## **Bound for Peace**



### 2008-09 ORGANIZATIONAL REVIEW

The United Religions Initiative, or URI, is a grassroots, bridge-building organization that believes when people's passions and initiative are organized, connected and shared, they can create a sustaining global force for good. Through local interfaith communities around the globe, URI transforms religious tension into positive social change. Join us.



# **Dear Friends**



Greetings! The past year-and-a-half has been a remarkable one for URI as we continue to work toward peace, justice and healing around the world. Through hundreds of local grassroots interfaith communities, URI transforms religious tensions into positive social change.

The highlight of the past year-and-a-half surely is the Global Assembly in Mayapur, India, held in the first week of December, 2008. A rich opportunity for over 300 people - young and old from all over the globe to create a deeper global community and share a vision of peace and to celebrate the power of the human spirit within the tremendous variety of religions, spiritual traditions and cultures.

The reach of URI keeps growing. We are extremely proud that one of our new Global Council Trustees from the Middle East/ North Africa Region is our first Palestinian representative, Tareq Altamimi. Another recently elected Global Trustee, Maulana Syed Muhammad Abd-ul-Khabir Azad, is the Grand Imam of the Badshahi Mosque in Lahore, Pakistan, one of the largest mosques in the world.

Through the creation of the President's Council, under the leadership of Bishop Swing and Mr. John Weiser, Chairman, URI is rapidly expanding its ability to implement new programs. President's Council members are helping to launch new initiatives, such as the Environmental Satellite, as well as reviving the Circles of Light Gala, our signature fundraising event, which in 2009 generated a staggering \$1 million for the work of URI around the world.

In June, the URI's Global Council and Staff met for one week in the San Francisco Bay Area at Vallombrosa Catholic Retreat Center. On Wednesday of that week, we had an unique opportunity to engage both the Global Council and Global Staff with members of the President's Council. Regional teams of Global Council Trustees and Regional Coordinators presented the fruits of the previous two days devoted to developing of three year strategic plans to grow URI's scope and impact in each region.

As URI's 10th Anniversary in 2010 approaches, we thank you for your unflagging support and look forward to continuing to share URI's transformative journey of interfaith cooperation for peace, justice and healing around the world.

Faithfully,

William E. Swing

The Rt. Rev.

President

Win Z. Soning yoland Trevino ChaleCills

Yoland Trevino Global Council Chair The Rev. Canon Charles P. Gibbs **Executive Director** 



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# **URI's Growing Presence in the World**

URI is an idea that could not have found its place in the world without the Internet. It made our network possible and allowed for the tremendous arc of growth since the signing of the charter in 2000.



Today URI touches more than 1.5 million people each year and encompasses over 400 Cooperation Circles in 70 countries on every continent of the world.

How do people find their way to URI?

Through URI's global website at www.uri.org where 45,000 people each month log on to check out our online community, experience our work around the globe and see an array of movies and videos that illuminate the power of the human spirit to create a more peaceful world.

Through URI regional and sub-regional websites in Korea, Europe, North America, Pakistan, Latin America and the Philippines, which display the many faces of URI revealed in a wide variety of cultures.

Through our new partnership with Link TV's Global Spirit Series to bring new and engaging media content to the URI community via uri.org. Global Spirit is the first "internal travel" series, an unprecedented inquiry into the universe of human consciousness.

Through URI's presence on the social network sites Facebook, Twitter and YouTube. We have more than 60 short videos on YouTube.

Through public events such as the annual Peace Prayer gatherings in Germany, the Circles of Light Gala in the United States, the Symphony of Peace Prayers in Pakistan, the URI Africa Peace awards, and the International Day of Peace celebrated by Cooperation Circles throughout the world.

But primarily people discover URI through their interactions with URI activists – people all over the planet who are committed to a more peaceful world – people like you.





