

## **UPF: National Parents' Day, July 24, 2022 - Please Nominate Exemplary Couples**

Wendy Stovall  
April 27, 2022

Dear Colleague:

As you are active in your community and are someone whose values and opinions we respect, we would like to ask your help in nominating exemplary and deserving couples you know well, to be recognized as National Parents of the Year for 2022, celebrated on Sunday, July 24 this year. Perhaps you know of deserving parents in your own church's congregation or among the constituency in your congressional district.

To nominate someone simply click on the Nominate Parents of the Year (yellow banner) which can be found on [parentsday.com](http://parentsday.com). Before filling in the form to recommend a pair of exemplary parents, please take time to look over the example nomination form accompanying this letter. It has the completeness and type of information we look for in nominations for National Parents of the Year. The deadline for receiving nominations is June 30, 2022.

A broad bipartisan coalition supports this effort to recognize those who have given sacrificially, of their time, financial and emotional resources to fulfill that God-given role of raising children. See attached background and history of Parents' Day.

The criteria for the Parents' Day nominees:

- 1 Exemplify qualities of sacrificial love.
- 2 Have overcome major obstacles (emotional, physical, financial, etc.) to provide for the personal development and happiness of children.
- 3 Exhibit qualities of personal moral virtue and/or religious commitment.
- 4 Have a noteworthy record of contributions to the family in the larger community.

Once your nomination has been entered online, it will be reviewed and if necessary, I will contact you for further information.

Respectfully,

Wendy Stovall

Wendy Stovall  
National Advisor, Parents Day 2022  
Universal Peace Federation USA  
[wstovall@us.upf.org](mailto:wstovall@us.upf.org)

## **History and Background of Parents' Day**

### **Parents' Day Joint Resolution in Congress**

In 1994, Congress unanimously passed "The Parents' Day Resolution" establishing the fourth Sunday of July as a perennial day of commemoration.

Bipartisan legislation to establish Parents' Day was filed in the House in August 1994 by Rep. Dan Burton, Indiana Republican, and Rep. Floyd H. Flake, New York Democrat, with 16 additional cosponsors.

The measure, which eventually acquired 223 cosponsors, passed the House on Sept. 30, 1994 and passed the Senate on Oct. 4. President Bill Clinton signed the measure — now Public Law No:103-362 — on Oct. 14, 1994.

According to the Congressional Resolution, Parents' Day is established for "recognizing, uplifting, and supporting the role of parents in the rearing of children." The establishment of Parents' Day was the result of a bipartisan, multiracial and interfaith coalition of religious, civic and elected leaders who recognized the need to promote responsible parenting in our society and to uplift ideal parental role models, especially for our nation's children.

### **Why Parents' Day?**

In every culture and time period, the family has stood as the most fundamental human institution. Family is the starting point of life, the sustainer of well-being, and the school of love. A family begins with the joining together of man and woman, husband and wife, becoming father and mother – and parents. The most powerful of human bonds is the parent-child relationship.

As the world struggles with effects of family breakdown, youth violence and a host of other critical problems, more and more voices are calling for a re-examination of our priorities and fundamental values. Too often we have let other concerns take precedence over our responsibilities as parents. Yet is there any more important calling than that of nurturing and raising a child?

Unfortunately, our popular culture over the past several decades has emphasized self-fulfillment, a focus that, when carried too far, runs counter to the essence of parenthood's unconditional love.

Parents' Day provides an opportunity to recognize and promote parenting as a central vocation for our communities. More than just a time to celebrate, it is an occasion to make a statement about what is important in our society. It is a chance to create a positive tradition based on a core axiom – that the commitment of parents' time and effort is crucial in the nurturing and development of children.

### **How to celebrate Parents' Day?**

The establishment of Parents' Day affords a wonderful opportunity for communities, organizations, churches, mosques, synagogues and temples to honor exemplary parents and to encourage families everywhere to invest in our most precious resource – our children. Among the most popular of these

activities has been the recognition of outstanding couples as parental role models who have been honored as "Parents of the Year" at the national, state, local and faith community level.

