

“IMMIGRATION REFORM”

with Jen Smyers,
Associate for Immigration and Refugee Policy, Church World Service

SUNDAY, AUGUST 22, 2010

12pm-1pm.

“Immigration from a Spiritual Perspective”

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Durango Sanctuary
419 San Juan Drive, Durango, CO

1:30pm-2:30pm.

“Standing in Solidarity with Immigrants: Your Personalized Plan to Change Immigration Policy”

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Durango Fellowship Hall
419 San Juan Drive, Durango, CO

3:30pm-4:30pm.

“Community Discussion: Why Durango - and the US at Large - Needs Immigration Reform”

Durango Recreation Center
2700 Main Ave, Durango, CO

sponsored by Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Durango

About Jen Smyers...

"I work in Washington, DC for the Immigration & Refugee Program of Church World Service, where I handle all of our domestic legislative affairs. In that work, I collaborate closely with...members of the Interfaith Immigration Coalition (interfaithimmigration.org <<http://interfaithimmigration.org>>). Together, we analyze immigration policy proposals, meet with members of the Administration and members of Congress to persuade them to make changes in these policies, and work with people across the US to report abuses and lift the voices of people of faith who support immigration reform.

I also represent the "faith community" on the management team for the Reform Immigration For America Campaign, a coalition of faith, labor, business, ethnic communities, civil liberties, and immigrants right organizations across the country. We work to provide additional resources to communities of faith who are interested in advocating for immigration reform, highlighting the links between global poverty trends and immigration issues, helping their communities understand these issues and be more welcoming to newcomers, and lifting the faith voice to be a prophetic message that immigration reform is a moral imperative. My focus is always on immigration reform that will reunite separated families, provide a process by which undocumented immigrants can earn their legal status, and reform our inhumane detention conditions, among other pieces.

For my travels, I'm most interested in meeting people of faith who are also interested in these issues - in learning more certainly, but specifically in educating their communities, lifting their voices in the immigration debate in conversations and the media, and in advocating with their members of congress for a common sense, humane solution to our badly broken immigration system that injures the lives of our brothers and sisters."