# The 2008 Global Assembly in Mayapur, India

Last November 28th, all points in the URI network led to India. That morning, three hundred-plus URI activists from 45 countries gathered on the banks of the Ganges to celebrate the great diversity of spiritual expressions and faith traditions and to launch the 2008 Global Assembly. Participants spent the week immersed in religious rituals from around the world, delved into the methodologies of peacebuilding, and organized into affinity groups on such topics as the environment, world poverty, and the rights of women. URI's Youth Initiative was formally launched at the Global Assembly with the commencement of the Young Leaders Program, held the week prior to the Assembly. One hundred young leaders, ages 14-35, from 34 countries came together to organize, connect and share a commitment to a world where religions and spiritual traditions co-exist peacefully.





## CIRCLES OF LIGHT ANNUAL GALA: A Million Dollar Evening

On March 7, 2009, four hundred guests filled the Grand Ballroom at the Westin St. Francis Hotel in San Francisco to hear URI Leaders, Marites Africa from the Peacemakers Circle in the Philippines and Sheik Musa Khalil from the Acholi Religious Leaders Peace Initiative in Uganda, speak of extraordinary accomplishment, despite much hardship, in the face of religious conflict.

The fundraising surrounding the sixth annual **Circles of Light Gala: A Million Dollar Evening**, generated one million dollars for the visionary work of URI. In particular, the Richard and Rhoda Goldman Fund helped make this possible through a matching grant, which inspired a corporate sponsorship from Bank of the West, and generous donations from individuals, including members of URI's newly created President's Council.

After brief opening remarks by Gala Committee Chair Peggy Olsen and Executive Director Charles Gibbs, guests were enchanted by a uniquely URI interfaith invocation ceremony. Each participant shared their name, where they were born and their faith tradition, before lighting a candle for one of the URI regions while saying "May the people of all faith in this region live in peace." Participating in the ceremony were individuals from Judaism, Islam, Buddhism, Wicca, the Konko Church, the Brahma Kumaris, the Episcopal, Catholic, and Lutheran Churches of Christianity. After a delicious meal, which featured a surprise visit by the Speaker of the US House of Representatives, The Hon. Nancy Pelosi, guests were introduced by URI President, Bishop William Swing, to a viewing of the new URI short film "We Unite". The film was very well received and provided the perfect opening to further remarks by Sheik Khalil and Ms. Africa about their respective work in addressing issues surrounding the civil war between the Lord's Resistance Army and the Ugandan Government and the conflict in the southern Philippine province of Mindanao between the government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front.

In many ways this was the best Circles of Light Gala yet, providing guests with a true experience of URI's mission and purpose in the world. Thank you to everyone who made it such a great success. Join us next year on March 6, 2010 for Circles of Light as we celebrate URI's 10th Anniversary.

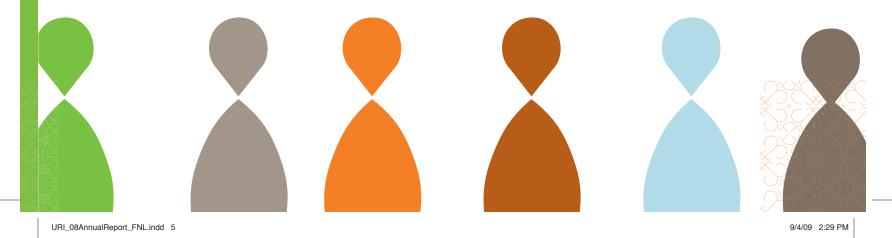
"May the people of all faith in this region live in peace."



## SEPTEMBER 21, 2008 The International Day of Peace

# "May peace prevail on Earth."

### The International Day of Peace, observed annually on September 21, was established by the General Assembly of the United Nations as a "day of global ceasefire and non-violence" for "commemorating and strengthening the ideals of peace within and among all nations and people". URI Cooperation Circle members around the world enthusiastically celebrated the International Day of Peace with gatherings from vigils and children's programs, to concerts, and radio and TV interviews. Get-togethers ranged from small groups to large community gatherings with thousands in attendance. May peace prevail on Earth!



