

## Hyo Jeong Family Festival at the Belvedere Training Center in Tarrytown, NY

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Sunday, saw the end of our 2018 Memorial Day weekend's events with the Hyo Jeong Family Festival at the Belvedere Training Center in Tarrytown. The crowd in Tarrytown was small but clearly committed, turning up despite the forecast of heavy rain with umbrellas, ponchos, and rain boots in tow.

Dr. Ki Hoon Kim, vice president of Family Federation International, gave the sermon. Dr. Kim's message was brief but passionate, as he lifted up True Parents and described their constant mission to revive American Christianity, and on the strength of that renewed foundation, to revive and reunite North and South Korea. Fortunately, the rain would stay a distant threat of dark clouds for most of the day, the first, cool gust of wind bringing with it only a gentle drizzle as the morning service was ending. Dr. Kim concluded his message with a poignant comment on the significance of rainy Memorial Days:



"I asked Heavenly Parent this morning, after seeing the rain pouring down [in Manhattan], 'Why, every time, do we see rain on Memorial Day weekend?' God told me, 'There are so many unseen heroes and heroines who sacrificed their lives for the sake of this country. They are crying and crying because people

don't know what kind of time it is for True Parents.' So, we must come together, and we must initiate, and we must lead this country and the world. Who else will?"



Most appreciated the familial atmosphere of the day, which offered many opportunities to reconnect with friends and to spend time with loved ones. Susan Bouachri, director of human resources at Family Federation for a Heavenly USA, commented as the vendors tents swelled with customers just after the service, "I think Dr. Kim really wants to give people the chance to just hang out....He wants to give everybody the chance to be with family and hang out with friends and enjoy a good time together. We do certainly have the space set for that."

By the end of the festival, despite a gusty spray here and there, the rain did hold off, and we hope it did prove to be a glorious day—and weekend—for God, True Parents, and all who were able to join us in celebrating life with faith, music, tears, and laughter in the true spirit of hyo jeong and in memory of our elder brother, Hyo Jin Moon.

