTG-EUME 2026-2027

EMPOWER is a missionary and faith-based development program for young adults ages 18-30.

Our Vision:

To experience and express Heavenly Parent through one's life.

Our Mission:

We strive to raise and support people through the teachings of the Divine Principle and True Parents' theology. Our goal is to help participants understand, connect with, and experience Heavenly Parent by engaging with others and sharing their faith and convictions. Through EMPOWER, participants become active in their faith and contribute to society by using their unique talents and abilities.

Since January 2025, we officially became a program where participants become **Heavenly Top Gun EUME** missionaries.

Why EMPOWER?

The name 'EMPOWER' comes from our desire to create an environment where participants are:

- Empowered to find and live their life of faith,
- Empowered to have a strong and mature character.

- Empowered to grow their hearts and love towards God, True Parents, and others.
- Empowered to become active in their communities.

To learn more and to take part please [click here](#).



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OTHER ARTICLES YOU MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN



Members' Spotlight | From Bolton To Switzerland

Comms Team UK | 21 August 2026

For 21 days, missionaries from Bolton travelled to Switzerland to take part in a fundraising project to support their mission work in the UK. What



Two Heavenly EUME 21-Day Workshops

Communications | 12 August 2026

Dear Brothers and Sisters of the EUME Region, We are happy to announce two Heavenly EUME 21-day workshops taking place before the end of the





Family Camp 2026

Comms Team UK | 7 August 2026

For many families across the UK, Family Camp is one of the most anticipated events of the year. This year's five-day camp at Cleeve House



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- Empowered to have a strong and mature character,
- Empowered to grow their hearts and love towards God, True Parents, and others.
- Empowered to become active in their communities.

Fee:

The program fee for the full year (from October 1st until graduation) has been adjusted based on the country you currently reside in, regardless of your passport nationality:

Group 1: €2000

Group 2: €1400

Group 3: €700

Group 4 & 5: €300

We encourage prospective participants to fundraise, work, or opt into being listed on the EMPOWER Sponsor Page as internal and external preparation.

Participants must provide the full cost of the tuition by October 1st. Participants may pay the balance incrementally until the due date of October 1st.

If the participant decides to join only for the Heavenly Top Gun mission (from January 10th until graduation),

then the fee is **€2500, no matter what Group you are from. And the deadline to transfer the amount is January 1st 2027.**

Bank Details:

Account Holder: Family Federation for World Peace and Unification Europe

Address: .V., Nassauerstr. 14, 65795 Hattersheim am Main, Germany

Bank: Frankfurter Sparkasse
IBAN: DE97 5005 0201 0200 6918 80
BIC: HELADEF1822

In the message for the recipient, please write down:
"[Full Name], [Nation], EMPOWER application fee 2026-2027"

Deadline:

Application will remain open until **1st of September 2026**.

The arrival day will be on the 1st of October in Austria, Gaflenz, at the Gaflenz Workshop Center

We will arrange pick ups from the Vienna airport. But if you feel confident to travel by train to the Gaflenz train station, we are happy to pick you up there or even simply welcome you directly at the Gaflenz Workshop center: Pettendorf 19, Gaflenz, Austria 3334.

Requirement to take part of the program:

You must be 18 years old upon entering EMPOWER (born on or before October 1st, 2008).

You must have valid travel health insurance.

You must have at least a communicative level of English, or aim to study English well beforehand.

During the program, it is not permitted to start a matching process or communication.

Contact:

After completing the form a staff will reach out to you to have a brief phone interview, please look out for an email from ***empower.hj@gmail.com***

If you have any questions please contact us at ***empower.hj@gmail.com***

We look forward to receiving your application!

spgary.fleisher@gmail.com [Switch account](#)



The name, email, and photo associated with your Google account will be recorded when you upload files and submit this form

List of Nations in each group:

(Japan and Korea are part of Group 1)

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4	Group 5	
€2000	€1400	€700	€300	€300	
Andorra	Bahrain	Anguilla	Albania	Afghanistan	Mongolia
Artigua and Barbuda	Cyprus	Barbados	Algeria	Angola	Mozambique
Aruba	Iceland	Bermuda	Argentina	Armenia	Myanmar
Australia	Malta	Botswana	American Samoa	Azerbaijan	Nepal
Austria	Nauru	Brazil	Belarus	Bangladesh	Nicaragua
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