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Day of DISCOVERY

Explore the Joy of Jewish
Learning in Kansas City

Sunday, August 25, 2019

8:45 am-3:15 pm

Jewish Community Campus

5801 West 115th Street • Overland Park, Kansas

www.kcrabbis.org

*Bring non-perishable food items for the
Jewish Family Services Food Pantry
High Holy Day Food Drive*

ABOUT DAY of DISCOVERY

The Day of Discovery is a unique opportunity for the JEWISH COMMUNITY to discover the richness and the diversity of Jewish learning available in Kansas City. Participants learn, study and “discover” some of the community’s finest Jewish educators, rabbis and cantors, who lead sessions on a wide range of topics.

— Visit kcrabbis.org for more details —

DAY of DISCOVERY TASK FORCE

Mari Anne Birnbaum	Molly Hess
Richard Borlaza	Linda Hyken
Lainie Decker	Henri Hubble
Denise Ellenberg	Beth Jordan
Annette Fish	Marian Kaplan
Elliott Franks	Simon Kass
Joyce Fulps	Marlene Krakow
Ben Gaddert	Sam Matier
Dayna Gershon	Vicki Mooney
Clint Gillom	Frank Tankard
Jody Gittleman	Danielle Weeks
Lauren Gladish	Felicia Weiner
Henri Goettel	Seymour Weiner
David Green	

EVENT CO-SPONSORS

- The Rabbinical Association of Greater Kansas City
- The J KC
- Jewish Federation of Greater Kansas City
- Hyman Brand Hebrew Academy
- Village Shalom
- Area Congregations

Generous funding is provided by:



DAY of DISCOVERY SCHEDULE

8:45–9:30 am Continental Breakfast
& Registration
9:30–10:45 am Session I
11:00 am–12:15 pm Session II
12:15–1:20 pm Lunch
1:30–2:45 pm Session III
2:45–3:15 pm Dessert Reception

Note: Some rooms may be cool. Remember to dress in layers.

LUNCH

Kosher box lunches catered by Kim Matsil.

FREE CHILD CARE (THE ZONE/PARK)

For information and to make reservations, contact Kaitlin Birnbaum at kaitlinb@thejkc.org or 913-327-4642, no later than Aug. 19.

FAMILY PROGRAM

Community Service Learning Project for K-5th graders and parents, 9:30-11:00 a.m. at the J. For information and to make reservations, visit kcrabbis.org. Space is limited—register early.

Lunch and Learn (optional) 12:30-1:20 pm

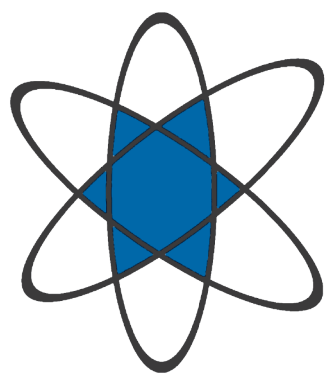
Jacob Stoil, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, U.S. Army School of Advanced Military Studies

The security news coming from the Middle East can seem contradictory. We hear of tensions with Iran, the U.S. withdrawal from Syria, repeated escalations in Gaza, and more. Need more background on issues covered in the media? This talk will cover key aspects of the current Middle Eastern security landscape, with a particular focus on U.S. and Israeli security.

SEE BACK FOR FEES AND PAYMENT INFORMATION

Day of DISCOVERY

Rabbinical Association of Greater Kansas City
5801 W. 115 Street, Box 113
Overland Park, KS 66211



Session I (9:30-10:45)

