

Pilgrimage of Justice and Peace

The World Council of Churches (WCC) Assembly, in 2013, invited Christians and people of good will everywhere to join in a pilgrimage of justice and peace. This means that we are called to work together in a common quest, renewing the true vocation of the church through collaborative engagement with the most important issues of justice and peace, healing a world filled with conflict, injustice and pain.

More information: <http://www.oikoumene.org/pilgrimage>

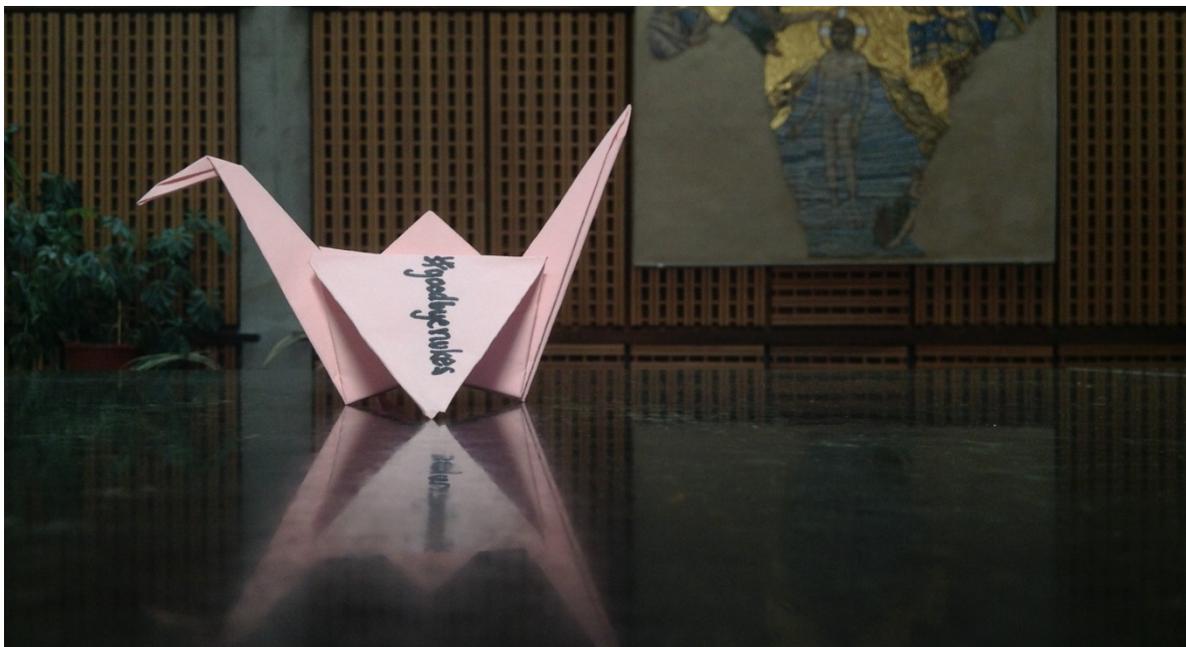
Pilgrimage to Hiroshima and Nagasaki

Church leaders from seven countries currently making historic choices for or against outlawing nuclear weapons will embark on a pilgrimage from 5 to 9 August 2015 to the two Japanese cities that were decimated by atomic bombs 70 years ago. In Japan the delegates will meet with atomic bomb survivors, church members, religious leaders and government officials. They will bring international calls for action home from the two cities.

Support the pilgrimage with a #GoodByeNukes paper crane!

Please fold a paper crane to honour the victims of the Atomic bombings (see next page for instructions), write #GoodByeNukes on its wing, and leave it in a public place where you have come to pray for peace.

If possible, please upload a photo of your paper crane on Instagram or other social media using the hashtags [#GoodByeNukes](#) and [#PilgrimsOnTheMove](#) to connect with the [International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons](#) and the [WCC Pilgrimage of Justice and Peace](#).



Paper cranes

Japanese paper cranes have become a well-known symbol of the movement for a world without nuclear weapons. Every year thousands of students across the globe fold paper cranes to honour the children who died in the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945.

More information: <http://www.icanw.org/resources/schools/paper-cranes/>



Sadako's story

Sadako Sasaki was two years old when the United States dropped an atomic bomb on her city, Hiroshima, in 1945. At the time of the explosion, she was at home with her mother. Despite being just 1km from the centre of the blast, she survived the immediate effects. However, 10 years later purple spots started to form on her legs as a result of radiation sickness from the bombing. She was diagnosed with leukaemia, a cancer of the blood. While in hospital, she learned that, according to Japanese legend, if she folded 1,000 paper cranes she would be granted a wish.

She started out folding dozens of cranes each day. When she ran out of paper, she used medicine wrappings and whatever else she could find. But then her condition worsened and she could only manage to fold one or two a day. Sadly, she died before reaching her target of 1,000 cranes. Her friends folded the remainder after her death. Sadako now symbolizes the impact of nuclear weapons on children. A memorial has been built in Hiroshima to honour her and all other child victims of the nuclear bombings. Her story continues to inspire thousands of people to work for the abolition of nuclear weapons.