

COALITION for Peace Action UPDATE



Spring 2009

• 29 Years of Peacemaking •

Founded 1980

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Working for the global abolition of nuclear weapons, a peace economy, and a halt to weapons trafficking

SIXTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE IRAQ WAR

COUNTDOWN TO WITHDRAWAL

Thursday, March 19, 12 Noon

State House Steps

President Obama recently announced plans to withdraw combat troops from Iraq within 19 months and all troops by December 2011. But there are many forces pushing Obama in the opposite direction. The Coalition intends to keep the pressure up for withdrawal until **all** the troops come home.

In conjunction with the sixth anniversary of the war, the Coalition for Peace Action (CFPA) is organizing or co-sponsoring 11 events in the region, including a Regional Rally at 12 noon at the State House steps in Trenton (car pooling at 11:15 am from Princeton Shopping Center), and a three-part event in Princeton, co-sponsored with Seminarians for Peace & Justice, which will focus on opposing torture and begin at 7:00 pm in Miller Chapel on the Princeton Theological Seminary campus.

One of CFPA's newest affiliates, Mainline Peace Action, is co-sponsoring a vigil and forum at Villanova University. CFPA in Bucks and Eastern Montgomery Counties is holding three events: a bridge vigil on the Trenton Makes bridge, a symposium on the costs of war, and a vigil at Lockheed Martin. Our Delaware County, PA affiliates are holding vigils in Media and Landsdowne, PA.

For details on all the events going on in the region, see the CFPA website at www.peacecoalition.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 19 -- Sixth Anniversary of the Iraq War Events State House Regional Rally in Trenton at the State Capital steps from noon to 1:00 pm. Ten other events in the region. See www.peace-coalition.org.

March 19 -- End to Torture Interfaith Service, March and Candlelight Vigil in solidarity with victims of torture and war beginning at the Princeton Theological Seminary at 7:00 pm.

March 21 -- Retreat for Spirituality and Peacemaking 10 AM - 4 PM Fellowship in Prayer, 291 Witherspoon Street, Princeton

March 29 -- Intro to Afghanistan 2:30 to 4:30 pm Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 50 Cherry Hill Road. Program with slides, music and speakers with Afghanistan experience.

April 4 -- Beyond War: A New Economy is Possible CFPA is planning to join United Peace and Justice for a 12 noon March and Rally in New York City. Peace Train Pre-Boarding Rally at 9:30 AM at Trenton Station, leave for New York City at 10:02 AM.

April 13 -- Concert with Roseanne Cash and Mark O'Connor The Coalition has a block of tickets. 8:00 PM McCarter Theater, 41 University Place, Princeton.

May 31 -- Tri-Faith Walk Gather at 1:30 PM, leave 2:00 PM. Begin and end at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Trenton (801 West State Street).

November 15 -- Interfaith Service with Rabbi Michael Lerner, publisher of *Tikkun Magazine* and Co-Chair of the Network of Spiritual Progressives.



Beyond War
A New Economy is Possible

UFPJ MARCH AND RALLY Saturday, April 4

This April 4th United for Peace and Justice (UFPJ), a national peace organization, is holding a rally in New York City to urge Americans to move beyond war and to consider that a new economy is possible. UFPJ is calling for a national mobilization to "end the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and address the economic crisis by Cutting military spending."

CFPA is planning to travel to New York (via a *Just Peace Train*) to join with UFPJ. Coalition supporters will gather at the Trenton train station at 9:30 AM for a pre-boarding rally, where we will be joined by supporters coming from Pennsylvania, and then take the 10:02 AM train to New York for the 12 noon March and Rally on Wall Street.

INTERFAITH PEACE AND SPIRITUALITY RETREAT

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

FELLOWSHIP IN PRAYER
291 WITHERSPOON STREET
PRINCETON, NJ



The retreat, co-sponsored with Fellowship in Prayer, will feature Dr. Glen Stassen, a noted Christian ethicist, professor and Baptist theologian. He is known for his work on theological ethics, politics, social justice, and for developing the "Just Peacemaking" theory that emphasizes proactive peacemaking rather than reacting to war.

Stassen was a professor for twenty years at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He is currently the Lewis B. Smedes Professor of Christian Ethics at Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, California.

Stassen is also a contributor to *Sojourners Magazine* and has frequently appeared in the media, including the *Los Angeles Times* and "The O'Reilly Factor." His book *Kingdom Ethics: Following Jesus in Contemporary Context*, was awarded Best Book of the Year in the Theology/Ethics category by *Christianity Today* in 2004.

We are also fortunate to have Dr. George Hunsinger of the Princeton Theological Seminary. From 1997 to 2001, Dr. Hunsinger directed Princeton Seminary's Center for Barth Studies. In July 2001 he was appointed to the Hazel Thompson McCord Chair of Systematic Theology. He earned his Ph.D. from Yale University and taught at Bangor Theological Seminary and New Brunswick Theological Seminary before coming to Princeton.

Cost for the retreat is \$25.00 regular, \$15.00 student/low income. Includes lunch. Register at www.peacecoalition.org.

