



Advocacy & Witness News

Congregational Advocacy and Witness
 Washington Office for Advocacy
 International Resources Office

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MARCH 2008

March To Peace

During the month of March we invite Unitarian Universalist congregations to join together in an unprecedented March to Peace. As we mark the 5th anniversary of the Iraq war, we hope to register the commitment of 250 of our congregations, nearly 25%, to bring peace into their worship and their worship into the world. Participating congregations will be listed on the UUA website (unless they prefer otherwise). Please register your commitments. What will your congregation do in the March to Peace?

Please visit <http://www.uua.org/socialjustice> for more information



“Individuals can resist injustice, but only a community can do justice.”

*-Jim Corbett
 Sanctuary Worker*

Election-Year Resources from Faithful Democracy

The 2008 election provides a fantastic opportunity for Unitarian Universalists to mobilize our congregations and communities.

The Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations is a leading member of Faithful Democracy, a coalition of national faith-based organizations dedicated to increasing electoral participation among people of faith and people from historically disenfranchised communities.

Faithful Democracy will provide theological grounding, legal guidance, and programmatic support to faith-based partners who will educate and engage their constituencies in civic participation during the 2008 election year. Look for information at www.faithfuldemocracy.org. The UUA also offers a variety of materials specific to UU congregations—available now!

In 2004, at least 300 Unitarian Universalist congregations did something to support electoral participation. What will your congregation do in 2008?

Sex Education Call-In Day

On March, 17, 2008 participants in the Sexuality Education and Advocacy Training (SEAT) will be lobbying congress in Washington, DC in support of the **Responsible Education About Life Act (REAL)** which would allow states and local communities to provide responsible comprehensive sexuality education that includes information about abstinence and contraception that is medically-accurate and age-appropriate, similar to the content in the UU/UCC *Our Whole Lives* curriculum.

You can support this legislation too by participating in the National Sex Education Call-In Day on the same day, March 17, 2008. While SEAT participants are having face to face meetings with Representatives and Senators you can simultaneously be calling offices in support of comprehensive sex education which is desperately needed in our public schools.

To participate simply call the capital switchboard at 202-225-3121 and ask for your Representative and/or Senator and ask them to support the Responsible Education About Life Act (H.R. 1653).

Calendar

March 1	CSAI Comment
March 7	Interfaith Peace
March 8	International Women's Day
March 15	GA Deadlines for Event Edits
March 17-28	House In District Work Period
March 19	5th Year of War in Iraq
March 30	UUSC's Justice Sunday: "Who Pays the Price in Iraq?"

“True Peace is not only the absence of tension but is the presence of justice...”

*-Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
 (1929-1968)*

Congressional Calendar 2008

Have you ever wanted to visit your member of Congress? District Work Periods are times set aside for working at home. The following dates are when to expect your Congress member to be in his or her district office. So visit your Congress member and tell them what is on your mind. Times are subject to change. Check www.usa.gov for more information.

Mar 15-30

District work period, Easter

May 24-Jun 1

District work period, Memorial Day

Jun 28-Jul 6

District work period, Independence Day

Aug 9-Sep 7

District work period

Aug 25-28

Democratic convention

Sep 1-4

Republican convention

Advocacy and Witness Events at General Assembly 2008

The UUA Holdeen India Program: Empowering Social Change

Take inspiration from UUHIP's work, and learn how congregations can participate.

U/U Theology... Internationally Speaking

Three U/U theologians from around the world will dialogue.

A Faith Without Borders

Presenting a new congregational resource for planning effective international engagement.

Theology of Immigration

UU perspectives on what it means to "Welcome the Stranger."

Grassroots Organizing for a New Century

Learn new techniques utilizing the Internet to gather support.

Youth and Adult Partnerships: Comprehensive Sex Education

Create stronger partnerships for comprehensive sexuality education in public schools!

UUSC's Justice Sunday is March 30th. The Theme is "Who Pays the Price of The War in Iraq?"

For more information, please visit www.uusc.org to find how your congregation can participate.

Advocacy and Witness Has a New Blog

Find out what your Advocacy and Witness team is thinking about!

Read our reflections on upcoming events and news stories, thoughts on new movements and causes, and reports on exciting progress on national legislation.

<http://uuasocialjustice.blogspot.com>

"You can make tyranny helpless by refusing cooperation with it"

-Gene Sharp
(1928-)

It can be challenging for congregational leaders to keep up-to-date on the latest news and resources for UU international engagement.

Let the UUA's International Resources Office (IRO) help.

- If "breaking news" about UU international engagement is important
- If you want to hear success stories from UU congregations that are engaging internationally
- If you're interested in resources that can help your congregation be effective in its international engagement.
- If you want to receive the latest materials for including international elements in your congregations' worship services and RE programs.
- If you're interested in the work of the multitude of international U/U organizations, and opportunities for collaboration.

Join the IRO's email list by visiting www.uua.org/socialjustice. We'll send an email message to you twice each month with news and practical resources.

Get Your T-Shirts before General Assembly

Be part of the "In-Crowd" at General Assembly! Now you and your family can own the "Stand on the Side of Love" shirt.

Order your shirt now, they are going fast. Get your favorite activist a shirt for the upcoming year of actions.

Hurry! Supplies are limited.

Our handsome shirts come in both adult and children's sizes. And are made from pre-shrunk, 100% cotton materials. **Available up to Size Large (L).**

For more information, pictures, and/or to place an order, please go to www.uua.org/uuawo and click on "ONLINE STORE" on the left side of the page

There is a \$3/shirt discount for bulk orders, so order as a congregation! If you'd rather place an order by phone, please call Kat Liu at (202) 296-4672 x12