## **REGIONAL UPDATES**

The critical issues of the 21st century are no longer solely the purview of government or business, but require a groundswell of participation by people in all parts of the world. URI, through the efforts of grassroots community groups called Cooperation Circles, has created a global interfaith movement that inspires people from different faiths to see a need in their own community and reach out in practical ways to meet it.

URI's regions are an infrastructure of eight anchor points throughout the world that provide the necessary seeding, nurture and empowerment that help Cooperation Circles grow and flourish.





### **URI AFRICA**

URI Africa has 80 Cooperation Circles in 22 countries including Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi and Uganda. Cooperation Circles work on a myriad of issues such as the devastating impact of AIDS within local villages, conflict resolution training, and post-war reconciliation. Here is one story:

#### **Rebuilding Lives**

Following the success of URI's Moral Imagination pilot program on Peacebuilding that concluded in 2008, many of the participants, including members of the Acholi Religious Leaders Peace Initiative (ARPLI) Cooperation Circle, have taken the skills and knowledge that they developed over the two years of the program and begun to apply them in their work.

The Acholi sub-region of Northern Uganda has seen its communities ripped apart by a tragic civil war, between the Lord's Resistance Army rebels and the Ugandan Government, which has raged for over 20 years and whose violence has spread to surrounding countries including the Central African Republic, Sudan, and the Democratic Republic of Congo. This conflict led to the displacement of millions of people, child soldiers forced to commit atrocities in the villages they had been abducted from, billions of dollars lost to the economy and hundreds of thousands of deaths, not to mention tens of thousands of children forced to become night commuters walking many miles seeking shelter in town centers or other safe locations to avoid abduction and then returning home in the morning. In light of this terrible conflict the ARPLI Cooperation Circle decided to find a way to bring some sort of peace to the region, despite the failure, to date, to reach a final and comprehensive agreement in formal peace talks.

URI Africa	
Number of Cooperation Circles	Primary Activity
20	Interfaith Understanding & Dialogue
15	Peacebuilding
26	Human Rights & Health
1	Ecological Imperatives
18	Sustainable Just Economics
80	TOTAL

As a result of negotiations, 80 % of the internally displaced people have left the IDP camps and begun the process of rebuilding their lives. The ARLPI Cooperation Circle is beginning the arduous process of reconciliation through utilizing the methodology it learned in URI's Moral Imagination Program. Cooperation Circle member Rev. Patrick Lumumba is working with Save the Children, the Gulu District Reconciliation and Peace Team, and the Lango Peace Forum to train individuals from the various sub-regions of Northern Uganda in the techniques necessary for the reconciliation process to be successful in rebuilding these shattered communities. So far in 2009,



Rev. Lumumba has led trainings in all 11 sub-counties of the Gulu district as well as individuals from 5 districts in the Lango sub-region. It is hoped that by providing these individuals with the tools necessary to ease the reconciliation process that Northern Uganda can begin to put this horrifying chapter in their history behind them and begin to move forward once again as peaceful communities.

#### **URI ASIA**

URI Asia has the largest number of Cooperation Circles in URI – 152! Cooperation Circles are particularly active in India, Pakistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Korea. Here is a story of a new Cooperation Circle in India:

#### Serving the Community

Nearly 30 years old, but new to URI, members of the Manbazar Chandra Memorial Cooperation Circle in the Eastern Indian state of West Bengal face the daily threat of violence between a rebel group called "Maoists" and the Police. Rare is the day or night when the silence is not broken by the blast of a landmine or the crack of gunfire. In the face of ongoing violence and tension, Manbazar Chandra Memorial Cooperation Circle has sought to improve the lives of their neighbors through the development and running of a medical clinic, as well as supplementary programs, such as education for poor children and youth camps. Compounding the problems associated with the violence has been the deforestation of the area, which has negatively impacted the economy of the region as well as degrading the overall ecosystem. To combat this, the Manbazar Chandra Memorial Cooperation Circle has organized tree plantings in various communities in the hopes of restoring some of what has been lost.

