



The Interfaith Observer's Digital Index

Vol. I - September 2011 – August 2012
www.theinterfaithobserver.org



From TIO Feb. 2012 Photo: Sean McGinn, Faith House Manhattan

The title of each article in this digital index is a link to that article. Once you are in an article, you can click on the byline to find a short biography of its author. Or go to [About/Who We Are](#) to see a list of all their names and photos.

Monthly updates of the index are available to students and teachers; send your request to info@theinterfaithobserver.org.

And please visit The Interfaith Observer on Facebook!

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INTERFAITH HISTORY – Gaining an Historical Perspective – Foundational Documents – On these Shoulders

INTERFAITH CULTURE – Meaning Making – Social Justice – Interfaith Organizations

INTERFAITH SKILLSETS – RESOURCES

The Interfaith Observer (TIO) is an electronic journal created to explore interreligious relations and the interfaith movement as a whole.

TIO provides historical perspectives, surveys interfaith news, and otherwise provides maps and sign-posts for newcomers. It offers a context to explore and respond to the new religious world around us.

TIO is designed as a resource for the general reader, anyone interested in the subject; but articles will be filled with references and links for those who wish to pursue a particular subject.

TIO inquires into shared core values, offers various perspectives on the unparalleled religious diversity enveloping humankind, and reflects on theological and spiritual issues.

A long-term goal is to help grow connective tissue between large interfaith ventures and stakeholders and the rest of us. We promote the major institutional players. And provide space for the creative little guys all over the map who are doing wonderful new things.

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EDITORIALS

- **Why We Need an Interfaith Observer** (Sept 2011)
- **Recovering Interfaith History, Recovering Ourselves** (Oct 2011)
- **TIO In 2012** (Nov 2011)
- **Looking back at TIO's First Year** (Dec 2011)
- **TIO at the American Academy of Religions** (Dec 2011)
- **"Meaning" Brings Everyone to the Table** (Jan 2012)
- **The People Who Write for TIO** (Feb 2012)
- **Bowled Over by Emerging Interfaith Voices** (March 2012)
- **Hearing the Emerging Voices, Including Your Own** (April 2012)
- **Identifying Interfaith's Collaborative Imperative** (May 2012)
- **Getting to Know You** (June 2012)
- **Making it Happen in an Interfaith World** (July 2012)

INTERFAITH NEWS

The Interfaith Observer's Digital Index – Vol. 1 September 2011-July 2012

September 2011: A multifaith theological university is born – Gift of blood heals a community – Syracuse women transform tragedy into community – What Jews and Muslims share – Pope Benedict hosts historic interfaith prayer gathering – Religious freedoms curtailed for one in three – Muslim woman selected to lead Manhattan College Holocaust Center – New Global Centre for Pluralism launched in Toronto

October 2011: Diana Eck remembers 9/11 – Cataloguing 9/11 commemorations – Old promises fail to quell schoolbook bigotry – Religious freedom prevails in Tennessee – Canada moves to protect religious freedom – Taking a stand against intolerance – Oasis of Peace proves what is possible – Youth planners focus on hope and friendship – Interfaith campaign supports people with disabilities – Kudos to corporate responsibility pioneers

November 2011: Assisi Participants Disturbed – Sacred Land Threatened – Religious Leaders for Reconciliation – Muslims for Peace – Who Guarantees Religious Freedom? – Pakistani Clerics Concerned about Bigotry – Obama Celebrates Hinduism's Special Holiday – Claremont Scores Treasure Trove of Religious Information – When Bride & Groom Come from Different Faiths – The Puzzle of American Religion

December 2011: US Interreligious Worship Increases, but Slowly – Religious Advocates Go Professional – Jewish Seminary Joins Toronto's School of Theology – Major Investment in Interfaith Studies – Faith Groups Meet In Italy To Promote Green Pilgrimages – Religious Leaders Challenge Governments on Climate – Interfaith Gardening in Texas – International Youth Compete for Faith Video Awards

