



The Unification Church
North American Headquarters

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Upcoming Blessing Education for Engaged Couples

Phillip Schanker
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MEMO: BFD 2012-11-30

To: To District and Local Pastors, Community Leaders, Blessed Families and Children
From: National Blessed Family Ministry
Re: BLESSING EDUCATION FOR ENGAGED COUPLES- Preparation for the Upcoming Blessing
“Start Smart” Level 3 Blessing Workshops for Matched or Newly Blessed Couples:
EAST COAST: December 28-30, 2012 at UTS Conference Center, Barrytown, NY
WEST COAST: January 19-21, 2013 (ML King Day weekend) Location to be Announced
Date: November 30, 2012

As we prepare for Foundation Day on February 22, 2013 (January 13 by the Heavenly Calendar), we are working to secure and communicate additional details in the coming days. As you may already know, a Cosmic Blessing Ceremony will be held on February 17, 2013, and engaged or previously married couples are invited to receive the Blessing through this ceremony. The main ceremony will be held at the Cheongshim Peace World Center in Korea. While we anticipate satellite ceremonies via internet, we have yet to receive confirmation of this from our International Church. Memos to follow will further clarify the Cheon Il Guk matching ceremony that will take place on February 13, and the plans and preparation for Foundation Day itself.

We are pleased to announce two exciting and informative “**Start Smart**” workshops for engaged couples and young Blessed couples, to be held in preparation for the Cosmic Blessing. These are “Level 3” Blessing workshops, designed to help couples deepen their relationship with God and each other, and prepare for Blessed Family Life. The east coast program will be held December 28-30, 2012 at the UTS Training Center in Barrytown, NY. The west coast program will be held January 19-21, 2012 (ML King Day weekend), at a location to be announced very soon. **These programs are designed for engaged and recently Blessed Couples of the First or Second Generation.** We recommend them for any couple that has not yet begun their conjugal or family life.

These workshops will fulfill the educational requirement for couples planning to attend the upcoming Blessing. They feature valuable content from the meaning and value of the Blessing to practical guidance on relationships, communication, male-female differences, and building intimacy. We will also specifically prepare couples for beginning life as a Blessed Couple. Presenters include Unificationist counselor and marriage educator John Williams, National Blessed Family Ministry counselor and educator Debby Gullery and Rev. Phillip Schanker, director of the National BFM.

While we cannot guarantee that Level 1 or 2 programs can be organized nationally until after Foundation Day, we encourage local communities to organize them, contact the National BFM and we can provide materials, support or possibly personnel for you to hold these locally.

I. EAST COAST WORKSHOP SCHEDULE AND LOCATION

The New York program begins with registration at 5:00 PM on Friday afternoon, December 28th at the UTS Conference Center in Barrytown, NY. It will end at 4:00 PM on Sunday, December 30th at UTS.

II. REGISTRATION AND DEADLINES

Register Early and Save

EAST COAST WORKSHOP- Participants can register online for the East Coast Workshop at this link:

<http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=butvqyeab&oeidk=a07e6pvpfwn32b36cea>

The workshop fee for the east coast, based upon costs for food and lodging, is \$120 per participant for those who **register by December 21st**, \$130/person for those who register after the deadline, and \$140/person for unregistered walk-ins at the workshop.

III. TRANSPORTATION

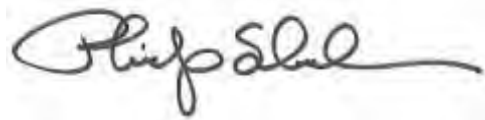
For those traveling to UTS by air, bus transportation is available from Newark, La Guardia and JFK airports to Manhattan, near Penn Station. Airtrain service is also available to Penn Station from Newark and JFK. Amtrak trains depart from Penn Station to the Rhinecliff-Kingston Station near UTS. We will provide transportation from the Rhinecliff Station to the UTS Conference center. The conference center can also be reached conveniently by car, where plenty of parking is available.

IV. WEST COAST WORKSHOP DETAILS

Details and registration information for the west coast "Start Smart" workshop will be announced in the coming week.

For more information, or if you will require transportation assistance as described above, be sure to contact us at BFAdmin@unification.org.

May God be with you and your family.



Rev. Phillip Schanker
Blessed Family Ministry
Unification Church- USA