

**Community Church of Boston**  
*A Peace and Justice congregation since 1920*

# sunday forums

**June 2011**

**Sundays at 11:00a.m.**

## A MONTH OF EDUCATING AGAINST THE PRISON INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX

**June 5th -- JAMES P. ROONEY**

**"Is the Death Penalty Dead?"**

Death sentences and executions are down. States are abolishing their death penalty statutes and popular support for the death penalty is at its lowest ebb in a generation. Is it now realistic to ask whether the U.S. will soon eliminate the death penalty--in theory or in practice?

James Rooney is president of Massachusetts Citizens Against the Death Penalty, the oldest active anti-death penalty organization in the country. He is a lawyer in Boston and adjunct professor at New England School of Law. Jim was an assistant district attorney in Brooklyn, New York and earlier served as law clerk for a justice of the California Supreme Court.

**June 12th -- Rev. JASON LYDON**

**"Life: A Penalty Worse than Death?"**

According to *The Other Death Penalty Project*, "a sentence of life without the possibility of parole is a death sentence. Worse, it is a long, slow, dissipating death sentence without any of the legal or administrative safeguards rightly awarded to those condemned to the traditional forms of execution. It exposes our society's concealed beliefs that redemption and personal transformation are not possible for all human beings, and that it is reasonable and just to forever define an individual by his worst act." In the wake of Arnie King's commutation denial, the report created by the Norfolk Lifers group, and the ongoing work to address the violence of the incarceration system, we will look at how Life may be a fate worse than death.

Rev. Jason Lydon is the minister of the Community Church of Boston.

**June 19th -- Annual Ethel and Julius Rosenberg Commemoration**

**JENN MEEROPOL**

**"Carry It Forward and Pass It on: The Next Generation"**

Jenn Meeropol, granddaughter of Ethel and Julius Rosenberg and soon-to-be executive director of the Rosenberg Fund for Children, will discuss the activist movements that are most in the cross-hairs today, as she shares stories of several recent RFC grant recipients. She'll describe the organization's commitment to passing on a legacy of progressive values from one generation to the next, and how that is playing out on many levels--from donors to beneficiaries to the Rosenberg/Meeropol family. Finally, Jenn will explain her plans to ensure that the RFC sustains the values of resistance and community her grandparents and those who fought for them embodied, as she leads the Rosenberg Fund for Children into the future.

**COMMUNITY**  
CHURCH OF BOSTON

**Rev. Jason Lydon, Minister**

**Community Church of Boston \* 565 Boylston Street, Boston MA (in Copley Square)**  
**tel. (617) 266-6710 \* fax (617) 266-0449 \* [www.communitychurchofboston.org](http://www.communitychurchofboston.org)**

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).