January 2012: Obama Hosts Religious Tolerance Conference for Muslim Governments – Pope Calls for "Shared Responsibility" Among Religions – U.S. Military Welcomes its First Hindu Chaplain – Faith Communities Educating Each Other in Singapore – Muskegon, Michigan, Dedicating a Year to Interfaith Understanding – Australian Interfaith Activists Oppose Domestic Violence – 35 Acres Purchased for Multifaith Neighborhood in Omaha, Nebraska – Praying Together a 5-Year Tradition in Edmonton Abrahamic Communities – Haifa's Holidays Embrace Religious Differences – Muslim, Hindu, Christian Children Celebrate Together at One Pakistan School

February 2012: Martin Luther King Jr.'s Interfaith Perspective – South Africa's Religious Leaders Organize – RFP Condemns Interreligious Violence in Nigeria – Muslims and Jews Under One Roof – Interfaith Peace Workshops Launched in Pakistan – Interfaith Youth Meet in Cambodia – Interfaith Youth Take on Landmines in Poland – Pope Promotes Young Adult Jewish-Catholic Dialogue – Praying & Chanting Each Month for Peace – Greening America's Sanctuaries – Scarborough Mission's Golden Rule Poster Now in Urdu

March 2012: Major New Interfaith Award – Faith Groups Appeal to Politicians – NYC Religious Leaders Say No to Religious Profiling – Rome Calls for Financial Accountability – Elizabeth Promotes Protection of All Religions – Interfaith Civic Group Stops Crime – United Kingdom's Nine Major Faith Communities To Collaborate – Jewish Cooperation Enables Shi'ite-Sunni Cemetery – Lebanese School teaches Respect of others and of Religion – Visitation Program in Chicago Connects Eight Traditions

April 2012: Interfaith Community Called to Account on Climate – Saying No to Trafficking – Dying for the Cause – Religious Freedom Monitored Globally – Interfaith Reconciliation Efforts in Sri Lanka – Love Letters for the Middle East – Muslims Broach the Tough Issues – Waking Up About Water – Tourism for the Common Good – Michigan High Schoolers Receive Interfaith Funding – Spiritual Perspectives on Animal Care – Coptic Christians in Mourning

May 2012: Global Nutrition in Trouble – Tanzania Succeeds with Religious Peacemaking – Calls for Peace in the Midst of War – Jewish Trained Muslim Woman Staffs Christian Coalition – Clerics Stand Against Arizona's Harsh Anti-Immigrant Law – Middle Eastern Christians Threatened – Florida Amendment Proposes State Funding for Religion – Tibetan Temple In Texas – Student Prize-winning Interfaith Comic Book – Catholic-Sikh Relations Affirmed – Houston Interfaith Gala Raises Over \$1 Million – A Neuropsychological Basis For Spirituality? – Remembering Ma Jaya Sati Bhagavati

June 2012: Archbishop Commends Bangladeshi Interfaith Harmony – U.S. Ambassador's Wife Networked with Pakistan's Interfaith Women – U.S. Congressman Promoting Global Meditation – Toronto Rabbi Targets Religious Certainty – Associated Baptist Press Reassesses Interfaith

Friendship – Global Anti-Malaria Net Effort Travelling the World – Interfaith Themes Featured at Film Festival – Religious Leaders & White House Chef Talk Childhood Obesity – Buddhists Host Christians, Jews & Muslims in New French Temple – In Memoriam: Abdulaziz Khaki, Canadian Interfaith Leader

July 2012: American Muslims Struggle for Religious Freedom – Kenyans Confronting Terrible Violence – Buddhist Peace Activists Call for Respect in Thailand – Myanmar Multi-faith Clergy Opposing Interreligious Violence – Middle East Peacemakers Seek Canadian Support – Religious Leaders Fast in Common Protest – Seminarian Warriors of Hope in a Crusade Against Ignorance – Penance Called for Doctrines of Oppression – Mohamed Morsi Makes Inclusive Choices in Cairo – Crafting an Interfaith Monarchy – Obama Stays Interfaith Friendly – First Westerner Invited to Lead Major Buddhist Monastery in India – Native and Orthodox Rites Overlap in Alaska Cemetery – 2010 U.S. Religious Census Comes with Surprises