- Dawn Gale, Professor of Philosophy, Johnson County Community College**
Judaism and Environmental Ethics
This session will examine Genesis 1-3 and the relationship between humans, animals, and nature. We will consider the concepts of anthropocentrism, biocentrism, and ecocentrism in Jewish values and texts to develop a Jewish framework for thinking about environmental ethics.
- Orit Kamara, Adjunct professor of Hebrew, Johnson County Community College**
First steps in Learning to Read Hebrew
The Hebrew language is the language of the Jewish people. Many share the vision that Hebrew should be the secondary language for Jews living out of Israel. This course is a good place to start. In this session all 22 Hebrew letters and the symbols of the 5 Hebrew vowels will be taught.
- Rabbi Jon Kleinman, Chaplain**
Jewish Care at the End of Life
Judaism teaches that life in all forms is sacred. What can we do to add to its sanctity? What does our tradition say about end-of-life care? This session will provide participants with an understanding of the Jewish responsibility to maintain life's value throughout the passing of loved ones.
- Mark D. Nanos, Ph.D., Lecturer, University of Kansas**
Unmasking the Evangelical Trickster: Re-Reading Paul's 1 Corinthians 9:19-23
Paul's text has been celebrated by Christians seeking to convert Jews by temporarily adopting Jewish behavior. This approach has been challenged on moral grounds as tricky. The session will demonstrate how Paul's language is misunderstood, thus offering a better way forward for Christian-Jewish relations.
- Robbie Bossert, Ellen Rothman, Carol Yarmo — Beth Shalom Sisterhood Banishing Bullying Behavior Project**
Thou Shalt Not Bully
The Talmud considers shaming or humiliating anyone publicly is the equivalent of murder. This interactive session will explore childhood bullying, workplace bullying and senior adulthood bullying. Participants will better understand the perspective of the target/victim and the bully and be inspired to banish bullying behavior. Blanche E. Sosland, Ph.D., Author and Professor Emerita, Park University, Parkville, Missouri is the session coordinator.
- Rabbi Joshua Leighton, Shared Vision Coordinator, The Temple, Congregation B'nai Jehudah**
You Can't Milk a Chicken: The Chicken Parmesan Dilemma
We will study texts from the Torah, Mishnah, Talmud and others to trace the development of the Kosher laws of Milk and Meat as they relate to the meat of fowl. Ultimately we will seek our own answers to the question, "Should chicken parmesan be kosher?"
- Aletha Simon, Docent, Nelson-Atkins Museum**
"Discriminating Thieves" — The Nelson-Atkins Exhibit of Nazi-looted Art and Its Restitution
Come hear and see the fascinating story of art stolen from Jewish collectors during WWII, hidden by the Nazis, returned to their Jewish owners, and then legally acquired by the Nelson-Atkins Museum.
- Lara Steinel, Music Director, Congregation Kol Ami**
Meditating "Jewishly" — Integrating Jewish Meditation into Our Daily Lives
Meditation helps focus more of one's mind on the experience at hand. Imagine being more fully present during Shabbat or in conversation with a loved one. Experience three different approaches to meditation, each with a Jewish emphasis, in a warm, inviting environment. For those new to and those familiar with meditation.
- Rabbi Debbie Stiel, Temple Beth Shalom in Topeka, Kansas**
How to Start Your Own Middot Practice to Change Your Life
We all have character traits we want to change, but how do we bring about change? We will learn how Jewish Mussar practice - virtue-based ethics - can help us improve one trait (middah) at a time. This session will cover what Judaism has to say about certain character traits and some techniques for changing.
- Jacob Stoil, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, U.S. Army School of Advanced Military Studies**
From Refugees to Commandos and Beyond: The German Unit of the Palmach in WWII
Above the Jezreel Valley in 1942 there was an unusual military training camp. The language of instruction was German and the cartoons drawn by the soldiers around the camp were anti-Semitic. It did not belong to enemy infiltrators, it belonged to the German Unit of the Palmach, a suicide unit who survived.
- Rabbi Zevi Wineberg, Author and Radio Talk Show Host**
Jewish Wellness — The Five Most Important Factors
Wellness is now a trendy word, but Judaism has always offered a path to living a fulfilling life. Learn about the five most important factors to achieve Jewish wellness: G-d/purpose, Health, Hope, Love and Wealth.

Session II (11:00-12:15)

