



South Coast Interfaith Council 2009 - 2010 Annual Report



MISSION

It is the Mission of the South Coast Interfaith Council to promote mutual understanding, respect, appreciation and cooperation among people of faith in the Greater South Bay-Harbor-Long Beach-West Orange County area by extending hospitality, fostering community, offering educational opportunities, providing moral leadership, sharing in service and working for justice.

VISION & VALUES

The South Coast Interfaith Council is committed to:

- Promoting mutual understanding, appreciation and respect among the region's diverse religions and cultures;
- Providing opportunities for conversation, partnership, education, hospitality and celebration among its members;
- Respecting each other's religious observances and, where appropriate, sharing together in common prayer;
- Pursuing common goals that build unity among the religious communities we serve;
- Providing moral leadership on mutually agreed-upon issues;
- Providing and advocating for poor, hungry, homeless and other marginalized people;
- Fostering peace, compassion, kindness, openness and trust; and
- Encouraging the communities we serve to embrace these values.

Visit our new website!!
www.SCInterfaith.org



REV. MOIRA FOXE, PRESIDENT OF THE SCIC

Reverend Moira Foxe's background is in Education, Philosophy, Religious Studies, Ethics, Morality and Clinical Theology. Her graduate and post-graduate works were completed at Maria Assumpta College of Education, St. Mary's College of Education, London University, and the London Guild of Health.



During the past thirty years, Reverend Moira has taught high school students psychology and religious studies in Ireland, England, and Los Angeles. Her work in education then progressed into the counseling and ministerial fields. Throughout her life, Reverend Moira has pursued a wide variety of studies and is ever seeking to broaden her learning base. She believes that educating the whole person is the most wonderful and fascinating pursuit to actively engage in, and is indeed our life's purpose.

She served for seven years as Sister Miriam in a teaching order of Catholic nuns in Ireland and England and then went on to serve for seven years in the Siddha Yoga Foundation in London and Los Angeles with Baba Muktananda as her teacher.

For the past ten years, Reverend Moira has been the Pastor & Director of the Redondo Beach Center for Spiritual Living, Church of Religious Science. Since taking over as Senior Minister, she has been the recipient of the prestigious South Bay Woman of the Year award and has spearheaded her center's emergence into the 21st century by championing streaming videos on their website as well as podcasting Sunday lessons. Rev. Moira also utilizes a radio and TV ministry. *Honoring Presence, Nurturing Spirit, Enriching the Lives of All We Serve* is the mission statement of the Redondo Beach Center for Spiritual Living.

Executive Director's Annual Report

The Scottish author by the name of Samuel Smiles once stated, **“Hope is the companion of power, and the mother of success... for who so hopes strongly has within him the gift of *miracles*.”**

In today's society, the gift of hope must be the unifying force in a world that too often lacks cooperation amongst its inhabitants; in a world in which violence and intolerance seem to capture the headlines one too many times. **YOU - by being a supporter of the SCIC - are an agent of the kind of hope that is so badly needed in our world!**

In 2009, we saw the incredible essence of hope being lived out in the numerous programs and events we organized, including the annual **Martin Luther King, Jr. Interfaith Celebration**, the summer series of **Interfaith Cafés**, the **Festival of Music Benefit Concert**, the **Interfaith Unity Dinner**, the **Interfaith Tall Ships Sail** with Maritime Institute and SCIC's **Interfaith Labor Day Bike-a-thon**.

During this past year, we also cosponsored various initiatives such as the **World March for Peace & Nonviolence** and **Calling All Men of Faith – Ending Domestic Violence** in conjunction with **Interval House**. Moreover, we launched our new and improved website – **SCInterfaith.org!** Further, SCIC was proactive in seeking grants and was awarded a generous **\$10,000 gift** from our friends at the **International Center for Spiritual Living!**

Recognizing that our work is so vital to the establishment of a harmonious society, we have already begun planning new and exciting initiatives for 2010, in addition to our above mentioned programs. Understanding the importance of involving youth in interfaith work, we have planned four new events geared towards the youth of all faiths, including **Feeding the Homeless** in conjunction with the **California Committee for the Parliament of World Religions (SCPWR)**, **Beach Clean-Up for Earth Day**, **Movie Night** co-sponsored by the **California Community for Equality and Justice (CCEJ)** and **Building Houses** with **Habitat for Humanity**.

Moreover, due to popular demand, we will be holding more **Interfaith Cafés** during the summer of 2010!

It is the SCIC's goal to build stronger relationships with not only the interfaith community, but also with community organizations existent in the South Bay/ Greater Long Beach area. As such, in addition to working with the **SCCPWR**, **CCEJ** and **Habitat for Humanity**, we have plans to partner with the **Long Beach Human Dignity** office working on gang intervention initiatives.

SCIC has already begun 2010 running with the implementation of a successful **18th Annual MLK Interfaith Celebration** in January and **Feeding the Homeless** and participating in **Temple Israel's Unity Prayer** service in February. Moreover, we are in the process of actively seeking a Volunteer Coordinator to launch our **SCIC Speakers Bureau**. Being cognizant of this challenging fiscal time, we are, nonetheless, confident of thriving in 2010, with *your continued commitment to and support of SCIC!* In this, my first completed year as the Executive Director of the Council, I have witnessed firsthand the power of the human spirit; it is, indeed, a spirit characterized by the strength of hope and perseverance!

I want to express my *heartfelt gratitude* to President Rini Ghosh and the BOD for their commitment to the SCIC; Patty Lance, my partner in ensuring the success of this council; Melody O'Keefe for her brilliance in Accounting; and the rest of the SCIC staff for their dedication to the Council. A very special note of appreciation to my husband, Arfan, who inspires me every day to continue the work I do. Most importantly, we wish to thank **YOU** for your belief in what the SCIC stands for! This Council ceases to exist without **YOU**; your involvement and generosity are *truly* appreciated by all! I look forward to another triumphant year ahead of us; a year filled with *miracles!*

With gratitude,
Milia Islam-Majeed

**SUMMARY
FINANCIAL REPORT (2009)**

Harbor Area Farmers' Markets

Income	\$270,797
Expenses	\$297,518

Centro Shalom

Income	\$105,751
Expenses	\$113,821

Good Samaritan Counseling Center

Income	\$127,280
Expense	\$127,730

Athletic Leagues

Income	\$19,295
Expenses	\$19,493

SCIC Center

Income	\$123,613
Expenses	\$122,995

TOTAL

Income	\$646,736
Expenses	\$681,557

Also raised for

Global & Local Hunger: \$54,122

MLK Celebration recipients: \$1320

Complete 2009 financial reports are available upon request.

