



Jewish Study Center

Winter 2009 Guide to Classes and Events



Look inside for classes such as:

- ◆ Comedy Classics
- ◆ Yoga
- ◆ Handel's Messiah
- ◆ Political Leadership

And many more!

The Chain of Tradition

The Past, Present and Future of Judaism

Special Events!

- ◆ Latke-Hamentashen Debate
- ◆ JSC Gives Back Day
- ◆ Routes Program
- ◆ Madeleine Kunin
- ◆ Spring Concert
- ◆ Bircat Hachama

Classes in Northern Virginia!
See details inside

Single-Session Classes

\$15 per class pre-registered and pre-paid \$20 at the door unless otherwise specified

Synagogue Architecture

Mike Bloom

Tues Jan 27 7-8:15 pm 6th and I

What should a Synagogue look like? What makes it a “mikdash me’at” - a bit like the Temple of old? Drawing on Colonial era and modern synagogues, this class will explore these and other questions designed to enhance your appreciation of prayer spaces.



Moses Mendelssohn: A Man of Letters

Jean Nordhaus

Tues Feb 3 7-8:30 pm 6th and I

As the first Jew to publish a book in German, Moses Mendelssohn played a significant role, for better or worse, in the integration of Jews into German civil society. His life was a precursor to the Enlightenment to come. Learn more about the role he played in Jewish-German literary life.

The Matriarchs in a Tough Economy

Fran Kritz

Wed Feb. 4 7-8:15 pm Adas Israel

The economy is the worst it has been in decades. Where can one get inspiration for not only surviving but thriving under such conditions? See what we can learn from the trials of Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel and Leah.

The Israel Lobby

Dan Pollak

Tues Feb 10 7-8:30 pm 6th and I

The groups that lobby on behalf of Israel are often portrayed as a homogenous behemoth. See if the reality matches this impression and hear about the ins and outs of the art of lobbying from a long-time practitioner.

From 2008 to 2008 BCE: McCain, Obama & Clinton vs. David, Moses & Deborah – The Development of Leadership As We Know It

Yaron Sfadyah

Wed Feb 11 7-8:30 pm Adas Israel

If you think that political shtick is a modern phenomenon, think again. We will examine how Jewish leaders of olden times laid the basics of politics as we know it today.

Revisiting Memory: Facts and Myths about the Jews in Poland and Russia

Antony Polonsky

Tues Feb 17 7:30-9:00 6th and I

Dr. Polonsky is one of the foremost experts on the Jews of Eastern Europe. He debunks the myths we all grew up hearing about Jewish Communities in eastern Europe prior to World War II. We are proud to be a co-sponsored with the Foundation for Jewish Studies for this event. **FREE**—register at www.foundjs.org or 301-770-4787

Maimonides

Roy Pinchot

Wed Feb 25 7-8:30 pm Adas Israel

If one did not know that Maimonides was the name of a man, one would assume it was the name of a university. He was the first person to write a systematic code of Jewish law; he produced one of the great philosophic statements of Judaism; published a commentary on the entire Mishna; served as physician to the sultan of Egypt; wrote numerous books on medicine; and, in his "spare time," served as leader of Cairo's Jewish Community. Come learn how this great man still influences Judaism today.



Pre-Purim Comedy Classics

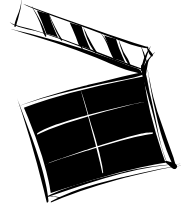
Tues Mar 3

7-8:15 pm

Mike Bloom

6th and I

Get in the mood for Purim with our family-friendly night of comedy classics from the golden age of tv. We will watch and discuss clips from shows of the 50s and 60s, noting any Jewish connections. Mordechai and Esther would surely approve!



A Family History

Wed Mar 11

7-8:15 pm

Adas Israel

Denyse Tannenbaum

Come share the experience of journalist and author Denyse Tannenbaum as she researches her family's Slovakian roots. Her methods include oral history interviews, document research and travel to Slovakia, the Mormon Church and Yad Vashem. Hear one family's the amazing story of survival.

An Invitation to Include

Wed Mar 11

7-8:30 pm

Adas Israel

Sara Milner

Explore the Jewish community's journey to include people with disabilities in all aspects of Jewish life. Will include hands-on disability awareness experiences.

Talmudic Eccentrics

Sun Mar 15

1-2:30 pm

6th and I

Rabbi Avi Weinstein

We tend to think of the personalities in the Talmud as staid, serious Rabbis. In reality, there are all sorts of odd characters represented in the Talmudic debates. Who were these unorthodox characters and how did the writers of the Talmud attempt to rehabilitate their images?