INTERFAITH REPORTS

September 2011: From... Baku, Azerbaijan – London – Phoenix, Arizona

October 2011: From... Montreal – Geneva

November 2011: From... New York City – Doha, Qatar – Amman, Jordan

December 2011: From... Marrakech, Morocco – Abu Dhabi – Toronto

January 2012: From... Mogadishu, Somalia – Durban, South Africa

February 2012: From... New York City – Toronto – Manila – Nashville, Tennessee

March 2012: From... Geneva – Jerusalem – Marrakech, Morocco

April 2012: From... Haridwar, India by Rachael Watcher (April 2012)

May 2012: From... Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, on Religious Freedom by Mark Kellner – Berkeley, California, on Occupy Faith by Nichola Torbett

June 2012: From Berkeley, California, Opening Many Doors to the Spirit by Leslie Leasure

July 2012: From Sarajevo, Europe – Vision of Living Together in Diversity and Harmony

KEEPING UP

- **Interfaith Opportunities**
- **Major Events Calendar**
- **Religious Calendar**
- **TIO Update**

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INTERFAITH HISTORY



From TIO Oct. 2011

Photo: Don Frew

Gaining an Historical Perspective

- **Looking Back to Light Our Future: Interfaith Culture Before 1893** by Jesse Tanner (Oct 2011)
- **Reclaiming Ashoka – An Iron Age Interfaith Exemplar** by Harish Singhal and Paul Chaffee (Oct 2011)
- **Crossing the Ocean & Changing the World: A Profile of Swami Vivekananda** by Paul Chaffee (Oct 2011)
- **A Dream that is Contagious – the Growth of Interfaith Understanding and Cooperation Since 1893** by Marcus Braybrooke (Oct 2011)
- **Seeing the Big Picture – A TIO Interview with Marcus Braybrooke** (Oct 2011)
- **Lessons from 21 Years with the Parliament** by Helen Spector (Nov 2011)
- **How the 1993 Parliament Changed My Life** by Kay Lindahl (Oct 2011)
- **Indigenous Peoples Making an Interfaith Difference** by Marcus Braybrooke (March 2012)
- **Protecting the Sacred in a Shattered World** by Phil Lane (April 2012)
- **Thich Nhat Hanh: In 100 Years There May Be No More Humans on Planet Earth**, interview by Tom Levitt for the Ecologist (May 2012)
- **Interfaith and Peace, Social Justice and Respect for the Earth** by Marcus Braybrooke (May 2012)

Foundational Documents

- **Foundational Documents of the Interfaith Movement** by Jesse F. Tanner (Oct 2011)
- **The Oneness of the Human Family** by Marcus Braybrooke (Jan 2012)

On These Shoulders

- **The Legacy of Juliet Hollister** by Alison Van Dyk (Oct 2011)
- **Knowing Huston Smith** by Heng Sure (Oct 2011)
- **Dadi Janki – A Timeless Woman with a Timely Message** by Ruth Broyde Sharone (Dec 2011)
- **Rita Semel's 90th Birthday** by Paul Chaffee (Dec 2011)

- **Remembering John Hick (1922-2012)** by David Cramer (April 2012)
- [Charles Bonney and the Idea for a World Parliament of Religions](#) by Marcus Braybrooke (June 2012)
- **John Henry Barrows: Producing the First Parliament of Religions** by Marcus Braybrooke (July 2012)

