

Welcome to the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee E-mail Bulletin.

The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee: advancing human rights and social justice in the United States and throughout the world.

(If you are receiving this bulletin for the first time, please visit:

<http://www.uusc.org/info/emailthanks.html>

for an introductory letter.)

In this issue:

- Human rights situation deteriorates in Guatemala
- UUSC joins civil liberties court case
- Remembering Sergio Vieira de Mello
- Volunteer opportunities at Arizona/Mexico workcamp
- UUSC partner organizes fall video tour

Human rights situation deteriorates in Guatemala

Political violence in Guatemala, both in the urban and rural areas, has increased markedly in recent weeks, including the July 24-25 riots that paralyzed Guatemala City and were allegedly orchestrated by the ruling political party, the Guatemalan Republican Front (FRG). Increased attacks and threats against human rights defenders, journalists, judges and Mayan priests have all been documented. This rise in political violence and intimidation makes the prospects appear very bleak for a free and fair presidential election in November 2003. For more details and background, visit <http://www.uusc.org/info/article082003.html>.

UUSC joins civil liberties court case

The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee has signed on to a legal challenge to the government's power to arrest and detain American citizens indefinitely who are accused of being "enemy combatants." The Service Committee took this action to alert the public that everyone's rights – even those of U.S. citizens – are endangered by the administration's disregard of civil liberties and human rights. For a complete report, visit <http://www.uusc.org/info/article082103.html>.

Remembering Sergio Vieira de Mello

UUSC joins the human rights community in mourning the loss on August 19 of Sergio Vieira de Mello, the U.N. Special Envoy to Iraq and a lifelong human rights activist and peacebuilder, who was killed when a truck bomb exploded in front of the U.N. headquarters in Baghdad. We are saddened by the loss of such a compassionate advocate who devoted his life to remembering and helping those trapped in violent conflict and bloodshed through his dedication to human rights work. For our complete statement, visit <http://www.uusc.org/info/article082703.html>.

Volunteer opportunities at Arizona/Mexico workcamp

The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee has teamed up with BorderLinks, a nonprofit organization based in Tuscon, Ariz., to offer a new workcamp experience along the Arizona/Mexico border. The workcamp is scheduled for Oct. 15-19, and openings are still available. For more details and information about how to apply, visit <http://www.uusc.org/ontheborder1.pdf>.

UUSC partner organizes fall video tour

The Chiapas Media Project, a UUSC program partner organization since 2002, is organizing a fall tour of the United States, featuring media produced by indigenous video makers in Chiapas and Guerrero, Mexico. The tour offers local community organizations, congregations, and college and university audiences an opportunity to learn about the human rights situation in Mexico through the eyes of the people who live it. For more details and information on how you can organize an eye-opening educational event with CMP for your group during the fall tour, visit http://www.uusc.org/info/article090303_1.html.

More about the UUSC E-mail Bulletin

Share this information with a friend.

Please do not hesitate to send this e-mail along to a friend. We welcome and encourage new people to join the e-mail list. You do not have to be a member of UUSC to receive the bulletin, but we hope that after learning more about UUSC you may wish to join. If this message has been forwarded to you, you can sign up to receive your own copy at:

<http://www.uusc.org/info/emailbulletin.html>

For a printable PDF of this bulletin, please visit:

<http://www.uusc.org/info/bulletinpdfs.html>

Your privacy is protected.

UUSC does not lend or share its mailing list(s), including e-mail addresses. Rest assured that when you provide this information it stays with us. In cases where colleague organizations or groups ask us to provide them with direct access to you, we will ask you first and/or allow you the opportunity to link to this information if you so desire.

If you do not wish to receive these e-mail bulletins, please visit:

<http://www.uusc.org/info/bulletinremove.html>

If you need to receive the bulletin at a different e-mail address, please visit:

<http://www.uusc.org/info/bulletinchange.html>

To find out more about membership or to make a donation online, by phone or by postal mail, visit:

<http://www.uusc.org/info/support.html>

Unitarian Universalist Service Committee
130 Prospect Street
Cambridge, MA 02139
ph: 617 868-6600 fax: 617 868-7102
www.uusc.org