

represented in the Association. Michael Hotrum's other guest, **Kevin Virtue**, IARF's Young Adult Representative describes an international network of 200 young adults. He says that they want to create a resource centre for those who see religious intolerance in their countries. He gives examples of projects that have resulted in more harmonious relations where previously there had been hostility.

Growing a New Unitarian Congregation

Host: Michael Hotrum

The **Rev. Cheryl Jack**, of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Durham Region, and the **Rev. Wayne Walder** of Neighbourhood Unitarian Universalist Congregation describe their experience in "growing" their respective new congregations. They also both speak to their decision to make mid-life career changes and become Unitarian ministers.

How Welcoming Are Unitarians?

Host: Michael Hotrum

The **Rev. Dr Mark Morrison-Reed**, co-minister at First Unitarian Congregation of Toronto, discusses the problem of inclusiveness within Unitarian congregations. He has written three books on the topic: *Black Pioneers in a White Denomination*, *Been in the Storm So Long* and *How Open the Door*. Mark describes his childhood in the Chicago Unitarian church as a member of the first black family there, and his

experiences as the first Afro-American to grow up within the movement. He talks of how minority groups have been "welcomed" by Unitarian congregations. He suggests that although minority groups are now better represented in Unitarian congregations, we still have a long way to go.

Living beyond Our Abilities

Host: Michael Hotrum

Professor Thomas Homer-Dixon won the 2001 Governor General Award for his book *The Ingenuity Gap*, based on research into many complex problems facing the world. He credits the influence of Unitarian-Universalism and its tolerance of ambiguity, with helping his thinking. He describes his travels to developing countries; the widening disparities between rich and poor; the information overload that interferes with problem solving; and the rising rates of depression among young people in developed countries. He tells many stories and gives vivid examples to illustrate the many influences on his book.

SUGGEST A TOPIC

Contact: Yvonne Greig at ygreig@ca.inter.net and let her know of any topics or people you would like us to highlight. We record two shows a year, and they are broadcast throughout the year on Rogers Cable network.UU Television

UU TELEVISION

A service of



UUTV History

UU TV's history parallels the history of the Community TV Channel in Toronto. In 1976, the late **Gil Gillespie** of First Unitarian Congregation of Toronto produced Unitarian TV using the facilities of Metro Cable. In 1978 **Horizon Interfaith Council** was established to include 15 other religious groups, and later, as Rogers Communications Inc. expanded, the Council was able to broadcast programs to the whole Greater Toronto Area, Oakville to Pickering, and north to Uxbridge.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST TELEVISION

Recorded shows

These programs were produced for the Unitarian Congregations of Greater Toronto (UCGT), a member group of Horizon Interfaith Council. They were recorded off-air onto VHS tapes 2000 to 2007. Those and all subsequent programs are available in DVD+R format. All remain Rogers' copyright property, subject to "fair use" limitations.

Out of the Cold

Host: Michael Hotrum

Margaret Vandenbroucke and the **Rev. Jeffrey Brown** describe the **Out of the Cold** program in Toronto and in Mississauga. Margaret, a member of First Congregation of Toronto, talks about her nine year involvement in an ecumenical program to help the homeless in Toronto. The Rev. Jeffrey Brown, minister at the Unitarian Congregation of South Peel in Mississauga, describes an affordable housing project that the Unitarian

congregation, a local synagogue and United Church initiated 15 years ago. He also discusses more recent efforts to address the problem in the Peel region by opening church facilities as shelters.

A Tribute to Gil Gillespie follows this program. Gil was one of the founding members of Horizon Interfaith Council. He died suddenly in 2000.

Unitarian Religious Education

Host: Diane Boyer

Diane Bosman, DRE Lifespan Learning First Unitarian Congregation of Toronto, **Beth Ann McFadden**, a parent teacher at First, and **Karyn Burney**, DRE, Unitarian Congregation of South Peel discuss the broad topic of Unitarian RE with host Diane Boyer. They describe the curriculum, and how it is used at the various grade levels. Photographs show various program activities. This program is intended for those whose understanding of "religious education" or "Sunday School" might be of a more creedal based curriculum.

Concert Special 2000

Gil Gillespie introduces performers from four member groups of the Horizon Interfaith Council. Four styles of singing, two languages, Portuguese and English, represent the diverse nature of Horizon Interfaith Council's membership.

The first performance consists of two relaxed, slow tempo gospel songs from Edouardo Fernandez, of *The Portuguese Colheita Ministry*; with two guitars and keyboard; next was a song with a distinct West Indian flavour sung by Carl Anderson of *The Church of Scientology*; the singing style of Lisia Dos Santos and Cassiana of *The Portuguese Assembly of God* had the power of the music theatre; finally, *First Unitarian Congregation of Toronto* sent their Chamber Choir, four unaccompanied soprano soloists, directed by Mary Piercey.

You May already Be a Unitarian

Host: Diane Boyer

The **Rev. Dr. Mark Morrison-Reed** and **Diane Boyer** discuss their experiences from the viewpoint of persons of different countries, with different backgrounds who were brought up in Unitarian families.