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INTERFAITH CULTURE



From TIO Jan 15, 2011

Photo: Marcus Braybrooke

- **An Interfaith Challenge for the 21st Century** – Video interview with Diana Eck (Sept 2011)
- **From Hatred to Healing** by Andrew Kille (Sept 2011)
- **What Excites Me about Interfaith Work? – Introducing Interfaith 3.0** by Bettina Gray (Dec 2011)
- **Finding Sanctuary in an Amsterdam Airport** by Ruth Broyde Sharone (Nov 2011)
- **Translating Kalema - Images that Speak a Thousand Words** by P. K. McCary (Dec 2011)
- **Torah, Sequined Saris, Chapattis, and Peace** by Ruth Broyde Sharone (Oct 2011)
- **Experience Your Neighbor's Faith to Deepen Your Own** by Samir Selmanovic and Bowie Snodgrass (Feb 2012)
- **Telling Stories of Muslims and Christians in Syria** by Stephanie Saldana (Feb 2012)
- **When Dialogue is Not Enough** by Ruth Broyde Sharone (Feb 2012)
- **Reconciling the Blessings and Challenges of Diversity through Ancestral Spiritual Values** by Yolanda Trevino (March 2012)
- **Wiccans, Indigenous Peoples, and the Interfaith Movement** by Don Frew (March 2012)

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- **What Do Women Bring to the Table?** by Kimberly King, Pamela Jay Gottfried, Rita M. Gross, Rosemary R. Ruether, and Nahid Angha (March 2012)
- **A Review of *My Neighbor's Faith*** by Paul Chaffee (April 2012)
- **A Review of Ruth Broyd Sharone's *Minefields & Miracles*** by Paul Chaffee (May 2012)
- **Rebranding Interfaith** by Rabbi Sarah Bassin (June 2012)
- **"Interfaith 3.0" from the Outside** by Don Frew (June 2012)
- **Why Interfaith Understanding Is More Important Than Ever in Leadership** by Tony Blair (June 2012)
- **What's Right with this Picture?** by TIO Correspondent Ruth Broyde Sharone (July 2012)
- **Shinnyo-en Memorial Ceremony Draws 40,000** by Paul Chaffee (July 2012)

Meaning Making

"How Do I Make Meaning Out of Life? - Seven Interreligious Leaders Respond (Jan 2012)

- **How I Make Meaning in Life** by Jim Burklo, Christian
- **Ice-breakers, Dancing, and Meaning Making** by Vanessa Gomez, Humanist
- **What is Most Meaningful in My Life as a Buddhist** by Rita Gross, Buddhist
- **Starting with Moksha and Karma Yoga** by Samir Kalra, Hindu
- **One Thousand Words on "Meaning"** by Nancy Fuchs Kreimer, Jewish
- **Faith and the Journey toward Meaning** by Craig Phillips, Muslim
- **The Fiery Force that Sparkles in Everything** by Yoland Trevino, Mayan

"How Do I Make Meaning Out of Life? – Eight Young Adults Respond (Jan 2012)

- **State of Formation Weighs in on Meaning**
- **Internal Diversity & Intra-Faith Conversations** by Simran Jeet Singh, Sikh
- **Finding Meaning Within Judaism** by Lauren Tuchman, Jewish
- **Meaning Making: The Religion that Lets You Live and Let Live** by Sai Santosh Kolluru, Hindu
- **The Ocean of My Words** by Phillippe Copeland, Baha'i
- **Meaning and meaning: An Important Difference** by Kile Jones, Unitarian Universalist
- **The Search for Meaning** by Myriam Francois-Cerrah, Muslim
- **Meaning vs. Hope** by Yaira Robinson, Jewish
- **Making Sense of the Bible: What Grandma and Seminary Taught Me** by Kit Evans, Christian
- **Pluralism: A Home For All Of Us – Paul Knitter & 21st Century Religion** by Paul Chaffee (Jan 2012)
- **As Iron Sharpens Iron, So Does One Tradition Sharpen Another** by Benjamin DeVan (Jan 2012)
- **When Wiccans & Evangelical Christians Become Friends** by Don Frew (Jan 2012)
- **Indian Spirituality at T Mobile Los Angeles** by Ruth Broyde Sharone (Jan 2012)
- **Finding My Voice in Interfaith Work** by Jennifer Peace (March 2012)