Parents' Day is a popular time for people to send cards and gifts, including flowers, cakes and food hampers, to those who play an important role as a positive parental figure in their lives. It is also a time for families to come together for lunches or dinners. Special tributes to parental figures who are seen as role models are made through local announcements, at church services, or at local community events.



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[NOMINATE PARENTS](#)



# National Parents' Day

Every fourth Sunday of July in America

[Nominate Parents of the Year 2022](#)





# An American holiday

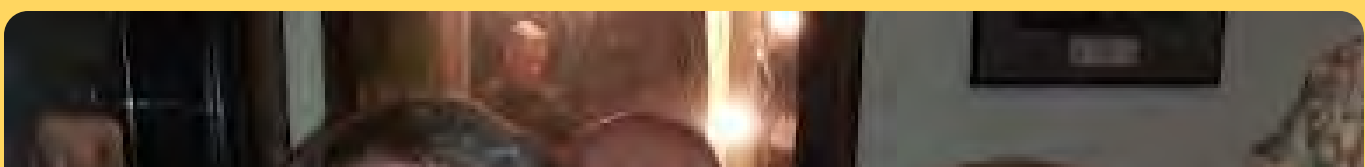
In 1994, Congress unanimously passed “The Parents’ Day Resolution” establishing the fourth Sunday of July as a perennial day of commemoration.

On this day each year, Americans recognize outstanding parents, celebrate the teamwork in raising children, and support the role of parental guidance in building a strong, stable society.

Throughout the nation in almost every state, community leaders organize Parents’ Day events to honor parents.



*Bishop Dr. Edward and Mrs. Adreinne Barnett, National Parents of the Year 2020*





*Hon. Bob and Mrs. Utufa'asili (Utu) McDermott, Civic Leader Parents of the Year 2019*



*Mr. Daniel and Mrs. Alisa Ellis, National Parents of the Year 2019*



*Dr. Saleem and Dr. Ivy Hylton, Civic Leader Parents of the Year 2019*

## Honoring Parents

Local Parents' Day Committees are made up of volunteers, public officials, community leaders, ministers, teachers, students, and, of course, parents, who organize events to honor parents.

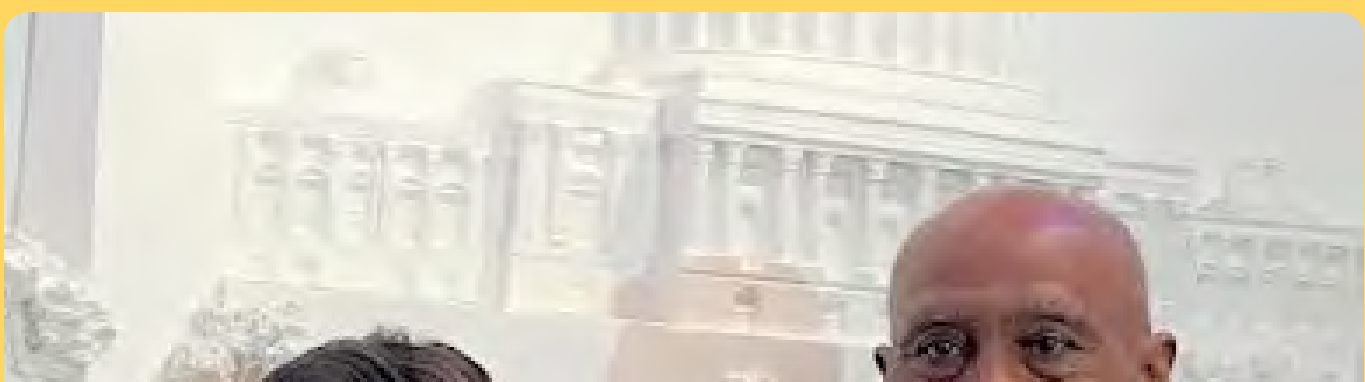
Every year since 1994, these local committees have sponsored annual Parents' Day programs, gathered nominations, and awarded some incredible parents in towns and neighborhoods across America.

