

August Newsletter UPF USA

Kaelegh Moffitt
August 28, 2026



August 2026

A monthly snapshot of peace stories, insight, and inspiration.

Peace Road: Building Community, One Step at a Time

Peace Road is a global UPF initiative rooted in the 1981 vision of Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han to bring people and nations closer together. Since its expansion as a worldwide movement in 2015, Peace Road activities have brought together communities through walks, bike rides, youth programs, service projects, and interfaith gatherings. As Dr. Hak Ja Han wrote in *Mother of Peace*, **“To tell this story to the world, from the streets to the senate buildings, I had already created an affiliated project, ‘Peace Road.’”**

Today, UPF continues to lead Peace Road activities around the world, creating opportunities for people of different backgrounds to meet, connect, and work together. A simple walk or ride can open the door to friendship, understanding, and stronger community. **Peace Road is a reminder that peace grows when we take a step toward one another.**

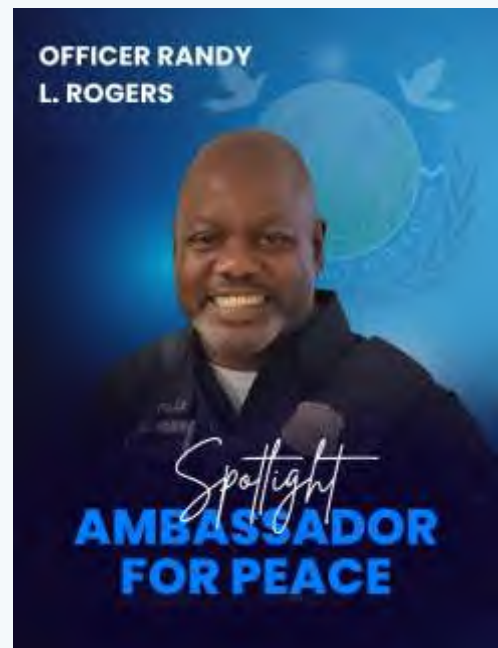


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Ambassador for Peace Spotlight

Officer Randy L. Rogers has dedicated 26 years to serving the Washington, D.C., community through the Metropolitan Police Department. Over his career, he has served in specialized units, Patrol, and now the Third District Community Outreach Unit. His commitment to service goes beyond traditional law enforcement. While working in the Adams Morgan area, he built relationships with residents, business owners, and people experiencing homelessness.

Today, Rogers serves as the liaison for the Third District COPS & Clergy Partnership, coordinating events with 55 churches and growing. He also works with seniors, youth, schools, and recreation centers through community programs and safety workshops. Rogers believes that building trust between police, faith leaders, and residents is essential to creating safer, stronger communities.



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Bering Strait Tunnel Webinar Advances the Peace Road Vision

On August 25, 2026, the Washington Times Foundation and UPF hosted a webinar exploring the vision of a Bering Strait Tunnel and Intercontinental Peace Road Railway connecting Siberia, Canada, and the Lower 48. The exploratory, non-political discussion brought together experts from the United States, Russia, and Canada to examine the possibilities and challenges of such an ambitious project, including geopolitical, environmental, Indigenous, and engineering concerns.

The proposed railway is part of the larger international Peace Road project, which seeks to create greater connection and cooperation among people and nations. Speakers, including Scott Spencer, Louis Cerny, and Guy Taylor, shared perspectives on the project's potential and the obstacles it would face. Beyond transportation, the discussion highlighted the deeper Peace Road vision: creating pathways that can bring nations and peoples closer together through greater dialogue, connection, and cooperation.

FEATURED SPEAKERS



Dr. Michael Jenkins
President, Washington Times Foundation



Mr. Scott Spencer
Chief Advisor, Intercontinental Railway



Dr. Victor Razbegin
Co-Founder, Intercontinental Railway



Mr. Louis Cerny
Former Director, American Railway Engineering Assoc.



Mr. Guy Taylor
National Security Team Leader, The Washington Times



Mr. Rick Minnich
Filmmaker, "The Strait Guys"



Ms. Maria Nazarova
President, UPF of Russia



Dr. Tageldin Hamad
International President, UPF



Dr. Franco Famularo
Global Coordinator, Int'l Summit Council for Peace

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[Watch the Webinar Recording](#)

Kansas Gathering Highlights New Perspectives on Peace-Building

UPF Kansas hosted an Ambassador for Peace Assembly at the Kauffman Center, bringing together community leaders around the theme of dialogue, family, and peace-building. Speakers included Rev. Carl Frazier, who addressed conflict resolution through dialogue

and creative problem-solving, Rev. Peeter Saarna, who highlighted the importance of honoring parents, and UPF Kansas Director Dirk Anthonis, who presented a new perspective on peace-building through the vision of One Family Under God.