- **Ibtisam Mahameed, Not Afraid to Speak Out** by Ruth Broyde Sharone (March 2012)
- **Double-Edged Daggers** by Valarie Kaur (excerpted from *My Neighbor's Faith*) (April 2012)
- **A Review of "Golden States of Grace"** by Paul Chaffee (April 2012)
- **Exploring Religious Identity in Omaha and Beyond** by Beth Katz (April 2012)
- **One Muslim's Interfaith Resolutions** by Sohaib Saeed (June 2012)
- **Interfaith Relations: Do the Math!** by Mark Diamond (July 2012)

Social Justice

- **Compassion, Charity, and Interfaith Culture** by Terry Weller (Dec 2011)
- **Religiously Motivated Peacemaking – A Report Card** by Paul Chaffee (Sept 2011)
- **Ebrahim Rasool Keynote Address Electrifies Claremont Lincoln University Launch** by Paul Chaffee (Sept 2011)
- **URI Leads Non-Violent Elections Campaign in Uganda** by Julian Foley (Oct 2011)
- **Occupy's Sacred Mob and the Politics of Vagrancy** by Vincent Gonzalez (Nov 2011)
- **"I'll Have a Dark Roast Mocha Latte with Social Values to Go"** by Sandy Westin (Feb 2012)
- **An Open Letter to All Peoples of Faith & Practice** from Joaquinsho, Oren Lyons (March 2012)
- **How a Samoan Mormon Became a Global Interfaith Activist** by Ruth Broyde Sharone (April 2012)
- **Interfaith Call to Action on Climate Change** from the Interfaith Moral Action on Climate Change (May 2012)
- **Debate Over Mother Earth's 'Rights' Stirs Fears of Pagan Socialism** by Bron Taylor (May 2012)
- **How Faith Communities Are Supporting the Earth** by Paul Chaffee (May 2012)
- **Social Justice as a Unifying Issue for Dharmic Communities** by Joshua Stanton (May 2012)
- **Clooney, Kony and Why Interfaith Matters** by Greg Damhorst (May 2012)
- **Where the Anti-Muslim Path Leads** by Anya Cordell (June 2012)
- **When Interfaith Activists Face Violence** by Marites Guingona Africa (July 2012)
- **Rio+ 20: After the Speeches, the Work Begins** by Grove Harris (July 2012)

Interfaith Organizations

- **Religion's New Face in the World – Grassroots Interfaith Organizations** by Paul Chaffee (Nov 2011)
- **Growing Grassroots Organizations Globally** by Sally Mahé (Nov 2011)

