

Community Church of Boston
A Peace and Justice congregation since 1920

sunday forums

January 2009
Sundays at 11:00a.m.

January 4th -- DEAN STEVENS, SUZIE GIROUX and COMMUNITY VOICES

"Singing in the New Year"

Please join us on this first Sunday of the New Year and the New Era. We must believe that a new day is upon us and sing our hopes for the days ahead; add voices to our everlasting pledge that, just as this time brings darkness, we can infuse the dark with our light; transform our gloom into hope for good things to come.

January 11th -- MATTHEW P. DUMONT, M.D.

"Hope Amid the Ruins"

Matt Dumont, a long-time friend of Community Church, has also become our prophet. In December, 2004, he encouraged us by observing correctly that "even in the heart of The Beast there are self-defeating forces". In December, 2006, after a few Democratic victories, he warned that it was "time for some thoughtful reflection about who the Democrats really are and what they are capable of." And now he asks, "What are our best expectations of a promising new administration which carries the burdens of corporate influence that caused the desolation of our world?"

Matt is author of *Treating the Poor: A Personal Sojourn through the Rise & Fall of Community Mental Health* (1994), an account of his decades of experience as a community psychiatrist in Chelsea, MA.

January 18th -- Honoring Martin Luther King, Jr.

LORETTA J. WILLIAMS

"To Save the Soul of America: Reflections on Sheroes and Heroes"

A sociologist, educator and activist, Loretta Williams directs the Gustavus Myers Center at Simmons College. She is president of Racial Justice Connection, a national anti-racism consulting organization, and served as founding chair of the National Interreligious Commission on Civil Rights. Dr. Williams has taught at the Univ. of Missouri, SUNY-Buffalo, Brandeis & the Women's Theological Center. She was director of the Dept. for Social Justice of the Unitarian Universalist Assoc. from 1980 to 1989.

December 28th -- NANCY MURRAY

"The Destruction of Gaza"

Nancy Murray, who has visited Gaza a dozen times over the past 20 years, was denied entry in late October. She and 100 international health workers and academics tried to enter the Gaza Strip to speak at a conference, but ended up demonstrating at its border. She will talk about the recent history of Gaza and prevailing conditions today. Why has Jimmy Carter called the siege "an atrocity, a crime, an abomination" and Israeli activist Michel Warchawski declared that "Israel is conducting a rampant genocide against the people of Gaza"? What is our responsibility?

Dr. Murray is founder and president of the Gaza Mental Health Foundation, which raises funds for the work of the Gaza Community Mental Health Program founded by Dr. Eyad el Sarraj. She is also on the advisory board of U.S. Campaign to End the Israeli Occupation, as well as a member of various activist groups including the Boston Coalition for Palestinian Rights.

COMMUNITY
CHURCH OF BOSTON

Jason Lydon, Congregational Director

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Park at the Back Bay Garage for \$3 on Sunday until 1:30 with a special sticker available from the church.

By public transportation, Community Church is minutes from the Back Bay station (Orange line) or Copley (Green line).