



Advocacy & Witness News

Congregational Advocacy and Witness
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MAY 2008

Updated Edition of *The Real Rules* Now Available

In order to provide congregations with the best guidance possible, the UUA has released an updated edition of *The Real Rules: Congregations and IRS Guidelines on Advocacy, Lobbying, and Elections*.

The new version provides clear, up-to-date information on what congregations can and cannot do, drawing heavily on a binding decision issued by the IRS in June 2007. Most of the text comes straight from IRS publications, with sources clearly footnoted.

Please discard previous editions and use the new one! The version date on page 2 should be 2008-03-28. You can access *The Real Rules* and other key social justice resources at <http://www.uua.org/socialjustice/resources>.

Washington Office Move

After several years in beautiful, historic Dupont Circle, the Washington Office for Advocacy moved to Metro Center. The Washington Office for Advocacy is now be located at 666 11th St NW 20002. (Really!)

Our new location gives us easier access to Capitol hill and coalition partners on K St. It also offers larger conference room and office spaces for visitors.

We have been enjoying our move to Metro Center.
 Thank you for your patience during our move.

Julia's Voice- May 11

This year, celebrate Mother's Day with Peace! Visit www.juliasvoice.org to learn how.

May 18: UCC, NCC Calls For Nationwide Preach-in on Race

As a proactive response to the media storm around Rev. Jeremiah Wright's sermons on race, United Church of Christ and National Council of Churches are calling for UCC pastors to participate in a nationwide preach-in on race on May 18. **Other faith groups are also invited to preach on race on May 18 to be in solidarity with the United Church of Christ.**

For more information, please see <http://www.ucc.org/news/ucc-ncc-calls-for-nationwide.html>

June 19: Night of 1000 Conversations About Immigration

On Thursday, June 19, you and your congregation can take part in the Night of 1000 Conversations, organized by the Rights Working Group (RWG).

Churches, community centers, and individuals all over the United States will host conversations about immigration in the context of human rights, civil liberties, and our American values of fairness and justice.

For more information, please see http://www.rightsworkinggroup.org/?q=NOTC_June08.



"Nonviolence is a plant of slow growth. It grows imperceptibly, but surely."
 -Mahatma Gandhi

Calendar

May 1	Early-bird Registration for GA due
May 11	Mother's Day for Peace Juliasvoice.org
May 18	UCC Preach-In on Race
May 24- June 1	Senate In-District Work Period
May 27-30	House In-District Work Period
June 19	Juneteenth and Night of a Thousand Conversations
June 25-29	General Assembly- Ft. Lauderdale,

"If the State wishes that its citizens respect life, then the State should stop killing."
 -Clarence Darrow

Advocacy and Witness GA Staff Picks

We at Advocacy and Witness would like to share with you our personal choices for GA workshops and trainings:

- Adam– **Theology of Immigration** *presented by Kat Liu of UUA Staff*
- Alex– **Give Them More Than Just Pizza** *presented by Nancy DiGiovanni and Eric Kesting of UUA Staff*
- Eric- **Our Partners in Faith - A Global Worship Service** *presented by the UU Partner Church Council*
- Grace- **Dismantling Chaos: Anti- Racism/Anti-Oppression Workshop** *Presented by Young Religious UU's*
- Kat– **Truth, Repair, Reconciliation** *presented by Tracey Robinson-Harris of UUA Staff*
- Susan– **Public Witness Event: Valuing All Families** *presented by the UUA Public Witness Team*

For more information on this year's General Assembly and programming, please visit <http://www.uua.org/events/generalassembly/index.shtml>

Last Chance to Get Your T-Shirts before General Assembly

Be part of the "In-Crowd" at General Assembly! This is the **last chance** to get your "Stand on the Side of Love" shirt before GA.

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 Adult Large (L).**

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) 393-2255 x13

"Let us take the risks of peace upon our lives, not impose the risks of war upon the world"
-Quaker Proverb

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!

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>

Pre-General Assembly Activist Training Day

On **Wednesday, June 25**, the UUA Advocacy and Witness Team and UU Service Committee will offer a day-long (9 AM to 4 PM) activist training in **Ft. Lauderdale**. The program will feature organizational training, speakers sharing the latest thoughts on issues of peace and justice, and networking time for congregational activists.

Location at the Ft. Lauderdale Grand Hyatt.

See www.uua.org/socialjustice for more information, including how to register.

