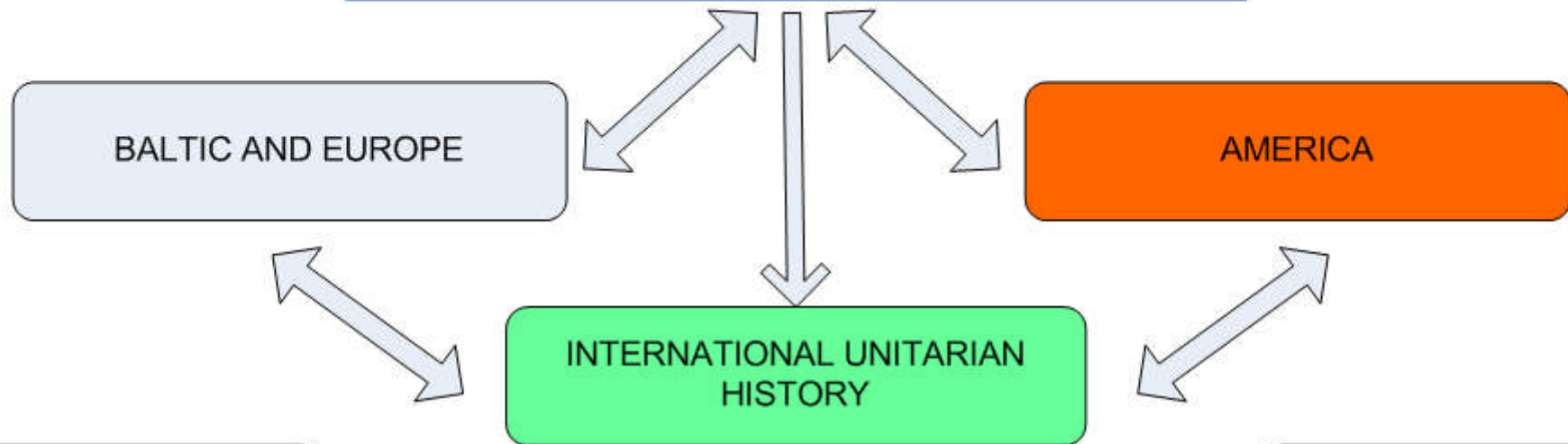


# LITHUANIA - HISTORY OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF TOLERANCE



## BOOKS

1600 Treatise on Tolerance  
 History of the Polish Reformation  
 Biography of Ferenc David  
 400 Years of Transylvanian Unitarian  
 Sermons  
 First Letter on Toleration (1689)  
 Book of Mary of Magdala  
 Jerusalem

### (modern books)

In the Shadows of Poland & Russia  
 Radical Reformation  
 Founding Faiths  
 The Haskalah Movement in Russia  
 Lithuanian Identity & Values



## HISTORIANS/ WRITERS

S. LUBIENIECKI  
 PETER KVIST  
 JOHN LOCKE  
 MOSES MENDELSSOHN

**(modern authors)**  
 A. KOTLJARCHUK  
 G.B. WILLIAMS  
 J. RAISIN  
 IMRE GELLERD  
 JEREMY BANGS  
 STEVEN WALDMAN  
 E. WILBUR  
 E. SAVICKA (ed.)

# THE HISTORIANS

(THE HEROES)

# Prof. Andrej Kotljarchuk (Ukraine/Sweden)



- In the Shadows of Poland and Russia: The Grand Duchy of Lithuania (GDL) and Sweden in the European Crisis of the mid-17<sup>th</sup> Century
- The integrator of Unitarian, Jewish, and Radziwill history within GDL history

# Stanislas Lubieniecki (Poland/Lithuania - Unitarian)



- History of the Polish Reformation (HPR)  
Written 1662-1675, covering Unitarian history in Poland and some in Lithuania during the period c. 1540-c. 1661
- Famous family of Polish Unitarians for generations.
- Was the trusted Radziwill-appointed diplomat that discussed the possibility of new alignments with the King of Sweden
- Given refuge in Lithuania (1638) and later in Hamburg (after exile in 1661).