- Rabbi Doug Alpert, Congregation Kol Ami**
Immigration — What Our Jewish Story Tells Us about Present Immigration Policy
Jews have benefited from the open immigration policy, and known tragedy when turned away at the border. We will explore Jewish immigration stories, from antiquity forward, and how they connect us to present asylum seekers.
- Rabbi Javier Cattapan, Congregation Beth Torah**
The Song of the Distant Dove: Judah Halevi's Poems
The "convivencia" (co-existence) of Jews, Muslims and Christians in Spain from the 10th-12th century is considered the Golden Age of Jewish-Spanish culture. It produced one of the towering figures of Judaism, Judah Halevi. We will read his poetry and philosophical work to get a taste of his world, ideas and struggles.
- Shelly Cline, Historian, the Midwest Center for Holocaust Education**
Developing a Death Camp: Belzec to Auschwitz
Although Auschwitz has come to epitomize the Holocaust, many do not realize it was a culmination of years of efforts. This session will look at the evolution of the killing process from the first death camp to the industrialized genocide in Auschwitz.
- Ronald Doctor, President of the Kremenets District Research Group**
Genetic Genealogy: DNA and DNA Testing
We'll talk about DNA testing ... how it works and what you can expect from it. The presentation will begin with DNA basics, then look at the tests and testing companies, and what to do with your results. You'll learn how to use DNA databases to connect to living relatives.
- Rabbi David Glickman, Congregation Beth Shalom**
Jewish Law and Abortion: Pro-Choice, Pro-Life, or Something Else?
Abortion has been the subject of much debate as states have limited access or criminalized it. Over 80% of American Jews fall into the "Pro-Choice" camp - a higher rate than any other religious group. What does Judaism say about abortion? We will explore Jewish law.
- Rabbi Mark Levin, DHL, Retired Founding Rabbi, Congregation Beth Torah**
Yom Kippur Liturgy as Sacred Drama
All Jewish mahzors (High Holy Day prayer books) begin and end with the same biblical quotations as prayers. Why and how are they intended to transform the worship experience? We will examine these quotations and how they can transform Yom Kippur worship into sacred drama.
- Rabbi Alan David Londy, D.Min, The New Reform Temple**
Honoring the Dead at the Time of Burial
Honoring the dead is a sacred Jewish value. Jewish tradition prescribes how a Jew is to be buried with dignity, love and holiness. We will discuss all matters relating to burial. This class will offer a traditional approach to burial customs and show how different denominations interpret them.
- Rabbi Beryl Padorr, Congregation Ohev Shalom and Rabbi Linda Steigman, Temple Adath Joseph**
Spiritual Preparation for the High Holy Days
Through stories, discussion and music, we will explore ways to bring more personal meaning into our High Holy Day experiences. Participants will receive materials to accompany them through the holiest time of our year.
- Rabbi Jonathan Rudnick, Jewish Community Chaplain**
Really "Getting" the GET: Exploring Jewish Divorce
With divorce so common, why is the Jewish divorce ceremony and document so unfamiliar, veiled in mystery? Why are so many Jews ill prepared? Why are Jewish spiritual leaders challenged with respect to pastoral care during divorce? Come, let's learn together.
- Rabbi Neal Schuster, Senior Jewish Educator, KU Hillel**
Yes, But Is it Jewish? An Exploration of Jews and Jewish Themes in Film
What makes a film Jewish? Is it the writer, director or actors? Is it when there are Jewish themes, or are there films we don't even realize are Jewish? Join our presenter as he fires up the projector for a journey into the world of film and the mystery of what makes it Jewish.
- Rabbi Sarah Smiley, Associate Rabbi, The Temple, Congregation B'nai Jehudah**
The Rabbis Were Even Funny: Humor in the Talmud and Beyond
This session will explore funny and bizarre passages from the Talmud and try to understand why rabbis used them. We will study passages and laugh aloud!
- Rabbi Zalman Tiechtel, Director, The Rohr Chabad Center for Jewish Life**
Soul Maps: Kabbalah to Navigate Your Inner World
Perhaps you have struggled with the elusive search for meaning and wished you better understood what's going on inside your soul. The Kabbalah provides the key terms and constructs. Receive insight and discover strategies to resolve guilt, conflict and confusion, and traverse life's journey with joy and purpose.

Session III (1:30-2:45)

