

Dr. A. H. Mathias Zahniser, Scholar in Residence



**Dr. Mathias Zahniser presenting a lecture based on his book, *The Mission and Death of Jesus in Islam and Christianity*.**

Dr. A. H. Mathias Zahniser, Greenville College's Scholar in Residence has been interested in Islam since his sophomore year at Greenville College where he graduated with a B.A. in 1960. He received a Masters of International Service from American University, Washington, D. C., in 1962, with a major in Middle East Area Studies. After graduation from Asbury Theological Seminary, Wilmore, KY in 1965, Zahniser and his wife, Ann, spent a year and a half in Egypt as fraternal workers with the Holiness Movement of the Evangelical Copts. He received a Ph.D. in Near Eastern Studies from Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, in 1973, with a major concentration in Arabic and Islamic studies. He has taught at Central Michigan University, Asbury Theological Seminary, Kentucky, and Greenville College, Illinois.

The Society of Theological Booksellers selected Dr. Zahniser's most recent book, *The Mission and Death of Jesus in Islam and Christianity* (Orbis Books, 2008) as a best book for the fall and winter of 2008. The *International Bulletin of Missionary Research* selected it as one of the fifteen top books in intercultural and mission studies for the year 2008.

He has contributed six articles to the *Encyclopedia of the Qur'an* (E. J. Brill, 2001-2006) and a chapter to *The Blackwell Companion to the Qur'an*; and is under contract for a chapter in *The [Oxford] Handbook of Qur'anic Studies* (Oxford University Press) for publication in 2014.

Zahniser's hobbies are, hiking, traveling, and studying. The picture below shows him and his wife, Ann, having a snack overlooking the Aegean Sea above a high cliff on the Island of Santorini.