You are invited to participate with your time, expertise, and energy. You can provide in-kind services, gift certificates, donations, or just show up at one of the many Parents' Day events and applaud the parents making a difference in your area.





*2020 National Parents of the Year Award*







*Bishop Carleton Enoch and Dr. Barbara Rainey, Faith Community Parents of the Year 2019*



*Mr. Rizwan Jaka and Mrs. Priscilla Martinez, Faith Community Parents of the Year 2019*



*Elder Adrian and Mrs. Alice Barnes, Parents of the Year for Outstanding Sacrifice 2019*



## Parents of the Year

At the national level, the Universal Peace Federation sponsors an award ceremony, inviting and hosting state nominees to a Parents of the Year Banquet in Washington, D.C. with members of Congress and other dignitaries.

National Parents of the Year awards are given to parents who exemplify parental love, service, and dedication to their family and to the broader family of their local community.

In this way, America's moral fiber is supported and strengthened in that most essential place: the home.



# Parents are at the root of America's goodness.

“The greatest work of any individual, rich or poor, black or white, when it comes down to the evening of their life, is their children and grandchildren, the work of being a parent.”

[Nominate Parents of the Year 2022](#)

*National and local Parents Day events and Parents of the Year programs and this website are projects of the Universal Peace Federation.*

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NOMINATE PARENTS

# Nominate Parents of the Year

Nominations will be forwarded to the Parents' Day Selection Committee of the state in which the nominees reside. Please complete this form and submit it no later than June 30, 2022.

Thank you for nominating parents for this year's Parents' Day. Please read the below criteria before you nominate a couple. Any inquiries can be sent by filling out the form under "Contact."

## The criteria for the Parents' Day nominees:

- 1 Exemplify qualities of sacrificial love
- 2 Have overcome major obstacles (emotional, physical, financial, etc.) to provide for the personal development and happiness of children.
- 3 Exhibit qualities of personal moral virtue and/or religious commitment
- 4 Have a noteworthy record of contributions to the family in the larger community.

**Nominee Parents' Information**

Recommender's Information

Testimonial

### Names of Nominee Parents \*

Please enter both first names and the family surname.

### Address of Nominee Parents \*

Address Line 2

City

State



Zip Code

**Phone of Nominee Parents \***

**Email of Nominee Parents \***

**Number of Children, Names, and Ages \***

Next



Monday, June 15,  
2020

## Nominate Parents of the Year

Nominations will be forwarded to the Parents' Day Selection Committee of the state in which the nominees reside. Please complete this form and submit it no later than June 15, 2020.

**Name of Nominee Parents:** Bishop Dr. Edward & First Lady Adreinne Barnett

**Address:** 12203 Northwood Drive  
Upper Marlboro, md, 20772

**Phone Number:** (202) 701-7597

**E-mail Address:** ggfmc12@gmail.com

**Number of Children, Names, and Ages:**

3 Children  
Donnell Barnett- 40  
Emmanuel Barnett- 30  
Gabrielle Barnett-Bobo- 28

**Recommended By:** Gabrielle Barnett-Bobo

**Organization (if applicable):** Greater Grace Family Ministries

**Address:** 12203 Northwood Drive  
Upper Marlboro, MD, 20772

**Phone Number:** (240) 646-4706

**E-mail Address:** admggfmc@gmail.com

**REQUIRED:** Answer each of the four questions below. Include background information. Use no more than 500 words per question.

**OPTIONAL:** Letters of affirmation from children, friends, or community leaders; news articles; awards, citations or other recognitions; photos. Please attach below.

**THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:** Candidates must be parents of children either by natural birth, adoption, or marriage. Obstacles overcome in raising a family may be physical, emotional, spiritual, or financial.

Candidates can be taking the parental role for those in need or filling the vacuum where parenting has not been provided. Consider the children of these parents and how they resemble their parents' good qualities of character, faith, and high personal standards. Candidates should be in good standing in the community, respected for their standards of responsibility, morality, and faith.

Please convey your testimony of the nominees with as much inspiration and enthusiasm as the choice warrants so that you will touch the hearts of those who read it.

**1. Share examples of integrity, compassion, nurture, commitment, or sacrificial devotion nominees embody as parents.:**

Bishop Dr. Edward Barnett and Adrienne Barnett have shown great sustained integrity, compassion, and sacrificial devotion in so many ways. They have been married for 34 years training their children in spiritual discipline, compassionate care, and community involvement. In addition, Bishop has pastored Greater Grace Family Ministries Church -DC for 28 years and is the founder. Known as "The Bishop," Dr. Barnett coached both of their sons in football, from little league Boys Club through High School, and at one point was a PTA president at his children's school. Adrienne Barnett was the first-aid response person for the Girl Scout group that their daughter was in, from Daisy's (age 5) to receiving her Gold Award at the age of 18. They both have sacrificed many long nights of praying and fasting for their children and other family and church members. One example that I remember very well was when a crying mother brought her baby to my father to pray for it. For a month the baby's eyes were crossed and could have caused blindness. The baby will not stop crying when it opened its eyes, the mother said. After spiritual and emotional counseling, my father prayed for the baby. A day later, my father received a call of excitement that her baby eyes had uncrossed and adjusted so it could see and would not need the expected operation suggested. Both Bishop Dr. Edward Barnett and Adrienne Barnett have displayed the true definition of nurturing and faith. As children, we could always reach our parents when needed, they always made time for us as a group and then individually as well. Over the years my parents have taken several youth and families under their wings and at times in their home as they minister to them in Christian Love, while raising 3 children of their own.

**2. Explain how they are involved in the community, or in what ways they have influenced the lives of their children or others:**

The Barnett's have impacted the community in so many ways. Showing a great example of what a real marriage entail. Growing up, they instilled in us/their children that they should put God first before anything, that God makes no mistakes, and respect all others. Bishop has earned a Bachelor's in Management, Masters in Professional Counseling, he also has a Doctorate in Divinity and a Doctorate in Humanities, as well as an Advanced Certification in "Anger Management." In 2017, Bishop Dr. Edward Barnett was honored by the entire Washington D.C. City Council with "The Dr. Edward Barnett Recognition of Resolution of 2017", for his impacting work in the field of Mental Health and the Church Community. In September 2019, my dad received the "Ambassador of Peace" honor from Universal Peace Federation. He has worked 30 years as a Behavior Specialist professional in the Mental Health Field for over 20+ years Managing mental health counselors. On one occasion for ten years managing 86% of staff for a mental health non-profit organization in D.C. as a Director for Residential Services. In 2013, Dr. Barnett was the first to be allowed from outside of the New York Presbyterianism Hospital, Psych Ward to professionally conducted a mental health assessment on a patient, through Skype. To this day, he is still called by many for consulting in Mental Health. Dr. Barnett was called by DC Dept. of Behavioral Health in 2013 to train the very first group of policemen on the Mobile Access Team who engaged with DC mental health patients, who are in crisis. Currently Bishop oversees approx. 30 churches in the Kenyan region of Africa.