# George Huntston Williams

## (American/Harvard – UU Minister)



- Lived 1914-2000
- Son of famous UU minister
- Mentor to John Buehrens at Harvard Divinity School.  
John was his Research Asst. for RR, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition.



- The Radical Reformation, 3 editions: 1962, 1983, 2000
- HPR - Translation & Interpretation (1995) – Monumental Effort
- Article: Protestants in the Ukraine During the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth (1978 – Harvard Ukrainian Studies)

# Earl Morse Wilbur



- Lived 1866-1956
- Original field was languages
- Later traveled to many foreign sites to research UU history
- Our Unitarian Heritage (1925)
  - This Book was commissioned by the Religious Education Dept. of AUA (predecessor to the UUA), for use in Religious Education at junior high level.
  - This was first UU history to cover both American and European UU history in one book.
- The History of Unitarianism (1945/1952) – footnoted history (research-level treatment)
- Organizer and First Dean (later President) of the Pacific Unitarian School (later named Starr King School for the Ministry)

# Tolerance

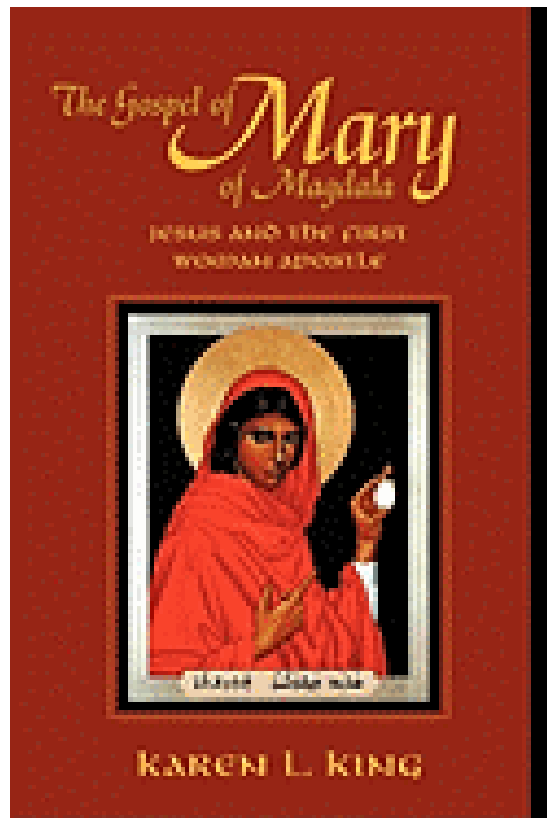
Peter Kvist, Faustus Socinus, Jeremy Bangs



- 1600 Treatise on Tolerance (Peter Kvist, et al) (c. 1600)
- Racovian Catechism (Faustus Socinus, et al) (c. 1600)
- Pilgrim Antiquities in Leiden (Holland) – (Jeremy Bangs, Museum, c. 2000-present) – *see picture*

# Tolerance – Early Christian Churches

## Karen King (Harvard Divinity School)



- [\*The Gospel of Mary of Magdala: Jesus and the First Woman Apostle\*](#), 2003
- *Early core member of “Jesus Seminar” modern biblical text analysis movement, with thousands of supporters and listeners/learners.*

# Karen King on the Roots of Democracy, Tolerance, and Responsibility

According to Karen King, Democracy as a value and practice first grew out of constructive dialogue between varied individual early Christian churches, each holding fragments of messages attributed to a resurrected Jesus/Holy Spirit, and searching for more.

Here is a quotation from p.189, at the close of her book (underlining is mine):

- “The Gospel of Mary [of Magdala] instead suggests that the story of the gospel is unfinished. Christian doctrine and practice are not fixed dogmas that one can only accept or reject;
- rather Christians are required to step into the story and work together to shape the meaning of the gospel in their own time.
- Because human passion and love of the world incline people to error, discerning the truth requires effort, and it insists that communities of faith take responsibility for how they appropriate tradition in a world too often ruled by powers of injustice and domination.”