2010 CALENDAR

March

- 8 - Annual Assembly
- 18 - Board of Directors

April

Beach Clean-up TBA

- 15 - Board of Directors

May

- Individual Gifts Campaign
- 20 - Board of Directors
- 22 - Peninsula CROP Walk
- 23 - Interfaith Cafe

June

- 6 - Individual Gifts Phonathon
- 9 - Sage Council
- 13 - Interfaith Cafe
- 17 - Board of Directors

July

Interfaith Movie Night TBA

- 11 - Interfaith Cafe

August

- 8 - Interfaith Cafe
- 19 - Board of Directors

September

- 6 - Bike-A-Thon
- 16 - Board of Directors

October

- 13 - Sage Council
- 21 - Board of Directors
- 24 - Long Beach CROP Walk

November

- 7 - Festival of Music Benefit Concert
- 14 - Interfaith Unity Awards Dinner
- 18 - Board of Directors



Roni Love & Marc Coleman, Layman 2009, at the Annual Assembly

SCIC "BY THE NUMBERS"

Population Base 1.7 million
[Long Beach-South Bay Harbor-W. Orange]

Constituent Congregations 250

Clients Served, Centro Shalom 9,800

Clients Served, Good Samaritan CC 160

Shoppers, Weekly, Farmers' Markets 9,500

VOLUNTEERS

CROP/Hunger Walk 500

Church Athletic Leagues 750

Centro Shalom 17

Boards & Committees 154

Office 6

TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS 12,000

TOTAL ATTENDING EVENTS 5,700

SCIC COMMITTEES

SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE (SCC)

Chair: Jane Affonso

Meetings: 2nd Mondays, 7 p.m., St. Cyprian Catholic Church Long Beach

This year, SCC advocacy included a successful meeting with Senator Feinstein's staff regarding international aid reform, meeting the staffs of Senator Boxer and Representative Harman regarding immigration reform, and sending a letter to President Obama regarding healthcare reform. In 2009, the SCC continued its collaboration with the LB Area Coalition for the Homeless, Clergy & Laity United for Economic Justice (CLUE), the Interfaith Community Organization of Greater Long Beach (ICO), Hunger Action LA, and the LB Immigrant Rights Coalition (LBIRC) addressing homelessness, hunger, immigration, & labor rights. The SCC signed on to the Clean and Safe Ports Coalition, became a member of the LA Nuclear Disarmament Coalition, and began work with the local affiliate of Interfaith Power and Light. Members attended a screening of a Jewish World Watch film on Darfur and organized a series of Black/White dialogues on racism.

The SCC is exploring the possibility of collaboration with Department of Children and Family Services of Los Angeles County (DCFS) in regard to their Kinship Support program, by expanding resources for relatives who are caregivers, through faith community partnership, and by providing support and advocacy for children in the (DCFS) Kinship program. SCC's 2010 priorities include: **Human Trafficking** and **Immigration**, along with ongoing concerns: **Becoming Peacemakers**, **Hunger and Homelessness**, **Creation Care**, **Sub-Saharan Africa**, and **At-Risk Children and Youth**.



Labor Day Bike-a-thon

INTERFAITH RELATIONS COMMITTEE (IRC)

Co-Chairs: Khalil Momand, Dr. Rini Ghosh

Meetings: 1st Tuesdays, 7 p.m., Lomita/Torrance

The Interfaith Relations Committee (IRC) held three interfaith cafés in the summer of 2009, in conjunction with Pacific Unitarian Church and the Islamic Center of South Bay on May 24; Temple Beth El and Vedanta International Cultural Center on June 14; and Bixby Knolls Christian Church and Long Beach Islamic Center on July 12.

In 2010, the IRC will be holding **four Interfaith Cafés** in response to a high demand for more cafés! The first of these cafés will be on May 23, 2010, at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Long Beach and the Redondo Beach Center for Spiritual Living will co-host. The second café will be on June 13, 2010 which Holy Spirit Fellowship in Long Beach will host, followed by the third of the summer cafés on July 11, 2010, at the Seaside Community Church in Torrance which will be co-hosted by the Vedanta International Cultural Center of Redondo Beach. The last Interfaith Café of 2010 will be held on August 8th at the Neighborhood Church in Palos Verdes and will be co-hosted by Soka Gakkai International of Torrance.

In addition to the above mentioned four SCIC Interfaith Cafés, the IRC will also be helping with the 2010 Youth Initiatives.

FUND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (FDC)

Chair: Imam Tarek Mohamed

Meetings: 1st Tuesdays, 10:45 a.m. at SCIC Office

The Fund Development Committee is responsible to the Board of Directors by assuming the primary responsibility for raising funds to meet the budget of the organization. In 2009, SCIC applied for numerous grants and was awarded a generous \$10,000 **Golden Works Grant** by the **International Center for Spiritual Living**. Moreover, SCIC continued its "Sponsorship Program" for the SCIC website and e-newsletter as well as the **SCIC Labor Day Interfaith Bike-a-thon**. Additional plans for the coming year include an updated extensive outreach to the interfaith community and implementation of the first stages of the **SCI Speakers Bureau**. If you are interested in serving on this or any of our committees, please contact scic@charterinternet.com.