URI Asia	
Number of Cooperation Circles	Primary Activity
50	Interfaith Understanding & Dialogue
32	Peacebuilding
54	Human Rights & Health
5	Ecological Imperatives
11	Sustainable Just Economics
152	TOTAL

A new project on the horizon is an URI Ambulance Service that will reach the rural areas of the region that have limited access to healthcare. After meeting with Biswadeb Chakraborty, URI India East Zone Coordinator, the Cooperation Circle has developed a plan to sustain the service in concert with their clinic. Lacking only the vehicle itself to begin this greatly needed project, they have begun reaching out to local and national organizations in the hopes of gaining the much needed funding and support to get the ambulance and thus increase their service to their community.



URI is blessed to count the Manbazar Chandra Memorial Cooperation Circle as a part of the ever-growing global network that is bringing peace to all corners of the world. With groups such as this, the future is indeed bright.

#### **URI EUROPE**

URI Europe has 28 Cooperation Circles in 13 countries encompassing a wide range of work including interfaith dialogue, interfaith hospital chaplains, and cross-cultural youth organizations. Here is one story:

#### **All Different All Equal**

Established in 1995 as result of the All Different All Equal campaign launched by the Council of Europe to combat racism, anti-semitism, xenophobia and intolerance across Europe, Minorities of Europe (MoE) Cooperation Circle is a network connecting minorities from across the continent to support and assist cooperation, solidarity and exchange between different minority communities. Working primarily with young people, MoE Cooperation Circle has created a number of programs over the years that work to break down barriers and dispel stereotypes that exist between people of different faiths.

Two of their most exciting programs from the last year are the Interfaith Champions program and the 2 Kingdoms (Saudi Arabia & U.K.) Youth Forum.

Interfaith Champions is a program in which young people in schools, colleges, and youth organizations are trained to become interfaith leaders. After the training the youth (ages 13-17) who took part in the program organized 12 interfaith activities including discussion groups, plays, exhibitions and dramatic presentations which reached hundreds of people. Out of this training and the resulting activities, MoE Cooperation Circle was able to develop its Interfaith Program as an integral part of its broader work in community cohesion and global citizenship. The Interfaith Champions also created a large stock of interfaith resources and exhibition materials.

-	
Number of Cooperation Circles	Primary Activity
18	Interfaith Understanding & Dialogue
3	Peacebuilding
5	Human Rights & Health
1	Ecological Imperatives
1	Sustainable Just Economics
28	TOTAL

The 2 Kingdoms Youth Forum: This past January Minorities of Europe partnered with the British Youth Council and a number of Saudi youth organizations to bring together 50 young people from the UK and Saudi Arabia to develop joint projects. These ventures, which are currently being implemented, are designed to foster understanding, trust, and to encourage active youth participation between the two nations. It is hoped that they will lead to lasting connections between the U.K. and Saudi Arabia for years to come.



One of the more innovative aspects of the 2 Kingdoms program was the creation of a deck of cards with images of important aspects of both British and Saudi culture to help the youths share their cultures with each other. These decks are currently in production and will be distributed to youths from both countries.

It is a blessing to have such an exceptional organization as part of the URI family, particularly one that has been working across borders for so long to bring tolerance and understanding to Europe and the globe.

#### URI LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Latin America has 23 Cooperation Circles in eight countries working for the common good primarily in the many facets of interfaith dialogue. Here is a story of how elected Trustees from URI connect with members of Cooperation Circles, who are organizing at the grassroots:

#### **Healing Communities**

The elected trustees from Latin America & the Caribbean took the opportunity as they journeyed north to San Francisco for the June Global Council and staff meeting, to visit a number of Cooperation Circles in Central America. Involved in the trip were URI Global Trustees Rev. David Limo Pajar, an Anglican priest from Peru; and Rev. Elias Pinto of the Independent Presbyterian Church of Brazil; joining them for the third leg was fellow trustee Fany Avila of the Kuna people from Panama. Landing in El Salvador on May 27th, Rev. Limo and Rev. Pinto visited with members of the Episcopal Anglican Church of El Salvador, where they met with religious leaders working on HIV/AIDS issues in the community.

