



FFWPU-USA

Family Federation for World Peace and Unification

May 2013 Could be Your Re-Birthday!

Ann Iparraguirre

April 29, 2013

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

At both of the church services in Clifton on Sunday, I invited everyone to come back this **Tuesday evening, April 30th at 7 p.m.** To celebrate the birthday of our Parent Church and to have an opportunity to join the Clifton Family Church. Our Parent Church was established on May 1, 1954. I would like to encourage all family churches and faith communities throughout the District to hold their own Birthday Party! The month of May will be our Membership Month and everyone will have a chance to join the Family Church of their choice.

Local Family Churches are establishing themselves and have been growing for many years in different parts of our District. At this time in our Parent Church development, the focus of church work has shifted from members supporting the church and large church activities. All church-affiliated organizations such as ACLC, UPF and WFWP and large church activities, initiatives and projects will be developed and continued by people who feel moved by the vision and who feel called to support the specific work of that organization. The local Family Church will be supported by its members and will support the members on their spiritual path of growth. The Family Church does not exist for any other reason.

The work of a Family Church is to support families in their own tribal messiah work. The Family Church will be supported through tithing of its members and other fundraising activities the members in each church decide. An intergenerational pastor team will pastor each Family Church. The members in each area will select an inter-generational local church council who will work to lead volunteerism and development of church ministry. In many communities, this kind of church development is already in place and should continue based on what is right for each community.

The relationship of Family Churches to the Parent Church is still being discussed by the National Leadership and National Council of the Parent Church. They may provide guidelines as to how the Parent Church wishes to be involved at the local level. The Founders of the Parent Church have made it abundantly clear that the mission of each Family Church is to support the families to accomplish their Tribal Messiah mission as families.

Membership in a Family Church represents a commitment to volunteer, attend and tithe to that Family Church. Individuals and families who wish to join a Family Church are free to join wherever they desire. Members are also free to attend any Family Church they wish. The purpose of a Family Church is focused on supporting the spiritual growth and development of its members, and on church growth through teaching Divine Principle and natural witnessing.

Specifically in New Jersey, the Clifton Church has been the main church for years. The Clifton Family Church is unusually large. If there is not a local Family Church already developed in your area, everyone is invited to join the Clifton Family Church. The hope is not to diminish ways that families are supported and loved through the church community they know. The hope is to empower all members to fulfill True Father's dying request to accomplish Tribal Messiahship and True Mother's living request to teach the Divine Principle to the 7 billion people on earth.

Best,

Dr. Ann