FFWPU USA: Peace Road 2022 A Safer Community, A Safer World Kicks Off

Naokimi Ushiroda August 3, 2022



Photo courtesy of Randy Francis

The 2022 <u>Peace Road USA</u> campaign, "A Safer Community, A Safer World," kicked off on July 27 in the nation's capital. The local Peace Road team gathered at the National Wall of Remembrance dedication ceremony at the Korean War Memorial in Washington, DC.

"It was amazing to connect with our veterans [at the dedication ceremony] who have defended our freedoms and fought for a better world," said one local participant. "It was an honor to share with everyone about Peace Road and our mission to unite all people."

The packed itinerary also included a prayer at the Lincoln Memorial, a trip to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial, and an afternoon bike ride to the Arlington National Cemetery and U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial. The DC program concluded at a nearby pier.

In Baltimore, Peace Road continued on July 30 with a unity walk at the Baltimore Harbor. The local Peace Road team partnered with the city's Safe Streets program, which advocates bringing peaceful solutions to the surrounding communities. Peace Road participants also enjoyed a BBQ cookout and rally hosted by Safe Streets, as well as a jazz festival at Curtis Bay Elementary School. "It's important to work together and continue to build and strengthen our community relations," said a local Peace Road organizer. "This year's Peace Road theme is all about cultivating safer communities, which creates a safer world."



Initiated in 1981, the Peace Road project is True Parents' longstanding vision for a high-speed transportation artery linking the entire globe, connecting the world as one village linked by one road. Earlier this year, True Mother asked UPF leaders who sponsor Peace Road to <u>address</u> the nation's issue of gun violence. As Baltimore reportedly continues a devastating seven-year <u>trend</u> of gun violence, Peace Road organizers said this movement for peace is increasingly critical across U.S. cities.

"We're so grateful for this time with Peace Road launching all over America," said UPF International President Dr. Michael Jenkins. "The Korean War was a very epic battle between the God-denying forces of Communism and the free, Democratic and God-affirming forces centering on the United Nations ... We pray that the whole world will become free."

Since 2015, Peace Road has annually held treks in major cities worldwide in promotion of globally connecting and uniting humanity. With some 125 nations involved and promoting a more peaceful world, tens of thousands of people continue to walk, bike, and drive in support of Peace Road every summer.

A local Peace Road program was also held in Jersey City, New Jersey, on July 28, in Chicago on July 30, and in Anchorage, Alaska, on August 2. Peace Road continues in Little Rock, Ark. and Las Vegas on August 6.

Stay tuned for more Peace Road updates. You can learn more about the 2022 campaign here.





"This tunnel can help make the world a single community at last... Think of how much money the world is wasting on war. The time has come for nations to work together, pool their resources and, as the prophet Isaiah taught, beat our swords into plowshares and our spears into pruning hooks."

- Father Moon, UPF Inauguration, 2005

One Unified World

"The vision is for a high-speed transportation artery linking the entire globe. On the day of its completion, much of our world will become one village linked by one road. " - Mother Moon





Paving the Path

"In these [Peace Road] events, people of all ages and nationalities, wearing t-shirts and



carrying a Peace Road flag, ride bicycles or walk to show their support for peace." - Mother Moon

Taking a Stand

"Teams of participants walk, cycle or drive along designated routes representing the International peace highway. Their path ends at local government centers where local officials, social and religious leaders speak at rallies, publicly announce their support for the initiative and stimulate publicity in local media." - Mother Moon



"To tell this story to the world, from the streets to the senate buildings, I had already created an affiliated project, "Peace Road."

Mother Moon, Mother of Peace

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Peace Road 2022 Address the Issue of Gun Violence in America



"We're stretching the vision of Peace Road to also include opportunities to create peace in the community, peace in our nation, and peace in the world," said Kaeleigh Moffitt of UPF. She unveiled the Peace Road 2022 plan and theme, "A Safer Community, A Safer World," during a virtual leaders' meeting July 11.

"Bridging cultures as one is the overarching theme of Peace Road, but we're also looking at stopping violence in America," said Moffitt. "This is something that is really on True Mother's heart, and as we know, this is a really big issue in our nation right now."

While in Korea, True Mother asked UPF leaders to address the issue of gun violence in America. Peace Road is True Parents' longstanding vision for a high-speed transportation artery linking the entire globe, connecting the world as one village linked by one road. The Peace Road project, which is sponsored by UPF, is a prime vehicle for tackling one of the top issues facing the U.S.

"We're looking into the situations that cause [gun violence] and what we can do to contribute to a solution," said Moffitt. "We want our Peace Road message to be wide enough to include addressing this ... In our local programs we're really encouraging people to work with police officers, as well as [related] service projects."

Since 2015, Peace Road has annually held treks in major cities worldwide in promotion of the global initiative. "To tell this story to the world, from the streets to the senate buildings, I had already created 'Peace Road,'" said True Mother. "It consists of public activism publicizing the international highway and it has turned into a global

movement for peace."

With some 125 nations involved and promoting a more peaceful world, tens of thousands of people have walked, biked, and driven in support of Peace Road each summer. "The biking is really important, so we definitely encourage that to happen, as well as meeting at important historic areas to share this with our civic leaders," said Moffitt.

Peace Road continues to work with community leaders, clergy, government officials and police in championing its message of peace among people of all backgrounds. Moffitt said new Peace Road educational webinars are being developed, including one focused on the need for an international highway and Bering Strait bridge. "This webinar would be addressing an international highway between America and Russia, and we will be partnering with Russia on that," said Moffitt.

Local Peace Road events are also scheduled throughout the summer, including Washington, DC on July 27; Baltimore and Chicago on July 30; Anchorage on Aug. 2; Las Vegas on Aug. 5, as well as Las Vegas and Little Rock, Arkansas, on Aug. 6. "No matter where we are, let's make an offering for Peace Road," said Moffit, "even if it's a program, small meeting with police, or gathering at a local memorial."

You can learn more about the Peace Road 2022 campaign and itinerary here.



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