



Advocacy & Witness News

Congregational Advocacy and Witness
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JUNE 2009

Fired Up for General Assembly!

Every one on the Advocacy and Witness Team is fired up and excited for General Assembly in Salt Lake City this month. It will be a great one this year with **three history setting votes** on the floor of plenary, a **new format for workshops and UU University**, and a truly memorable **Public Witness Action**.

As we get ready for our workshops and putting the final touches on all of our events, we want to thank you for all the great work you and your congregations have been doing this year. **The Actions of the Month have been a great success** and we were really proud to see all the hard work you put into our many projects including Tents of Hope for Darfur, preventing war with Iran, Pictures of Peace, comprehensive sex ed reform, BGLT rights, environmental justice and immigration reform. You all should be proud of the work you have done.

Thank you for all your hard work and we look forward to working with you in the next congregational year.

GA '09 Workshops and Pre-GA Event

Are you coming to General Assembly this year? Please don't forget to join the Advocacy and Witness Team's workshops:

- **Welcoming Our Neighbors: The Path to Immigration Reform**
- **Environmental Work is Justice Work**
- **UU Secretaries of State on Strengthening Democracy Now!**

We are very excited about workshops and would love have you participate.

Please don't forget our Public Witness event on Friday:

Valuing ALL Families — An Interfaith Community Witness Event
Standing on the Side of Love with Immigrant Families

And visit our booth at **#521** for fun prizes!

Get to General Assembly in time for a **Pre-GA gathering for UU social justice makers** on **June 24th, at 2:00-:500 p.m.**

We will offer training, best practice case studies, and time for networking on issues. Come meet with UUA social justice staff and other UUs working for social justice around the country.

We will send out more information and details as we get closer to GA.

To register, write to Audra Friend at afriend@uua.org.

PLEASE NOTE: You do NOT have to arrive a day early to make the Pre-GA Gathering



“When we to pick out something by itself, we find it hitched to everything else in the Universe.”
 -John Muir

Calendar

All of June	Pride Month
June 19	Juneteenth
June 21	Solstice
June 21	Fathers Day
June 24-28	GA in Salt Lake City, Utah
July 4	Independence Day
August 21	Ramadan Begins

Action of the Month:
In June, our action of the month will be at General Assembly. Our witness will be on “Valuing All Families.”

In July, the action of the month will be on summer vacation.

Join our Newsletters

The UUA A&W Team has three newsletters to help you keep updated on important social justice opportunities. We would like to invite you to join our newsletters.

- **Advocacy News (A*News)**- Track legislation moving in Congress
- **Social Action Chair News (SAC News)**- Learn opportunities for congregation social justice
- **International News (iNews)**- Receive announcements on UU international justice issues and resources.

To join our newsletters, please visit uua.org/socialjustice

Social Justice Empowerment Workshops Applications

Would you like to...

Inspire a congregation with a vision of their potential to be a social justice community?

Develop a deeper understanding about the basic elements of an effective social justice program?

Provide methods for how to integrate the social justice program into the larger life of the congregation including worship, religious education, and adult programming?

The UUA Social Justice Empowerment Workshop is for you!

The basic purpose of a Social Justice Empowerment workshop is for members of a congregation to assess the quality of their social justice program. It is an opportunity for members of a congregation to consider what they are doing as an institution to create a more just and caring world.

Cluster workshops are now available and held for teams (2 or more people) from area congregations. The cost is \$200 per team (up to 4 people). For teams of 5 or more the rate is \$200 for the first four and an additional \$25 per person for each additional person.

Workshop handbooks are provided by the UUA. Congregations that sponsor cluster workshops can waive the fee in exchange for providing coffee, lunch, and supplies.

We are now accepting applications for fall 2009 and spring 2010!

For more information and to apply, please see: <http://www.uua.org/leaders/leaderslibrary/socialjustice/index.shtml> or write to Susan Leslie at sleslie@uua.org.

Stand on the Side of Love With UUA T-Shirts

Sunshine! Warm weather! T-Shirts! With spring here, it is time for a new t-shirt to spruce up your warm weather wardrobe with our **Standing on the Side of Love Shirts**.

Our handsome shirts come in both **adult and children's sizes**. And are made from pre-shrunk, 100% cotton materials. **Available in all sizes**. Sweatshop free and union made.

There is a **\$3/shirt discount for bulk orders**, so order as a congregation! Contact Kat Liu at KLiu@uua.org. If you'd rather place an order by phone, please call at (202) 393-2255 x20.

T-shirts will also be available at General Assembly at the A&W Booth.



“Neither piety, virtue, or liberty can long flourish in a community where the education of youth is neglected.”
-Robert Coram, 1791

“Where learning is confined to a few people, we always find monarchy, aristocracy and slavery.”
-Benjamin Rush, 1786
Universalist Signer of Declaration of Independence