

This week in history: June 15-21

July 1, 2014

June 29, 2003

The Washington Declaration

True Father presented True Mother with a special award following completion of her World Speaking Tour in which she promoted true family values globally in 80 locations, including 24 speeches in the United States. True Mother spoke on “**The Path of Life for All Humankind.**”

[<http://www.tparents.org/Moon-Talks/HakJaHanMoon/HH990000.htm>] The award was also presented on the foundation of True Mother’s absolute faith, absolute love and absolute obedience in being “victorious over a suffering course of restoration through indemnity known only to Heaven” and for having “fulfilled the mission of a true child in front of Heaven, a true wife in front of her husband, and the mission of a true parent in front of her children.”

July 1, 1982

Holy Blessing of 2,075 Couples



The Blessing of 2,075 couples at Madison Square Garden, New York on July 1, 1982

A large percentage of the American Unification movement—2,075 couples, or 4,150 persons in all—participated in a record-setting Blessing officiated by True Parents at New York’s Madison Square Garden arena. This number eclipsed the previous record of 1,800 couples married by True Parents in Seoul in 1975, which was recorded in the *Guinness Book of World Records* as the largest mass wedding in history. The Blessing was preceded by the Matching of 705 couples in May 1979, 843 couples in December 1980, and 653 couples in June 1982. More than 60 percent of the couples were either interracial or intercultural. With this event, the church in America went virtually overnight from being a movement of primarily single people to one of married people.

July 1, 1991

Declaration Day of God's Eternal Blessing

True Father announced the Declaration Day of God’s Eternal Blessing at a special ceremony at True Parents’ residence in Hannam-dong, Seoul, Korea. He declared that members now have the authority to give God’s blessings through the tribal messiahship providence. He said that blessed families no longer belong to any nationality but are members of the Royal Family. He advised members to create a new spiritual attitude and train themselves to overcome their fallen nature in working with their hometown communities.

July 1, 2010

True Father Holds a 23.5-Hour Hoon Dok Hae

True Father, at age 90, hosted a historic twenty-three-and-a-half-hour Hoon Dok Hwe, speaking on the topic of “God is the Owner and Victor” to Japanese women participating in a forty-day workshop for “world ocean leaders” at Blue Sea Garden in Yeosu, Korea.



On July 1 at Blue Sea Garden in Yeosu, Father hosted Hoon Dok Hae for twenty-three and a half hours.

July 4, 1955

True Father Arrested in Ehwa Woman's University Incident



True Father with expelled students

In late 1954 and early 1955, the newly founded Unification Church witnessed successfully on the campuses of Ehwa Woman's University and Yonsei University in Seoul. Nearly 400 students connected to the church, at which point Ehwa President Helen Kim and Vice President Maria Park spearheaded a crackdown. Five Ehwa University faculty members who had joined the church, including Dr. Young Oon Kim and Won Bok Choi, were fired. Students were given the choice to discontinue association with the church or be expelled. Fourteen students accepted expulsion. Finally, as a result of an orchestrated defamation campaign, True Father, Won Pil Kim, Church President Hyo Won Eu and two of Mr. Eu's relatives were arrested. True Father spent three months in Seoul's Seodaemun prison before being freed on appeal.

July 3, 2002

Holy Blessing of 1,440,000 Second-Generation Christian Youth and World Religious Youth

True Parents officiated at a series of Interfaith Marriage Blessings centered on the American Clergy Leadership Conference (established in 2000) and their "We Will Stand in Oneness" 50-state speaking tour (2001). The first of these, on May 27, 2001, was an Interfaith Marriage Blessing of sixty clergy couples presided over by True Parents in the Cotillion Room of the Hilton Hotel in New York City, which included, most prominently, Archbishop Emmanuel Milingo. The second, on April 27, 2002, was a blessing of 144,000 clergy couples, 700 of whom gathered as representative couples at the Sheraton National Hotel in Arlington, Virginia. The third, on July 3, 2002, was the Holy Blessing of 1,440,000 second-generation Christian youth and world religious youth. Again, 700 couples jammed the Sheraton National Hotel. A member of Congress offered a congratulatory address. World religious representatives, including a Native American chief, offered prayers. There were 40 couples from the Nation of Islam, 20

Sikh couples and 20 Hindu couples, in addition to other groups who “brought their lineages before heaven.”

July 4, 1985

True Father Is Transferred from Danbury to Phoenix House



There is a round of hugs as True Father is transferred to Phoenix House

After serving nearly 12 months at Danbury Federal Correctional Institution in Connecticut, True Father was transferred to Phoenix House, a halfway facility in Brooklyn, New York, where he served the final 45 days of his 18-month sentence, getting five months off for good behavior. True Father was permitted to leave the house at 7:00 each morning and was required to return by 11:00 p.m. During the day, he was free to direct church affairs.

July 4, 2002

"A Cloud of Witnesses: The Saints' Testimonies to the True Parents"

Leading newspapers in all fifty states began publishing “A Cloud of Witnesses” spirit world messages in ad space purchased by the Unification movement. The spirit world messages were the result of “seminars in the spirit world,” initially for the four religious founders (Jesus, Buddha, Confucius, Muhammad) and subsequently for “120 Christians who illuminated history,” 120 leaders each from Buddhist, Confucian and Muslim traditions, and 120 communists. The messages also included a “Letter from God.” The seminars were led by Dr. Sang Hun Lee (who died in 1997) and channeled through Mrs. Young Soon Kim. True Father authorized the messages, stating they “should be considered to be from me.” The “cloud” testimonies were direct about True Parents’ position as the savior of all humankind and controversial among clergy associated with the movement. However, they also provided an opportunity for education. The movement convened National Ministers Workshops for several hundred clergy. As one leader put it, “The trial of the Cloud of Witnesses led to a Divine Principle movement within the clergy.”