

This week in history, July 19-25:

Michael Mickler
July 20, 2015

**July 19, 2008
True Parents Survive Helicopter Crash**



The site of the helicopter crash suggests a true miracle of True Parents' survival.



True Parents reunite with their grandchildren following the helicopter crash.

True Parents miraculously survived a fiery helicopter crash near the Chung Pyung Peace Palace. They

were returning from a meeting in Seoul, along with ten members, three of their young grandchildren and three crew members, when they encountered a fog bank as they approached the heliport. When the pilot attempted to take the craft up and out of the pitch darkness, the helicopter tail struck a tall tree, causing it to plow through the woods at treetop level for a hundred and fifty yards. It finally hit a large tree and crashed in a muddy wooded area near a small stream. An urgent effort to escape the already burning helicopter ensued. Two security staff lifted True Parents through the hatch, which fortunately was still accessible. The grandchildren next were lifted up through the same exit. The remaining members then exited and everyone sought cover. Twenty minutes after the crash landing, the helicopter exploded. Amazingly, no one was seriously injured. True Father referred to their survival as “a miracle from God.”

July 20, 1957

40-Day Pioneer Witnessing Tradition Begins

The Unification Church’s 40-day pioneer witnessing tradition began on July 20, 1957 with member-pairs being sent to 120 villages and towns throughout the Republic of Korea. Prior to setting out for the witnessing condition, members fasted for 7 days. Thus, the tradition of a 7-day fast began at that time. In addition, 40-day training sessions for core church leaders began in 1957. During the 40-day period, True Father made a condition of visiting each pioneer, giving them encouragement as an itinerant worker (IW). He traveled in a World War II jeep for that purpose. Members had little or no money and ate barley rations rather than rice. The first 40-day pioneer witnessing condition bore fruit in subsequent summer and winter 40-day pioneer witnessing not only in Korea, Japan, the United States and elsewhere.

July 20, 1984

True Father Enters Danbury



Having exhausted all of his appeals, including a petition before the U.S. Supreme Court, True Father entered the Federal Correctional Institution, Danbury (Connecticut), just before midnight on July 20, 1984. He would remain there until July 4, 1985, when he was moved to Phoenix House, a halfway facility in Brooklyn, New York, where he served out the remainder of his 13-month incarceration.

In his farewell speech [<http://www.tparents.org/Moon-Talks/SunMyungMoon84/840720.htm>] on the evening of July 20 before departing from East Garden, True Father told members, “This is a glorious, victorious and historic day,” and asked them not “to send me off in tears” unless they were “tears of determination, telling me, ‘Trust us. We are going to bring 100 times greater victory in the days to come.’” He said, “Wherever I go, whether it is a high place or a low one, my life will be the same life,” and noted, “I am going to prison on the worldwide level at this time,” having already gone to prison on the individual, family and national levels.

July 22, 1997

Leaders Rally to Build True Families Tour

The Leaders Rally to Build True Families Tour began in Seoul’s Gangnam area on July 22, 1997, and covered sixteen cities, ending on August 6. True Mother conveyed a message of true love to leaders from all walks of life through her speech, “True Family and True Universe Centering on True Love.” Before each rally True Father would telephone True Mother from South America to encourage her, and after

each rally they held simultaneous victory celebrations. (Materials provided by the FFWPU History Compilation Committee)

July 22, 2014
Second Aloha Workshop Begins



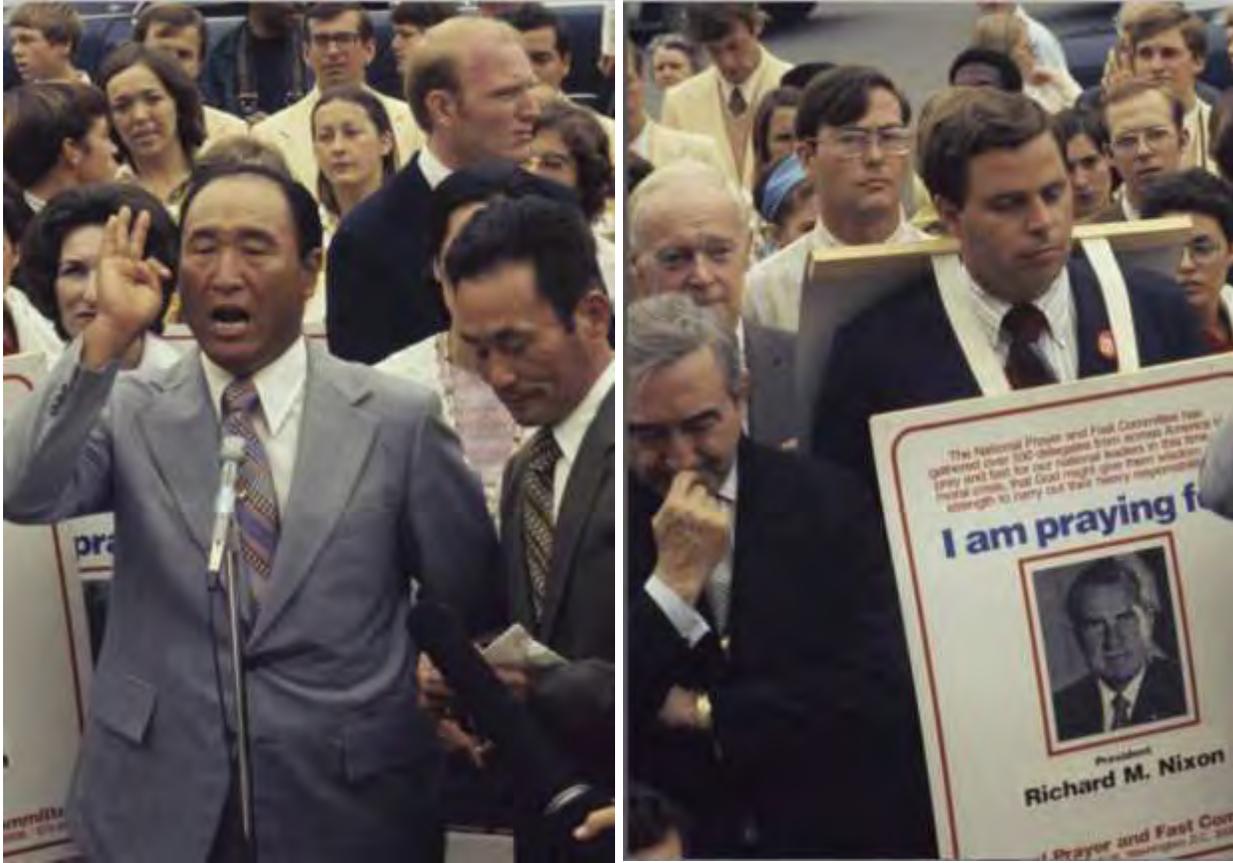
A special two-week blessed children’s workshop, the “2014 True Parents’ Aloha Reunion,” was held at Kona, Hawaii, from July 22 to August 4. True Mother had convened the first Aloha workshop in 2013 with a small group of participants that included several of her grandchildren and several Second Generation youth of the same ages. In 2014, the scope was expanded to include a total of 40 Second Generation youth, ages 15-16, from around the world.