Jewish Presence on the Web

Tues Mar 17

7-8:30 pm

6th and I

Paul Roitman Bardack

From JDate to shopping sites, Kotel-cams to Shamash.org, the Jewish world has exploded on the internet. Hear about trends and challenges to this exciting addition to traditional Jewish resources.

The Dreyfus Affair

Wed Mar 18

7-8:15 pm

Adas Israel

Daniel Pinto

Anti-Semitism in France during the latter part of the 19th century was openly displayed in print and in public speeches by politicians, yet the Dreyfus affair became one of the gravest crises to rock the French Third Republic. Learn the details of this historical episode that changed attitudes toward Jews around the world.

Papercutting Workshop

Wed Mar 18

7-9:00 pm

Adas Israel

Debra Band

Papercutting has been a popular Jewish art form since the Middle Ages, when a rabbi, finding that his ink had frozen, continued to write the manuscript by cutting the letters into the paper. Connect with your creative side with this fun tradition.

\$20 material fee. You take home all materials-a complete kit of papercutting tools and supplies.



Fearless Cooking

Tues Mar 24

6:30-9:30 pm

Adas Israel

Stuart Levy

Learn how to take stock of meat, vegetables, spices and other available ingredients, and come up with a meal fit for company. A wide variety of spices will be presented for tasting, and several styles of chicken and vegetarian dishes will be prepared by the class. *\$15 material fee*

Jewish Cultures Across the Globe: India

Wed Mar 25

7-8:15 pm

Adas Israel

Nissim Reuben

Recent tragic events have highlighted the longstanding relationship between Jews and India. Come learn more about the Jewish communities that have developed in India and how they have contributed to Indian Society.

Multi-Session Courses

\$15 per session pre-registered and prepaid; 10% discount pre-registered and prepaid full course; \$20 per session at door

Contemporary Jewish Challenges

Mon Jan 26, Feb 2 7-8:30 pm JCC NoVa

Representatives of the Reform, Conservative and Orthodox movements of Judaism debate major contemporary challenges to Jews and Judaism in America. Are the challenges faces individuals the same as the challenges faces Judaism as a whole? Which is a greater challenge to our survival? Where should community resources be focused to combat these trial? Do the clergy agree? Here their opinions, then lend your voice to their cries or challenge the experts.



*Rabbi Jack Moline is the Rabbi at Agudas Achim Congregation
Rabbi Sholom Deitsch is the Rabbi of Chabad of Fairfax
Rabbi Jeffrey Saxe is the Rabbi at Temple Rodef Shalom*

Current Topics with Moment Magazine

Wed Jan 28, Feb 25, Mar 25 7-8:30 pm Adas Israel

Moment Magazine is dedicated to serious, highly-literate, intellectual journalism. It is a much needed independent forum that is not tied to any organization or point-of-view. Join Senior Editors and Writers of *Moment Magazine* in discussing articles from recent issues of their award winning magazine. Each session will focus on one article and be presented by the writer or editor of that article. The class will explore the research and writing processes and follow the article from concept to print. After the participants read the article and consider the content, the class will review the conclusions and discuss them with the *Moment Magazine* staff. No prior reading is required.



Text Study: Talmud in Translation Rabbi Avrom Landesman

Every Monday 8:30-9:30 pm Woodside Synagogue

The Talmud is a record of rabbinic discussions pertaining to Jewish law, ethics, customs, and history. It is a central text of Rabbinic Judaism, second only to the Bible in importance. The Talmud has two components: the Mishna, the first written compendium of Judaism's Oral Law; and the Gemara, a discussion of the Mishna and related writings that often ventures onto other subjects and expounds broadly on the Bible. So what are you waiting for? Isn't it time you encountered "the work that shaped rabbinic Judaism"? We're studying the tractate Sanhedrin in translation; please join us when you can. Materials Provided. Everyone is welcome -- all backgrounds and levels; "drop-ins" and "regulars". **FREE**



Hidden in Plain Sight: The Jewish Narrative in Handel's Messiah

Mary Schwartz

Wed Feb 11, 18, 25

7-8:30 pm

Adas Israel



George Frideric Handel's Messiah is a conundrum for Jews. Because its music is so glorious, it has richly illuminated some of the greatest passages of our Hebrew Bible. But there is a disturbing act of appropriation here, as parts of Isaiah, Psalms, Lamentations, Job, etc, have been reframed to tell the story of Jesus.

