## The USA' Peace Road 2016 begins at IPEC in Las Vegas

Michael Balcomb July 31, 2016



Peace Road USA 2015 launched in Las Vegas, and this year was no different!

On July 31st, the first 2016 Peace Road rally in the USA took place at the International Peace Education Center in Las Vegas. Fifty riders—including FFWPU North America Continental Chairman, Dr. Ki Hoon Kim; FFWPU USA President, Dr. Michael Balcomb; staff of the Collegiate Association for the Research of Principles (CARP) 50th Anniversary banquet, and FFWPU USA youth pastors—got on their bikes and completed an 8-kilometer peace ride, while wearing their Peace Road t-shirts and waving their flags.

One of our special guests, Dmitry Oficerov, President of Peace Road in Russia, shared Peace Road best practices for aspiring rally organizers. He regularly runs Peace Road rallies and meets with mayors to spread the message and vision of the Peace Road, and shared that he always makes sure to carry his Peace Road flag with him wherever he goes.

The idea of a "Peace Road" or an international highway that physically connects all people of the world together, was the enduring vision of the founder of the Family Federation, the late Rev. Sun Myung Moon. In 1981 at an international science conference in Seoul he suggested the construction of a highway between Korea and Japan, two former enemy nations, and from 2005 onwards he began to advocate a more ambitious project: the building of the "Peace Tunnel" to cross the Bering Strait.

In 2015, the 10th Anniversary of that speech and the 3rd Anniversary of Rev. Moon's passing in September 2012, thousands of supporters and friends of peace all around the world walked, rode and drove the proposed course of the Peace Highway in honor of his memory and his dream of peace. His widow, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, spearheaded the effort to rekindle interest.

