

FFWPU UK Annual Gathering Festival 2026 - Welcome Home, To the Original Garden

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The UK Annual Gathering Festival (AGF) 2026, held on June 20 - 21, 2026 in Cleeve House, Seend, Wiltshire, UK, successfully brought together community members, families, and youth for a weekend of spiritual rejuvenation, fellowship, and celebration. Held in the vibrant summer setting of Cleeve House, the festival served as a powerful platform to deepen faith, reconnect the national community, and honor outstanding service within the movement.

This year's theme, "Welcome Home, To the Original Garden," resonated deeply with the picturesque, natural landscape of the Wiltshire countryside. The theme emphasized a collective return to spiritual roots, divine ideal creation, and a culture of unconditional belonging. It focused on three core pillars:

Spiritual Renewal: Realigning individuals and families with the peace and purity of the original creation.

Community Fellowship: Creating a warm, inclusive atmosphere where attendees truly felt "at home" with one another.

Nature and Stewardship: Utilizing the outdoor setting to foster a deeper appreciation for creation and community bonding.

Keynote Address: "I Lift Up My Eyes"

The spiritual anchor of the festival was the keynote message delivered jointly by the EUME Continental Directors Dr. and Mrs. Michael and Fumiko Balcomb. Titled "I Lift Up My Eyes," the address offered a

timely blueprint for navigating contemporary challenges with faith and vision.

Higher Perspective: Drawing on themes of lifting one's gaze beyond immediate, everyday anxieties, the Balcombs urged the congregation to maintain a macroscopic, God-centered vision for the future.

Intergenerational Focus: Their shared delivery blended profound theological insights with practical, humorous reflections on marriage, family, and community leadership, inspiring both the elder and younger generations.



Festival Highlights and Activities

Beyond the main service and award ceremony, the two-day event featured a diverse lineup of activities designed to foster community spirit:

Worship and Arts: A lively Sunday open-mic session showcased the diverse musical and artistic talents of the community's youth and young adults.

Community Stalls and Sports: The grounds featured vibrant stalls displaying local projects, crafts, and services, alongside friendly sports competitions that brought out a healthy sense of rivalry and fun.

On-Site Camping: Facilitating a true "gathering" atmosphere, many families camped on the grounds of Cleeve House, sharing meals and enjoying evening fellowship under the stars.

Conclusion

The UK Annual Gathering Festival 2026 beautifully fulfilled its promise of being a spiritual homecoming. Through the inspiring words of Dr. and Mrs. Balcomb, the celebration of young leadership via the Grace Miller HJ Award, and the joyful atmosphere of shared fellowship, attendees left Cleeve House revitalized and better equipped to cultivate the spirit of the "Original Garden" in their everyday lives.