

## The 2016 Holy Day Festive Season

Ki Hoon Kim and Michael Balcomb  
January 18, 2016


In just three weeks' time, we'll begin a special two-week festive season marking three Holy Days beginning with **True Heavenly Parent's Day (True God's Day)** on Monday, February 8, the first day of the lunar New Year and the Heavenly Calendar. Next up is **True Parents' Birthday** on Saturday, February 13, and finally, the **4th Foundation Day** on Saturday, February 20. Our communities in all 50 states are making exciting plans to celebrate these holy days, with a major emphasis on True Parents' Birthday. In addition, we expect that there will be live broadcasts of all three events, which, due to the time difference in Korea, will be broadcast in the USA on the evening *before* the above posted dates.

True Mother has encouraged us to make the best of this time of heavenly grace by holding joyful celebrations together with friends and family. This is a great opportunity to share the good news of True Parents' coming to earth. But it's not just about spiritual food alone; this is a time to invite people to share a feast, enjoy music, dance, poetry, gift giving and more. True Mother wants to make this festive season something our children, grandchildren and all people look forward to all year long!

We're sure that you'd like to directly support these happy occasions. So please find attached the official Holy Day Donation request from Korea. This year, the suggested international donation is only \$130 per family. Honestly speaking, we think we can do better in the United States, most blessed by God as we are. On the District Pastors' weekly call last night, we proposed a more generous offering of \$400 per family, and \$210 per individual, and several people went online and did it right then and there! Remember, that's for not one but all three holy days! Please do the best you can by giving through your local church, or online through our website. All donations are most welcome, so thank you.

Finally, let's remember that on Foundation Day there will also be the Holy Blessing Ceremony with True Parents in Korea, with more than 40 participants in attendance from the United States. Back here, more than 30 of our own communities and dozens of ACLC churches are planning Blessings as well. Let's say an extra prayer for all these couples, in abounding gratitude to True Parents, the one and only source and authority for our Heavenly Parent's eternal blessing!

Sincerely,



Dr. Ki Hoon Kim  
Continental Director



Dr. Michael Balcomb  
President

### Upcoming Holy Days February 2016

Though Christmas and the New Year are behind us, the holiday season is not over yet! Just around the corner are three major Unificationist Holy Days—God's Day (Feb. 8), True Parents' birthday (Feb. 13), and Foundation Day (Feb. 20)—where we can celebrate our Heavenly Parent, the legacy of our founders and the new era of God's Kingdom which we strive to build each day.

**Save the dates and get ready to celebrate with your family, community and nation. This year, our goal is to hold celebrations in all 50 states. Connect with your local pastor to find out where these celebrations will take place in your area. In the coming weeks as we make preparations for these Holy Days, we'll keep you updated with locations and details.**

We encourage all families to make the most generous donation they can during this Holy Day season. These can be made through the local churches, or online here. Meanwhile, the USA is also preparing a National Gift.



## TRUE HEAVENLY PARENT'S DAY



### Monday, February 8

By the lunar calendar, February 8 is the first day of the year, a time to celebrate new beginnings and recommit to our life of faith. On Sunday, the day before, celebrate together with friends and family during Sunday service, and on Monday plan or check with your local pastor to mark the day with a 7am pledge and offering table.



## TRUE PARENTS' BIRTHDAY



### Saturday, February 13

We expect many celebrations to take place over the extended weekend of February 12-14, as well as the following week leading up to Foundation Day. Just as Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus and Muslims celebrate the birth of Mohammed (which in 2015 happened to fall on Christmas day!), True Parents' birthday is a wonderful opportunity for Unificationists to share about the teachings and legacy of the founders. Exciting local programs are in store with an emphasis on outreach, and some locations plan to hold banquets, seminars, entertainment programs and other special events. We encourage everyone to go all out and to use this time as a way to honor True Parents by spreading their message.



## FOUNDATION DAY & BLESSING



### Saturday, February 20

Just a week after True Parents' birthday, we will be celebrating Foundation Day on February 20. Many in Korea and the United States use the entire week between the two Holy Days to celebrate and create exciting programs and events that express who we are and where we're going. Art displays, lecture competitions, musical performances and service projects are just a few plans you can get involved in with your local ministry. Communities are encouraged to watch a live webcast from Korea on **Friday, February 19 at 7pm EST** whether it be with a large gathering or a small group of families. Several communities are hosting a Marriage Blessing ceremony, which is a wonderful chance to help create a special atmosphere and support couples beginning their journey with the Blessing.