

## Overview

The Matter of Faith Summer Series this year features four distinguished authors, all having a direct connection to our area. Each author will address a unique issue related to choices. Those choices and the issues surrounding them - identity, justice, revenge, forgiveness, infallibility, belief, history, ritual, tradition – all impact each of our lives in profoundly important ways. These authors have spent not only time and energy, but also intellect and intuition to articulate their ideas. It is an honor to be able to hear and talk with each of these local authors in person.

Participants are **NOT expected** to read the books prior to the series, although of course, you may choose to do so!

**Books will be available for sale!**

***You are invited to participate!***

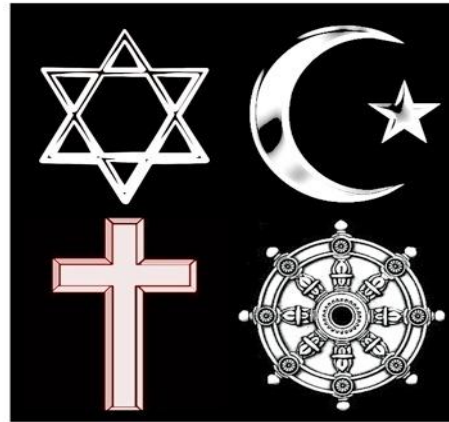
**This is a FREE Program**  
however, donations are accepted!  
Please mail your donations to:

Ecumenical Conference of  
Greater Altoona  
P. O. Box 292,  
Duncansville, PA 16635

Want more information?  
Website: [www.ecgaltoona.org](http://www.ecgaltoona.org)

Contact Cindy at 695-6580  
[ecga1967@gmail.com](mailto:ecga1967@gmail.com)

# 2013 Matter of Faith Summer Series



Four Tuesday Evenings  
**July 2, 9, 16, and 23, 2013**

*Made possible by a grant from the  
Greater Altoona Jewish Federation*

Ecumenical Conference  
of Greater Altoona  
P O Box 292  
Duncansville PA 16635  
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Altoona PA

**2013 Matter of Faith  
Summer Series**  
*All sessions begin at 7:00 pm*  
**Social Hall of the LDS Church**  
*(Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints)*  
**778 Lower Brush Mountain Rd.  
Hollidaysburg PA**  
**NOTE: this a different site  
than previously announced!**

Directions to the Church at  
[www.ecgaltoona.org](http://www.ecgaltoona.org)

Tues., July 2 – **Changing  
Churches** Fr. Anthony Roeber

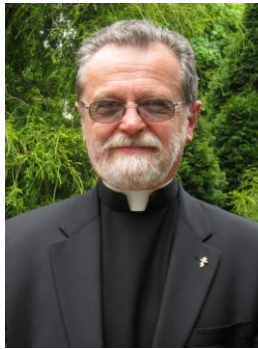
Tues., July 9 - **The Trial of  
Fallen Angels**  
Attorney James Kimmel, Jr.

Tues., July 16 - **What the  
'Other' Gospels Tell Us  
about Early Christianity**  
Dr. Robert Miller

Tues., July 23 - **Real Jewish  
Men Cook Kosher !**  
Mr. Don Clippinger

Each session will include Round  
Table Discussion and Direct  
Conversation with the Authors

*Refreshments and fellowship  
follow the program!*



**July 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
**Father Anthony Roeber**  
 Former Department Chair teaches Early History and Religious Studies at Penn State University

Anthony Gregg Roeber attended The Pontifical College Josephinum from 1963 to 1969 and earned his B.A. and M.A. at the University of Denver, a second M.A. and his Ph.D. at Brown University, and his M.A. in Orthodox Theology from the Balamand University, Lebanon. In addition to his Penn State professorship, he is also supply priest for the Antiochian Orthodox Deanery of Western PA and most recently interim pastor of Saint George Orthodox Church in Altoona, PA.

