



URI eUpdate for June 2003

Our Monthly Electronic Newsletter

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North Carolina neighbors gather for interfaith holiday program.

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[1. Support URI](#)

Join with URI members around the globe to celebrate the third anniversary of the URI Charter signing June 26 – 28, 2003!

Give a special gift today to support the work of our global community – the URI. Your dollars support the thousands of people working daily to create cultures of peace, justice, and healing. Together we are creating a

better world.

Donate Now!

2. Letter from Charles Gibbs, Executive Director

Hope is a precious commodity in our world today, especially hope that comes from a belief that our lives can help change the world in a positive way...URI is about such a global hope, grounded in local action all over the world.

Read the full letter from Charles

3. Member News

URI's Cooperation Circles (CCs) at Work

Indigenous Youth Project in Argentina

June 2003

For the Indigenous People of Argentina CC, June has special significance for two important reasons: not only is it the beginning of the Earth's New Year, with the Summer Solstice on June 21, but it is the anniversary of URI. Global Council member Rosalia Gutierrez has been talking to groups of children in schools about Inti Raymi (sun festival). These children will be going to the Argentine legislature to request that June 21 be instituted as an Earth's New Year Holiday for the indigenous people. Their CC is bringing spiritual strength of the global URI community to the children for this project and will send photographs as gifts URI for its anniversary.

Interfaith Action in the USA

May 2003

Seven CCs in the Carolinas shared their highlights and dedication to interfaith activity at a recent gathering near Asheville, North Carolina.

The Hendersonville CC is raising money by selling a magnificent daily guide book, *Peacemaking Day by Day*. Proceeds from these sales will be donated to the Global AIDS Interfaith Alliance CC that works with HIV/AIDS in Africa. To honor Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday, 1000 people attended a social justice program offered collaboratively by the

Greenville CC and Faith Communities United.

Other CC meetings focused on thanksgiving practices shared by different religions with an emphasis on how different faiths view violence and nonviolence.

The Asheville CC hosted a winter holidays program to share how different religions use bread in their celebrations. Leftover bread was donated to a local homeless shelter. The Asheville CC also sponsored an interfaith teen retreat with over 75 participants.

These Carolina CCs want to find out what other CCs are doing around the world and to make contact with them. They dream of a documentary produced by a TV journalist like Bill Moyers that features URI CCs around the world. If you have any ideas about how URI can accomplish this, please let us know!

Contact URI

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