

**GARDEN SPOT VILLAGE AND EASTERN MENNONITE UNIVERSITY AT LANCASTER  
TO EXPLORE WORLD RELIGIONS**

*Six-session course begins Mon., Mar. 14; continuing education units available*

**NEW HOLLAND, Pa. — Feb. 21, 2011** — Garden Spot Village ALIVE (Active Lifelong Learners in Vital Engagements) and Eastern Mennonite University at Lancaster invite the community to an in-depth course titled “World Religions.” The six-session class will meet on Mondays from 7 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. on Mar. 14, 21, 28 and Apr. 11, 18 and 25 in the board room on the campus of Garden Spot Village at 433 S. Kinzer Ave. in New Holland.

“We are offering this program to enrich peoples’ intellectual and spiritual lives by helping them get a better understanding of different belief systems, how they relate to Christianity and how they are practiced here in the United States,” said Chet Yoder, director of pastoral services at Garden Spot Village.

The instructor for the course will be Glen Roth, who recently served as adjunct professor at Eastern Mennonite University at Lancaster. He is currently a consultant with Parish Resource Center in Lancaster.

The first class session will address common questions about the variety of religions in the world, whether God is at work in other religions, and eternal destiny and other religions. The next three class sessions will look at the basic beliefs of Hinduism, Buddhism and Islam, comparing these religions to Christianity and exploring their practice in the United States. The fifth session will review the history of the Jewish people and the major writings and beliefs of Judaism, explore Judaism and the Messiah, discuss the differences between Judaism and Christianity. The final session will address Christianity and Abraham, bounded and centered approaches to faith, the basic beliefs of Christianity, denominationalism and Anabaptist theology.

The cost of the program is \$20, which includes the textbook. Continuing education units are available through Eastern Mennonite University. Garden Spot Village residents may register for the course at Resident Services. Members of the general public may register by calling 717-355-6159. Please register by Fri., Mar. 4.

Garden Spot Village is home to all faiths and backgrounds. It is affiliated with the Lancaster Mennonite Conference of the Mennonite Church, the Atlantic Coast Conference of the Mennonite Church USA and Mennonite Health Services. The community’s mission is “to enrich the lives of older adults as an expression of Christ’s love.” For more information, visit [www.gardenspotvillage.org](http://www.gardenspotvillage.org).

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