

49th Anniversary of Holy Grounds - First Established in Korea - October 5, 1962

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Twin Peaks overlooking San Francisco, Calif., is the first Holy Ground established by Rev. Moon in America in 1965

"Holy Ground is a representative area of a nation or city," said the late Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon, co-founder of the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (FFWPU). "It is God's place, a place where He is more free to hear our prayers... God symbolically restores that land as His own property."

With Rev. Moon's guidance, the first Holy Grounds were founded in South Korea by early Unificationists from October 5 to 7, 1962. These four Holy Grounds were selected in the north, south, east, and west districts of Seoul. Rev. Moon explained that originally all land belonged to God, our Heavenly Parent, but after humanity fell away from God, God lost everything. Rev. Moon shared his desire to reclaim God's lands symbolically, first through Holy Grounds and later by restoring the homeland.

In January 1965, Rev. Moon departed South Korea for his first world tour. After spending two weeks in Japan, he left for the U.S., where he established the first Holy Ground in America on Twin Peaks overlooking San Francisco. In the next 44 days, Rev. Moon traveled by car to all 48 contiguous states, establishing 55 Holy Grounds along the way.

Rev. Moon's first visit to America lasted until July 1965 when he departed for Europe. From January through October of that year, Rev. Moon founded 120 Holy Grounds in 39 nations, including America

and throughout Europe, the Middle East, and Asia Pacific.

Rev. Moon returned to South Korea and created Holy Grounds in each regional district before establishing the main Holy Grounds in Seoul, which included one at Cheongpa Dong church. The original four Holy Grounds founded by early Unificationists in 1962 then became part of the official seven Holy Grounds in Seoul by Rev. Moon. He finished blessing all of the Holy Grounds throughout the world on January 1, 1966.

"The atmosphere at the Holy Grounds is sacred," said Rev. Moon. "When we pray at a Holy Ground, our prayers relate to the historical foundation of comforting God's heart through reclaiming His land. Because of this, prayers offered at the Holy Grounds have a greater effect... Our mind and attitude should be more pious and we should feel closer to God."

Today, the Holy Grounds throughout the U.S. are frequently visited with prayers for the country and world, as Unificationist leaders and members join FFWPU North America Regional Director Dr. Chung Sik Yong on his [national tour](#) to revive the spirit of America. Since early August, Dr. Yong has met with communities across the nation while offering prayers at local Holy Grounds concerning a range of issues facing the U.S. amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

While [visiting the Southeast](#) region, Dr. Yong expressed the desire for each FFWPU state leader to multiply the Holy Grounds in counties and cities within their jurisdiction. "These Holy Grounds established by Father Moon are very important," he said. "We must pray together for the spirit of America."

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Reviving the Spirit of America, One State at a Time



FFWPU USA

Dr. Chung Sik Yong, regional president of Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (FFWPU), has continued his national tour to revive the spirit of America, visiting 10 states in the Midwest over the next 10 days.

“In Kansas City, I had a very beautiful meeting with community members,” he said. “Our time was short, but I met with key leaders and local clergy.”

From September 29 to October 8, Dr. Yong will be on the road throughout the Midwest, making stops in Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, Missouri, Minnesota, North and South Dakota, Wisconsin, Michigan, and Kentucky.

“I appreciate everyone’s preparation,” said Dr. Yong as he and regional FFWPU leaders gathered to pray at the holy grounds in Kansas City. He emphasized the importance of the holy grounds in every state, established by FFWPU’s co-founders, the late Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon.

The 50-state tour, which began in early August, aims to revive the spirit of America as the nation faces a range of issues amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Yong has met with government and faith leaders across the country as well as American Clergy Leadership (ACLC) pastors who can help revive the spirit of America’s people. The tour has also connected him with many couples and families who are the backbone of society and the nation’s future.

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“In Nebraska, I felt overwhelmed by the Omaha Family Church and their giving heart and support of this tour,” said Dr. Yong. “The state leaders and community members there put forth a lot of effort. I was also able to connect with Katherine Anglin, the national coordinator of [YAYAM](#), to discuss our work with Unificationist youth.”

Throughout the tour, Dr. Yong has shared the 2021 goals of FFWPU’s national leadership leading up to Dr. Moon’s December visit to the U.S. In preparation of the year-end event, presentations outline several goals that aim to connect more people with the [Marriage Blessing](#) movement, corresponding resources, as well as increase local community activities nationwide.

Dr. Yong visited the holy grounds in Omaha with leaders before heading to Sioux City, Iowa, and Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Stay tuned for updates on Dr. Yong's national tour. You can learn more by also joining Morning Devotion [here](#).

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One of the Greatest Celebrations



Dr. Chung Sik Yong (center) with Unificationists from around the Southeast (FFWPU-USA)

“Chuseok is one of the greatest celebration days,” said Dr. Chung Sik Yong, the regional president of Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (FFWPU) North America. He spent the September 21 holiday, known as “Korean Thanksgiving,” on the road accompanied by fellow Unificationist leaders as he continued his [national tour](#) to revive the spirit of America.

The 50-state tour, which began in early August, has brought Dr. Yong across the U.S. visiting numerous communities. “It’s a busy schedule, but I’m so glad to meet everyone in person,” he said.

In the past week, Dr. Yong wrapped up [touring the Northeast](#) region—including New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware—and ventured Southeast to visit Washington, DC, and six states in five days: Florida, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, and Maryland.

“With each community, we shared about the 2021 goals leading up to Mother Moon’s visit in December,” said Rev. Ernest Patton, FFWPU Southeast regional director. He and Dr. Yong, along with other key leaders and community members, also gathered to pray at local holy grounds established by FFWPU’s co-founders, the late Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon.

“We had some people come a long distance—three and four hours—to join us at these holy grounds,” said Dr. Yong. He emphasized the importance of the holy grounds and the desire for each FFWPU state leader to multiply them in counties and cities within their jurisdiction.

The national tour aims to revive the spirit of America as the nation faces a range of issues amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Yong has met with government and faith leaders as well as American Clergy Leadership ([ACLCL](#)) pastors who can help revive the spirit of America’s people. The tour has also connected him with many couples and families who are the backbone of society and the nation’s future.

“In North Carolina, we had a pastors’ summit at the Triangle Family Church,” said Dr. Yong. “And in West Virginia, we met with the mayor of Martinsburg and the chief of police, as well as ACLCL pastors.”

While stopping in Baltimore, Dr. Yong fondly recalled his first time in Maryland and referred to the state as his “second hometown.”

