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**News**

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## **Jane Goodall visits Ground Zero with Fr. Lyndon Harris to Mark Int'l Day of Peace**

To remember the tragic events of 9/11 and mark the International Day of Peace, renowned primatologist and humanitarian Dr. Jane Goodall, DBE visited Ground Zero today with a small group that included the Reverend Lyndon Harris, formerly of St. Paul's Chapel -- the "little chapel that stood" through 9/11 and served as a relief center for workers who toiled many months at Ground Zero.

The group flew Giant Peace Dove puppets at the site, joining with thousands around the globe who are flying doves today to express their desire for a world where war and violence are things of the past. Many doves are being flown by members of Roots & Shoots, an educational program of the Jane Goodall Institute that helps young people make a difference in their communities and beyond.

*September 11, 2001 was the International Day of Peace that year. Just before that date, the International Day of Peace was reconfirmed by the General Assembly, given the annual date of September 21 and set as a day of global ceasefire and nonviolence.*

A United Nations Messenger of Peace, Dr. Goodall today travels the world speaking about her famous chimpanzee research at Gombe National Park in Tanzania and encouraging individuals to recognize their power to make a difference in the world through everyday choices. Now in its second year, her Peace Dove campaign has had remarkable results, inspiring people all over the globe to make the humble but graceful creations out of recycled materials and fly them on the International Day of Peace. Last year, doves flew in peace marches, atop mountains and buildings, in parks, along waterways, at the Coliseum in Rome and in a refugee camp in Tanzania. Albanian and Kosovar children flew two peace doves on the bridge over the Ibar River that separates their two ethnic groups. Palestinian Arab and Israeli Jewish children flew a giant peace dove in Nazareth.

Rev. Lyndon Harris was brought to the St. Paul's Chapel in 2001 to start a youth outreach program. The program plans were cancelled however, when the planes struck the towers across the street on September 11. Rev. Harris played a major role at the church over the next eight months, during which time St. Paul's was closed to the public, serving as a refuge for the workers at Ground Zero, providing them with meals, counseling, and health care. Rev. Harris is now the Executive Director of Sacred City Project, an organization seeking to bring together the diverse faith communities of New York City in an effort to rebuild the city and strengthen community.

The International Day of Peace became a major focus for Monica Willard's work at the United Nations when the Department of Public Information began the annual youth observances in 1997. She has been involved with all the programs and arranges for hundreds of youth to participate each year. In linking Fr. Lyndon Harris and Dr. Jane Goodall for the International Day of Peace this year, a message of hope was carried into the streets of NY. Each of us makes a difference and our actions determine if we create cultures of peace, justice and healing for the Earth and all living things. Mrs. Willard represents the United Religions Initiative at the United Nations.

#### **About JGI**

Founded in 1977, the Jane Goodall Institute continues Dr. Goodall's pioneering research into chimpanzee behavior -- research which transformed scientific perceptions of the relationship between humans and animals. Today, the Institute is a global leader in the effort to protect chimpanzees and their habitats. It also is widely recognized for establishing innovative community-centered conservation and development programs in Africa, and the Roots & Shoots education program, which has groups in more than 87 countries.