SCIC VOLUNTEER BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

2010 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(Partial List, *to be elected March 8, 2010)

*Pres: Rev. Moira Foxe, Religious Science RB
 *Pres-Elect: Rev. Sandy Olewine, Neighborhood UMC
 *V-P: Dr. Rini Ghosh, LA Vedanta Society
 *V-P: Imam Tarek Mohamed, LB Islamic Center
 *Treasurer: Rev. Joshua Ebener, Trinity Lutheran LB
 *Secretary: Roni Love, Temple Israel Long Beach
 Jane Affonso, Trinity Lutheran, Manhattan Beach
 Al Albergate, SGI-Buddhist LB-SB
 Bill Latto, Neighborhood Church UCC RPV
 Elder Herbert Rice, Greater Open Door COGIC LB
 Rev. Jerry Schaar, Gloria Dei Lutheran LB
 Rev. Karyn Packard, LB Memorial Medical Center
 Richard Brehove, St. Margaret Mary Catholic Lomita
 Jaysree Das, Vedanta Society
 Patti Heckman, SGI-Buddhist LB-SB
 Chaplain Gila Katz, Klein Chaplaincy South Bay
 Rev. Jonathan Mitchell, Wayfarers Chapel RPV
 Rev. Jerry Stinson, First Congregational UCC LB
 *Cantor Ilan Davidson, Temple Beth El San Pedro
 *Rev. Misi Tagalao, Second Samoan UCC LB
 *Clayton Bosler, Pacific Unitarian RPV
 *Shane Cuda, St. Joseph Catholic LB
 *Jason McCants, Baha'i Community LB
 *Victoria McKinney, New Philadelphia AME RD
 *Mineo Hoshi, SGI-Buddhist LB-SB
 *Dr. Anthony Manousos, Quaker
 *Rev. Danny Bradfield, Bixby Knolls Christian LB

Ex-OFFICIO:

Past President, Dr. Rini Ghosh, LA Vedanta Society
 Judy Gilliland, So. Cal. Public Affairs Council, LDS
 William Shipley, Esq., Legal Advisor
 Milia Islam-Majeed, Executive Director

SAGE COUNCIL

John Ishvaradas Abdallah, South Bay Sufi
 Marilyn Russell Bittle, Gloria Dei Lutheran
 Dr. Dorothy Deatherage, First Cong UCC
 Maycie Herrington, First Congregational UCC
 Rev. Dr. Mary Ellen Kilsby, First Cong UCC
 Rabbi Howard Laibson, Cong Shir Chadash
 Addie Mays, Dominguez UMC
 Nancy Mullio, Los Altos UMC
 Elder Rob Robbins, Greater Open Door COGIC
 Rev. Michael Roebert, St. Lucy's Catholic
 Eunice Sato, Grace First Presbyterian
 Bobbie Smith, Bixby Knolls Christian
 Milla Tarr, St. Luke's Presbyterian
 John Traxler, St. John Fisher Catholic
 Dottie Wine, First Congregational UCC

ENVIRONMENTAL PRIORITIES NETWORK

Jane Affonso, Trinity Lutheran MB
 Bob Carr, Community
 Oliver Coker, Community
 Barbara Epstein, Community
 Virginia Hilker, Community
 Kathleen Jacecko, Community
 Lillian Light, Community
 Beth Muir, Community
 Al Shadbourn, Community
 Grace Walters, Community
 Ray Waters, Community
 Patricia Weimer, Community

INTERFAITH RELATIONS COMMITTEE

John Ishvaradas Abdallah, South Bay Sufi
 Mitra Ershagi, Islamic Center of the South Bay
 Dr. Rini Ghosh, LA Vedanta Society (Hindu) RPV
 Arin Ghosh, LA Vedanta Society (Hindu) RPV
 Dr. Anthony Manousos, Quaker
 Khalil Momand, Islamic Center of the South Bay
 Lietta Wagner, Los Altos United Methodist
 Dottie Wine, First Congregational UCC LB

ENDOWMENT FUND TRUSTEES

Rabbi Charles Briskin, Temple Beth El, San Pedro
 Dick Lohrer, St. Peter's by the Sea Presbyterian
 Patrick O'Brien, St. John Fisher Catholic RPV

SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE

Wanda Arcos, St. Cross Episcopal, HB
 John Ishvaradas Abdallah, South Bay Sufi
 Jane Affonso, Trinity Lutheran MB
 Linnea Eades, Pacific Unitarian RPV
 Elaine & Rob Frank, Temple Beth El SP
 Margy Harrell, St. Cross Episcopal MB
 Conrad Housley, Unitarian Universalist LB
 Hal Hurst, Community
 Candice Kim, Community
 Robert Lavalley, St. Margaret Mary Catholic Lomita
 Ruth Lohrer, St. Peter's by the Sea Presbyterian
 Roni Love, Temple Israel LB
 Dr. Anthony Manousos, Quaker
 Victoria McKinney, New Philadelphia AME RD
 Rev. Duane Moret, Holy Spirit Fellowship LB
 Ron Nelson, Christ Lutheran LB
 Kelly Parker, Gospel Memorial COGIC LB
 John Pulvino, St. Cyprian Catholic LB
 Connie Rutter, Holy Trinity Catholic SP
 Hayward Thomas, St. Francis Episcopal PVE
 Tom Villiger, Holy Trinity Catholic SP

LB RELIGIOUS LEADERS ASSOCIATION

Rev. Mary Jo Bradshaw, Co-President
 Rabbi Howard Laibson, Co-President
 Blanca Martinez, Vice President

SCIC OFFICE VOLUNTEERS

Marilyn Russell Bittle, Gloria Dei Lutheran LB
 Masano Holt, Grace First Presbyterian LB
 Thelma Kieffer, Grace United Methodist LB
 Genevieve Kinkade, Parkcrest Christian LB
 Addie Mays, Dominguez UMC Long Beach
 Terri Park, Trinity Lutheran LB
 Milla Tarr, St. Luke's Presbyterian RHE
 Mae Yamagata, Grace First Presbyterian LB

