

“Sorting out Conflicting Approaches of Interpreting the Bible”

When major public figures appeal to the Bible, they often come to quite different conclusions—about peace and war, for example, about the death penalty, or about marriage and divorce. When a church assembly debates these or similar issues, the arguments usually exhibit differing ways of interpreting the Bible. How do we sort out those conflicting interpretive approaches? This five-week non-credit class will explore that question. Rather than focusing on the debates themselves, it will provide an opportunity to “dig deeper” and see what is behind those debates—and to understand what arguments made from the Bible can and cannot accomplish.

Over the five-week non-credit course, some of the topics addressed will include:

- * The Conflicting Appeals and What Is at Stake
- * The Nature of Biblical Language
- * The Authority of the Bible in Church and in Society
- * Diversity and Unity—in the Bible and in the Community of Faith
- * Interpreting the Bible: What Does It Tell Us About How to Behave and What to Believe?

Primary faculty for the five-week non-credit course:

Rev. Dr. Darrell Jodock, Gustavus Adolphus College
with assistance from other professors in the Gustavus religion department.

WHEN: Mondays at 7-9pm October 13, 20, 27, November 3, 10

**WHERE: Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, MN
St. Peter Room, Jackson Campus Center**

WHO: Anyone who seeks a deeper understanding of the Bible

COST: \$30/person (Registration Deadline: October 8, 2008)

**TO REGISTER: Please complete below and return with payment to:
Gustavus Adolphus College, Office of Church Relations
800 West College Avenue, St. Peter, MN 56082-1498**

Partner congregations for this educational series are: All Saints Lutheran (Norwood), Christ the King Lutheran (Mankato), Christ the King Lutheran (New Ulm), First Lutheran (St. Peter), Grace Lutheran (Waseca), Holy Trinity Lutheran (New Prague) and St. Paul’s Lutheran (Le Center).

Registration Form for the Fall 2008 Exploring Religious Questions Series

Name: _____ **Phone Number:** _____

Home Address: _____

Email: _____ **Home Church (City):** _____

Payment enclosed with registration (check payable to Gustavus Adolphus College)
Questions? Please contact the Office of Church Relations at Gustavus 507-933-7001