CCB Highlights, Events & Announcements:

WHERE THE GUNS GO
A film Showing & Discussion with Maria Termini at CCB on March 25 at 7:00 p.m.

The so-called Drug War serves to make legal the killing and repression of people: the United States provides the weapons, while Mexico provides the people killed and disappeared. This documentary brings together the testimonies of human rights activists, journalists, and people in Mexico directly affected by the violence carried by both government forces and organized crime in Mexico, with U.S. support.

"Where the Guns Go," a 26 minute film, produced by the organization Stop US Arms to Mexico, that clearly explains the gun trade between the US and Mexico and its deadly results.

CCB HIGHLIGHTS

January
The Vice President Ron Escobar Shapiro spoke about Jody Dowling as a resource person to aid with a ministerial search and to present the Church with some ideas regarding this undertaking.

Dick Keshishian, Clerk

Here is a gold nugget from our rich treasure trove of holdings in the CCB archives, an Invocation from the Church’s 1939 statement of History and Principles.

Out of the world’s wide ways we come to this, our house of fellowship and aspiration.

Here may the evils which beset us be banished by the power of righteousness; the fears that haunt us be overcome by fresh insight; the doubts that drive us be resolved into finer faith.

Here, each in our own way, yet together, let us for a brief time look into the mystery of life’s beginning, the source out of which the endless eons roll and countless lives emerge, and with renewed hope search through this bewildering maze of things to find again life’s aims and meaning and, above all, its glory.

A brief political and theological reflection on DuBois’s famous line a 118 years later.

• Byron Rushing served in the Massachusetts House of Representatives from 1983 to 2018. He came to the House with a background in community organizing and Afro-American history. In the legislature, Byron’s priorities were human and civil rights, and the development of democracy, local human, economic and housing development; and housing and health care for all. He was the House Majority Whip. Byron was a leader of the Commonwealth’s anti-apartheid efforts and a sponsor of the Commonwealth’s twinning relationship with the Province of the Eastern Cape in South Africa. He has sponsored a host of legislation concerning public health, Gay and transgender civil rights as well as a spokesman against the restoration of the death penalty. Born in New York City, Byron has lived in Boston since 1964. During the 1960’s he was active in the civil rights movement–working for CORE (Congress of Racial Equality) in Syracuse, NY–and as a community organizer for the Northern Student Movement in Boston. A conscientious objector during the Vietnam War, he performed his alternative service for two years at the Rochester (NY) General Hospital. He holds an honorary bachelor’s degree from Boston College and is the author of the book “The Problem of the Twenty First Century”.

Where the Guns Go
February 10, 2019 - April 14, 2019
February 10 at 12:30 PM Lunch & Fiscal Meeting (no service, meeting starts at 1:30 PM)
February 17 at 2:00 PM

“W. E. B. Du Bois Address: ‘The Problem of the Twenty First Century”’
with Byron Rushing

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music by Tem Blessed

The views and opinions expressed in these articles don’t necessarily mirror the views of The Community Church of Boston, or its members or board.
The Demise of the Evangelical Christian Church and the need for Multiracial Solidarity
with Edward Carlson

The church — both the Negro church and the white church cannot fully reconcile their racial differences because at the heart of their differences exist capitalism. It was capitalism that transformed the Negro church after 1970 from an agent seeking radical change to one procuring money. Because churches love capitalism, they continue to fall short of being revolutionary change agents. Capitalism poisons mission and divides the Black and white working class from an achievable world. The white church fails at transforming the weak, poor, and oppressed in their space. While “some” provide food and shelter, they have yet to challenge the status of oppression that keeps the soup lines open. Others, including the Black church, have conformed to blaming those who struggle or desire to identify themselves in a non-racist and non-binary capacity, often giving in to the solution of liberalism, as a measure in which capitalism favors them and their paternalism.

Edward Carson was born and raised in Montgomery, Alabama. He is an independent historian, history teacher, Dean of Multicultural Education at The Governor’s Academy, and activist. His research looks at race, religion, and Black thought, particularly W. E. B. Du Bois.

