

Happy New Year Everyone, A Message from Our Pastors at Seattle Family Church

Eunmi and Augustine Maddox

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As we step into this new year together, we pause first to give thanks to our Heavenly Parent for carrying us through the year behind us. Through seasons of joy and challenge, clarity and uncertainty, God's love and grace has never left us. We begin this year not alone, but together, as one family under God.

Last year was the **Year of the Snake**, associated with wisdom, discernment, and deep reflection. It invited us to look inward, to pray more deeply, and to grow in understanding even when circumstances were complex. Through that season, God refined our hearts and prepared us for what lies ahead. It was a year that asked us to slow down, to think deeply, and to trust God even when the path wasn't clear. Through every challenge and quiet victory, God was present; shaping us and preparing us for what comes next.

Now we enter the **Year of the Horse**, a year that reminds us of movement, strength, and momentum. Not rushing forward, but stepping ahead with trust. Like a steady walk after a long pause, this year invites us to lift our heads, take a deep breath, and keep going together.

During the Christmas season, Rev. Dunkley reminded us of something important. He said, *this is not a time for despair. It is a time to remember why we believe, to remember why we were called, and to remember that we are part of something far greater than what the world can currently see.* Those words continue to speak to us as we enter this new year.

They remind us that even when circumstances feel heavy or uncertain, our faith is rooted in something deeper. God is still working. His purpose is still unfolding. And we are still called to walk forward with hope.

As we move into this year, we do so with prayerful hearts. We remember our True Mother, who enters this new year still in detention. This should not be her experience, especially at her age, and with

everything she has done and sacrificed for the sake of building a peaceful world, and most importantly, for God's dream. Though we cannot be with her physically, she remains close to us in spirit, so let us continue to send her positive energy, love and strength. Her perseverance and faith continue to encourage us to stand firm and trust in God's justice and timing.

This year, I invite you to find God in the stillness and the quiet. Whether through reflection, meditation, building intentional daily habits, or simply going out into the beautiful nature of Washington that surrounds us. Make space for God to speak.

In that stillness, when we quiet the noise around us, is where we hear God, feel God, and connect with God within. And from that place, we are called to build something together. Community is not a one-person responsibility, it is created through our shared willingness to show up, to respond together, and to care for one another.

With the future generation in mind, and the legacy we want to leave behind, a legacy rooted in heart, let us create that together. Let us be present for one another. Let us support one another. And let us joyfully welcome the wave of new babies into our wonderful community, celebrating the life, hope, and promise the pure water generation represent.

We don't know what the year holds, however, let us walk with the spirit of the horse; steady, faithful, and strong. Let us choose unity when division is easier, hope when fear tries to take hold, and love in every interaction. Let us fight for what is right, for our values, for True Mother, and for God. Let us support one another and move forward together, knowing that God is with us every step of the way.

No matter what this year brings, new beginnings, unexpected challenges, or quiet growth, we trust that God is with us, walks beside us, strengthens us when we are tired, and reminds us that we are never alone.

May this new year draw us closer to God and closer to one another.
May our faith grow deeper, our courage grow stronger, and our hope grow brighter.
And may we move forward together, step by step, into all that God has prepared for us.

To new beginnings! Happy New Year!

May Our Heavenly Parent's Love, Grace and Blessings Be With You and Your Families.

Sincerely,

Pastors Eunmi & Augustine Maddox