

The Rev. Dr. Peter Pettit
will present
“Jews, Christians, and the Rest of the World”
at
The Hellenic Center
Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
50 South Ann Street
January 11, 2007 – 7:00 PM

The Rev. Dr. Peter A. Pettit serves as Director of the Institute for Jewish-Christian Understanding of Muhlenberg College (Allentown, PA). The Institute is a program agency of the College, devoted to increasing the appreciative and respectful mutual understanding of Jews and Christians on the campus, in the Lehigh Valley, and throughout our society. Through course work, continuing education programs, seminars for public and private secondary school students, clergy study programs, living-room dialogue groups, and other initiatives, the Institute has fostered such understanding between Jews and Christians since 1989. An annual highlight of the Institute's work is the Wallenberg Tribute, which honors a contemporary leader in interfaith understanding in the name of the Swedish diplomat and Holocaust hero, Raoul Wallenberg.

Dr. Pettit is a pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and served for 9 years as pastor of Hope Lutheran Church in Riverside, CA. He was raised in eastern Pennsylvania and is a graduate of Princeton University and the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Philadelphia. Moving to southern California to undertake graduate work, he began to lead Jewish-Christian dialogue and study programs in the mid-1980s. His teaching has taken him into numerous local congregations, as well as colleges and universities affiliated with the Baptist, Roman Catholic, and Methodist churches and both Reform and Conservative Judaism, and into the extension programs of the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) and at Riverside. He earned his doctorate in Bible and Early Judaism at the Claremont Graduate University in 1993. He started at Muhlenberg College in 1999.

Since 1992, Dr. Pettit has also served as the North American Coordinator of the Osher Jerusalem Center for Religious Pluralism at the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem. Annually, the Center sponsors a week-long international theology conference of shared study by leading Jewish, Christian, and Muslim theologians from Israel, North America, and Europe. In 2002, he was elected to chair the Council of Centers on Jewish-Christian Relations in the United States, a new endeavor gathering 25 centers and institutes into a collaborative network.

Refreshments will be served immediately following the lecture. We look forward to seeing all of you **at the Church** for this special Dialogue event!