HARBOR AREA FARMERS MARKETS

Margaret Cherry, First Congregational UCC LB
 Charles Chester, Farmer
 Joel Colbert, Community
 Wayne Hunter, Community
 Annika Knoppel, Farmer
 Mark Likowski, Farmer
 Walter Miller, First Congregational UCC LB
 Evan Nutt, Chair, First Congregational UCC
 Nicole Pacada, Community
 Rose Rennie, Farmer
 William Shibley, Esq. Community
 Kay Totorice, Community
 Rev. Mary Kay Will, UMC Campus Ministry CSULB
 Sam Yoo, Farmer

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. CELEBRATION

Janet Hund, Long Beach City College, NAACP
 Roni Love, Temple Israel LB
 Pastor Duane Moret, Holy Spirit Fellowship LB
 Naomi Rainey, President NAACP LB
 Gretchen Krutz, Baha'i Community of LB
 Janine Ma Li Weinert, Morningland Monastery LB
 Rev. Kit Wilke, Woodruff & Cross Roads UCC
 Teresa Gomez, City of Long Beach
 Rev. Joe Ealy, Gospel Memorial COGIC

CROP HUNGER WALKS

Long Beach Area

Margo Berdanis, Los Altos UMC
 Marilyn Russell Bittle, Gloria Dei Lutheran LB
 Carlyn Djie, First UMC Lakewood
 Rev. Charles Ensley, Bay Shore UCC LB
 Dale Whitney, First Congregational UCC LB

Peninsula Harbor Area

Mary Brumbaugh, St. Luke's Presbyterian RHE
 Deb Clancy, St. Peter's Episcopal San Pedro
 Diane Ellis, First UMC San Pedro
 Pam Esquinca, Community
 Nancy & Sumner Gambee, Holy Trinity Catholic
 Dr. Jan Gardner, St. Luke's Presbyterian RHE
 Claudia Grzywacz, St. Peter's by the Sea RPV
 Ruth Lohrer, St. Peter's by the Sea Presbyterian
 Toni Martinovich, Mary Star of the Sea Catholic
 Cecilia Moore, Holy Trinity Catholic San Pedro
 John Olguin, First Presbyterian San Pedro
 Connie Rutter, Holy Trinity Catholic San Pedro
 Shirley Sommers, First UMC Redondo Beach
 Jim Stanbery, Community
 Mary Stewart, First Lutheran Carson
 Mary Jo Walker, St. Peter's Episcopal San Pedro
 Joy Westin, San Pedro United Methodist
 Nancy Wilcox, St. Peter by the Sea Presbyterian

CHURCH ATHLETIC LEAGUE CHAIRS

Marc Draper, Good Shepherd Pres Los Alamitos
 Steve Hopkins, Ascension Lutheran Torrance
 Jon Nunez, Christ The King Lutheran Torrance
 Paul Raine, First Presbyterian Garden Grove

FUND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Imam Tarek Mohamed, LB Islamic Center
 Rev. Duane Moret, Holy Spirit Fellowship
 Nancy Mullio, Los Altos UMC
 Elder Rob Robbins, Greater Open Door COGIC
 Ahmed Saafir, Masjid Al-Shareef LB
 Bobbie Smith, Bixby Knolls Christian LB

CENTRO SHALOM

Linda Alves, Community
 Marc Coleman, Temple Israel Long Beach
 Varena Decuir, Community
 Megan Minsky, Community
 Greg Perkins, Covenant Presbyterian LB
 Roberto Uranga, Community
 Lu Wall, Community
 Rev. Dale Whitney, First Congregational UCC LB
 Rose Williams, Christ Second Baptist LB

PROGRAMS OF THE SOUTH

HARBOR AREA FARMERS MARKETS

(HAFM) www.goodveg.org; goodveg@earthlink.net

Dale C. Whitney, Manager, 562-433-3881

Evan Nutt, Market Board Chair

HUNTINGTON PARK (2002), WEDNESDAYS, 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., Salt Lake Park at Florence Ave. & Bissell St.

UPTOWN LONG BEACH (2007) THURSDAYS, 3 p.m. - 6:30 p.m., 46th & Atlantic, South of Del Amo in Bixby Knolls

DOWNTOWN LONG BEACH (1980), FRIDAYS, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., 5th Street at The Promenade in "City Place"

CERRITOS (2001), SATURDAYS, 8 a.m. - 12 noon, Park Plaza Dr., just north of the Performing Arts Center

ALAMITOS BAY MARINA LB (1997) SUNDAYS, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Marina Dr. at Second St.

Collectively, the 5 very popular Harbor Area Farmers Markets did over \$5 million in total sales during 2009! Each market is unique with its own complement of farmers and food vendors serving its own neighborhood. The 3 weekday markets in Huntington Park, Uptown Long Beach, and Downtown Long Beach are in areas which are accessible to many lower-income shoppers. Thus, they collect a much larger share of WIC (Women, Infants, and Children) coupons and EBT Food Stamps than do the weekend markets located in the more affluent areas of Cerritos and LB Southeast. A notable new program at the Friday Downtown LB market has been the Disabled Seniors program that started in June of 2009. Anyone who is 55 years of age or older and is officially disabled can get 3 to 5 dollars worth of coupons good for any food item each week. In 2009, the markets also implemented a total ban on using plastic bags by encouraging customers to bring their own tote bags.

2010 will be the 30th Anniversary of HAFM! Look for special t-shirts and tote bags to commemorate this event! Also, in May, a new market location will be opening on Tuesday evenings at the LB Towne Center located at Carson and the 605 freeway. For more information, go to: GOODVEG.ORG.

BLUE RIBBON SAGE COUNCIL (BRSC)

Rev. Dr. Mary Ellen Kislby, Rabbi Howard Laibson, Co-chairs

The Blue Ribbon Sage Council is comprised of past SCIC board members, presidents, and/or honorary members. The group meets three times a year to offer advice, feedback, and suggestions regarding SCIC programs, events, public relations, fund development, and the overall future direction of the SCIC. In 2010, the BRSC will continue to offer recommendations on the Council's direction. Similarly, they will offer effective fund development initiatives to ensure the execution of effective programs conducive to the growth of the South Coast interfaith community.

