

FFWPU USA: Peace Road 2021 Baltimore held with many local leaders

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"Peace Road is a global goodwill project of UPF that aims to tear down the walls that have historically divided us - racism and cultural differences, prejudice and fear - and bring humankind together as one family under God," said Tomiko Duggan, senior vice president of the Universal Peace Federation ([UPF](#)).

UPF organizers teamed up with Kingdom Life Church, the Greater Baltimore Muslim Council, and Safe Streets for the final stop of the U.S. [Peace Road](#) 2021 program September 18, where local faith leaders, government officials, community members and students gathered in Baltimore.

"Peace Road was originally inspired by the International Highway Project (IHP), a visionary call for a superhighway free of tariffs and passports, linking the entire globe," said Duggan. "Peace Road cyclists have toured cities, states and regions to publicize the international peace highway in more than 30 nations, from South Africa to Chile, Germany to Korea, and in 25 cities across America."

In Baltimore, 40 bicyclists escorted by police traveled a near 10-mile route from the [Holy Ground](#) in Druid Hill to city hall and the Brooklyn neighborhood at the southernmost point of the city - a trek that Duggan called memorable and historic.

"Our Peace and Unity Bike Ride through the city on September 18 marks an historic occasion for Unificationists who, on that date in 1976, joined Rev. Moon as he addressed more than 300,000 people

during his 'God's Hope for America' speech in celebration of the nation's bicentennial at the Washington Monument."

A few years later, in 1981, the late Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, co-founders of UPF, proposed the concept of Peace Road.

"The bike ride was a monumental step forward in bringing peace and unity to the diverse communities of Baltimore," said Rev. Randall Francis, a coordinator from the American Clergy Leadership Conference ([ACLCLC](#)). "The beauty of Druid Hill Lake Park and the Holy Ground that the UPF's founders established in 1965 was spectacular. As we traveled south, people throughout the streets were waving and cheering us on."

Aisha Khan, state commissioner on Asian affairs and her husband, executive director of the Greater Baltimore Muslim Council, shared remarks at city hall encouraging Peace Road participants, which included their children, to create safe and peaceful streets in Baltimore.

"It was a beautiful event, riding past the Maryland Institute College of Art, the University of Baltimore, the Peabody Institute, Johns Hopkins University, and up to the city hall square," said participant Nicholas Kernan. "After hearing words of encouragement from pastors and community leaders, we continued biking near the Inner Harbor and over the Patapsco River to our final destination. It was an incredible ride promoting world peace and a whale of a good time!"

The peace riders enjoyed barbeque at the Kingdom Life Church in Brooklyn before hearing words from senior pastor Rev. John Watts and local councilwoman Phylicia R.I. Porter.

"Peace Road in Baltimore opened up many possibilities for my community," said Rev. Watts. "I thank God for giving me the opportunity to service his people through this event. It is our mission to partner with community members to support and enhance the level of interdependence necessary to create long-term sustainable peace."

We "It was a beautiful day and opportunity to bring greater awareness to the cause of peace," said UPF Senior Vice President Duggan.

Peace Road 2021 also had simultaneous events in Canada September 19, with participants biking in Quebec and Vancouver.

You can learn more about Peace Road [here](#).

PEACE ROAD 2021

DRAWING NATIONS & PEOPLE TOGETHER AS NEIGHBORS



"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



carrying a Peace Road flag, on 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 is a project of the Universal Peace Federation, a 501c(3) NGO in consultative status with the United Nations. For more information visit us.upf.org

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Restoring God's Land



Twin Peaks overlooking San Francisco, Calif., is the first Holy Ground established by Rev. Moon in America in 1965.

“Holy Ground is a representative area of a nation or city,” said the late Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon, co-founder of the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (FFWPU). “It is God’s place, a place where He is more free to hear our prayers... God symbolically restores that land as His own property.”

With Rev. Moon’s guidance, the first Holy Grounds were founded in South Korea by early Unificationists from October 5 to 7, 1962. These four Holy Grounds were selected in the north, south, east, and west districts of Seoul. Rev. Moon explained that originally all land belonged to God, our Heavenly Parent, but after humanity fell away from God, God lost everything. Rev. Moon shared his desire to reclaim God’s lands symbolically, first through Holy Grounds and later by restoring the homeland.

In January 1965, Rev. Moon departed South Korea for his first world tour. After spending two weeks in Japan, he left for the U.S., where he established the first Holy Ground in America on Twin Peaks overlooking San Francisco. In the next 44 days, Rev. Moon traveled by car to all 48 contiguous states, establishing 55 Holy Grounds along the way.

Rev. Moon’s first visit to America lasted until July 1965 when he departed for Europe. From January through October of that year, Rev. Moon founded 120 Holy Grounds in 39 nations, including America and throughout Europe, the Middle East, and Asia Pacific.

Rev. Moon returned to South Korea and created Holy Grounds in each regional district before establishing the main Holy Grounds in Seoul, which included one at Cheongpa Dong church. The original four Holy Grounds founded by early Unificationists in 1962 then became part of the official seven Holy Grounds in Seoul by Rev. Moon. He finished blessing all of the Holy Grounds throughout the world on January 1, 1966.

“The atmosphere at the Holy Grounds is sacred,” said Rev. Moon. “When we pray at a Holy Ground, our prayers relate to the historical foundation of comforting God’s heart through reclaiming His land. Because of this, prayers offered at the Holy Grounds have a greater effect... Our mind and attitude should be more pious and we should feel closer to God.”

Today, the Holy Grounds throughout the U.S. are frequently visited with prayers for the country and world, as Unificationist leaders and members join FFWPU North America Regional Director Dr. Chung Sik Yong on his [national tour](#) to revive the spirit of America. Since early August, Dr. Yong has met with communities across the nation while offering prayers at local Holy Grounds concerning a range of issues facing the U.S. amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

While [visiting the Southeast](#) region, Dr. Yong expressed the desire for each FFWPU state leader to multiply the Holy Grounds in counties and cities within their jurisdiction. “These Holy Grounds established by Father Moon are very important,” he said. “We must pray together for the spirit of America.”

You can learn more about Dr. Yong’s national tour by also joining Morning Devotion [here](#), and learn more about Rev. Moon’s life in his autobiography available [here](#).

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