



# Twin Cities Nonviolent

## ***Walk for Planet Peace*** **featuring Rev. James Lawson,** **Strategist for the Freedom Riders and Civil Rights Movement** **Honoring Gandhi's Vision for His 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday**

**For Immediate Release-**

**Date:** *Walk for Planet Peace: Honoring Gandhi's Vision for His 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday* starts at 9:30am at the St. Paul Cathedral, 239 Selby, to end at the State Capitol.

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Our hearts have wept with all deaths due to violence in Minneapolis, the unspeakable tragedies that left 10 people dead in Dayton and 22 in El Paso within 24 hours, and the August vandalism of Emmet Till's memorial in Mississippi. Committed to reducing all forms of violence, Twin Cities Nonviolent has sparked an idea: invite people and organizations to share their practices for violence prevention and recovery for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual *10 Days Free from Violence*, from September 20<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

This year, the opening event will be a *Walk for Planet Peace* to honor Gandhi's vision for his 150<sup>th</sup> birthday. The *Walk*, on International Peace Day, September 21<sup>st</sup>, will begin at the St. Paul Cathedral and end at the State Capitol, where we will hear from Rev. James Lawson, the strategist, whose vision of nonviolent strategy inspired the Freedom Riders and students at lunch counters during the Civil Rights Movement. Rev. Lawson will be joined by his activist colleague, Fr. John Dear, who started the national Nonviolent Cities Movement—and who has inspired a network of 80 peace organizations to work resolutely for Twin Cities *free from violence*. The project is made possible by community volunteers with support from the organizations MN Alliance of Peacemakers, the India Association of Minnesota and the climate justice leader, MN 350.

The *10 Day* menu of events for violence prevention and recovery will include a Festival of Giving to teach children empathy; an event to support women recovering from sex trafficking; the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Black Master Storyteller Festival; writers forums, prayer services, talking circles for racial healing and more. Please stand with us. Learn with us. And wage peace in the Twin Cities by visiting: <https://twincitiesnonviolent.org/>.