# Mary Grazina Slavenas

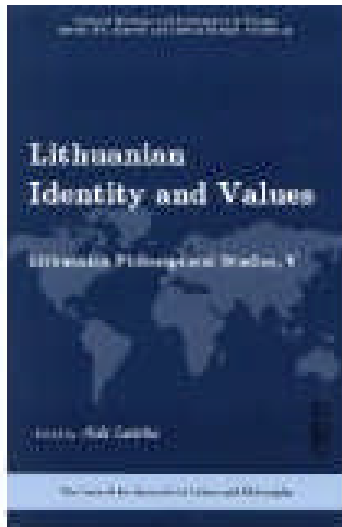
Canisius College – Lithuanian Protestant History



- The Protestant Minority Churches in Lithuania 1919-1940 (Lituanus – Lithuanian Quarterly Journal of Arts and Sciences, Chicago, 1997)  
– Associate Editor, Lituanus staff (*see stained glass symbol*)

# Aida Savicka

## Editor/Researcher of Contemporary Lithuanian Culture Trends



- Lithuanian Identity and Values (2007), editor

### Contains Articles on:

- Trend toward more interest in religion (vs. opposite trend across most of EU)
- Past 200 years of searches for roots --primarily were looking into Hindu culture

# Imre Gellerd

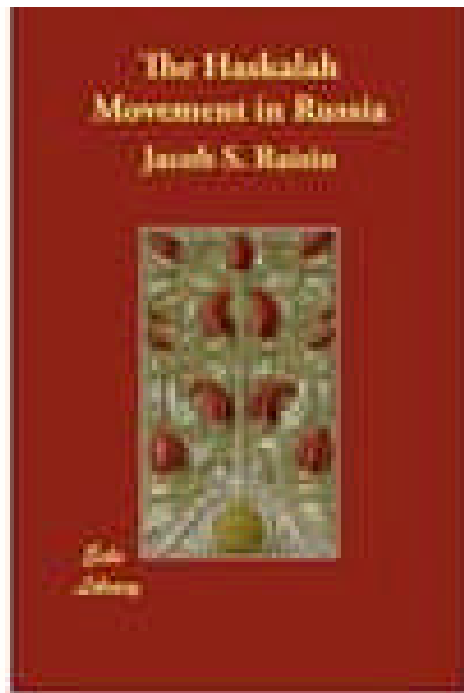
## Transylvanian Unitarian Minister and Historical/Theological Interpreter & Judit Gellerd (daughter, translator, UU minister)



- A Burning Kiss From God To Preach Truth: Four Centuries of Transylvanian Unitarian Preaching (Center for Free Religion, 1990) (*analysis of intellectual-spiritual development during 400 years of sermons*)
- Also, by Prof. Mihaly Balasz: Ferenc David and Early Unitarianism in Transylvania (*A history of Francis David, translated by Judit Gellerd*)

# Rabbi Jacob Raisin

(Reform Jewish Rabbi/Historian,  
researching/writing c. 1898 - 1948)



- The Haskalah Movement In Russia (1909)
  - Covers Greater Russia, including Lithuania and part of Poland
- Gentile Reactions To Jewish Ideals (1948)
  - completed & published posthumously, in 1953
  - describes 3000 years of conversions to Judaism

# Steven Waldman

## Founder of Beliefnet



- Founding Faith: How Our Founding Fathers Forged a Radical New Approach to Religious Liberty
  - Describes how few the instances of colonial religious liberty were from 1620 to 1789 – an average of only 15% of colonies at any one time!
  - The Constitution and First Amendment created a radical change .
- Senior Advisor to the Chairman of the FCC, charged with developing “new thinking” to ensure the “information vitality of our democracy.”