



IHMs in Action

“Interfaith Voices Radio”

Adapted from the “Interfaith Voices” website www.interfaithradio.org

Religious faith is integral to the lives of tens of millions of U.S. citizens. In a recent CNN/USA Today/Gallup poll, 62 percent of those surveyed said that religion is "very important" in their own lives; 70 percent claimed to be members of a church or synagogue; and 40 percent said they had attended religious services the previous week.

The importance of religion has been intensified in light of the events of September 11, 2001 and their aftermath. People seek to understand the relationship between religious faith, violence and political objectives. News organizations today discuss ethics, theology, biblical interpretation and a host of other topics because religion is interwoven in today's policy debates in ways that were not true in the past.

The typical citizen gets the bulk of his or her news and information from the broadcast media, not the printed word. Yet much of what is available in religious broadcasting assumes that there is one correct point of view and, in the context of Christianity, one Christian point of view. There is a need for radio programming that provides informative discussion of contemporary religious issues and is dialogic rather than dogmatic.

Interfaith Voices Radio meets that need with insightful, interfaith dialogue on a wide range of religious, spiritual, theological and moral issues. Interfaith Voices provides engaging and informative discussion on key issues through the lenses of many different faith perspectives. The program fosters religious tolerance and educates listeners on the broad diversity of religious traditions and viewpoints in the United States. They deal with a wide range of issues where theology intersects with public policy, including social justice, war and peace, electoral politics, separation of church and state, human rights, sexual and reproductive issues, racial/ethnic discrimination and women's rights. As a "magazine" show, they cover three or more stories per week. On every show, they broadcast the top religion news of the week and provide commentaries from many traditions and viewpoints, discussing topics straight out of the headlines.

The IHM Congregation has been an underwriter for Interfaith Voices since 2004. Click [here](#) to listen to a recent broadcast of Interfaith Voices. If you would like to find a local radio station that broadcasts Interfaith Voices, go to <http://www.interfaithradio.org/stations.html>.