Two new Ambassadors for Peace were appointed: Stacey Carrow, President of the Board of the United Nations Association of Greater Kansas City, and Rev. Dawt Uk, Pastor of the Kansas Lautu Baptist Church. The gathering also connected UPF with respected leaders from Johnson County Community College, the International Relations Council, and the legal community. This was the third Ambassador for Peace Assembly held by Dirk Anthonis this year as he continues working to build relationships with new leaders across Kansas and expand UPF’s network for peace.



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Peace Road: Building Community, One Step at a Time

Peace Road is more than a walk, bicycle ride, or community event. It is a global movement that brings people together across differences of age, culture, religion, nationality, and background. Through Peace Road, the Universal Peace Federation (UPF) and its partners create

opportunities for people to meet, share an experience, and discover their common humanity. A simple journey can become the beginning of a friendship, a partnership, or a stronger sense of community.



The roots of Peace Road go back to 1981, when Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han proposed the vision of an International Peace Highway at an international science conference in Seoul. Their vision was based on the belief that greater connection between peoples could help overcome fear, prejudice, and historical divisions. Rev. Moon believed that humanity is one family under God and that people who have opportunities to meet, communicate, and work together can begin to break down the walls that separate them.

Over the years, that vision developed into something communities could actively participate in. In 2015, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon helped launch Peace Road as a worldwide movement, encouraging people to take small, tangible steps for peace in their own communities. That year, Peace Road activities were held in more than 30 countries, with people walking and cycling through their cities and regions.

As Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon wrote in *Mother of Peace*: "To tell this story to the world, from the streets to the senate buildings, I had already created an affiliated project, 'Peace Road.'" She described how the project had grown beyond its original purpose into a global movement for peace.

Today, UPF continues to support Peace Road activities around the world. Walks, bike rides, youth programs, service projects, interfaith gatherings, and community celebrations have brought people together in countries across every region. The activities may look different from place to place, but the heart of Peace Road remains the same: creating opportunities for people to connect.

The real impact happens through these personal encounters. A participant may arrive knowing only a few people and leave having met a new friend, a neighbor, a community leader, or someone from a completely different background. Young people walk alongside adults, faith leaders meet people from other traditions, and local organizations discover opportunities to work together. These relationships may seem small, but they are the building blocks of peaceful communities.

In a time when people can easily become divided by politics, religion, culture, and social differences, Peace Road offers a simple alternative: come together and walk together. People do not have to agree on everything to share a common purpose. They simply need a willingness to meet one another with openness and respect.

This is what makes Peace Road particularly meaningful at the local level. A street, park, school, or community center can become a place of encounter. A walk can open a conversation. A conversation can create a friendship. A friendship can lead to cooperation. Over time, these connections strengthen the trust and sense of belonging that every healthy community needs.

For UPF, each Peace Road event is also part of something much larger. Local participants become connected to a worldwide movement, reminding them that people everywhere are seeking ways to overcome division and build a more peaceful future.

Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon has described Peace Road participants as people of “all ages and nationalities” who come together to show their support for peace. That simple image captures the spirit of the movement: different people, walking the same road, united by a shared hope.

Ultimately, the destination of Peace Road is not a particular place. It is a stronger community—one where people know one another, care about one another, and are willing to work together.

Peace Road reminds us that peace is not simply something we hope for. It is something we can practice—together, one step at a time.

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Ambassador for Peace

Spotlight: Officer Randy L. Rogers

For Officer Randy L. Rogers, a career in law enforcement has always been about more than enforcing the law. It has been about serving people, building relationships, and finding meaningful ways to strengthen the community.

Officer Rogers began his career with the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) on March 13, 2000. Twenty-six years later, he continues to serve the Washington, D.C., community with the same commitment that inspired him to become a police officer.

"Becoming a Police Officer was one of the best experiences of my life," Rogers reflects. "I'm still serving."

Throughout his career, Rogers has served in the Vice Unit, Robbery Tactical Unit, and Burglary Tactical Unit. After returning to Patrol, he worked in the Adams Morgan area, where he developed strong relationships with business owners, residents, and individuals experiencing homelessness.

For three years, Rogers and his son prepared approximately 20 lunch bags every Wednesday and Thursday to distribute to people experiencing homelessness in his patrol area. For Rogers, these simple acts of service were an important part of what it means to serve the community.

