

Yom Kippur Study Sessions

Saturday, October 8, 2011

Yom Kippur, the holiest day of the Jewish year, is a day of prayer, atonement and reflection. Washington Hebrew Congregation invites you to spend your day at Temple and hopes the combination of worship, contemplation and meditation we provide enhance and enrich your high holy day experience.

11:15 am

Rabbi Joshua O. Haberman

Rabbi Emeritus, WHC

Living Through the Uncertainties of Life

Simeon M. Kriesberg

Washington Hebrew Congregation Member

Perspectives on Atonement: A Panel Discussion of Commonalities and Contrasts among Buddhism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, and Judaism

Ari Roth

Artistic Director, Theater J

Arthur Miller, Deb Margolin, and the Looming Shadows of Joe McCarthy and Bernard Madoff

Haskell Small

Washington Conservatory of Music

Journeys in Silence: Music from the Works of Bach, Mendelssohn, Hovhaness, and Small

Stephanie Tankel

Assistant Principal, WHC Lehrman Religious School

"B'shem Omro" — The Mitzvah of Giving Credit

Journey to Judaism

Tom Smith and Shel West

A Panel Presentation on Finding Judaism

1:30 pm

Rabbi Joshua O. Haberman

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Living Through the Uncertainties of Life

Hank Levine

Washington Hebrew Congregation Past President

Washington Hebrew Congregation's Second 50 Years — The Story Continues

Ari Roth

Artistic Director, Theater J

Two Recent Trips to Germany: Memory, Repentance, Responsibility, and German-Jewish Relations Today

Haskell Small

Washington Conservatory of Music

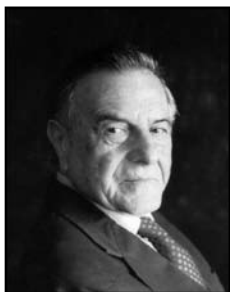
Journeys in Silence: Music from the Works of Bach, Mendelssohn, Hovhaness, and Small

WHC Teens

Rachel Edelman, Jonny Harvey, Harleigh Humphries, Shira Racoosin, and Julian Schneider

A Unique Perspective on Israel Presented by WHC Youth

Yom Kippur Study Session Speakers



Rabbi Joshua O. Haberman

Living Through the Uncertainties of Life

Joshua O. Haberman is Rabbi Emeritus of WHC and recently celebrated 40 years of service to the Congregation and 65 years in the Rabbinate. He received an invitation to become senior rabbi of Washington Hebrew Congregation in 1969. He reintroduced the Congregation to many of the beautiful traditions that early Reform Judaism had discarded. His love of learning resulted in the creation of many educational programs at Temple, including Early Torah Study sessions and Bible Classes. He also nurtured a growing connection between our Congregation and the State of Israel. During his tenure, he also presided over the building of the Julia Bindeman Suburban Center in Potomac, MD, in 1976. Rabbi Haberman has served in numerous leadership roles in the Reform Movement, Central Conference of American Rabbis, the World Union for Progressive Judaism and as President of NAORR (National Association of Retired Reform Rabbis). He is founder and chairman of the Foundation for Jewish Studies, the Open Academy for Jewish Studies, and co-director of the new Bible Study Center. His scholarly publications include three books: *Philosopher of Revelation* (Solomon L. Steinheim), *The God I Believe In* and *Healing Psalms: The Dialogues with God that Help You Cope with Life*.



Hank Levine

Washington Hebrew Congregation's Second 50 Years — The Story Continues

Washington Hebrew Congregation was not just DC's first synagogue; it was the capital's first Jewish communal institution. Our history parallels the growth of the United States and American Jewry, offering lessons about our past — and future — as a community.

Last year, past-WHC President Hank Levine offered an illustrated history of WHC from its founding in 1852 to the move to our "new" home at 8th and I Streets in 1898. This year's study session carries the story through the second third of our history — the 8th and I Street years, from 1898 until the move to Macomb Street in 1954. Through World Wars and a Great Depression, under the leadership of two charismatic (and occasionally controversial) rabbis, WHC became the nationally prominent Congregation that we know today. It is a story of challenge and change that reflects the history of Washington and the larger American Jewish community in ways that continue to shape us in the 21st Century.

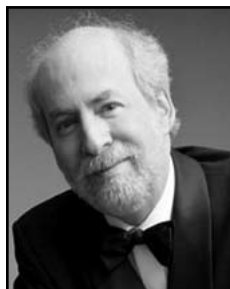


Ari Roth

Arthur Miller, Deb Margolin, and the Looming Shadows of Joe McCarthy & Bernard Madoff
Two Recent Trips to Germany: Memory, Repentance, Responsibility, & German-Jewish Relations Today

Ari Roth is beginning his 15th season as Artistic Director at Theater J, the resident professional company of the Washington DCJCC, hailed by *The New York Times* as "The Premier Theater for Premieres" and widely recognized as one of the most distinctive and respected Jewish theaters worldwide. Together with a dedicated staff, he has produced more than 85 full productions, including 29 world premieres. Theater J works with some of the world's most distinguished authors for the stage and has produced world premieres by Wendy Wasserstein, Richard Greenberg, Thomas Keneally, Joyce Carol Oates, and Ariel Dorfman. Also a playwright,

Mr. Roth has staged a number of his own works at Theater J including *Born Guilty* and its sequel, *The Wolf in Peter* and *Goodnight Irene* (commissioned by Manhattan Theatre Club). He is a 1998 and 2003 recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts playwriting grant, a three-time winner of the Helen Eisner Award, and a two-time winner of the Avery Hopwood, among other recognitions. He has taught for the University of Michigan, Brandeis, NYU, and Carnegie Mellon Universities.