True Mother participated in the opening and closing ceremonies, telling the participants that they “are like pure water from a deep source that can naturally overcome any obstacle through giving true love.” She asked all counselors to teach two main points, “*kamsahamnida* (thank you) and *saranghamnida* (I love you),” which she said summarized the whole of *Divine Principle*. The first week was based on the Principle and the second week centered on True Parents’ lives. Afternoons included numerous activities, such as a sports festival, a tour of Hawai’i Island, beach outings, visits to the Akaka Falls State Park and Hawai’i Volcanoes National Park, and fishing. The workshop was sponsored by the WonMo PyeongAe Foundation.

July 22-24, 1974
Three-Day Fast for the Watergate Crisis

True Father launched a forty-day National Prayer and Fast for the Watergate Crisis (NPFWC) in late 1973. Stating that “the crisis for America is a crisis for God,” True Father directed a multi-faceted campaign that included publication of his “Answer to Watergate” statement, rallies, letter-writing, leafleting in all fifty states and eventually a meeting with then President Richard Nixon. True Father was especially concerned that the United States stands unified and strong in the face of communist aggression. In the end, the Watergate tapes doomed the Nixon presidency.

Nevertheless, True Father mobilized 610 members for a 3-day fast and vigil on the steps of the U.S. Capitol at the height of the crisis from July 22-24, 1974. Those participating wore placards with a quotation from True Father’s Watergate statement on the back and a picture of the elected or appointed official for whom they were praying on the front. The vigil received national exposure. Seventy-six congressmen and five senators came out to meet the person praying for them. Newspapers across the nation carried pictures and interviews in over 350 stories. Local television stations and all three broadcasting networks showed film of the event and described it in their newscasts. Among the news magazines sending their own reporters to cover the vigil were *Time*, *Newsweek*, *New Republic*, *U.S. News and World Report*, *New Yorker*, and the *Washingtonian*.



July 24, 1963
Holy Blessing of 124 Couples

True Father noted that the 36 Couples, 72 Couples and 124 Couples “are one team which cannot be separated.” Providentially, the 124 Couples (sometimes referred to as 120 Couples) represented Jesus’ 120 disciples and signified the nations of the world. The 124 Couple Blessing was one of the conditions by which True Father undertook his first world tour, establishing 120 holy grounds throughout the world. The ceremony was conducted in a community hall and couples paraded through Seoul in a convoy of cars, thereby testifying to the growth of the church before Korean society.



July 24, 2010
Second Convention to Proclaim the Word That Firmly Establishes the True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind



True Parents convened a second “Convention to Proclaim the Word That Firmly Establishes the Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind” at the Manhattan Center in New York on July 24, 2010. The first convention was conducted on July 8, 2010, at the Cheon Jeong Gung Peace Museum in Korea. The second convention, as the first, culminated a number of milestone events in 2010 including True Father’s 90th birthday, the declaration of his “last words” to humankind, establishment of a new “Heavenly Calendar” and Seonghwa “Legacy of Peace” Memorial events at the United Nations and elsewhere, True Parents’ 50th wedding anniversary, and two proclamations in Las Vegas signifying that True Parents had “achieved ultimate unity and offered and proclaimed the era of [God’s] full transcendence, full immanence, full authority and omnipotence upon the standard of perfection, completion and conclusion.” True Father boldly declared Korea to be “God’s homeland” and said that humankind was “now entering the era of the authority of God’s direct dominion.”