INTRO TO AFGHANISTAN

SUNDAY, MARCH 29

2:30 PM - 4:30 PM

SLIDES, SPEAKERS, ARTWORK

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

50 CHERRY HILL ROAD, PRINCETON



The Coalition for Peace Action is sponsoring an informational forum on Afghanistan. Speakers will include experts on Afghan politics, regional politics, Afghan history, Afghan arts, geography, and culture. Speakers will include Dr. Zia Mian of Princeton University, former Peace Corps volunteers who served in Afghanistan, Islamic art expert Dr. Elizabeth Ettinghausen, and others who will present a wealth of information about this largely unknown (to us) region. We are also planning a slide show and possibly film segments from films set in Afghanistan.

Come and ask your questions. Find out about the region that will figure importantly in our national policy debates for years to come.

ROSEANNE CASH



Roseanne Cash at McCarter!

The Coalition has bought a block of tickets for one of our favorite singers.
McCarter Theater - 91 University Place, Princeton, NJ at
8:00 PM, Monday, April 13, 2009.

Winner of the 2003 Grammy Award for best folk album, Cash is known for clever and insightful lyrics. In October of 2008, she wrote an article in *The Nation* entitled, "Why I'd be a Better VP Than Sarah Palin."

Tickets are on sale now at \$38 at seat (the same cost as buying from McCarter). Please reserve seats on our website (www.peacecoalition.org) using a credit card or use the coupon below to mail a reservation.

with Mark O'Connor



DETACH AND MAIL TO: COALITION FOR PEACE ACTION / 40 WITHERSPOON STREET / PRINCETON, NJ 08542

Roseanne Cash with Mark O'Connor Concert

(PLEASE PRINT)

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SIGNATURE _____

PLEASE CHARGE MY CREDIT CARD (COMPLETE INFO AT RIGHT) \$_____ TO RESERVE _____ PLACES (AT \$38 PER SEAT).

ENCLOSED IS MY CHECK (PAYABLE TO CFPA) FOR \$_____ TO RESERVE _____ PLACES AT (\$38 PER SEAT).

IF PAYMENT IS RECEIVED BY ONE WEEK BEFORE THE CONCERT, TICKETS WILL BE MAILED TO YOU.

CHAPTER HIGHLIGHTS

Bucks County, PA: Three Events on Thursday, March 19 -- 7:30 to 9:00 AM: **Vigil** on the Trenton Makes Bridge and Calhoun Street Bridges between Morrisville, PA and Trenton, NJ. Bring posters to witness against the war to rush hour traffic in the morning. 3:00-4:00 PM: **Forum** on The Cost of War at Bucks County Community College. 4:30-5:30 PM: **Vigil** at Lockheed Martin on the 413 bypass in Newtown. Contact for Bucks County events is Bill Deckhart at 215-380-6804, billdeckhart@verizon.net

Central New Jersey: Thursday, March 19, 12:00-1:00 PM: **Countdown to Withdrawal Regional Rally** on Steps of the New Jersey State House, 125 West State Street, Trenton. Carpooling from Princeton Shopping Center (Rite Aid end) at 11:15 AM. Sponsored by Coalition for Peace Action, contact Rev. Bob Moore cfpa@peacecoalition.org or (609) 924-5022

Princeton: Three-part Event Focused on Stopping Torture. 7:00 PM **Interfaith Service** at Miller Chapel, Princeton Theological Seminary. 7:30 PM **Candlelight March** from Miller Chapel to Palmer Square, Princeton. 8:00-9:00 PM **Interfaith Prayer Vigil** at Palmer Square, Princeton. Co-sponsored by Coalition for Peace Action and Seminarians for Peace and Justice. Contact Rev. Bob Moore cfpa@peacecoalition.org or (609) 924-5022

South Jersey: Sunday, March 22, 12:00 Noon: Reading the names of the troops from New Jersey who have died in Iraq and (if possible) Afghanistan. The observance will be at the Unitarian Universalist's new building, which is at the corner of Pomona Road and Liebig Street, Galloway Township, NJ, right across from the Stockton State College dorms. Contact: Norm Cohen (609) 601-8537 ncohen12@comcast.net

Philadelphia Area: Wednesday, March 18, 6:00-7:15 PM: Vigil at northwest corner of Ithan and Lancaster Avenues in Villanova. Sponsored by the Bryn Mawr Peace Coalition and the Villanova University Peace and Justice Education Program. Cosponsored by Mainline Peace Action and others. Wednesday, March 18, 7:30-9:00 PM: Seminar, The Military Industrial Complex: Bad for the Economy, Bad for Peace, in Room 134 of Driscoll Hall, Villanova University. Speakers include Bal Pinguel of American Friends Service Committee and Bob Smith of Brandywine Peace Community.

TRI-FAITH WALK

SUNDAY, MAY 31

BEGIN AND END AT

TRINITY CATHEDRAL

801 WEST STATE STREET, TRENTON
(PARKING LOT IN BACK)

Co-sponsored with many faith groups in Central New Jersey.

We will gather at 1:30 PM, walk begins promptly at 2:00 PM. Vans will be available for those who can't walk any or all of the way.



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The walk will go to Masjidut Mosque, 1001 East State Street for a presentation about Islam,



And include a stop at a site (still being determined) for a presentation about Judaism,

Final stop at Trinity Cathedral with a presentation about Christianity and, concluding with,

AN INTERFAITH POTLUCK

(Drop off dish at Trinity by 1:30 pm; please no pork or shell fish.)

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Peace Action Education Fund
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