LONG BEACH RELIGIOUS LEADERS ASSOCIATION (LBRLA) (1991)

Rabbi Howard Laibson & Rev. Mary Jo Bradshaw, Co-Presidents, 562-983-1665

The LBRLA is a network of professional clergy, religious leaders and those in religious vocations who meet monthly for educational programs, lunch gathering, fellowship, support and dialogue concerning the community. Among other events, the LBRLA co-sponsors the Annual Dr. MLK Interfaith Celebration.

CENTRO SHALOM (1977)

Amelia Nieto, Program Director, Marc Coleman, Program Board Chair; 562-591-2214; centroshalom1@aol.com
2131 Long Beach Blvd, LB 90806; Hours: 8am. - 4pm, M-F

With the recession now in its third year and government resources dwindling, Centro Shalom has served more people than ever before. Centro continues to offer a broad array of services to meet the varied demands of its clients—food, housing assistance, landlord, tenant, and family counseling—often seeing 500 people a week! Its women's self-esteem program continues to flourish under the leadership of Maria Eugenia Rivas, and 2009 saw the opening of the Olivia Herrera Community Center which offers ongoing cultural and community activities on a daily basis, including the Folklorico de Olivia Herrera dance troupe and physical and emotional health classes. Additionally, Centro now offers a self-paced, computer literacy program for Spanish speaking women and men, using a program developed by Centro Latino for Literacy in Los Angeles. This year, Centro Shalom also applied for and received a \$75,000 grant from the California Community Foundation to work on the 2010 census. Centro was pleased to hire Esther Cepeda Hatch to lead this effort which is so vital to the Latino, African-American, and Cambodian communities. All Centro Shalom programs are free of charge to anyone in need. Every dollar contributed is matched by four more in volunteer time and support as Centro operates on a minimal budget with only one fulltime paid staff person.

CROP HUNGER WALKS (1975)

SCIC sponsors the Long Beach and Peninsula-Harbor CROP (Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty) Hunger Walks. Seventy five percent of the funds raised by CROP Walks is sent to Church World Service to be used in the worldwide effort to ease and prevent hunger. The remaining 25% is given to local charities.

LONG BEACH: 192 walkers, \$16,315 raised

Dale Whitney, Chair

Proceeds to: Centro Shalom, Catholic Charities, Christian Outreach in Action, St. Francis Center, We-Care and Su Casa Family Center.

PENINSULA-HARBOR: 307 walkers, \$37,808 raised

Jan Gardner & Jim Stanbery Co-Chairs

Proceeds to: FISH Emergency Food Pantry of Harbor Interfaith Services, San Pedro UMC Sunday Suppers, SHAWL, Toberman Settlement House and Shared Bread Redondo Beach.

ENVIRONMENTAL PRIORITIES NETWORK (EPN) (2001)

Lillian Light, President, lknight@verizon.net

On the first Thursday of every month, EPN brings together faith communities, other groups and individuals in the South Bay and Peninsula areas for the purpose of protecting the environment through education and advocacy, particularly in the areas of conservation and natural resources. In 2009, the EPN sponsored & organized multiple events including the Annual Solar Homes Tour, the Annual Energy Fair and International Day of the Climate. EPN members also attended meetings to promote the establishment of marine protected areas to promote the survival of sea life in our oceans.

COAST INTERFAITH COUNCIL

SCIC YOUTH INITIATIVES

Dr. Anthony Manousos, Coordinator

In 2009, SCIC decided to place particular importance on involving youth in interfaith efforts. As such, numerous events were planned for 2010. The first of these events took place on February 13, in conjunction with the Southern California Committee for the Parliament of the World's Religions. Nearly a dozen youth served close to 70 homeless guests at Waleria United Methodist Church. Other planned programs will include an Interfaith Beach Cleanup, Movie Night on Race Relations, the third annual Tall Ships Interfaith Youth Sail with Maritime Institute, and building houses with Habitat for Humanity.

GOOD SAMARITAN COUNSELING CENTER (GSCC) (1994), *Rev. William Scar, D.Min;*

Lyle Rapp, MFT; Dr. Patti Brunhold - Therapists; 310-514-3000; GoodSamCtr@aol.com; 1350 W. 25th St., San Pedro 90732

In 2009, GSCC began with just two clinicians, and mid-year hired Dr. Patti Brunold, Clinical Psychologist. GSCC hours have grown again and during 2009, they provided a total of 1470 clinical hours of pastoral counseling and psychotherapy. They are now able to serve 50% more clients! GSCC continues to turn no one away who can use its services but who is unable to pay the full fees. In 2009, GSCC provided \$63,150 in direct financial aid to those in need of care! They look forward to reaching out to more faith communities by providing direct services, consultation, and a variety of educational programs to meet diverse needs. The programs include topics as varied as *Understanding Child Development* and *The Spiritual Roots of Emotional Pain*, to *Marriages That Grow* and *Women's Spiritual Selves*. GSCC is always open to developing programs unique to a faith community. They look forward to 2010 with much hope and determination to make it another successful year of service to others.

FESTIVAL OF MUSIC BENEFIT CONCERTS (1976)

During the 31st Annual Festival of Music Benefit Concert on November 1, 2009, at California Heights United Methodist Church in Long Beach, SCIC recognized **Carl Farrington**, former chair of the SCIC's Social Concerns Committee & former SCIC Vice President; **Amelia Nieto and Centro Shalom**; **CLUE-LA** (Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice); and **Pacific Unitarian Church, Rancho Palos Verdes**. Musical choirs and a variety of artists delighted the audience by performing a range of music inspired by their diverse faith traditions. Musicians for this concert included: Faith Rivera, Karie Hillery, the International Peace Choir, California Heights United Methodist Church Choir, the MTO Sufi Association & Drums Group, Aloha Friday, the Diamond Chorus (SGI), and Affinity (Center for Spiritual Living of Redondo Beach). The SCIC is grateful to all the sponsors, donors, volunteers, choirs, music directors, and musicians who participated in making this event such a success.