#### URI Latin America and the Caribbean

Primary Activity	Number of Cooperation Circles
Interfaith Understanding & Dialogue	8
Peacebuilding	1
Human Rights & Health	11
Ecological Imperatives	2
Sustainable Just Economics	1
TOTAL	23

Traveling to Guatemala, a country racked by violence for much of the last 60 years, the clergymen held a number of meetings in the towns surrounding the capital Guatemala City. By taking the time to meet with individuals who had been the victims of the violence that has plagued this nation Rev. Limo and Rev. Pinto came to a better understanding of the needs of the communities, particularly the indigenous, and how URI can best work to continue the healing process. As a result they made a number of connections with organizations that are enthusiastic to partner with URI. In the capital they met with the Forum of Mayan Spirituality and Conceio Ecumenico Cristiano de Guatemala as well as the Asociacion Pop Noj (Mayan Culture). One of the most exciting aspects of the trip was



the opportunity to speak about the importance of interfaith work and URI as part of an interview with the local news.

Joined by fellow Trustee Fany Avila, Rev. Pinto and Rev. Limo then journeyed to Costa Rica, where they were privileged to visit the UN affiliated University for Peace outside of San Jose. Over their three days in Costa Rica they had the opportunity to share about URI at a number of gatherings involving indigenous communities as well as individuals from the different Christian sects. A number of potential allies and partners were identified from these meetings.

As a result of the dedication and hard work of these three trustees the future for URI in Central American is bright. It is an exciting time for the Latin American & Caribbean Region as they move forward to heal the wounds that still remain from the many conflicts in the region and bring the wisdom of the indigenous communities into the greater society.

### **URI MIDDLE EAST/NORTH AFRICA (MENA)**

The MENA Region has 37 Cooperation Circles in nine countries/territories ranging from Egypt, Israel, to the Palestinian Territory, Syria and Jordan. Here is one example of their work:

#### **Opening the Heart**

Music is a language unto itself, one that transcends barriers and difference. It is a stirring of the soul that knows no one culture or religion, yet speaks with the voice of each. It is this power to bridge the differences that keep individuals apart that inspired the creation of the Musaique Cooperation Circle. This is readily apparent in co-founder Lee Ziv's description of this extraordinary collection of musicians:

"Our Cooperation Circle – the Musaique, is based on a different communication, a language that everyone understands no matter how old you are, or what color you are, who your God is or if you are a man or a women, rich or poor – you will understand this language. The language of music. We want to meet people from the MENA region, musicians, poets, professionals or amateurs. We want to play music, learn, teach and create music that will touch the hearts of the people. We want to play music in places where people need faith and love, and we want to work with local communities around the region and to record our music."

#### **URI Middle East and North Africa**

Primary Activity	Number of Cooperation Circles
Interfaith Understanding & Dialogue	15
Peacebuilding	11
Human Rights & Health	6
Ecological Imperatives	1
Sustainable Just Economics	4
TOTAL	37



Bound by the limited number of countries in which all their members are able to meet due to travel restrictions, Musaique held their first gathering in the Jordan Valley. For two days these Muslims, Christians, and Jews played together, as Ms. Ziv says, "opening the heart in a beautiful way and the bond between us was so strong, like an ancient tribe coming together." A week after this incredible gathering the Gaza war began, deepening the divide among the people of the region. In the face of the anger, fear and mistrusts that arose, the members of Musaique renewed their commitment to each other and their mission. Each felt in their heart that their music was a powerful tool in the effort to bring peace to their conflict torn homes.