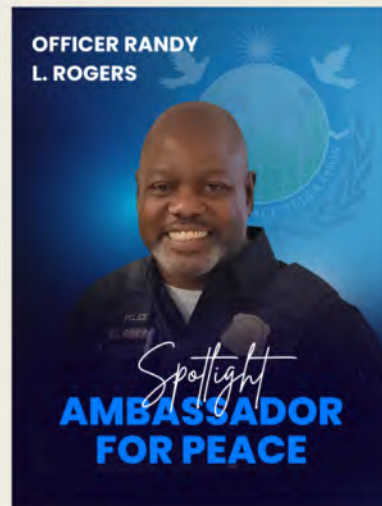
"I enjoy helping in the community and fostering positive relationships with everyone I encounter," he says.

That commitment eventually led him into Community Outreach, where he has been able to broaden his approach to service and use his position as a law enforcement officer to connect with an even wider range of people.

One of Rogers' primary responsibilities is serving as the liaison for the Third District COPS & Clergy Partnership. He coordinates events with churches and faith communities throughout the district—a network that has now grown to 55 participating churches and continues to expand.

The COPS & Clergy model brings law enforcement and faith leaders together to strengthen trust, encourage communication, reduce conflict, and promote public safety. Faith leaders often have deep relationships within their neighborhoods and can serve as trusted voices during times of tension or crisis. Officers, in turn, gain opportunities to listen to residents and better understand their concerns.

For Rogers, successful partnerships depend on honesty, consistency, and a shared commitment to community well-being. When built on service, collaboration, and mutual respect, COPS &



to community well-being. When built on genuine collaboration and mutual respect, COPS & Clergy initiatives can create opportunities for dialogue, healing, and cooperation.

His outreach extends beyond faith communities. Rogers coordinates programs for seniors, youth groups, schools, and recreation centers, including field trips, workshops, and safety and security briefings. He also participates in youth engagement, crime prevention, neighborhood meetings, school visits, and events such as "Coffee with a Cop."

These programs allow residents to interact with officers outside of emergency situations. For young people especially, positive interactions can help reduce fear and misconceptions while giving officers a better understanding of the experiences and concerns of the community.

At the heart of Rogers' approach is trust. When officers regularly engage with residents, relationships become more personal and approachable. That trust can encourage community members to report crimes, share information, and work collaboratively with police to address problems before they escalate.

"Like many police departments across the country, MPD has faced challenges and criticism," Rogers acknowledges. "I hope that my daily positive interactions with the community make a difference."

For him, every interaction matters. He believes community trust is built one conversation, one event, and one relationship at a time.

"I believe that every interaction is pivotal," he says. "I believe that there is so much more work that needs to be done."

This commitment to service and bridge-building reflects the spirit of an Ambassador for Peace. Through his work, Officer Rogers demonstrates how law enforcement can become a positive force for connection, understanding, and community cooperation.

"The world of Community Outreach is boundless, and there's much more needed work to be done."

Officer Randy L. Rogers, Badge #3794
Third District Community Outreach Unit
Washington, D.C.

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Peace Road: Building
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National Parents' Day at
the State Capitol

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Bering Strait Tunnel Webinar Advances the Peace Road Vision

On Tuesday, August 25, 2026, the Washington Times Foundation and the Universal Peace Federation (UPF) presented a webinar exploring the vision of a Bering Strait Tunnel and an Intercontinental Peace Road & Railway across Siberia and Canada to the Lower 48. The exploratory, non-political discussion brought together experts and leaders from the United States, Russia, and Canada to consider both the possibilities and challenges of this ambitious project. The initiative is part of the larger international Peace Road project, which seeks to promote greater connection, cooperation, and understanding among peoples and nations.

The webinar featured Dr. Michael Jenkins, President of the Washington Times Foundation; Scott Spencer, Chief Advisor of Intercontinental Railway; Dr. Victor Razbegin, Co-Founder of Intercontinental Railway; Louis Cerny, Former Director of the American Railway Engineering Association; Guy Taylor, National Security Team Leader at *The Washington Times*; Rick Minnich, filmmaker of *The Strait Guys*; Maria Nazarova, President of UPF of Russia; Dr. Tageldin Hamad, International President of UPF; and Dr. Franco Famularo, Global Coordinator of the International Summit Council for Peace.