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

INTERFAITH CELEBRATION (1992)

In coordination with the Long Beach Religious Leaders Association, the Long Beach Ministers Alliance, the NAACP and others, the SCIC held the 18th Annual MLK Interreligious and Multicultural Celebration honoring the legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The Venerable Tenzin Priyadarshi was the keynote speaker of the celebration. He is the founder and director of the Dali Lama Center for Ethics and Transformative Values at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), a non-partisan collaborative think-tank, focused on interdisciplinary research and programs related to the development of human and global ethics. Venerable Tenzin Priyadarshi focused on the extraordinary ethics of Dr. King and encouraged those present to practice the same in our day-to-day lives.

At the celebration, there were a number of great performers including six year old Bria who recited parts of the *I Have a Dream* speech from memory and nine year old Anilee who delivered a solo performance of her *Beautiful World*. The celebration also included clergy leaders from various faith traditions including Baha'is, Buddhists, Christians, Hindus, Jews, Mormons, and Muslims. Nearly 200 people from the interfaith community attended this event. The offering collected was donated to the Rainy Day Shelter which, in turn, donated 90% of the funds collected for relief efforts in Haiti.

CONGREGATION ATHLETIC LEAGUES (1966)

South Bay:

Steve Hopkins, Ascension Lutheran Torrance, Volleyball Chair
Jon Nunez, Christ the King Lutheran Torrance, Softball Chair

The South Bay Church Athletic League played Volleyball and Softball with 11 congregations participating.

Greater Long Beach:

Paul Raine, First Presbyterian Garden Grove, Co-Chair
Marc Draper, Good Shepherd Presbyterian, Co-Chair

The Long Beach Church Athletic Association played Volleyball and Softball with 19 congregations participating.

INTERFAITH UNITY AWARDS DINNER

The 6th Annual Interfaith Unity Awards Dinner was held on November 15, 2009, at the Redondo Beach Center for Spiritual Living. At the dinner, SCIC honored four of our friends who have demonstrated excellence in cultivating effective interfaith relations and unity. The honorees of the evening included: **John Ishvaradas Abdallah**, South Bay Sufi; **Rabbi Howard O. Laibson**, Congregation Shir Chadash; **Steve Gilliland**, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints; and **Gretchen Krutz**, Baha'i Community of Long Beach. The dinner also served as an opportunity to meet people of diverse backgrounds and faiths in a pleasant, yet informative setting and in doing so, participate in dialogue and establish new relationships with members of the greater interfaith community. The SCIC expresses its gratitude to all the sponsors, silent auction donors, participants and volunteers who made this evening a success!

CO-SPONSORSHIPS, MEMBERSHIPS & ENDORSEMENTS

North American Interfaith Network (NAIN)
 National Association of Ecumenical and Interfaith Staff
 Interfaith Communities United for Justice & Peace (ICUJP)
 National Observance of Children Sabbaths
 Long Beach Nonprofit Partnership
 Long Beach Homeless Coalition
 Women Against Gun Violence
 Long Beach Coalition Against Gun Violence
 DAWN Unity Interfaith Discovery Series
 Peninsula Interfaith Fellowship
 Long Beach Ministers Alliance
 Long Beach Religious Leaders Association
 Leadership Long Beach
 Immortal Chaplains Foundation
 CCEJ
 NAACP
 Long Beach Reads One Book
 Body & Soul: A Wellness Forum, St. Mary Medical Center
 Homeless Community and Police Department Dialogue
 Be Community Friendly Children's Day
 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
 Unity & Diversity World Council Peace Sunday
 Week of Prayer for Interfaith Understanding
 Christian-Muslim Consultative Group
 Youth & Family Interfaith Day
 Our Endangered Oceans Forum
 Goods Movement Workshop
 Lakewood Baha'i Race Unity Day
 Open Mosque Day
 Sikh Open House
 Peace Sunday
 Religions for Peace
 United Religions Initiative
 Season of Nonviolence
 Cover the Uninsured Week
 Solar Homes Tour
 Health Care Forum
 Religions for Peace
 Interfaith Bike-a-Thon

ANNUAL ASSEMBLY, 2009

Over 100 members of the South Coast community, representing 39 member faith communities, gathered together on March 5, 2009, for the 56th SCIC Annual Assembly held at the Second Samoan Congregational UCC in Long Beach. Rev. Duane Moret, outgoing SCIC President, called the formal meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the opening prayer offered by Rev. Moira Foxe. Special guests and SCIC staff members were introduced and those who completed their terms of office on the SCIC Board of Directors were acknowledged and thanked for their commitment and service to the council.

Milia Islam-Majeed, SCIC Exec. Director highlighted the 2008 Annual Report with Conrad Housely, SCIC Treasurer, and Melody O'Keefe, SCIC Controller, presenting the 2009 Annual Budget. The Islamic Center of Hawthorne was recognized as a new member of the SCIC and then the new SCIC Board members were introduced, followed by the approval of the 2008 Annual Report, 2009 Budget, and new board members by those in attendance. Father Michael Roebert of St. Lucy's Catholic Church installed the new SCIC President, Dr. Rini Ghosh, along with the new members of the SCIC Board of Directors: Jayshree Das - Vedanta Society; Patti Heckman - SGI-Buddhists of LB-SB; Rev. Jonathan Mitchell - Wayfarers Chapel of RPV; Dr. Soheil Samimi - Baha'is of Manhattan Beach; and Rev. Jerry Stinson - First Congregational UCC of LB while continuing board directors and staff renewed their commitment to serve. Rabbi Howard Laibson of Congregation Shir Chadash gave the offering appeal followed by the awarding of the SCIC Spotlight Awards to Sister Diane Tillman, Marc Coleman, Dr. Sophia Momand, Nosratollah & Katayan Khalighi, and Eneti Samantha Tagaloa. Our own Arin Ghosh, Youth Chair of the Board of Directors of the USA-UN, delivered the keynote speech while Faith Rivera concluded the evening with her beautiful performance of "Colors of Praise."