#### **URI MULTI-REGION**

The Multi-Region is unique among URI Regions in that it is not organized geographically, but comprised of Cooperation Circles that either span more than one region or exist virtually. Today we have 20 Cooperation Circles which fall into that category. Here is one story from the Multi-Region:

#### **Penpals for Peace**

Historically at odds, communication is at a virtual standstill between the citizenry of Israel and Iran beyond the posturing, denouncements, and barbs often traded by their political leaders. This spring saw the launch of a project aimed at creating a different kind of communication, one based on respect and tolerance rather than fear and distrust. In this day and age when information can be instantaneous and flies invisibly through the air, 10 young women from Israel and Iran have returned to a pastime seemingly from a bygone era, writing letters to each other as pen pals. This pilot project of URI's Global Youth Cooperation Circle, a global network of young leaders dedicated to fostering interfaith dialogue, is aimed at nurturing communication between these two groups with the goal of learning about each others culture.

URI Multi-Region		
Primary Activity	Number of Cooperation Circles	
Interfaith Understanding & Dialogue	8	
Peacebuilding	6	
Human Rights & Health	6	
Ecological Imperatives	0	
Sustainable Just Economics	0	
ΤΟΤΑΙ	20	

Developed over the past year by URI Young Leader and Multi-Region Trustee, Matthew Youde of Wales, along with former URI Trustee Atefeh Sadeghi of Iran and Michal Weiner of Israel, this project seeks to open pathways of understanding between two historically opposed cultures. The first round of letters was sent from Israel to Iran in March following a workshop on Non-Violent Communication. The letters were written using questions designed to facilitate Appreciative Inquiry, a methodology



utilized by URI of asking questions that deepens knowledge and heightens understanding. As Mr. Youde writes, "these questions saw them [the participants] imagining what fruits the exchange may bear and why it was important in today's world."

Reading these letters over tea and coffee, the Iranian group found that education and school was the most common topic of the questions along with a more general interest in what life is like for young women in the Islamic Republic. These questions are just the beginning of what promises to be a fruitful exchange with great potential to break down the barriers that separate people and to build bridges across cultural divides that are often seen as insurmountable. As the program develops there are plans to expand the correspondence to include youths from the United States and the United Kingdom as well in order to combat negative prejudices that exist between the "West" and Iran.

### **URI NORTH AMERICA**

URI North America has 46 Cooperation Circles, ranging from California Interfaith Power and Light, to the Raul Wallenberg Institute of Ethics and the Women's Interfaith Circle of Service. Here is a story of one of the newest Cooperation Circles:

### **Building a National Movement**

The Millennium Development Goals are a set of eight objectives to meet the needs of the world's most resource-

poor people adopted by world leaders at the United Nations Headquarters as part of the Millennium Summit in September 2000. The goals form a blueprint for a global partnership to reduce extreme poverty by 2015 utilizing specific targets, such as eradicating extreme poverty and hunger, improving maternal health, and achieving universal primary education.

URI North America	
Number of Cooperation Circles	
30	
3	
8	
4	
46	

In response to this call for action an accord was signed in 2002 committing developed nations to providing the equivalent of 0.7% of their Gross National Product (GNP) as financial assistance to developing nations. This was the impetus for the first Point 7 Now conference hosted by the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of San Francisco in October 2006, which gathered over a thousand people to learn about the Millennium Development Goals and the resources needed to achieve them. Conferences and luncheons in subsequent years led by members of the Jewish community and the Episcopal Diocese



of California catalyzed the beginning of the Interfaith Millennium Development Goals Coalition Cooperation Circle. This Cooperation Circle, whose membership has grown to include Muslims, Buddhists, and other affiliations as well, is dedicated to achieving the Millennium Development Goals and particularly goal one, to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger through direct mobilization efforts and persuasive visits to members of the U.S. legislature.

