



An Exhibit from Thayer Memorial Library's Rare Books Collection:

A GENERAL DIFFUSION OF KNOWLEDGE

Sunday Lecture Series:

Searching for the Heart of the Community— Religious Books in the Rare Book Collection

Timothy Castner

March 11, 2012
3 pm

Dexter Room

Exhibit open at 1 pm prior to lecture



Lancaster historian Tim Castner will discuss religious books in the Rare Books Collection. From Puritanism in New England and changing religious ideas associated with the American Revolution to the Great Awakening, religious themes played important roles for citizens. Controversies surrounded publication of some authors' works. New ideas gave rise to the emergence of Deism, Unitarianism, Universalism, and the resulting reform movements.

Tim Castner has presented professional programs on the separation of church and state in Massachusetts, the role of religion in the Civil Rights Movement, and race and religion in American political history for history teachers through Teaching American History grants. In addition he contributed chapters on the Great Awakening and the Constitutional Convention to *Conflicts in American History*, a documentary encyclopedia of American history. Tim has taught U.S. history at Nashoba Regional high School for fifteen years.

Free and open to the public

Upcoming lecture in the series:

April 15, 2012 **Kevin Doyle:** Lancaster in the Civil War and
Gardner's Photographic Sketchbook of the War

TML History Program:

April 29, 2012 **Frank MacGrory:** The Thayers and Their Relationship
to Lancaster's Library