

Community Church of Boston
A Peace and Justice congregation since 1920

sunday forums

March 2008
Sundays at 11:00a.m.

March 2nd -- 26th Annual W.E.B. DuBois Memorial Address

LOUIS A. ELISA, II

"The Idea of a Progressive Society"

Louis Elisa is an advisor to Boston City Councilor Charles Yancey and co-founder of World Disaster Management, serving now as its director of international outreach for Africa and Europe. He was a coordinator/advisor in the campaigns of Deval Patrick for Governor and John Kerry for President, and is often seen as a political analyst on television. Mr. Elisa held several high-level appointments at the Federal Emergency Management Agency from 1994 to 2001.

Mr. Elisa will speak about what we value as Americans, who and what sets our agenda and prospective in life. Have we made progress toward a color-blind society, equity or justice? Can we ever succeed?



March 9th -- In Honor of International Women's Day

VALERIE ELVERTON DIXON

"God Almighty, Have Mercy"

There is no such thing as victory in war. The question becomes: how profound is the defeat. History and current events teach us that the most vulnerable of humanity suffer the defeats of war most deeply. From the women of Troy to the women of the Congo, slavery and rape change their lives forever. Today, women as combatants also suffer sexual abuse at the hands of their fellow warriors. We hear and we pray a prayer of lament. "God Almighty, have mercy."

Valerie Elverton Dixon is a womanist scholar interested in ethics, hermeneutics, postmodern, postcolonial and neo-pragmatist thought. She also works on issues of peace and justice. She is currently working on a book, its working title is "Jumping Double Dutch: Musings of a Womanist Mind at Play."

March 16th -- GRACE C. ROSS

"The Drift toward Fascism: What Is Demanded of Us as Activists?"

As we look to the work of changing our world, we know what really matters is that we can build with People Power. What does a climate of fear and distrust create inside & around us that erects barriers to change, shifts the ground beneath us, yet offers unexpected opportunities for justice?

Grace Ross helped to bring the Rainbow Coalition & Green Parties together, standing for election as their gubernatorial candidate in 2006. She is a long-time community organizer and former director of two grassroots non-profits.



March 23rd -- JASON LYDON

"Resurrecting Radicalism"

Easter celebrates the resurrection of the Christian messiah, Jesus of Nazareth. There are two primary stories of Jesus, one of the man and one of the divine. Jesus, the man, was a social radical, persecuted and executed for his actions. Time and time again those who were active in radical movements of the 1960's and 70's say that the movement for radical change has died; crucified by the state. We will explore whether or not that is true and what it would mean to resurrect radicalism in the United States today.

Jason Lydon is the Congregational Director at the Community Church of Boston. He is also a Divinity student at Andover Newton Theological School focusing his studies on Abolition theology, Anti-racist theology, and queer liberation.

March 30th -- Prof. H. PATRICIA HYNES

"Beyond War: Preconditions and Prophets"

Patricia Hynes is professor of environmental health at Boston Univ. School of Public Health. She is currently investigating, writing and speaking on the health effects of war & militarism on society and, in particular, on women. She will discuss the necessity of peace going into the 21st Century after a century of war, as well as the age of extremes of wealth and poverty in which we live!

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).