

## UPF Celebrates International Day of Families in New York

Lynn Walsh  
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Unificationists and peace activists in New York City came together in May to celebrate the United Nations International Day of Families.



Thirty participants listened to four inspiring speakers about the issues facing families around the world and the role of families in creating world peace. The event was hosted by an affiliated organization to the Universal Peace Federation in New York, and began with the profound Water of Life Ceremony, in which representatives of different faiths offered a prayer and poured water into a single vase.

During the main program, participants were treated to informative and inspiring presentations by Mrs. Lynn Walsh, Director of UPF Office of Marriage, Family and Human Development; Dr. Frank Kaufmann, President of Filial Projects; Ms. Rahab Njoki, Sr. Gender Adviser at the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs; and Mr. Rick Ulfic, President of We the World.



The group also honored two of the guests by appointing them Ambassadors for Peace. Participants were so inspired by the empowering presentations and overall event that they stayed long after the program ended. Based on its success, the organizers are planning a follow-up program to be held at the Family Church of New York City on 43rd Street in Manhattan.