The International Association for Religious Freedom (IARF)

Host: Michael Hotrum

Ellen Campbell, IARF Vice President, talks about the natural fit of Unitarians into this multi-faith network of religious groups working for religious freedom around the world. She lists the major religions and countries that are

Unitarians and Social Action

Host: Michael Hotrum

Norman McLeod, Social Action Chair at South Peel, outlines the democratic processes whereby a congregation and the Canadian Unitarian Council select issues for social action. Norman describes the formation of Canadian Unitarians for Social Justice (CUSJ), an organization of individual Unitarians and Universalists, and like-minded others, and its capability to respond quickly to social injustices at a less formal level.

Unitarians in Canada

Host: Michael Hotrum

Mary Bennett, Executive Director of the Canadian Unitarian Council gives an articulate, thoughtful and coherent overview of the recent evolution of the CUC during her five year tenure.

It addresses the friendly separation from the Unitarian Universalist Association in the United States, the redirection of the CUC towards a truly national Canada wide organization, and the evolving capability to offer support to congregations of all sizes, wherever they are located in Canada. A "must see" for all Unitarians and Universalists.

CUC Lay Chaplaincy Program

Host: Michael Hotrum

This program is worthwhile viewing for any Unitarian. Michael Hotrum does a fine job in drawing out the distinction between "Chaplain" and "Lay Chaplain".

Germaine Kovary and **Kathryn McIntyre**, the two Lay Chaplains being interviewed, present wonderful perspectives of their roles in their congregations and within the wider community. They discuss the opportunities that a Unitarian ceremony presents to people from diverse backgrounds. Such people, with highly personal spiritual needs, can develop their own unique ceremonial format, which has meaning for them. The program also includes some heart-warming examples of the experiences these Lay Chaplains have had in their roles.

Resettling New Canadians

Host: Yvonne Greig

Guests **Erika Lautenschlaeger** of South Peel and **Margaret Rao** of First Unitarian Toronto, describe the refugee Sponsorship process.

They talk about their experiences with "their families", fund-raising activities undertaken by their respective congregations; budgeting to support a family, and how they introduced newcomers to Canadian society.

They offer tips to other would be sponsors, including information about supporting agencies that advise sponsors .

Building Green Communities: Religious and Residential

Host: Yvonne Greig

Catherine Tafler, a professional architect, outlines South Peel's project, a "green" extension to its current worship space. She describes the congregation's process that led to the decision to build, and the environmentally friendly features that have been incorporated.

Mairy Beam, member of First Unitarian Congregation of Toronto, describes her journey towards a full time commitment to living full time in a "green" village, one of the Whole Village movement. She describes the organic gardening project, and how the village plans to become completely self -sustaining.

Letting Our Light Shine

Host: Karen Jackson

Karyn Burney, of South Peel, and **Kalvin Drake**, of First Unitarian, Toronto describe the events leading up to the production of professionally designed promotional materials for Unitarianism..

The showpiece banner is on display during the program, as Karyn and Kalvin talk about, and demonstrate the multi-

purpose use of a wide range of materials. The viewer will learn about the symbolism of various elements within the highly colourful design. A well received workshop given at South Peel to help individuals talk about Unitarianism, is also described.

Making a Better World

Host: Yvonne Greig

Richard Kirsh, Co-ordinator of the Central America Volunteer Construction Project, at First Congregation, Toronto, describes how he first became interested in building schools in Central America, tracing the story of his continued involvement. He covers the history of the project, the people who volunteer, what they do, and includes photos of them and their work. This program should be seen by anyone contemplating volunteering for a trip. Richard also spoke highly of World Accord, the umbrella charitable organization with which the project is now affiliated.

Engaged Diversity

Host: Wendy Shusterrman

The **Rev. Debra Faulk**, describes a new Canadian Unitarian Council program that she has introduced to Don Heights Unitarian Congregation. She explains that the program is a resource for self reflection about the visible and invisible diversity of the community outside the congregation. She describes the

activities: discussion, movies, knowledgeable speakers, and worship services, and their orientation to both visible and invisible diversities. With a particular emphasis on "engaged" as doing the work, and the specific examples of what to do, this program will be useful to congregations interested in becoming more diverse.

Sexuality Education: What is Outercourse?

Host: Tracey Szarka

Neal den Hollander and **Sheila Bjarnason**, Co-leaders of the OWL program give a comprehensive description of the OWL (Our Whole Lives) program. "Outercourse" is defined as appropriate alternatives to actual "intercourse" for teens in intimate relationships. Co-developed with the United Church of Christ in the United States in the 1990s, the program has expanded to provide sexuality education for 6 age levels, K through to Adult. The main focus of the discussion is the teen program, the need for respectful, knowledgeable teachers, characteristics of a typical session, the mandatory parent orientation sessions and the leadership training are covered. This is an exceptionally well presented and informative overview of the OWL program with universal appeal.