Speakers explored the potential of connecting the continents by rail through a Bering Strait tunnel, while addressing the enormous logistical, environmental, indigenous, and geopolitical challenges involved. The proposed rail network would require approximately 3,000 miles of rail from Alberta to Fairbanks and another 2,000 miles from Irkutsk to the Bering Strait. The discussion emphasized that such a vision would require international cooperation and sustained dialogue across national boundaries.

Beyond the infrastructure itself, the webinar highlighted the deeper purpose behind the Peace Road vision: building connections between people and nations that have historically been separated by geography, politics, and culture. By bringing together experts and advocates from different countries and fields, the event demonstrated how Peace Road can provide a platform for exploring bold ideas that encourage greater communication and cooperation.

The webinar offered participants an opportunity to look beyond today's divisions and consider how increased physical connection could contribute to stronger relationships across

THE WASHINGTON TIMES FOUNDATION & UPF PRESENT
BERING STRAIT TUNNEL
An Intercontinental Peace Road & Railway Across Siberia and Canada to the Lower 48

WEBINAR
Tuesday, August 25, 2026 • 9:00 AM New York Time

It's hard to say which is the greater barrier, the U.S.-Russia politics, or the indigenous peoples' objections and environmental issues of laying 3,000 miles of rail from Alberta to Fairbanks and 2,000 from Irkutsk to the Strait.
This webinar is purely exploratory and non-political in nature.

FEATURED SPEAKERS

 Dr. Michael Jenkins President, Washington Times Foundation	 Mr. Scott Spencer Chief Advisor, Intercontinental Railway	 Dr. Victor Razbegin Co-Founder, Intercontinental Railway	 Mr. Louis Cerny Former Director, American Railway Engineering Assoc.	 Mr. Guy Taylor National Security Team Leader, The Washington Times
 Mr. Rick Minnich Filmmaker, "The Strait Guys"	 Ms. Maria Nazarova President, UPF of Russia	 Dr. Tageldin Hamad International President, UPF	 Dr. Franco Famularo Global Coordinator, UPF Summit Council for Peace	

Jointly sponsored by The Washington Times Foundation, the Universal Peace Federation, and numerous individuals advancing the Bering Strait Tunnel and rail connectors.

now increased physical connection could contribute to stronger relationships among communities and nations. As an initiative within the broader Peace Road movement, the Bering Strait Tunnel project represents not only a transportation concept, but also a vision of creating pathways for greater understanding and cooperation across the world.

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Kansas Gathering Highlights New Perspectives on Peace- Building

UPF Kansas hosted a meaningful Ambassador for Peace Assembly at the Kauffman Center, the premier meeting and conference venue in the Kansas City area. The program opened with welcoming remarks from MC Toia Thompson, Ambassador for Peace and Director of Project C.U.R.E. Kansas City, who set the tone for an afternoon focused on dialogue, peace-building, family values, and community leadership.



The featured speaker was Rev. Carl Frazier, Ambassador for Peace and Director of the Topeka Center for Peace and Justice, who presented "Addressing Conflict through Dialogue and Creative Problem-Solving." He emphasized the importance of meaningful dialogue and encouraged the introduction of peace and character education in schools as a way to equip young people with the skills needed to resolve conflict constructively.

The featured speaker was Rev. Carl Frazier, Ambassador for Peace and Director of the Topeka Center for Peace and Justice, who presented "Addressing Conflict through Dialogue and Creative Problem-Solving." He emphasized the importance of meaningful dialogue and encouraged the introduction of peace and character education in schools as a way to equip young people with the skills needed to resolve conflict constructively.

Rev. Peeter Saarna, Kansas Director of FFWPU, followed with a presentation on "Honoring Parents' Day," recognizing the importance of parents and families in building healthy and peaceful communities. All parents in attendance were warmly honored with a round of applause.

Dirk Anthonis, Director of UPF Kansas, then presented "A New Perspective on Peace-Building," highlighting the transformative vision of One Family Under God and its potential to inspire greater cooperation and understanding among people of diverse backgrounds. The program also featured a musical offering by clarinetist and Ambassador for Peace Benny Lee.

A highlight of the gathering was the formal appointment of two new Ambassadors for Peace: Mrs. Stacey Carrow, President of the Board of the United Nations Association of Greater Kansas City, and Rev. Dawt Uk, Pastor of the Kansas Lautu Baptist Church. Both expressed their appreciation to UPF for recognizing their ongoing work and service to the community.

The gathering concluded with a group photo, celebrating the growing network of leaders committed to dialogue, family values, and building peaceful communities through cooperation and shared responsibility.

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We invite you to join our effort, share your ideas, and contribute to this global effort to build a world of sustainable and lasting peace.

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