In a 3 session course, we will study these passages of the oratorio in their original context, and explore the great Jewish themes of comfort, suffering, exile, return and celebration. Each session will examine a different group of arias and choruses. Some of the selections to be discussed will be; "Comfort ye, comfort ye, my people", "every valley shall be exalted", "He was despised, rejected, a man of sorrows", "And he will feed his flock", and "I know that my redeemer liveth." If possible, bring your Bibles.



Grandma's Favorites: Then and Now

Larry Liss

Tues Feb 24 , Mar 17

7-9:00 pm

6th and I

Hearty winter foods such as soups and stews have long been a staple of Jewish cooking. Eastern European influences have kept these foods high in fat and sodium. Similarly, holiday fare has historically been heavy and fatty. With current concerns about health and nutrition, can we keep the flavor of the past and update the health quotient? With an emphatic yes, Chef Larry Liss will show us how. On February 24th, we will learn how to make healthy soups and stews that keep us warm on the coldest of nights, yet take advantage of the varied flavors available in a modern market. On March 17th, we will revisit the holiday of Passover, lower the fat and up the flavor. Why is this night different?...because you won't miss the fat, cholesterol or chometz! Join us for one or both of these hands-on classes. *\$15 Material fee per class.*



Yoga for All

Linda Baron

Wed March 11, 18, 25

7-8:30 pm

Adas Israel

In this class we'll practice classical yoga postures and experience how those postures facilitate awareness of the connection of mind, body, emotions and spirit. Topics such as acceptance, choice, discernment, truth and transformation will be explored through movement. The focus will be on learning to use awareness to access inner wisdom and to use our personal sources of guidance to support changes in our physical, spiritual and emotional lives.

No prior yoga experience is required. Please bring a mat or blanket or cushion if you have one.



Afternoon Tea with Author Madeleine M. Kunin

“Pearls, Politics and Power: How Women Can Win and Lead”

Sun Feb 8 2:15 pm JCC NoVa

\$15 must register by January 30th

Join us for afternoon tea with former Vermont Governor Madeleine Kunin (the first Jewish woman to be elected governor of any state), who asks for a call to action from the women of America. Captivating us with her conversations with leading women in politics, you are sure to leave feeling inspired.

Co-Sponsored with the JCC NoVa, Northern Virginia Regional Programs and Women’s Philanthropy of the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington and Moment Magazine.



JSC Gives Back—A Day of Community Service



Sun Feb 22 10 am-2:00 pm TBD

\$25 pre-registered and prepaid by February 1; \$30 thereafter

Join fellow Jewish Study Center students and families for a day of giving back to the community. We will partner with Behrend Builders and go into low-income communities in DC where we will repair, renovate, and repaint individual homes, community centers, schools, shelters, parks, or other vital community spaces. You will be taught proper use of power tools as well as basic carpentry and painting skills. Fees for this event are used to purchase the materials to accomplish our task. Job sites are determined approximately one month in advance of the event, but all are Metro accessible

Latke-Hamantashen Debate

Wed March 4 7 pm Adas Israel

\$10 pre-registered and prepaid; \$15 at the door

Do you think fried foods of any kind rule? Or is the choice of fillings in hamantashen the characteristic that tips the scales? Join the Jewish Study Center for a hilarious mock debate over the superior Jewish food. When the debate is completed, we have ample opportunities for in-depth research with a delicious latke and hamantashen taste test.

Routes: Exploring Jewish Together

Sun March 15 10 am-5:00 pm GWU Marvin Center

\$36 (\$18 – students, seniors). Scholarships are available through the PJLL.

Get on the road to a day of learning and connection! Cross paths at the intersection of Jewish thought and life. Join this festival and celebrate:

· Identity · Culture · Art · Music

Come to classes, films, workshops, performances and demonstrations. Don’t miss this community-wide event! We are proud to be one of the Partnership for Jewish Life and Learning’s co-sponsors for this event. Register at www.pjll.org or 301-348-7377.

Twenty Eight Years in the Making: Bircat Hachama

Rabbi Sholom

Deitsch

Wed March 25 7-8:15 pm Chabad NoVa

\$10 pre-registered and prepaid; \$15 at the door

Once every 28 years, the Sun returns to the position it occupied when it was created at the beginning of the fourth day of creation. Our Sages used this opportunity to institute a special prayer acknowledging God's might and His creation of the world. This Blessing is known as The Blessing on the Sun, or Birkat Hachama. Learn the significance of the 28 year

Spring Concert

Keep checking our website and emails for updates on this and other events still under construction. Not on our email list? Send an email to

beth@jewishstudycenter.org. You’ll want to hear all of our special events announcements.



