

For immediate release
October 5, 1999

"The Authority of Scripture" to be discussed in public forum at USI

Local religious and secular leaders and University of Southern Indiana professors will discuss "The Authority of Scripture" in a public forum beginning at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 19, in Carter Hall, University Center, University of Southern Indiana. Participating in the forum are representatives from Catholic, Protestant, Jewish, Muslim, Unitarian, and atheist beliefs. Subtopics include the sense in which scripture may be the Word of God, literal vs. non-literal interpretations, and scriptural infallibility vs. fallibility.

Dr. Stephen Sullivan, associate professor of philosophy and organizer of the event, said, "The forum will present a diversity of approaches to an issue that has a significant bearing on the moral and political debates that occur in the U.S." It is sponsored by the Philosophy and Political Science Departments.

Participants are:

Reverend Brenda Steproe, co-pastor at Assembly of Faith Church; chair of the Vanderburgh County Jail Taskforce, and chaplain at the Vanderburgh County Jail.

Dr. John Gottcent, professor of English, University Core Curriculum coordinator, and author of *The Bible: A Literary Study*.

Dr. Ann Fries, coordinator for community marriage builders in Evansville, a parishioner at St. Joseph Catholic Church, and host of "Living His Word," a bible study radio program on WVHI 1330-AM.

Reverend Julia Aegerter, is pastor of Unitarian Universalist Church in Evansville and president of the Evansville Interfaith Commission.

Rabbi David Feder of Adath B'Nai Israel Temple in Evansville.

Dr. Marwan Wafa, associate dean of USI School of Business and president of the Islamic Society of Evansville.

Dr. Richard Mussard, associate professor of philosophy.

For more information, call Dr. Stephen J. Sullivan at 812/465-4095.