



AP Wirephoto

Members of the Unification Church International held a vigil on the Capitol steps to oppose impeachment during a prayer and fast for the Watergate crisis.

SFChronicle
'Forgive, Love, Unite'

JUL 24 1974

Praying for Watergate

Washington

A young, crowd spread over the east front steps of the Capitol yesterday and with hymns and prayers asked America to solve Watergate problems with faith and love.

The group, members or supporters of the Unification Church International founded by Rev. Sun Myung Moon, were midway through

their three-day "national prayer and fast for the Watergate crisis."

They contend impeachment of President Nixon is the wrong answer and they want members of Congress to "forgive, love, and unite."

"Impeachment is a very difficult and complex thing," Denise Schneps of the church's Washington

staff said. "We want God's will to govern. We do not support impeachment. We feel that would weaken the presidency — the position of the presidency."

If Mr. Nixon has done something wrong, she said, "then let him repent to God."

The crowd seemed to be mostly of college age — young men mostly in suits, young women in dresses or slacks, most of them holding placards.

Capitol police kept the crowd inside yellow ropes and stanchions so that an aisle remained open for tourists to climb the steps into the capitol entrance.

United Press