Registration Winter 2009

Session	Date	# Attend/ Fee	Total Cost
Special Events			
Afternoon Tea w/Madeleine Kunin	Sun 2/8	___ x \$15	
JSC Gives Back	Sun 2/22	___ x \$25	
Latke-Hamantashen Debate	Wed 3/4	___ x \$10	
Single Session Classes			
The Dreyfus Affair	Wed 3/18	___ x \$15	
A Family History	Wed 3/11	___ x \$15	
Fearless Cooking	Tue 3/24	___ x \$15	
From 2008 to 2008 BCE	Wed 2/11	___ x \$15	
An Invitation to Include	Wed 3/11	___ x \$15	
The Israel Lobby	Tue 2/10	___ x \$15	
Jewish Cultures: India	Wed 3/25	___ x \$15	
Jewish Presence on the Web	Tue 3/17	___ x \$15	
Maimonides	Wed 2/25	___ x \$15	
Matriarchs/Tough Economy	Wed 2/4	___ x \$15	
Moses Mendelssohn	Tue 2/3	___ x \$15	
Papercutting Workshop	Wed 3/18	___ x \$15	
Synagogue Architecture	Tue 1/27	___ x \$15	
Talmudic Eccentrics	Sun 3/15	___ x \$15	
28 Years/Bircat Hachama	Wed 3/25	___ x \$10	

You may register by:

Mail: Administrative office:
 Jewish Study Center
 5505 Connecticut Avenue, NW #180
 Washington DC 20015

Phone: (202) 332-1221
 Email: beth@jewishstudycenter.org
 Website: www.jewishstudycenter.org

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Daytime Phone: _____

Email: _____

I first learned about the JSC from: _____

Session	Date	# Attend/ Fee	Total Cost
Multi-Session Courses			
Contemporary Jewish Challenges	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 / 26	___ x \$15	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 / 2	___ x \$15	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 dates	___ x \$27	
Current Topics with Moment Magazine	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 / 28	___ x \$15	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 / 25	___ x \$15	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 / 25	___ x \$15	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 dates	___ x \$40	
Grandma's Favorites	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 / 24	___ x \$30	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 / 17	___ x \$30	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 dates	___ x \$55	
Hidden in Plain Sight: Handel's Messiah	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 / 11	___ x \$15	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 / 18	___ x \$15	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 / 25	___ x \$15	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 dates	___ x \$40	
Yoga for All	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 / 11	___ x \$15	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 / 18	___ x \$15	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 / 25	___ x \$15	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 dates	___ x \$40	
Subtotal:			_____
10% Member disc. for JSC, Adas Israel, Fabrangen Members:			_____
Add a JSC Membership : (\$36 indiv; \$72 household):			_____
Add a JSC Donation:			_____
Total Payment Due:			_____

Payment Method

___ Check ___ Credit Card ___ Paypal

Make Checks payable to Jewish Study Center and mail to administrative office.

Credit card payments can be made using info below or via paypal on our website.

Credit Card Payment Information

___ Visa ___ Mastercard ___ AmEx ___ Discover

Name on Card: _____

Card Number: _____

Exp date: _____ 3 or 4-digit security code: _____

Signature: _____



Jewish Study Center



Winter 2009 Guide to Classes and Events

JSC Classes—Coming to a location near you!

- ◆ **Adas Israel** 2850 Quebec Street, NW (1 block north of Cleveland Park Metro)
- ◆ **Chabad Lubavitch of Northern Virginia** 3939 Prince William Drive, Fairfax (About 3 miles from Vienna Metro)
- ◆ **George Washington University Marvin Center** 800 21st Street, NW (2 blocks east of the Foggy Bottom Metro)
- ◆ **JCC Northern Virginia** 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax (on metro bus line)
- ◆ **Sixth and I Historic Synagogue** 600 I Street, NW (2 blocks from Chinatown Metro)



Jewish Study Center

Administrative Office
5505 Connecticut Avenue, NW
#180
Washington DC 20015
(202) 332-1221
Beth@jewishstudycenter.org
www.jewishstudycenter.org

Board of Directors

Paul Bardack, President
Michael Pinck, VP Operations
Ken Goldstein, Secretary
Roz Timberg, Treasurer
Sheryl Adler
Andrew Davis
Amy Schwartz
David Smolar

Executive Director

Beth Adler

PSRT STD
US POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT 6150
SUBURBAN MD