Terri Park and Addie Mays at the Unity Dinner



2009 Unity Award Recipients

2009 Supporters of the South Coast Interfaith Council

\$1000 and above

Rev. Dr. Mary Ellen Kilsby
 Pearl Kim
 Glenn Moeller
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 Melody & Kevin O'Keefe
 Milla Tarr
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 Majeed
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 Rev. Duane Moret
 Rabbi Steven Moskowitz
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To \$50

John Ishvaradas Abdallah
 Janet Becker
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 Ken Brown
 Eric Buter
 Linda Calderon
 Howard Carver
 Margaret & Walter Cherry
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 Nancy Hofland
 Masano Holt
 Rabbi Mark Hyman
 Neva Belle Johnson
 Doris Kagin
 Ruth Kaller
 Rev. James Kim
 Gretchen Krutz
 Jane Labbitt
 Iris Larsen
 Lillian Light
 Carolyn Loether
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 Los Altos United Methodist
 Women
 Morningland
 Psalm Fest
 Southwest California Synod
 St. Francis Center

2009 In Kind Donations:

Silent Auction Donors
 Center for Spiritual Living
 Redondo Beach



*Marilyn Russell Bittle at the SCIC
 Phon-a-Thon "Dialing for Dollars"*

Church World Service's 2009 CROP Walks

Peninsula Harbor Area Walk:

Christian Family Fellowship
First Lutheran Torrance
First Presbyterian Gardena
First Presbyterian San Pedro
Holy Trinity Catholic
Mary Star of the Sea Catholic
Mount Sinai Baptist
Redondo Beach UMC
Rolling Hills UMC
San Pedro UMC
Seaside Community UCC
South Bay Christian
St. Cross by the Sea Episc
St. Luke's Presbyterian
St. Mark's Presbyterian
St. Paul's Lutheran
St. Peter's by the Sea Pres
St. Peter's Episcopal
Toberman Center
Torrance Korean UMC
Walteria UMC
Wayside UMC



Long Beach Area Walk:

Bay Shore UCC
Belmont Heights UMC
California Heights UMC
Covenant Presbyterian
First Congregational UCC
First UMC Lakewood
Gloria Dei Lutheran
Grace UMC
Los Altos UMC
Los Altos UCC
Seal Beach Rel Science
St. Cornelius Catholic
St. Cyprian Catholic
St. Francis Center
St. Joseph Catholic
St. Matthew's Catholic
Trinity UMC

Participants in the Congregation Athletic Leagues

Long Beach Area:

Bellflower Brethren
Belmont Heights UMC
Bethany Christian Reformed
Bethany Lutheran
Bixby Knolls Christian
California Heights UMC
Christ Lutheran LB
Emmanuel Reformed
First Friends LB
First Lutheran LB
Garden Grove First Pres
Grace Baptist
Grace First Presbyterian
Hope Community Church
Los Altos UCC
Los Altos United Methodist
St. Gregory's Episcopal
St. Luke's Lutheran
St. Thomas Episcopal

South Bay Area:

Ascension Lutheran
Bayview Baptist
Christ The King Lutheran
First Presbyterian SP
Hope UMC
Lawndale Wesleyan
New Life Community
Pacific View Baptist
St. Cross Episcopal
Temple Beth El
Trinity Lutheran MB



PROGRAMS & AGENCIES BIRTHED or SUSTAINED under the umbrella of the SCIC (year begun)

*continuing, although as independent or otherwise affiliated not-for-profit; ♦continuing with the SCIC

Weekday Christian Education (1953-1989)
United Christian Youth Council (1956)
Pastoral Counseling (1958-1996)
*Hospital Chaplaincy Programs, various (1959)
♦Church Athletic Associations (1966)
HELP NOW telephone counseling (1967)
*Westside Neighborhood Clinic (1970s)
*Friendship House/Hoffman House (1970)
♦CROP Hunger Walks, currently two (1970)
Ethnic School, Grant AME (1971)
FISH in Long Beach (1971)
*Interfaith Action for Aging (1974)
*FISH in San Pedro (1975)
*Greater Long Beach Coalition on Hunger (1975)
Southeast Asian Refugee Mental Prevention Program (1975)
♦Interreligious Committee (1976 - revived in 2000)
IndoChinese Social Service Center (1976)
Asian Pacific Family Outreach (1976)
*Long Beach Food Bank (1976)
Asian Pacific Family Outreach (1976)
*Harbor Towers Senior Housing, San Pedro (1977)
♦Centro Shalom, with United Methodist Church (1977)
Together in Mission, w/ UCC & DOC (1978-1999)
*Campus Ministry Program, Long Beach City College (1978);
Cal State Dominguez (1985)
*Asian Pacific Family Outreach Center (1978)
*Central Clearinghouse, with Travelers Aid (1978)
Lay Academy of Religion (1979-1994)
*Long Beach Family Shelter, now Catholic Charities (1979)
♦Harbor Area Farmers Markets, w. First Congregational (1980)
*Lakewood Interfaith Cable Commission (1980)
Peninsula Harbor & Mid-Cities Clusters (1980); LB (1989)
Emergency Shelter Network, with American Red Cross (1982)
*Harbor Interfaith Services San Pedro (1982)
♦South Bay Ecumenical Cluster (1985)
Church Women United, Long Beach (1985-2001)
South Bay Homeless Coalition (1988)
Peace Pole Project (1988)
Women-Church (1988-2000)
*His House Torrance (1989)
Mid-Cities Help Center Bellflower (1989)
*Shepherds Center (1989)
Job Center of the South Bay Torrance (1990)
South Bay Interreligious Council (1990)
♦Long Beach Religious Leaders Association (1991)
♦Martin Luther King, Jr. Interfaith Celebration (1992)
*Sage House Adult Day Care San Pedro (1992)
Assist-a-Family, civil unrest response (1992)
Project Koinonia, race relations dialogs (1993)
*Operation JumpStart, youth mentoring (1994)
♦Good Samaritan Counseling Center (1994)
Not Even One, gun violence prevention (1995)
A New Communion, faith & environment magazine (1995)
Women & Children First (1995-2000)
*PlayHouse Homeless Child Care (1997)
*Long Beach Nonprofit Partnership (1998)
Bulgarian Children's Fund (1998)
Agape Group Ministries (1998)
*The Million Mom March, South Bay-Long Beach (2000)
*Long Beach BLAST (2000)
♦Environmental Priorities Network (2001)

