## FFWPU UK 2022 In Review, Community Spotlight: River South

Michael Balcomb February 13, 2023



Let's take a look at how the year of 2022 went for our communities across the UK. For our next Spotlight we have River South! If you would like to see more, check out our annual report!



We began the year in transition. The Bromley and South London communities worked together to merge as River South Holy Community (the name and logo was designed by Anna J. and chosen by competition). Our first gathering together was at the True Parents' Birthday Holy Day celebrations at Livingstone House on 6th February. This set a good tone for the year to have Heavenly Parent and True Parents at the forefront of our activities.

The Summer Family Camp was traditionally the high-point of our year, so why not have two? We held the first Easter Camp at Cleeve House, which was a resounding success. Thanks to Simon and Chieko C., Simon R., Ashley and Susan C., and all the families and "family" that make the camps unforgettable! We had two Holy Day celebrations: one at the Peace Embassy and the other at Camp. Two of our young adults also took part in the Cosmic Blessing at Lancaster Gate on 15th April: Pyong Chan D. and Grace T.









In May, we hosted our first EUME CheonBo VOD Special Event at Livingstone House, and River South became a regular, hosting 5 altogether, which gave members every opportunity of becoming CheonBo Victors. Later that month, we celebrated the Day of All True Things with a traditional Holy Table and fun games, including Mario Kart. Other notable days were the 10th Anniversary of True Father's Ascension in August and True Children's Day in October.









Our Worship Team provides uplifting music during Sunday Service and other celebratory events, and many inspirational speakers. The Maidstone families held regular monthly gatherings and were often joined by young adults and HARP members from London.

## Other notable events:

Sadia K. represented the England National Rugby team - the Red Roses - at the World Cup in New Zealand, was named Player of the Match in her first game and played in the World Cup FINAL! On 12th November, Dexter L. became the first member of our community to ever play in a Premier League fixture, coming on for Wolverhampton Wanderers against Arsenal.

In November, we bade farewell to our beloved sister, Susan C., who passed after a battling a long illness for many years. Despite it all she had always remained positive and caring. She sponsored a young person to attend the Berlin Peace Road event in July and gave a moving testimony at the 10th Anniversary of True Father's Ascension celebrations in August.