

Fellowship of Reconciliation suggests a Peace Hero Report.

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- Rock Valley Fellowship of Reconciliation, Janesville, Wis. Rockvalleyfor.org

TOPICS FOR THEMES AND REPORTS

PEACE HEROES

What are Peace Heroes?

- 1. They are controversial. Not everyone approved of what they did.**
 - 2. They were mostly very ordinary people who stood up for their rights and the rights of others.**
 - 3. Practiced non-violence as a way of creating the change they wanted to enact.**
 - 4. In order to do what they did, they often faced great danger, and some of them were killed for their beliefs.**
 - 5. They often worked without asking for recognition for their deeds.**
 - 6. They believed in the dignity of all people, regardless of who they were or where they lived.**
 - 7. They believed in the cause of justice enough to fight hard to assure that people were treated fairly.**
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PEACE HEROES



The Dalai Lama Nobel Peace Prize: 1989

A Buddhist Monk who has spoken out strongly against the Chinese invasion of Tibet, his homeland

“Our prime purpose in this life is to help others. And if you can't help them, at least don't hurt them.”



Mahatma Gandhi

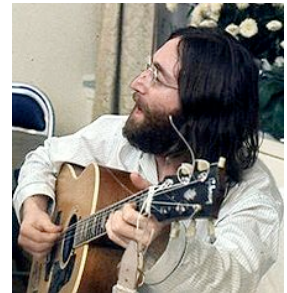
He followed a path of non-violent, passive resistance, to the British Colonial empire which had controlled his country of India, and won their independence. He was assassinated. For a background, watch the film Gandhi

“I object to violence because when it appears to do good, the good is only temporary; the evil it does is permanent.”

John Lennon

One of the original Beatles. He spoke and sang against the Vietnam War. Many of his songs are dedicated to the cause of Peace. During the 1960's, President Nixon tried to deport him back to England because of his peace activities. He was murdered in New York City

“If someone thinks that love and peace is a cliché that must have been left behind in the Sixties, that's his problem. Love and peace are eternal.”





Rosa Parks

She refused to give up her seat on a city bus to a white man in 1955 in Montgomery, Alabama. This inspired the Montgomery Bus Boycott which began the Civil Rights Movement
“Each person must live their life as a model for others.”

Martin Luther King Nobel Peace Prize 1964

A Baptist minister who became the leader of the Civil Rights Movement. He was arrested many times for his peace activities. Read some of his speeches, particularly his “I Have A Dream” speech. He was assassinated.
”Nothing good ever comes of violence.”



Archbishop Oscar Romero

He was the Archbishop of El Salvador who took up the cause of the poorest people of El Salvador. He became a threat to the wealthy land owners. He was assassinated in 1980
"May God have mercy on the assassins." (*Last words.*)



Nelson Mandela Nobel Peace Prize, 1993

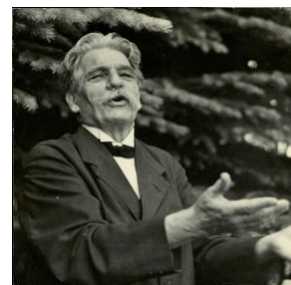
He opposed the apartheid government of South Africa and was arrested and imprisoned for 27 years. After he was released in 1989, he served as the President of the South African National Congress from 1994-1999..
“The greatest glory in living lies not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall.”

Albert Schweitzer

Nobel Peace Prize, 1952

He was a Swiss doctor who spent his life as a medical missionary in Africa.

”One thing I know: the only ones among you who will be really happy are those who will have sought and found how to serve.





Peace Pilgrim

From 1951 to 1981 she walked for more than 25,000 miles across the United States, Canada, and Mexico speaking and spreading her message of peace.

“When you find peace within yourself, you become the kind of person who can live at peace with others.”

Sister Helen Prejean

She wrote the book Dead Man Walking about her work with death row inmates. Watch the movie of the same name.

“One way to show remorse is just to say, ‘I am so sorry I killed those people.’ Another way to show remorse is with your life, what you do with your life. And look what he’s done with his.”



Aung San Suu Kyl Nobel Peace Prize, 1991

She opposed the Myanmar (Burma) government’s repressive tactics. She was arrested a number of times. She was sentenced to six years of house arrest and forbidden to leave the country or run for public office.

“Sometimes I didn't even have enough money to eat. I became so weak from malnourishment that my hair fell out, and I couldn't get out of bed.”

Desmond Tutu Nobel Peace Prize, 1984

South African activist and cleric who spoke out against apartheid in South Africa

“Do your little bit of good where you are; its those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world.”



Mother Theresa Nobel Peace Prize, 1979

A Catholic sister who dedicated her life to helping the poor in the slums of Calcutta, India

“If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other.”

Jane Addams, Nobel Peace Prize, 1931

She was the first American woman to be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. She is best known for her work in creating Hull House, a settlement house in Chicago for the poor and needy.

“ Nothing could be worse than the fear that one had given up too soon, and left one unexpended effort that might have saved the world.”



Howard Zinn

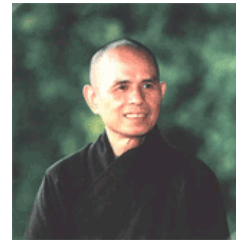
He was an American historian and author who spoke out forcefully for peace and was often considered a radical for his views. However, this did not stop him from becoming an important voice for peace and justice.

“Small acts, when multiplied by millions of people, can transform the world.”

Thich Nhat Hanh

He is a Vietnamese Buddhist monk who spoke out and demonstrated against the Vietnam War.

“If in our daily life we can smile, if we can be peaceful and happy, not only we, but everyone will profit from it. This is the most basic kind of peace work.”



Jon Bon Jovi

He is a musician who has used his money and fame to further the cause of peace.

“The only enemy is ignorance. Peace, people. Let's get rid of all this nuclear testing”

Greg Mortenson

This American mountain climber stumbled into an Afghan village after becoming lost. The people of the village helped him so he promised to build them a school. He did, and then went on to build many schools for the people.

Read his book, Three Cups of Tea

"That day Haji Ali taught me the most important lesson I've ever learned in my life. We Americans think you have to accomplish everything quickly. We're the country of thirty-minute power lunches and two-minute football drills...Haji Ali taught me to share three cups of tea, to slow down and make building relationships as important as building projects. He taught me that I had more to learn from the people I work with than I could ever hope to teach them." .