The author of more than 50 articles and six books, his most recent publication is ***Changing Churches: An Orthodox, Catholic, Lutheran Theological Conversation*** with co-author Mickey L. Mattox. Their book addresses questions faced when one has a conversion of faith tradition--justification, grace, divinization, the church and its authority, women and ministry, papal infallibility and homosexuality. They discuss the long-standing ecumenical division between Rome and the Orthodox patriarchates, acknowledging the difficult issues that still confront those traditions from within.

Fr. Anthony encourages you to read the Introduction to *Changing Churches* on the ECGA website: [ecgaltoona.org](http://ecgaltoona.org)

**July 9<sup>th</sup>**  
**James Kimmel, Jr.**

James Kimmel Jr. is a novelist, lawyer, scholar and advocate who focuses on the intersections of law and spirituality and law and psychology. He received his doctorate in jurisprudence from the University of Pennsylvania.

Jim has appeared in courts across the country on behalf of a wide variety of clients, from prisoners and the indigent to large corporations. He is also the co-founder of Peerstar LLC, a company that provides mental health support services to prison inmates.

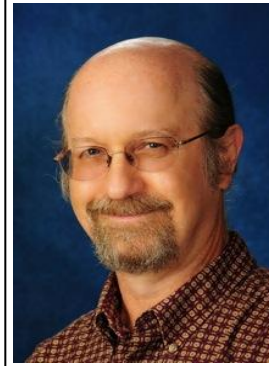
Despite his professional success, Jim began to experience a conflict between his most



deeply held spiritual beliefs and his duties as a lawyer, leading him to reexamine issues of justice in both a legal and spiritual context. He is the author of *Suing for Peace* (2005) and, most recently:

***The Trial of Fallen Angels***

a spiritual thriller that has won rave national reviews and features a former central PA lawyer who finds herself covered in blood and standing on a deserted train platform. She has no memory of how she got there. For one very good reason - she's dead! But how did she die and why? She learns that she was sent here to join the elite group of lawyers who prosecute and defend souls at the Final Judgment. This is a thought-provoking novel about humanity's search for redemption. [www.jameskimmeljr.com](http://www.jameskimmeljr.com)



**July 16<sup>th</sup>**  
**Robert Miller**  
 is the Rosenberger Chair of Religious Studies and Christian Thought at Juniata College.

***What the 'Other' Gospels Tell Us about Early Christianity***

Early Christians produced several dozen gospels, only four of which were included in the Christian Scriptures. Some of those "other" gospels were rejected by what came to be mainstream Christianity because they were judged to be "heretical" or fanciful, and some simply languished through disuse—many are still lost. All the gospels we do have, however, have much to tell us about the rich—and bewildering—diversity of the early Christian centuries.

Dr. Miller teaches courses in Biblical Studies, World Religions, and the Philosophy of Religion. He is author and editor of several books on the historical Jesus and the gospels, including *The Complete Gospels* (4<sup>th</sup> edition, 2010), an anthology of 22 early Christian gospels in a controversial new translation.

**July 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
**Don Clippinger**

Don Clippinger is a semi-retired journalist and marketing executive who has been cooking for more than 45 years. He was city editor of the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* in the mid-1970s and was an assigning editor at the *Philadelphia Inquirer* before beginning to cover horse racing in 1981. He left the Inquirer in 1987 and became editor of the *Thoroughbred Record*, a monthly trade publication, in 1988. After the *Thoroughbred Record* closed in 1990, he and his wife, Audrey Korotkin, formed the marketing company that is now Korotkin Enterprises Inc., which then was based in Louisville, Ky. At the same time, they began a journey that led Korotkin to become a Reform rabbi, ordained at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Cincinnati in 1999 and now the spiritual leader of Temple Beth Israel in Altoona.



On that path, they also began keeping a kosher kitchen.

***Real Jewish Men Cook Kosher!*** is the story of that transition and its meaning to a Jewish household. In the past year, he has been exploring and experimenting with biblical foods, the Middle Eastern diet at the time of Jesus and the beginning of rabbinic Judaism.