

# Multicultural Growth & Witness

## August 2011

### Resource

#### UU Congregational Social Justice Calendar Available Now!

Plan your social justice calendar for the year and hold these dates. Link your social justice projects to collective national advocacy with the UUA, UU social justice organizations, and other UU congregations! As we get closer to the dates, go to [www.uua.org/justice](http://www.uua.org/justice) to find worship resources, action campaigns, educational materials and more!

See calendar included in this bulletin. For updates, subscribe to Just-Act newsletter: <http://salsa.democracynaction.org/o/1272/t/4696/signUp.jsp?key=1357>

### Witness

#### Sept 4 – Labor in the Pulpits: Keeping Faith with America's Workers

Along with the celebration and remembrance that has always been a part of Labor in the Pulpit/on the Bimah/in the Minbar services, IWJ is focusing on two specific areas of worker injustice: **unemployment** and **state attacks on workers' rights**.

Labor Day weekend is an important time to lift up these issues. After Labor Day, congregations can stay connected to these issues through two of IWJ's campaigns. Faith Advocates for Jobs is a campaign focusing on the crisis of unemployment and underemployment. The Keeping Faith with America's Workers campaign defends workers' rights, specifically those rights threatened on the state level.

**This Labor Day weekend, celebrate the sacred link between faith, work, and justice. Sign up for Faith Advocates for Jobs.**

[www.iwj.org/template/page.cfm?id=287](http://www.iwj.org/template/page.cfm?id=287)

### Advocacy

#### Moving Planet: September 24th



Moving Planet (<http://www.moving-planet.org/>) will be a worldwide rally to put our demands for climate action into motion—marching, biking, skating—calling for the world to go beyond fossil fuels.

Think of this day as a chance to combine efforts with others in your community, because we need to show politicians our strength in numbers. If there are actions already registered in your area (check out the map on the website), then consider joining your efforts with theirs—so that on September 24th there are thousands of people cycling, marching, skateboarding etc onto the streets in one giant action (not lots of small actions).

UUs have been long-committed to issues of climate justice. Check out the 2006 Statement of Conscience, "Threat of Global Warming/Climate Change" on UUA.org: <http://www.uua.org/justice/statements/statements/8061.shtml>. Email Robin Nelson at [rnelson@uua.org](mailto:rnelson@uua.org) for more information.

### Social Witness

#### Call for Congregational Study/Action Issues (CSAI) Proposals!

Congregations, Districts and Sponsored Organizations are encouraged to submit proposals for Association-wide study/action for 2012-2016. Proposers within a congregation or district should select a topic that reflects Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) Principles and will warrant four years of study and action.

The proposal must be received by the Commission on Social Witness by **October 3, 2011**. *Only one proposal may be submitted by a congregation.* Proposals may be submitted online at [www.uua.org/csw](http://www.uua.org/csw) beginning September 1, 2011.

Proposers should draft the proposal following the format requirements of the Proposer's Guide (<http://www.uua.org/justice/issuesprocess/process/44102.shtml>). Then the proposers should request their board of trustees, congregation or district to approve the proposal.

Contact [socialwitness@uua.org](mailto:socialwitness@uua.org) with any questions.

Cluster Workshops for Congregations!



The Social Justice Empowerment workshop has expanded to clusters!

Social Justice Empowerment workshops have been offered to individual congregations for more than 20 years, providing them with a spiritual grounding for their justice work, skills to focus their social justice efforts most effectively, and vision for a sustained practice of putting faith into action.

We are now offering this powerful workshop to clusters of congregations! A cluster workshop brings together congregational teams and equips participants with tools they can bring back to their congregations. Learn best practices for effective social justice ministries, empower new and old leaders to build skills in this area, and strengthen your connections with neighboring congregations along the lines of mutual support and action!

For more information, check out <http://www.uua.org/justice/congregations/empowerment> or email Alex Kapitan, Congregational Justice Administrator, at [akapitan@uua.org](mailto:akapitan@uua.org).

Resource

Immigration as a Moral Issue Study Guide, Six-Week Curriculum, and Worship Resources

Available now! Topics include: understanding the causes of migration; the history of immigration in the U.S.; economics of (im)migration; security, enforcement, and human rights; who benefits from a broken system; and seeking solutions. Worship resource includes suggested hymns, scripture readings, poems, and prayers.

<http://www.uua.org/justice/issuesprocess/currentissues/immigration/index.shtml>

Contact Kat Liu at [kliu@uua.org](mailto:kliu@uua.org) to let her know if your congregation has used the study guide and curriculum or if you're planning to!

Grants from the UU Funding Program (UUFPP)

**Standing on the Side of Love (SSL)**—The Fund for UU Social Responsibility has set aside \$25,000 to be made available as matching grants of \$500-\$1,500 to UU congregations participating in the Standing on the Side of Love campaign. SSL matching grants will support UU congregations mobilizing at critical times, using social networking and coalition building to take action in a broad range of arenas where people are excluded, oppressed, or attacked based on real or perceived identities.

**New: Congregation-Based Community Organizing (CBCO)**—Matching Grants are now available to congregations considering participating in a CBCO organization for both membership and training. CBCO Training grants are considered on a rolling application basis, while matching grants for CBCO membership will be considered with the regular grant cycle.

For more information and to apply, see: <http://www.uua.org/giving/fundingprogram/102184.shtml> or email [uufpp@aol.com](mailto:uufpp@aol.com).

Advocacy



a focus for year-around action  
**WORLD FOOD DAY USA**  
OCTOBER 16



Preparing for Food Day 2011: October 24th

Food Day is a new nationwide effort to improve health, the environment, and food security. On and around October 24, 2011, people will gather at events big and small, from coast to coast to celebrate America's bountiful, delicious food supply; learn about problems; and advocate for improved policies.

The UU Ministry for Earth is encouraging UU congregations to participate in this campaign both to implement the new Ethical Eating Statement of Conscience and to make the first Food Day a success.. You can celebrate Food Day by organizing an event in your community, school, or at home.

To learn more, visit the newly launched website, [www.foodday.org](http://www.foodday.org), and Facebook page, [www.facebook.com/fooddayeatreal](http://www.facebook.com/fooddayeatreal). Also check out their Resources section <http://www.foodday.org/participate/resources>. Email Robin Nelson at [rnelson@uua.org](mailto:rnelson@uua.org) for more information.