



The Association for Trauma Outreach & Prevention (ATOP)

[www.meaningfulworld.com](http://www.meaningfulworld.com)

185 E. 85<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY 10028

Phone: 1 (201) 941- 2266

E-mail: [drkalayjian@Meaningfulworld.com](mailto:drkalayjian@Meaningfulworld.com)

## Meaningfulworld Celebrates the United Nations International Day of Peace 21 September 2018

**Forgiveness for Peace: Upholding Sustainable Development Goals to Heal Our World**

**Photo Exhibit: 30 Years of Humanitarian Relief Around the World**

**Faith Altman**

The United Nations International Day of Peace (Peace Day) is observed annually on 21 September around the world. Established in 1981 by a unanimous United Nations resolution, Peace Day provides a globally shared day for all humanity to commit to Peace, set aside differences and to contribute to building a Culture of Peace. This is one day where every country will put their guns down and practice peace.

To celebrate ATOP Meaningfulworld's 30th anniversary and the United Nations International Day of Peace, Meaningfulworld has planned an exciting program to be held at the majestic and historic Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City. The topic of this program is "Forgiveness for Peace: Upholding The Sustainable Development Goals to Heal Our World." Which directly coincides with Sustainable Development Goal #16 "Peace Justice and Strong Institutions," calling for inclusive societies, access to justice for all, as well as effective and accountable institutions. The 17 Sustainable Development Goals broadly cover all the critical social and economic development issues which continue to be problematic throughout the world. The SDG's aspire to create a more just and peaceful world by targeting key issues to eradicate poverty, hunger, and disease; ensure education, clean water, sanitation, health care, gender equality and social justice for all; and protect the world from the deleterious impact of climate change.

ATOP/Meaningfulworld is a humanitarian organization affiliated with the United Nations and is committed to helping foster peace and forgiveness through its educational programs, humanitarian relief missions around the world in 46 countries and 25 states in the USA, and establishing Peace and Forgiveness Gardens throughout the world.

Meaningfulworld's International Day of Peace Celebration will include mindfulness and meditation with **Dr Douglas Scherer**, a musical welcome by **Sato Moughalian**, a musical interlude by **Peter Jam**, and an historical overview of the International Day of Peace by **His Excellency, Ambassador Anwarul Chowdhury**. The celebration will also host a number of speakers; **Dr Peter Coleman**, Professor at Columbia University and Executive Director at The Earth Institute, **Reverend Dan Matthews**, rector emeritus of historic Trinity Church, Wall Street, and **Dr Ani Kalayjian**, founder and President of Meaningfulworld and professor at Columbia Teachers College, with **Dean Clifton Daniel** of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine as discussant. In addition, Peace Awards will be presented to an NGO, **Larisa Hovannisian**, Teach for Armenia; Youth, **Haile Thomas**, Academics, **Dr Beth Fisher-Yoshida & Dr Peter Coleman**, of Columbia University, as well as a United Nations Ambassador for the work each has done to help the world move towards Peace and Forgiveness.

Meaningfulworld will also present a photo exhibit demonstrating our 30 years of humanitarian relief efforts around the world in areas including Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Europe, the Middle East, the Caucasus, and South America. The exhibit will be shown from 10 – 30 September.

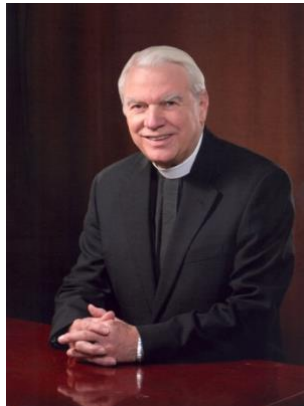
As we make preparations to celebrate "Peace Day," we are encouraged by the United Nations to contemplate the meaning of "The Right to Peace" and we invite you to join us as we explore this topic. As Meaningfulworld delves into the concept of Forgiveness for Peace; kindly, share with us and others in your lives, your ideas on how forgiveness has contributed to peace in your life. Remember that when engaging with others in your personal life always strive to see opportunities for creating peace through forgiveness, you will be making sustainable change that you wish to see. Kindly, use #meaningfulworld and #peaceday to share your ideas on social media.



