

## **GISP events 2016-2017**

### **MacVittie Lecture: One Nation, Under God: The Myth, Ethic and Hope of Religious Freedom in the USA**

Rev. Dr. Wendy J. Deichmann, Professor of History and Theology at United Theological Seminary  
Tuesday, November 15, 2016 7:00 – 8:00 pm Doty Recital Hall

*While the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America suggests a sovereign God over all, the nation's First Amendment guarantees religious freedom for all citizens. Is complete religious freedom credible, even when some religious views may threaten harm? In a land of increasing religious diversity, and in a world fraught with violent conflict over religious ideas, can the historic US commitment to religious freedom (1) foster constructive relationships within communities and, (2) provide a solid, practical ethic to help secure the nation's future?*

### **Cross-Cultural Understandings Post-Election: Jewish Perspectives**

Join campus and community speakers through a Jewish Orientation to reflect on recent political events and cultural perspectives. Thursday December 8, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. in Milne 213.

### **The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Leadership and Service**

January 16, 2017 9:45 am to 3:00 pm  
MacVittie College Union

This day of leadership and service is planned as an inter-generational and interfaith event with SUNY Geneseo students and area senior citizen volunteers learning and working together on important community outreach efforts. Signing up for this "workshop" includes registration and participation in the entire program from the opening keynote at 10:00 am through the service projects in the afternoon ending at 3:00 pm. The program will begin with a keynote address by Dr. Justin Behrend on "The Long History of Civil Rights Activism." One hour GOLD workshops will follow at 11:15 am and all participants must select and register for one of the five topics. Lunch is included with special guest, Lulu Westbrook-Griffin, who will share her story as a young black girl arrested and imprisoned for protesting at a whites-only movie theatre in Americus, Georgia in 1963. After lunch, volunteers will work on projects such as hygiene kits for food pantries; backpack lunches for low income K-12 students in area schools; fleece blankets for veterans; and greeting cards for migrant families and veterans. The program will also feature musical selections by student soloists. The GOLD Program at SUNY Geneseo is partnering with Student & Campus Life, Center for Community, Multicultural Programs & Services, Volunteerism & Service Learning, Residence Life, Student Life, Student Association, Geneseo Interfaith Service Project (GISP), Campus Auxiliary Services, Livingston CARES and

the Livingston County Office for the Aging to celebrate the life and legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Participants are expected to attend the full day of activities and workshops.

## **GISP Dinner & Dialogue**

### **Tumbling Walls? A GISP Dinner & Dialogue on U.S. Immigration Policies (Diamond)**

**Tuesday, February 7, 2017 5:30 – 7:00 pm | Interfaith Center, Franklin Street, Geneseo**

The Fifth Annual Geneseo Interfaith Service Project (GISP) Community Dinner & Dialogue is one of the featured events in the GISP Series. Two SUNY Geneseo faculty members from the History Department will offer historical and current perspectives on the U.S. Immigration policies. Following the brief presentations, all campus and community faith groups and individuals are invited to participate in table discussions on immigration issues related to the 2016-2017 GISP theme of ***Tumbling Walls: Opening Doors to Interfaith Connections.*** Participants will enjoy a free meal courtesy of the Philanthropic Chefs, the Center for Community and Geneseo Interfaith Center.

*Instructors: Dr. Kathleen Mapes - Associate Professor, History; Dr. Ryan M. Jones - Assistant Professor, History*

## **Celebration of Love**

### **GISP Interfaith Event (Opal) or (Diamond)**

**Monday, February 13, 2:30 – 4:00 pm | MacVittie College Union Lobby**

How does your culture interpret love? This event, hosted by the Geneseo Interfaith Service Project (GISP), is intended to spark dialog about multiple interpretations of love among different religions and cultural groups. All cultural and faith-based organizations are invited to participate in this special event. The GISP Labyrinth Path of Peace will also be open in the MacVittie Ballroom from 10:00 am - 7:00 pm.