The achievement of this Cooperation Circle has spurred a similar effort by volunteers in Los Angeles, who are hosting a luncheon in September 2009, and there are plans in the works for similar events in Boston and Washington, DC in 2010. The weekend before Thanksgiving has been dedicated as Millennium Development Goals Weekend, and participating religious leaders will be speaking to their congregations about the Millennium Development Goals and how they can help achieve them. As this movement gathers traction nationally and the coalition expands there are plans to bring national religious leaders from across the United States to San Francisco in 2010 to further mobilize communities of faith around this imperative.

#### **URI SOUTHEAST ASIA-PACIFIC**

URI Southeast Asia - Pacific has 22 Cooperation Circles in eight countries. Over the years, the development of a strong regional leadership center in Manila, Philippines has helped to create a sense of coherence in this broadly dispersed region. Here is one story of a new Cooperation Circle:

#### The Intersection of Ecology and Faith

Inspired to join the United Religions Initiative after cofounder Elyse Rider attended the Young Leaders Program and Global Assembly in Mayapur, India at the end of last year, GreenFaith Australia Cooperation Circle has created important programs both prior to joining URI and in the months since.

Last November, GreenFaith, a Melbourne-based organization dedicated to strengthening intersection between ecology and faith/spirituality, held a series of three seminars entitled "Water for Life" that explored the importance of water from a number of perspectives. The first seminar was an interfaith panel exploring the question of "What does water mean for the different religions?" On the panel were representatives from the Aboriginal Australian, Hindu, Jewish, Muslim, Christian, and Sikh communities. The second seminar was entitled "Science, Politics, and Community: The science and the politics of regional water issues," and brought together an environmental scientist, a journalist, and a community worker to speak about water from their different perspectives. The final seminar was a facilitated discussion entitled "Convergence: Linking water and culture in an interactive community workshop." This final workshop was facilitated by Norman Currie a member of the



COMMON (Centre of Melbourne Multifaith and Others Network) Cooperation Circle.

URI Southeast Asia-Pacific	
Number of Cooperation Circles	Primary Activity
11	Interfaith Understanding & Dialogue
3	Peacebuilding
1	Human Rights & Health
4	Ecological Imperatives
3	Sustainable Just Economics
22	TOTAL

Since joining URI, GreenFaith Australia has held a number of valuable programs with more planned. Among the events they've already held is the "Spirit into Sustainability" forum held at the Sustainable Living Festival in Melbourne. It incorporated "story telling from [different] faith traditions, an interfaith eco-ritual and mediation, art work, live music, and a panel showcasing faith communities who are taking ecological action seriously" in the region moderated by the religion editor of the main state newspaper, The Age. For a second event they partnered with the Jewish Christian Muslim Association to hold an eco-themed Harmony Day program in March. Harmony Day is "a great interfaith, multicultural and environmental celebration with...soccer competitions, art exhibitions, music and dance, ethnic foods, cultural and interfaith stalls together with an environmental display."

We at URI are blessed to count GreenFaith Australia as part of our global community, particularly s we live into our purpose to create cultures of peace, justice, and healing for the Earth and all living beings.



# A Community of Donors

United Religions Initiative thanks the following donors for their generous support. Gifts from the community constitute a vital resource for URI and we are grateful for each and every one. These gifts and donations were received between January 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009.\*

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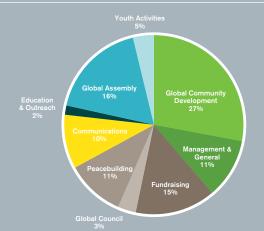
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### FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008 **Key Revenue and Expense Information**



# REVENUE tricted Gifts 23% All Other - Unrestricted Gifts 74% All Other - Unrestricted Gifts \$2,073,467 In Kind Donations \$12,891 TOTAL REVENUE \$2.804.275

#### **EXPENSES**



Global Community Development	\$767,488
Global Council	\$89,509
Peacebuilding	\$289,780
Communications	\$266,567
Education & Outreach	\$45,934
Global Assembly	\$446,348
Youth Activities	\$145,070
Management & General	\$296,139
Fundraising	\$398,607
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$2,745,442

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