



The Unification Church
North American Headquarters

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Parents Matching Convocation: November 16-18, 2012 At Uts In Barrytown, NY

Phillip Schanker
October 15, 2012

MEMO: BFM 2012-10-15

To: District Directors, State and Church Leaders, Blessed Central Families
From: National Blessed Family Ministry
Re: PARENTS MATCHING CONVOCATION: NOVEMBER 16-18, 2012 AT UTS IN BARRYTOWN, NY
Date: October 15, 2012

We are pleased to invite parents to the final Parents' Matching Convocation (PMC) this year on November 16-18, 2012 at the UTS Conference Center in Barrytown, NY. The program has been rescheduled to this date due to the recent transition and renewal in our organization, to give parents time to plan and participate in this important and informational convocation. The PMC planned for the west coast will take place in the San Francisco Bay area early next year, shortly after Foundation Day (February 22nd).

The PMC is a great 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. During President Hyung Jin Moon's recent tour, some parents and potential candidates expressed questions and concerns about whether there is a healthy and effective process for the matching and Blessing. Too few are aware of the solid developments that have taken place, and the many helpful tools that parents and candidates have at their disposal. An improved and updated **Family Matching Handbook** will be available at the PMC, as well as Matching Plan worksheets, improved webtools, a new application system and other updates. Participants will learn about these and other resources, and can also meet Matching Advisors who are prepared to assist and support them.

We strongly recommend that parents attend a PMC well before beginning the matching process with their children. Parents whose children are at least 16, who plan to support them in finding a match but have not yet attended a PMC should participate simply to learn and prepare. Blessed Children 24 and older are invited to participate, to learn about the parents' matching process and take a more active role in their own candidate search. Save money by registering before November 2nd. Matching Advisors are encouraged to attend to support parents and candidates, at a greatly reduced fee.

NOVEMBER 16-18TH CONVOCATION INFORMATION:

I. Location

UTS Conference Center, 30 Seminary Drive, Barrytown, NY 12507, <http://www.uts.edu/>

- II. Schedule** - Onsite registration will open at 4:30 PM Friday afternoon, November 16 (pre-registering online will save you money and time at the conference registration). The program begins with Orientation at 7:30 that evening, and closes at 2:00 PM on Sunday, November 18th in Barrytown.

III. Who Should Attend - Parents of matching candidates, matching candidates 24 years or older, and Blessed siblings of matching candidates are also welcome. Parents of younger BCs are encouraged to attend, to understand the process and their role and begin developing a family plan for matching their children.

IV. Registration (Meals Included) - Save Money by Registering by November 2nd!

The PMC registration process and submitting of candidate information and photos will be entirely online. To encourage prompt registration and facilitate planning and organization, participants can save money by registering early. You can now pay directly online by credit card:

- **Pay by November 2nd:** \$110/individual; \$180/couple; \$70 for each additional family member
- **Pay after November 2nd:** \$130/individual; \$210/couple; \$80 for each additional family member
- **BC Candidates 24+:** \$70/person before November 2nd, \$80/person after November 2nd

The registration fee covers the convocation program and materials, a Matching Handbook, snacks and refreshments during the program, and 5 meals: Saturday breakfast through Sunday lunch. Accommodations are the responsibility of each participant.

To register, visit www.blessedfamilies.org, and click on the pink PMC registration banner on the right side, above the Matchbook logo. Or visit the members' area at www.familyfed.org/members, and click on the PMC banner near the top. Candidate profiles and photos can also be uploaded at the registration site and should be completed by **November 9th**. If you need assistance registering for the PMC or uploading profiles and photos, contact your district BFD or Email us at BFDadmin@unification.org.

V. Accommodations

Accommodations are the responsibility of each participant. Housing choices include UTS dorms (at \$20/person/night), UTS private rooms (\$60/room/night) or semi-private rooms (\$40/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-served basis. To reserve any of these, contact Carolyn Stuppel at housing@uts.edu, or call her at (845) 752-3000, ext. 221.

VI. 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:

- A. 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.
- B. 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.
- C. Upload three good-quality photos at the profile page: one half-length (head and 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 November 9th**. 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.

Some other good ideas for preparing candidate profiles for the PMC:

- Visit the link below and use one or more of the resources recommended there to more fully understand your adult child's character, and prepare a fuller profile:

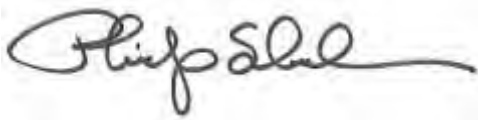
http://www.familyfed.org/members/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=949&Itemid=626

- 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 November 2011, you must contact us at bfdadmin@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 bfdadmin@unification.org. We look forward to seeing parents at the PMC and to supporting candidates in the process of matching and Blessing.

May God be with you and your family.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Phillip Schanker". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rev. Phillip Schanker
Blessed Family Ministry
Unification Church- USA