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 Congregation Shir Chadash
 Cross Roads UCC
 V. Dryer Fund
 First Congregational UCC
 The Josephine Gumbiner Foundation
 Gloria Dei Lutheran Church
 Holy Spirit Fellowship
 Law Office of Marc Coleman
 Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles
 Los Altos UMC
 Los Altos United Methodist Women
 The Massachusetts Street Book Club
 The Miller Foundation
 Seal Beach First United Methodist Women
 St. Francis Center
 Temple Israel
 Unitarian Universalist Church Long Beach



*Milia Islam-Majeed & Patty Lance
getting ready for the Silent Auction*



*Morningland Singers
at the MLK Interfaith Celebration*



*Sr. Diane Tillman, Religious Leader 2009,
& Gretchen Krutz at the Annual Assembly*

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Assumption of Mary Greek Orthodox LB \$150	Holy Trinity Catholic SP	St. Anthony's Catholic LB \$100
Baha'i Community Lakewood	Holy Trinity Ecum. Cath Lkwd \$200	St. Athanasius Catholic LB
Baha'i Community Long Beach	Hope UMC Torrance	St. Bartholomew Catholic LB \$100
Baha'i Community Manhattan Beach \$700	Immanuel - UCC LB	St. Cornelius Catholic LB
Bay Shore Community UCC LB \$8847	Islamic Center of Hawthorne	St. Cross Episcopal Hermosa Beach \$100
Bellfower First UMC	Islamic Center of Long Beach	St. Cyprian Catholic LB
Belmont Heights UMC LB \$200	Islamic Center of the South Bay \$250	St. Francis Episcopal PVE \$300
Bixby Knolls Christian LB \$200	Jewish Federation of Greater LB \$100	St. Gregory's Episcopal LB \$720
Brahma Kumaris Seal Beach \$100	Klein Chaplaincy Service \$100	St. James Catholic RB \$100
California Heights UMC LB \$200	Lakewood First UMC \$250	St. John Fisher Catholic RPV \$1000
California Sikh Council Irvine	Lakewood Village Community \$1,200	St. Joseph Catholic \$500
CCEJ LB \$100	LB Memorial Medical Center Chaplaincy \$150	St. Lucy's Catholic LB \$1,000
Christ Lutheran LB \$50	Leisure World Community Seal Beach	St. Luke's Episcopal LB \$300
Christian Outreach in Action LB \$100	Lily of the Valley COGIC LB	St. Luke's Lutheran LB \$200
Church of Religious Science RB \$540	Los Altos UCC LB \$100	St. Luke's Presbyterian RHE \$500
Community Congregational UCC	Los Altos UMC LB \$100	St. Margaret Mary Catholic Lomita \$400
Compton First UMC	Marloma Friends LB	St. Maria Goretti Catholic LB \$20
Congregation Ner Tamid RPV	Mary Star of the Sea Catholic SP	St. Mark's Presbyterian Lomita \$100
Congregation Shir Chadash Lakewood \$200	Masjid Al-Shareef LB \$200	St. Matthew's Catholic LB
Congregations Tikvat Jacob MB	Namaste Science of Mind LB \$200	St. Paul's Lutheran RPV \$100
Covenant Presbyterian LB \$500	Neighborhood Church UCC PVE \$1250	St. Peter's b/t Sea Presbyterian RPV \$2000
Cross Roads UCC Lakewood \$350	New Liberty Baptist LB	St. Peter's Episcopal SP \$300
Curry Temple CME Compton	New Philadelphia AME Rancho Dominguez	St. Philomena Catholic Carson \$200
Dominguez UMC LB \$100	North Long Beach Christian \$417	St. Timothy Lutheran Lkwd
First Christian Torrance	Our Lady of Refuge Catholic LB	Temple Beth El SP \$600
First Church of Christ, Scientist MB \$100	Our Saviour's Lutheran LB	Temple Beth Shalom LB
First Church of Christ, Scientist PVE \$25	Pacific Unitarian RPV \$700	Temple Israel LB \$500
First Congregational UCC LB \$3000	Palo Verde Ave Christian LB \$100	Temple Menorah RB \$200
First Lutheran Carson	P'nai Or Jewish Renewal Community \$50	The Neighborhood LB
First Lutheran Torrance \$100	Redeemer Lutheran Seal Beach	The Seamen's Church Institute of LA/LB
Gardena First Presbyterian \$50	Redondo Beach First UMC	Together with Hope UMC LB \$100
Gloria Dei Lutheran LB \$2367	Riviera UMC Redondo Beach \$750	Torrance First UMC
Golgotha Trinity Baptist LB	Rolling Hills UMC RHE \$250	Trinity Lutheran LB \$400
Good Shepherd American Cath. Lkwd	San Pedro First Presbyterian \$200	Trinity Lutheran, Manhattan Beach \$350
Good Shepherd Lutheran SP	San Pedro United Methodist \$250	Unitarian Universalist LB \$600
Gospel Memorial COGIC LB \$300	Seal Beach Center for Spiritual Living \$295	Unity Long Beach \$70
Grace First Presbyterian LB \$1500	Seaside Community UCC Torrance \$249	Vedanta Int. Cultural Center \$200
Grace UMC LB \$100	Second Samoan Congregational UCC LB \$200	Walteria UMC Torrance \$123
Greater Open Door COGIC LB	Sixth Church of Christ, Scientist LB \$100	Wayfarer's Chapel RPV \$400
Hawthorne UMC	Soka Gakkai International South Bay \$200	Wayside UMC Lomita \$100
Hollypark UMC Gardena	South Bay Christian RB	Wilmington First UMC \$100
Holy Spirit Fellowship LB \$300	St. Andrew's Episcopal Torrance	Woodruff Community UCC LB \$100