

## Upcoming – Parents Matching Convocation • Oct. 24~26 • UTS

Crescentia DeGoede

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The **Parents Matching Convocation** (PMC) is a wonderful opportunity for parents to understand the Matching Process, learn from those who have matched their children successfully, network with other parents and consider potential matching candidates. The PMC is not a place to finalize matches but to connect with other parents, learn about candidates and prepare to develop a Family Matching Plan based upon your child's priorities and preferences. We recommend that parents attend a PMC before beginning the matching process with their children. Parents whose children are at least 16 should participate in a PMC simply to learn and prepare. Participants in this PMC will receive the brand new, vastly improved 2nd edition of the **Family Matching Handbook**. They will learn about the matching websites, the international matching process and other resources to support them in matching their children. They can also meet Matching Advisors who are prepared to assist and support them.

The PMC registration process and submission of candidate information and photos is entirely online through BlessedFamilies.org. To register for the PMC and submit candidate profiles through "Matchbook", see link below.

(Note: You must log in to BlessedFamilies.org as a site user before registering. Once you log in, you will see all instructions for registering and submitting candidate profiles)

[Click to Register](#)

### **CONVOCATION INFORMATION:**

Location: UTS Conference Center  
30 Seminary Drive  
Barrytown, NY 12507  
(845) 389-6224

### **Schedule**

Onsite registration will open at 5:00 PM Friday afternoon, October 24th (pre-registering online will save you money and time at the conference registration).

The program begins with Orientation at 7:30 PM that evening, and closes at 2:00 PM on Sunday, October 26th.

### **Who Should Attend**

Parents of matching candidates and Blessed siblings of candidates are also welcome. Parents of younger children are encouraged to attend, to familiarize and educate themselves about the process and their role and begin developing a family plan for matching their children.

### **Registration- Save Money by Registering Early!**

To encourage prompt registration and facilitate planning and organization, participants can save money by registering early. You can pay directly online by credit card:

- **EARLY BIRD Pay by October 10th:** \$120/individual; \$200/couple; \$80 for each additional family member
- **Pay after October 10th:** \$150/individual; \$240/couple; \$90 for each additional family member

The registration fee covers the convocation program and materials, the **new 2nd Edition Matching Handbook (choose English or Japanese)**, snacks and refreshments during the program and 5 meals: Saturday breakfast through Sunday lunch. Accommodations are the responsibility of each participant. Dinner on Friday is optional at the cost \$11.00.

**To register, visit [www.blessedfamilies.org](http://www.blessedfamilies.org)** and click on the pink PMC registration banner on the right side, above the Matchbook logo. Candidate profiles and photos can also be uploaded at the registration site and should be completed by **October 15th**. If you need assistance registering for the PMC or uploading profiles and photos, contact your church office or email us at [bfmadmin@unification.org](mailto:bfmadmin@unification.org).

### **Accommodations**

Accommodations are the responsibility of each participant. Housing choices include UTS dorms (at \$20/person/night), UTS private rooms (\$70/room/night), nearby hotels or with friends. A small number of private rooms for one or two persons, and 4 family rooms with private or semi-private bathrooms are available at UTS on a first-come, first-serve basis. To reserve any of these, contact Kate Korda, UTS Hospitality at: [k.korda@uts.edu](mailto:k.korda@uts.edu) or call Phone: (845) 389-6224.

### **Transportation**

All participants must provide their own travel arrangements.

Transportation from the nearest Amtrak train station, Rhinecliff-Kingston station, can be provided at a nominal cost (\$2 each way). If you require pick-up from this station, please email [bfdadmin@unification.org](mailto:bfdadmin@unification.org)

### **Preparing Candidate Profiles**

Parents may attend the PMC without displaying a candidate. Candidates can also be displayed at the PMC without their parents being present. But candidates can only be displayed with their permission and involvement. No parent should display their adult child as a candidate or pursue a match without the candidate's involvement. To be displayed at the PMC, every candidate should do the following:

1. Complete the candidate profile page at the PMC registration site. This will allow candidates to participate in Matchbook, PMCs, or both, and to designate their preferred level of accessibility.
2. Complete the additional 9-question personality profile at the profile page. This is optional for Matchbook participants but required for candidates at the PMC. Candidates should complete these profiles themselves. NOTE: Unless all 9 questions are answered, the profile cannot be printed for display.
3. Upload three good-quality photos at the profile page: one half-length (head & torso) and one full-length of the candidate and one family photo. The profile and photos are required, but do not necessarily need to be uploaded at the time of registration. They **must be uploaded by October 15th**. If parents bring photos or profiles to the PMC that require scanning or copying to be displayed, there will be a **\$20 charge**, and we cannot guarantee how quickly the material will be ready for display.

Be creative! A poem, photo montage or personal story also conveys who you are, and can be added to your profile at the PMC. Parents can also prepare "contact cards" with the candidate's picture and your family's contact info to give to other parents at the PMC.

**IMPORTANT:** If your candidate's profile has not been **updated since March 2013**, you must contact us at [bfmadmin@unification.org](mailto:bfmadmin@unification.org) if they still wish to be displayed. We strongly recommend profiles be updated and improved, with your adult child's permission and participation. We will not display any old profiles unless we have heard from the candidate that they wish to be displayed.

For additional information visit the registration site or contact [bfmadmin@unification.org](mailto:bfmadmin@unification.org)