

## FFWPU USA: Happy Blessing Anniversary to the 1982 and 2009 Blessed Couples

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*1982 Blessing; Photo courtesy of Sunhak Institute of History USA*

Congratulations to the thousands of couples celebrating their Marriage Blessing anniversary on October 14! Two major ceremonies were officiated by True parents on this date, in 1982 and 2009.

True Parents blessed 6,000 couples on Oct. 14, 1982 at the Chamshil Gymnasium in Seoul. The 6,000 Couple Blessing is linked to the 2,075 Couple Blessing held by True Parents on July 1, 1982 at Madison Square Garden in New York City. They are referred to jointly as the "8,000 Couple Holy Blessing." Both of these ceremonies included significant numbers of international couples. The 6,000 Couple Blessing convened in just 20 days and had participants from 84 nations. True Father noted that this Blessing surmounted the 6,000 years of providential history and signified an "advance into the realm of liberation."

On October 14, 2009, the "Cosmic Holy Marriage Blessing" was held in front of the main building of Sun Moon University in Asan, in Korea's Chungnam province. Some 25,000 participants gathered as representatives of Korea and the world. For those who could not come in person, the ceremony was broadcast simultaneously in 192 nations via satellite and the Internet. It was also the first ceremony where new couples and already established blessed couples received the Marriage Blessing together. Many young Unificationists participated in the ceremony, held in a public venue, which attracted substantial media coverage that continued with subsequent Blessings.

[These couples] are the ones whose philosophy is in line with [God's] ideal and their path of love extends directly from individual to family, tribe, nation, world, and cosmos. Today, we are very happy that this group can witness the beginning of new families in front of [God] ... This is an historical moment of new beginning, expanding to the world centered on Korea...

As true couples, they are set on their determination to build the Kingdom of Heaven on earth and are ready to go on the pioneering path of extending eternal spiritual heaven and extending the worldwide

level heavenly ideal family. As the true couple who is worthy to receive [God's] love and blessing ... let them be the leaders who can fulfill [God's] expectations. - True Father, Oct. 14, 1982 Blessing Prayer



*2009 Blessing; Photo courtesy of Sunhak Institute of History USA*

Happy 40th anniversary to all 6,000 couples celebrating their Blessing, and happy 13th anniversary to the thousands more who received the 2009 Cosmic Blessing!