Haskell Small

Journeys in Silence: Music from the Works of Bach, Mendelssohn, Hovhaness, and Small

"Technical prowess became poetry...each note a liquid jewel," is how *The Washington Post* has described the music of Haskell Small. He has performed with great success in major European capitals, South America, and Asia and has been enthusiastically received by American audiences in such venues as Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center and the Spoleto Festival. A prize winner in the Johann Sebastian Bach International Piano Competition, Mr. Small has received numerous awards and has been featured in the nationally broadcast PBS special, "A Celebration of the Piano." Mr. Small is also an accomplished composer, who often performs his own works. He has received commissions from such organizations as the Washington Ballet, Three Rivers Piano

Competition, Georgetown Symphony and Paul Hill Chorale. Besides his recording of Renoir's Feast, Small has recorded a number of CDs, among them a Gershwin disc, a children's CD with narrator Robert Aubry Davis, and Bach's Goldberg Variations. Haskell Small received his musical training at the San Francisco Conservatory and Carnegie Mellon University. Currently, he is the piano department Chair of the Washington Conservatory of Music.

Yom Kippur Study Session Speakers



Simeon M. Kriesberg

Perspectives on Atonement: A Panel Discussion of Commonalities and Contrasts among Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, and Judaism

This study session will explore whether the ways in which Jews conceive of sin, forgiveness, repentance, and *t'shuvah* have counterparts in the tenets of Buddhists, Christians, Hindus, and Muslims. A panel representing these other faiths will share perspectives on atonement in a discussion moderated by WHC member Simeon M. Kriesberg. The panel will include William Aiken, Director of Communications of Soka Gakkai International, a Buddhist cultural center; Rev. Dr. Carol Flett, Associate Rector at St. Alban's Episcopal Church and formerly Interfaith Program Coordinator at the Washington National Cathedral; D.C. Rao, trustee of the Chinmaya

Mission, a Hindu center for worship and study; and Zarinah Shakir, a producer and host of local television and radio programs, including "Islamic Perspectives."

Mr. Kriesberg has served on the WHC Board of Directors, during which time he served on the Executive Committee and chaired a number of committees. He has been one of the lay leaders of early Friday evening services and at *shiva* services. He has led prior study sessions on both Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. In 1970, Mr. Kriesberg was selected to speak at WHC's inaugural Yom Kippur Layman's Hour, and in 1995 he became one of the inaugural recipients of the Congregation's Avodah Awards for community service. Mr. Kriesberg has served in leadership positions in local and national Jewish organizations. He has also been active in building bridges among people of different faiths, races, and backgrounds. This study session reflects that endeavor.



Stephanie Tankel

"B'shem Omro" — The Mitzvah of Giving Credit

Stephanie Tankel came to Washington Hebrew Congregation after serving as the Principal Educator at The West London Synagogue of British Jews. She had also worked as Director of Education at Finchley Progressive Synagogue and at the Movement for Reform Judaism in their "Jeneration" department. Before moving to London, Stephanie worked as the Family Educator at Central Synagogue in New York City. She received Master's Degrees in Jewish Education and Modern Jewish Studies from the Jewish Theological Seminary of America in 2007, and received her Bachelors Degree in Comparative Literature, Hebrew, and Jewish Studies from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2004. Originally from Bethesda, Stephanie is happy to be in the area with

her husband. At WHC, Stephanie creates, develops, supervises and coordinates curricular material, classroom activities and faculty for all aspects of the Lehrman Religious School at Temple.



Journey to Judaism

A Panel Presentation on Finding Judaism

As adults, Tom Smith and Shel West each began a spiritual journey which found fulfillment in choosing to join the Jewish faith. Active in both Temple life and the Jewish community-at-large, Tom joined WHC in 1997 and Shel in 2006. Each also serves the congregation as lay leaders for Shabbat services. Their meaningful contributions to Washington Hebrew are inspiring; their stories underscore the beauty

and meaning of our traditions and beliefs. Especially during the High Holy Day season, the journey of Tom and Shel will motivate us to renew our commitment to Judaism and will open our eyes to the everlasting beauty, texture and spirituality of our faith.



Our Teens and Israel — A Panel Discussion

A Unique Perspective on Israel Presented by WHC Youth

The Middle East continues to dominate the global news with concerning as well as inspiring political developments. After spending time in Israel this past year, several of our teens have acquired a unique perspective on Israel and Jewish identity. Hear what they have to say as they share their experiences and insights with us. Participating in the panel discussion are Rachel Edelman, a senior at Walt Whitman High School and the daughter of Doreen Edelman; Jonny Harvey, a junior at Thomas S. Wootton High School and the son of Judie Harvey; Harleigh Humphries, a junior at Woodgrove High School and the daughter of Marsha Humphries; Shira Racoosin, a junior at Winston Churchill High School and the daughter of Lauren and Sam Racoosin; and

Julian Schneider, a junior at the Maret School and the son of Joanne and David Schneider.

These students have taken part in NFTY's Le'Dor V'Dor trip to Israel and Eastern Europe, the Alexander Muss High School in Israel, and Camp Micah's Geshet program — a community service/tour in Israel. If you are interested in Israel, our youth, or are considering traveling to Israel, you will find this an educational, moving, and insightful program.