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- **International Interfaith Stakeholders Today** (Nov 2011)
- **Backgrounder – Temple of Understanding** (Nov 2011)
- **Backgrounder – Religions for Peace** (Nov 2011)
- **Backgrounder – Council for Parliament of the World's Religions** (Nov 2011)
- **Backgrounder – United Religions Initiative** (Nov 2011)
- **Backgrounder – Interfaith Youth Core** (Nov 2011)
- **Eboo Patel – Spokesperson in the Making** by Paul Chaffee (March 2012)
- **NAIN – a Profile: Seeding the Interfaith Movement** by Paul Chaffee (Nov 2011)
- **The \$100,000 Question in the Interfaith Movement – Are We There Yet?** by Bud Heckman (Nov 2011)
- **Unique Clergy Network Empowers Religion Sector** by Paul Chaffee (Feb 2012)
- **Youth Redefining Interfaith Activism Globally** by Frank Fredericks (March 2012)
- **Women & Spirituality at the UN Commission on the Status of Women** by Kathe Schaaf (April 2012)
- **What the “Emerging Interfaith Voices” Tell Us** by Bud Heckman (April 2012)
- **Interfaith Women Exploring New Ways to Lead** by Kay Lindahl (April 2012)
- **Finding Your Voice in an Interfaith World** by Joshua Stanton (April 2012)
- **NAINConnect 2012 Comes to Atlanta Next Month** by TIO Staff (June 2012)
- **The Power of Interfaith-Based Community Organizing** by Zachary Hoover (July 2012)
- **Rights, Responsibilities, and Skills of Dialogue** by Patrice Brodeur (Sept 2011)
- **A Safe Place to Address Prejudice, Stereotypes, and Fears** by Thomas Bonacci (Sept 2011)
- **The Language of Interfaith Conversation** by JW Windland (Sept 2011)
- **Guidelines for Engaging in Productive Interfaith Dialogue** by Don Frew (Sept 2011)
- **Best Practices for Interreligious Ministry** by Ruben Habito (Dec 2011)
- **A ‘Dialogue of Life’ Approach to Interfaith Peace in West Africa** by Nathan Samwini (Sept 2011)
- **Getting to know you... a lot better** by Jim Wiggins [Review of The Dialogue Comes of Age: Christian Encounters with Other Traditions (2011), John Cobb & Ward McAfee, Eds.] (Sept 2011)
- **A Conversation with John Cobb** by Joshua Stanton (Sept 2011)
- **Taking the Frightening Next Step in Interfaith Dialogue** by Rami Shapiro (Sept 2011)
- **Leaders for Tomorrow's Interfaith Organizations: the Necessary Tools** by Janet Penn (Nov 2011)
- **Three Tips for Interfaith Success** by Vern Barnet (Nov 2011)
- **Should People of Different Faiths Pray Together?** by Marcus Braybrooke (Feb 2012)
- **Making Interfaith Cooperation a Social Norm** by Dan Pawlus (April 2012)
- **Peacemaking – Seeking, Finding, Starting** by Angela Butel (May 2012)
- **NewGround Interfaith Engagement Model Reaches Egypt** by Eliana Kaya and Sarah Bassin (May 2012)
- **Talking to Tomorrow's Peacemakers** by Akash Mehta (May 2012)
- **Interfaith Peacemaking on the Documentary Screen** by Ruth Broyde Sharone (May 2012)
- **Confronting ‘the Other’ in Your Own Community** by Ruth Broyde Sharone (June 2012)
- **Bridge-building - the Hard Lessons** by Rachael Watcher (June 2012)
- **How to Survive Well with Religious Diversity** by Rita M. Gross (June 2012)
- **Evangelicals and Interreligious Dialogue: the Next Generation** by John W. Morehead (June 2012)
- **Dealing with Religion's Messiness** by Paul Louis Metzger and John W. Morehead (July 2012)
- **Healing as an Interfaith Practice** by Francis Geddes (July 2012)

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INTERFAITH SKILLSETS



From TIO July, 2012

Photo: Shinnyo-en Foundation

- **The Lost Art of Listening** by Kay Lindahl (Sept 2011)

RESOURCES

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- **Three Ways to Find Excellent Interfaith Resources** (Sept 2011)
- **Ten Excellent Internet Sources for Interfaith News & Commentary** (Oct 2011)
- **Interfaith 101 for Us All – A Review of Bud Heckman's InterActive Faith** by Paul Chaffee (Nov 2011)
- **Launching “On Common Ground 2.0”** by Whittney Barth (Dec 2011)
- **New Harvard Journal Focuses on Comparative Theology** by Sandy Westin (Jan 2011)
- **“Honoring Diverse Beliefs: A Children Centered Toolkit” (Sept 2011)**
- **KidSpirit – Youth Model the Spirit of Religious Pluralism** by Elizabeth Dabney Hochman (Feb 2012)
- **New Journal on Religion and Contemporary Life** by Kile Jones (Feb 2012)
- **“What Do You Believe?” – Teens Weigh In** (March 2012)
- **“Infrastructure” Website Documents Grassroots Interfaith in the U.S.** (March 2012)
- **March 2012 – Guide to Religious Tolerance In A Hostile Environment – New Golden Rule Video – New Video: From A Village in India to Multi-Cultural Toronto – Meaning Making Involves Us All**
- **Golden Rule Commentaries & Catholic-Jewish Historic Milestones Available** (June 2012)
- **Parliament of the World's Religions Webinars (July 2012)**



From TIO April 2012

Photo: Rick Nahmais