**Dr. Ani Kalayjian** is the Founder & President of ATOP Meaningfulworld, a graduate of Columbia University's Teachers College with Masters and Doctoral Degrees, and holds an Honorary Doctor of Science Degree from LIU. Currently, she is a Graduate Adjunct Psychology faculty member in the Clinical Psychology program at Columbia University's Teachers College Mind-Body- Spirit Dept. Dr. Kalayjian also has a private Integrative Healing Practice, has been consulting at the United Nations since 1988 as the representative for a variety of organizations, and is currently representing ATOP Meaningfulworld, and ACRPC. She is the author of numerous books including an internationally acclaimed book on Disaster & Mass Trauma, Chief Editor of an international book - *Forgiveness & Reconciliation: Psychological Pathways to Conflict Transformation and Peace Building* (Springer Publishing), and Chief Editor of II Volumes of *Emotional Healing around the World: Rituals and Practices for Resilience and Meaning-Making* (Greenwood, ABC-CLIO, 2010). Dr. Kalayjian has also produced a meditation CD on Ancestral Healing and Transforming Generational Trauma, as well as 7 films on Humanitarian Outreach Programs to Lebanon, Jordan, Palestine, Israel, Kenya, Rwanda, Burundi, RD Congo, Sierra Leone, Armenia, and Haiti.



**Dr. Peter T. Coleman** is Professor of Psychology and Education at Columbia University where he holds a joint-appointment at Teachers College and The Earth Institute. Dr. Coleman directs the *Morton Deutsch International Center for Cooperation and Conflict Resolution* (MD-ICCCR) and the *Institute for Psychological Science and Practice* (IPSP) at Teachers College, and is Executive Director of the *Advanced Consortium on Cooperation, Conflict, and Complexity* (AC<sup>4</sup>) at The Earth Institute. In 2003, he became the first recipient of the Early Career Award from the American Psychological Association (APA), Division 48: Society for the Study of Peace, Conflict, and Violence, and in 2015 was awarded the Morton Deutsch Conflict Resolution Award by the APA and a Marie Curie Fellowship from The EU. Dr. Coleman edits the award-winning *Handbook of Conflict Resolution: Theory and Practice* (2000, 2006, 2014) and his other books include *The Five Percent: Finding Solutions to Seemingly Impossible Conflicts* (2011) and *Making Conflict Work: Navigating Disagreement Up and Down Your Organization* (2014). He is also a member of the United Nation Mediation Support Unit's Academic Advisory Council, is a founding board member of the Gbowee Peace Foundation USA, and is a New York State certified mediator and experienced consultant.



**The Rev. Dr. Daniel Paul Matthews**, rector emeritus of historic Trinity Church, Wall Street, was born in Chicago. During grammar school years, he moved to Western North Carolina where he graduated from high school in the small mill town of Canton. He spent the first 20 years of his ministry as a priest in parishes in Tennessee. Since 1972, the hallmark of Dr. Matthews' work has been concentrated in larger, inner city parishes. This phase of his service began when he moved to St. John's in Knoxville, TN. The work of the parish there focused on the broad needs of the city both within and without the church. In 1980 he was called to St. Luke's in downtown Atlanta with its mammoth homeless ministry and in 1987 he received a call to 300-year-old Trinity Church, Wall Street where he served for 17 years. On September 11, 2001, Dr. Matthews saw the second plane fly into the south tower of the World Trade Center from his Parish's offices, and he was forced to evacuate lower Manhattan with his staff and the children of the Parish pre-school. Trinity's historic chapel, St. Paul's – across the street from the World Trade Center – served as a 24-hour center of refuge and relief to the emergency workers for eight months after the attack. On March 3, 2006, he was awarded the Order of the British Empire (OBE) in recognition of his leadership at this time.

**Your donations are tax deductible and appreciated: <http://meaningfulworld.com/get-involved/donation>**

Founded in 1990, the Association for Trauma Outreach & Prevention (ATOP) Meaningfulworld, charitable organization affiliated with the United Nations Dept. of Public Information, has achieved international recognition as a leader in training humanitarian outreach professionals as well as responding to two and a half decades of global and local disasters. ATOP is committed to health, justice, peace, transformation and global education promoting state-of-the-art scientific theory on peace, forgiveness, consciousness research, internship, and the development of technical skills to train mental health professionals, teachers, psychologists, art therapists, nutritionists, alternative medicine practitioners, clergy, nurses, mediators, interfaith ministers, and lay persons committed to service the self and humanity. Meaningfulworld Humanitarian Outreach Teams have helped rehabilitate survivors from over 45 countries and 25 states in USA, making a daily difference in people's lives, helping to transform tragedy and trauma into healing and meaning-making through post-trauma growth, resilience, emotional intelligence, mindfulness, mind-body-eco-spirit health, visionary leadership, empowerment, artful collaborations, establishing Peace & Forgiveness Gardens, and creating a new and Meaningfulworld view. We work locally and globally in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Europe, the Middle East, the Caucasus, Europe, and South and North America.

**Our Motto: When one helps another BOTH become stronger**