



Thank You Letter to the American Family

Michael and Fumiko Balcomb
July 26, 2017

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Thank you for your tremendous effort and support for the great victory and success of the Madison Square Garden rally, centered on True Parents! True Mother spoke clearly, courageously and lovingly about God's great hope for this nation. The music was awesome, with the 3000 Voice Choir, Gospel stars Hezekiah Walker and Yolanda Adams, and our very own Apple Heaven leading the way. I was very proud of our 700 young dancers who filled the Garden with heavenly energy. It was so exciting to see so many people from other churches and faith communities who joined us in partnership, making it such an unforgettable victory.

Soon after all the celebrations were concluded, we met for lunch with True Mother at East Garden. She again thanked our American movement for the great victory of Madison Square Garden, and then she went on to say how much she hoped that, as the elder son, America could take more care of the other nations of the world. She also shared her deep concern for Christianity, especially in Europe where it was once on the frontline of revival and reformation, but today is being assaulted by secularism and individualism. She also shed tears over the Middle East, home of three of the world's great religions, where violence and conflict are daily news and refugees risk their lives to find a place of safety. "As the True Parent, I have to save them all," she said.

I was deeply moved by Mother's words, and suddenly the words of the prophet Isaiah came to my mind: Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!" And then just a few moments later True Mother did indeed ask me to be responsible for an expanded region that includes Europe, the Middle East, and several nations in the former communist bloc as well. It is an enormous challenge, and a great honor, and although I am humbled and far from qualified, I said "Yes!"

With True Mother's recommendation and blessing, Rev. Richard Buessing has been confirmed by the HSA-UWC Board to be the next President. Richard and Marjorie have been doing a great job as Cheon Il Guk IWs, and are both much loved by God and True Parents, and all our members as well. Fumiko and I wish them all the very best as they lead America forward to our 2020 Goals. I have no doubt that the future will be bright!

It has been a great privilege to serve as your President for the past 4½ years. Thanks to everyone's prayers and personal investment, we made a lot of progress and I would like to thank Dr. Kim, the members of the HSA-UWC Board, all our pastors and community leaders, our fantastic team here at Headquarters, and all our American family members for your support and encouragement. Fumiko and I would especially like to thank everyone who has generously hosted and welcomed us in their homes over the years.

God Bless you and your families, and God Bless America! Watch out for exciting news from Europe!

Sincerely,

Michael and Fumiko Balcomb