



Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations  
**Washington Office for Advocacy**

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October 11, 2007

Dear Friends,

Allow me to start by simply saying, Hallelujah!

As I delivered your 13,006 signatures to the offices of Speaker Pelosi, House Minority Leader Boehner, and Senate Majority Leader Reid, I was overwhelmed by our commitment, as Unitarian Universalists, to make our political leadership turn towards peace.

Joining me was Rev. John Thomas, the General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ. Together we presented the congressional leadership with 75,000 signatures of liberal religious persons. Once again, Hallelujah!

So many of you have offered your support and your advice for the Association's activism against this war. You have been heard. We are dedicated to keeping up the pressure until we see an Iraq that has come to know peace and justice.

That work is most effective and most sustainable when done in community, so I invite you to stay in continued relationship with the Association as we put our faith into action.

Consider engaging your congregation in the [Congregational Study Action Issue: Peacemaking](#). By using our many resources, your congregation can help articulate and live our faith on every level of peace, from the interpersonal to the international. We will be voting on a Peacemaking statement at the 2009 General Assembly.

I also invite you to sign up for our [Justice Action Network](#). Through these various email lists you can stay up to date about legislation, resources, and actions which give voice to our UU values.

As I sat in our Washington Office yesterday, looking the enormous stack of faxes from your congregations, I was reminded of words once said of Eleanor Roosevelt, "you have chosen to light a candle rather than curse the darkness".

This petition may not end the war, but by bringing our candles together, they certainly grow brighter. As I see that light growing, I pray for a rebirth of hope.

Thank you for all the good work you are doing, and know that you are not alone.

In Faith,

Rev. William G. Sinkford  
President, Unitarian Universalist Association