First Lady Barnett, as the Exceptional Family Member Program Coordinator for the US Air Force, on Andrews AF Base has elevated her prayer life as she continues to pray for her children, church congregation, and over 900 military families while providing support for their exceptional family member in the National Capital Region. First Lady Adreinne has held positions of Assistant Director & Director in Child Youth Programs, Training & Curriculum Specialist and is a member of Special Needs Review Team for the Department of Defense-Air Force. She has also held positions of Licensing Specialist with the Child Care Administration for the State of Maryland and Adviser for Child Development Associate Credentialing Program. She completed Post-Graduate Studies at the University of Maryland specializing in Special Education (Autism and Other Pervasive Developmental Disorders). She proclaims a high calling to all parents to instill wisdom (Biblical knowledge), faith in God and to demonstrate godly character before their children.

### **3. How are these parents strengthened by their faith, or in what ways have they set a moral example for young people?**

They have drawn young people to them and the church through genuine love, clear Biblical instruction and teaching, with no pretense. Bishop and First-Lady participates in all youth and special church activities, and they set private time to individually engage youth. The youth has observed the special closeness in the Barnett's family, and notices their children's commitment and loyalty serving in the Church as leaders. Deuteronomy 11:19 states that we are to teach the word of God to our children throughout daily routine by what comes from our mouths and actions.

### **4. What makes these parents shine above the ordinary, or what struggles have they overcome in their role as parents?**

Bishop Dr. Edward Barnett and Adrienne Barnett shine above the ordinary by the love that they demonstrate. While pastoring the church for years without church salary, the Barnett's funded the establishing, maintenance, and continued development of the church through their personal earned dollars. 2018 they established the E. Barnett & Associates Community Development Inc., to help Mentor youth, teach GED to adults who have no high school degree, and to teach parenting classes to young single mothers. Like God they just keep on giving. When I was in a major car accident, I sustained a concussion, my parents nurtured me back to health. My dad became my therapist and my mother my caregiver until I was able to get back in the swing of things, stable and strong. I overcame depression without going beyond my parents. I believe they are the parents of every year. My brothers will agree, observing our parents, we have learned to never give up!



**Upload Photos and supporting documents:**





Your entry will be submitted to the state Parents' Day Committee in which the Nominees reside. And you will be contacted regarding your entry. Also, we suggest printing out the form for your own records. Thank you.

# Parents of the Year Awardees

## Congratulations!



*Mr. Vincent and Mrs. Marion Ford*  
Cheverly, MD

**NATIONAL PARENTS OF THE YEAR, 2021**



*Pastor William & First Lady Belinda Martin*  
Chicago, IL

**CLERGY PARENTS OF THE YEAR 2021**



*Mr. Antonio & Mrs. Maria-Lourdes Gabriel*  
Renton, WA

**PARENTS OF THE YEAR  
FOR OUTSTANDING SACRIFICE 2021**



*Mr. Michael Fulton & Mrs. Hillary Abplanalp*  
Florence, AZ

**FAITH COMMUNITY  
PARENTS OF THE YEAR PARENTS 2021**



*Bishop Dr. Edward and  
Mrs. Adreinne Barnett*  
Upper Marlboro, MD



*Imam Dr. Talib & Mrs. Tahirah Sharoof*  
NATIONAL PARENTS OF THE YEAR, 2020  
SERVING THE NATION

NATIONAL PARENTS OF THE YEAR, 2020



*Mr. Daniel & Mrs. Alisa Ellis*  
NATIONAL PARENTS OF THE YEAR, 2019



# National Parents' Day

3600 New York Avenue, NE ♦ Washington, DC 20001  
(202) 636-3236 ♦ [wstovall@us.upf.org](mailto:wstovall@us.upf.org) ♦ [parentsday.com](http://parentsday.com)



*Celebrated Fourth Sunday in July by Congressional Resolution, September 30, 1994*

April 22, 2022

Dear Colleague:

As you are active in your community and are someone whose values and opinions we respect, we would like to ask your help in nominating exemplary and deserving couples you know well, to be recognized as National Parents of the Year for 2022, celebrated on **Sunday, July 24** this year. Perhaps you know of deserving parents in your own church's congregation or among the constituency in your congressional district.

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