Long Way Out - A Psychological Journey
with Nicole Waybright

Nicole will read from her nationally bestselling memoir, Long Way Out - A young woman’s journey of self-discovery and how she survived the Navy’s modern cruelty at sea scandal. Nicole’s story explores the psychological crisis she underwent while in the military as well as her personal and philosophical transformation. It is a Jungian-based journey about a woman in crisis, relatable to anyone who has faced threatening crossroads and times of personal doubt, in or out of the military. • Nicole Waybright is a full-time writer and resides in New England. Nicole received her BS in Mechanical Engineering from Boston University in 1996. After graduation, she fulfilled her Navy obligation and served five years in the Surface Warfare (SWO) Navy, on board an Aegis destroyer, the USS Curtis Wilbur, and an amphibious assault ship, the USS Saipan, during the years 1996–2001. Nicole was part of the earliest wave of women to serve on combat vessels. She was honorably discharged from the Navy in 2001. In 2006 she received her MA in Spanish Literature from the University of Rhode Island.

International Working Women’s Day
with Cindy Sheehan

This year’s Vance/Vanetti award, • Cindy Sheehan is a peace and social justice activist who garnered international attention after her son Casey died in the USA’s illegal and immoral war in Iraq in 2004. In August of 2005, Cindy set up a peace camp just yards from then president George Bush’s Crawford ranch to ask him, “for what noble cause” people were dying in Iraq and Afghanistan. She never got her answer, but thousands came to Crawford to join her and tens of thousands did solidarity actions all over the world. Cindy Sheehan was often called the “antimilitarist” of the movement that summer, but unlike many political partisans, she never stopped her activism when the democrats came to power. Sheehan is the author of seven books and has a pod cast that just celebrated its 11th year “On The Air and in the Streets: Cindy Sheehan’s Soapbox.”

Boston As I See It
with Sarah-Ann Shaw

In 1968 Sarah-Ann Shaw made her first television appearance on Say Brother (now known as Basic Black), a public affairs broadcast by Ray Richardson. After numerous appearances on the show, she was hired the following year by WBZ-TV as Boston’s first female African American reporter. A community activist for most of her life, Shaw worked on stories which provided positive images of urban life of Black, Asian, Latino and other communities of color in Massachusetts. Her stories gave balance to those most often under-represented by media outlets, and her special reports focused on the importance of providing all people with the same social, economic and educational opportunities. Sarah-Ann has been honored by a variety of organizations and she has received numerous journalistical awards for her work which includes a Lifetime Achievement Awards from Emerson College RTNDA (Radio Television News Directors Association) and the National Association of Black Journalists, and The Yankee Quill Award from the New England Society of News Editors.

Stop the Next War Now: Speaking Truth About Power in a Permanent Warfare State
with Kathy Kelly

Drawing from experiences living alongside Afghans in the Afghan Peace Volunteer community and from recent studies regarding U.S. complicity with human rights violations and war in Yemen, Kathy will assert that one way to stop a “next” war is to continue telling the truth about wars the U.S. is already waging. • Kathy Kelly co-coordinates Voices for Creative Nonviolence, a campaign to end military and economic violence. She has visited Afghanistan 15 times since 2010. Voices activists believe that where you stand determines what you see. In previous visits to Iraq, she remained in Baghdad throughout the shock and awe bombing after having organized 70 delegations to violate the economic sanctions by delivering medicines to children and families in Iraq. On January 23, 2015, Kelly began serving a 3-month prison sentence for attempting to deliver a loaf of bread to the commander of Whiteman Air Force Base where weaponized drones are used to attack people in Afghanistan and other countries.

Parole in Massachusetts: Why We Need More Second Chances
with Jean Trounstine

The longer we keep people behind bars, the more we continue to fuel the engine of mass incarceration. Why then, is Massachusetts not paroling more people and supporting them to stay out of prison? What are the ways we could improve our aging parole system? We must demand that more men and women serve the remainder of their sentence for attempting to deliver a loaf of bread to the commander of Whiteman Air Force Base where weaponized drones are used to attack people in Afghanistan and other countries.

From the N Word to Colored to Negro to Black to Afro then blackness so irresistible that they tried to take it away from us: A Cultural Reflection on Living The Dream
with Harold Steward

Using stonewoke change’s spell, Talib Kweli’s “For Women, Arthur’s Love is the Message, The Message is Death and Dr. King’s Letter from Birmingham Jail this sermon explores the relationship between Identity Reclamation, Liberation, and Resistance: • Harold Steward is the Interim Executive Director of The Theater Offensive, a Queer and Trans Theater based in Boston, MA. Most recently, Steward served as Manager of the South Dallas Cultural Center, a division of the City of Dallas Office of Cultural Affairs, which provides instruction and enrichment in the arts with an emphasis on the African contribution to world culture. Steward also founded Farabi Arts Institute in Dallas in 2009 after recognizing a gap in the landscape for local LGBTQ artists of color in Dallas. Farabi Arts Institute celebrates, displays and produces the work of queer artists from the African Diaspora.

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