Point Comfort, VA, the first stop on Peace Road 2020: Reconciling All People tour

Demian Dunkley July 29, 2020



Point Comfort, Virginia, was the first stop on the <u>Peace Road 2020: Reconciling All People</u> tour, where a group of Unificationist leaders, local public officials, and other clergy gathered on July 29 to offer heartfelt prayers for healing and reconciliation. The coastal city, near Jamestown, is where the slavery era in America began in 1619.



"We pray that Jesus will bless us this day and that all of God's children will come together now," said Rev. Michael Jenkins, president of <u>Universal Peace Federation</u> (UPF) and national co-chairman emeritus of the <u>American Clergy Leadership Conference</u> (ACLC). "We will turn this place of pain, sadness, and sorrow into a holy ground."

Rev. Jenkins shared his personal connection to the area as a descendant of Adam Thoroughgood, a

notable colonist and community leader in 1600s Virginia. "Point Comfort is a precious site and we want to remember our brothers and sisters who came here in chains," said Rev. Jenkins. "They broke those chains through faith in God and love. Mother Moon says that we make historical monuments where there were tragic relations in humanity so that we never forget, but also so that we repent and seek forgiveness."



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Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, known affectionately as Mother Moon and the <u>Mother of Peace</u>, founded Peace Road in 2015 among several peace-building initiatives worldwide. The international movement physically connects people all over the world who walk, bike, and drive in solidarity for peace, thereby fostering exploration, cooperation, and unity. At Point Comfort, Rev. Jenkins referenced a passage from Dr. Moon's <u>recent memoir</u> where she recalls a trip to Gorée Island, a tiny island off the coast of Dakar, Senegal, where she prayed for the countless enslaved people who were held captive there.

"Many passed through the slave house in Gorée Island. No one knows how many innocent lives were lost at sea. It broke my heart that such atrocities were being committed. God called me to Gorée Island to liberate the historical agony and heartbreak of all the Africans who suffered." (Mother of Peace: And God Shall Wipe Away All Tears from Their Eyes)

In kind, the group at Point Comfort offered their repentance and prayers for healing of those who were enslaved there. "The first Africans were taken against their will to slave ports," said Rev. Dennis Dillon, pastor of the Brooklyn Christian Center and publisher of Christian Times. "I think it's important for us as we wrestle with reconciliation, and as we deal with this journey going forward, that we must really connect and link the continent of Africa with the continent of Europe and with the continent of the Americas to bring healing."

Rev. Dillon, a well-known black leader in New York City, shared that reconciling the past is essential toward healing and uniting all people. "I'm overwhelmed to be here on Peace Road and to see the spirit and the solidarity brings me joy," he said. "We are on the right road; the road to peace."

Stay tuned for more Peace Road stories, and follow the team's journey on <u>peaceroadusa.org</u>. You can support the Peace Road 2020 tour on <u>GoFundMe</u>.



## Peace Road USA 2020: Reconciling All People

**\$14,349** raised of \$30,000 goal



Lawrence Moffitt is organizing this fundraiser on behalf of Universal Peace Federation USA Inc. Donations are 100% tax deductible.

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We are all weary of the conflict and anger and sadness and suffering going on in America and the world right now. *Peace Road USA 2020: Reconciling All People* addresses this with love, inclusion, understanding, repentance and reconciliation.

We begin at Point Comfort near Jamestown, VA where the first black slaves were brought here in 1619 and Plymouth, Massachusetts where the Pilgrims landed in 1620 – the Black family and the White family 400 years ago – one in search of religious freedom, the other in chains. Black, White, Native American, Hispanic, Asian, brothers and sisters of all faith backgrounds will seek to understand our history, the good and the tragic of it. The goal is to seek God's wisdom and loving guidance, so that the current situation of pain and injustice can be addressed by all Americans as brothers and sisters. Peace Starts With Me, a movement created by Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, has successfully brought people of every race and faith together throughout America since 2017, in experiences of hope and love. We have a track-record of healing and tearful reconciliation.

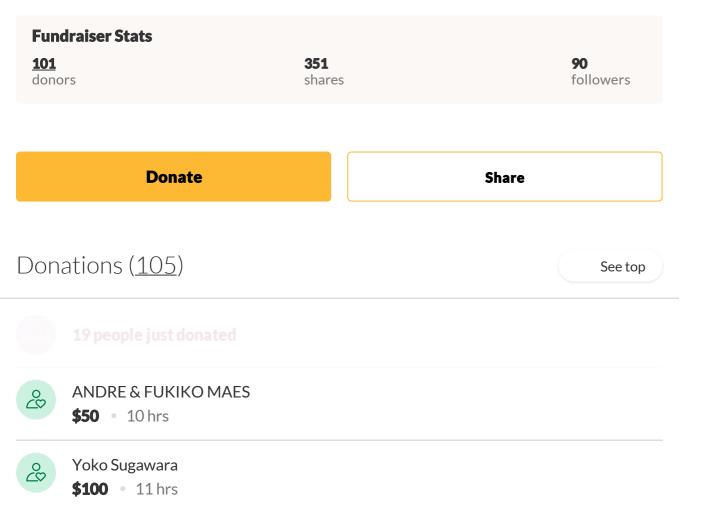
This summer we are visiting the historic sites in America where suffering and injustice have occurred – the slave markets of South Carolina, the Trail of Tears and the Underground Railroad. We will bring people together to pray at Wounded Knee, Sand Creek, where Black Wall Street, an all-Black city that was burned to the ground in Tulsa, and many other sites where we will join hands, offer our repentance and determination that we will end this sad era and begin a new era, reconciling the human family in love and faith.

We will also visit those sites which honor individuals who overcame injustice and tragedy through love and sacrifice – Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Harriet Tubman, Frederick Douglass, Abraham Lincoln, Black Kettle, Chief Joseph, the Freedom Riders, Red Cross founder Clara Barton, the Tuskegee Airmen, war veterans and the many who gave all for this country.

We will visit sites that represent hope and promise of America – Philadelphia's Independence Hall, Richard Allen's Mother Bethel AME Church, and others.

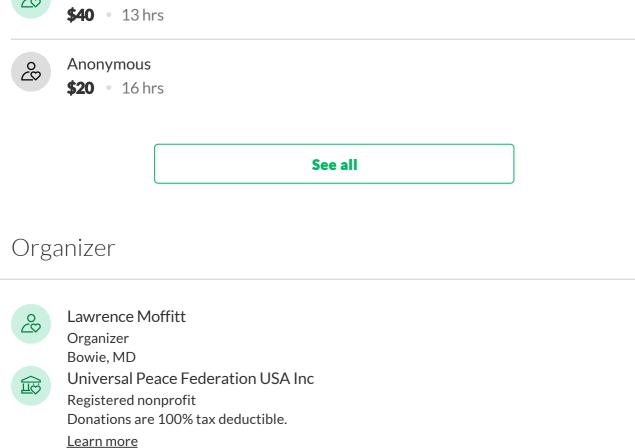
Enough is enough. Let's end the violence and hate. Let's begin together, a new era of peace and hope.

Please donate to support the Peace Road Riders, follow the teams on Facebook who will start from many places in the U.S. on July 29.





Steve Bohle



Contact

## Comments



Jeffrey Silerio donated \$40 Good luck everyone! ^.^

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RAYMOND MCCREADY donated \$40

I feel that Peace Road USA 2020 is an important project working to re-focus our nation towards the core vision of reconciliation and harmonization building towards creation of "One Human Family Under Our Heavenly Parent Creator". Yes, there have... Read more

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