

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

# sunday forums

**October 2007**  
**Sundays at 11:00a.m.**

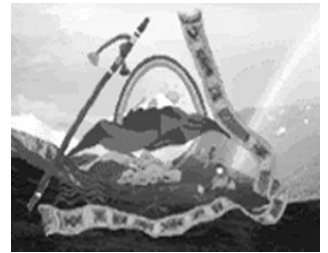
**October 7 -- Indigenous Peoples' Week: I**

**COLOMBIA VIVE**

**"Indigenous Resistance to the U.S.-Colombia Free Trade Agreement"**

The Boston-area solidarity group Colombia Vive, created 20 years ago, works to inform the public about the situation in Colombia; organizes opposition to U.S. military aid to Colombia; sponsors visits of human rights defenders, religious workers, trade unionists & grassroots activists to New England; and supports humanitarian aid efforts in Colombia.

Members of the organization will educate us about the harmful effects of military aid ("Plan Colombia"), as well as the many positive social movements in country. Other Colombia Vive foci are the needs of Colombia's vast numbers of displaced people, the environmental impact of the "drug war" and immigration legislation to assist Colombians.



**October 14 -- Indigenous Peoples' Week: II**

**BELKIS URDANETA**

**"Moving Beyond Rhetoric: Chavez' Venezuela and U.S. Policy"**

Belkis Urdaneta represents a human rights organization based in Maracaibo, in the oil-rich Venezuelan state of Zulia. She has been a community outreach worker for years, both in the capital of Caracas and most recently in the border state of Zulia. Through the Fundacion Buena Nueva, Belkis works with Colombian refugees as well as poor Venezuelans, and she teaches at the Cecilio Acosta Catholic University. She will share a grassroots perspective on the role of U.S. policy toward Venezuela.

This tour is sponsored by Witness for Peace, New England region, which brings human rights leaders and community activists from throughout the Americas to inform citizen groups here of social and economic conditions there. Through such tours, educational and religious organizations are called upon to work for the reform of policies that contribute to poverty and oppression.

**October 21 -- AYDAN RODRIGUEZ**

**"Queer Youth: Resiliency, Power, and Community"**

In July we began a relationship with BAGLY (The Boston Alliance of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Youth). Every Wednesday youth from BAGLY meet in the Community Church space. BAGLY provides weekly and monthly social activities and special events for people ages 22 and under. These activities provide an opportunity for youth to socialize, have fun and develop a sense of personal and community identity. BAGLY also has HIV, STD, Drugs, and Alcohol education and prevention programs in place. They actively educate and empower youth in making wise decisions regarding their health. Every other Wednesday we offer free HIV testing and counseling.



**October 28 -- DEAN STEVENS, LEE FICH, SUZIE GIROUX & FRIENDS**

**"El Salvador: Sister 'Cities' North and South"**

Dean Stevens led and two other Community Church members were part of a delegation to El Salvador this past summer. Hear the story of their visit to El Higueral--a tiny, remote, mountain village of subsistence farmers. These peasants have been deeply affected from the '80s to the present by the consequences of globalization, northward emigration, U.S. aggression and the heavy-handed suppression of dissent. Learn about the many Sister City initiatives, triumphs, doubts and difficulties. The struggle continues!

The travelers carried clothing and school & health supplies with them; they brought back crafts and coffee, which will be on sale (great gifts!). This experience will finish with a special Central American luncheon by our Salvadoran cook, Luis Alonzo Guzman.

**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).