- Martha Gershun, Writer, Consultant, and Living Kidney Donor**
Radical Altruism: Jewish Views on Organ Donation
More than 114,000 men, women and children are on organ transplant waiting lists in the U.S. Every day, 22 die. Martha Gershun will share her story about donating a kidney to a woman she met through the Kansas City Jewish Chronicle. She will also discuss Jewish perspectives on organ donation before and after death.
- Rabbi Moshe Grussgott, Kehilath Israel, and Bob Gast, President and CEO, Turning Point Solutions**
Who is a Jew? The Underpinnings of Jewish Identity
What makes someone Jewish? This class will not seek to answer the question in the technical, halachic (legalistic) sense, but rather, will explore the spiritual underpinnings of Jewish identity.
- Orit Kamara, Adjunct professor of Hebrew, Johnson County Community College**
Put your knowledge to work — first steps in reading Hebrew
In this session we will read 3-4 letters words in Hebrew - combining knowledge of the letters and vowels. Towards the end of the session, participants will get help in writing their name in Hebrew. Previous knowledge in reading Hebrew required.
- Stu Lewis, Author of Guidebooks for the KC Lyric Opera and Lecturer**
Jews in Musicals
While Jewish composers and lyricists were pivotal in the creation of the Broadway musicals, Jewish characters were less so. In this session, we will see how Jews are portrayed on the Broadway musical stage.
- Rabbi Herbert Mandl, Rabbi Emeritus, Kehilath Israel Synagogue**
Jesus, the Early Apostles and Judaism — A Mystery, A Puzzle or A Rational Outgrowth
We all know that Jesus and the apostles were Jewish but it is a big leap to go from there to developing an entirely new religion almost overnight. How did this happen? What are the sources? And why is "Jews for Jesus" a contradiction of terms?
- Rabbi Yitzhak Mizrahi, Director, Vaad HaKashruth and Interim Rabbi, BIAV**
Orthodox Jewish Culture: An Exploration and Historical Overview
From Moses to Maimonides to the Lubavitcher Rebbe, civilization has changed radically. Would a 2,000-year-old Jew think a Modern Orthodox Jew today shares a common tradition? Our dress, diets, gender roles and daily habits have evolved, but at our core what has changed?
- Rabbi Moti Rieber, Executive Director of Kansas Interfaith Action**
Unpacking Racism as White American Jews
White American Jews have a paradoxical relationship with race. This session will look at how white Jews internalize mainstream American racism, and how that is complicated by our Jewish identities. The goal of the session is to better discern why and how to become more discerning, self-aware, anti-racism advocates.
- Jay Robinow, M.D., and Margie Robinow, Community Volunteers/Leaders and Passionate Bakers**
Making Shabbat More Meaningful through Challah
Join us for a hands-on "challah braiding" session and discuss the rituals and blessings related to challah and Shabbat. Class size limited to 20.
- Rabbi Mendy Wineberg, Chabad House Center of KC**
The Kabbalah of Jewish Symbols and Superstitions
Hollywood celebrities have popularized the practice of wearing a red string to ward off the "evil eye." What is the true meaning behind the evil eye in the Jewish tradition? Is it merely superstition, or is there a legitimate concern? What about other Jewish superstitions? Where do they come from? Are they real?
- Rami Zeedan, Assistant Professor of Israel Studies in the Jewish Studies Program, University of Kansas**
Understanding Israel's Political Map Through the 2019 Israel Election Results
Israel has a parliamentary democracy that is different than a presidential democracy. We will discuss similarities and differences in these two systems as well as the pros and cons. Special attention will be given to the results of the 2019 Israeli elections and the process of forming a new coalition government.
- Leonard Zeskind, Institute for Research & Education on Human Rights**
The New Current Danger: Anti-Semitism and White Supremacy Reinvigorated
White nationalist groups are pulling in new members and growing. A new boldness inflames anti-Semitism among young people. Immigrant rights activists are out-gunned by racist bigots by the thousand. A new underground of anti-Semites is building a base. This session will provide the latest information.

REGISTER ONLINE AT REGISTERDAYOFDISCOVERY.ORG OR SUBMIT FORM BY 8/19

REGISTRATION FORM

Register online at www.registerdayofdiscovery.org, or submit the form below, by 8/19. Space is limited. Act now to reserve your seat and avoid late fees. **All questions must be answered.**

Name (Person A) _____
Name (Person B) _____
Address _____
City/State/ZIP _____
Day Phone (____) _____
Evening Phone (____) _____
Email _____
Congregation Affiliation _____

CLASS SELECTION

Indicate CLASS NUMBER for each session for each person.

SESSION	Person A			Person B		
	I	II	III	I	II	III
1st choice	___	___	___	___	___	___
2nd choice	___	___	___	___	___	___

LUNCH

Choose one lunch option per person. Indicate initials of person ordering.

- A B**
- ___ Chicken Tarragon Salad with grapes in a tortilla wrap
___ Veggie Tortilla Wrap w/spinach, carrots, cucumber, sweet peas and hummus
___ Tuna Salad Sandwich on pretzel bun
___ Grilled Chicken Salad, fruit, quinoa salad and GF Chocolate Chip Cookie (GF option)
___ Salami Sandwich on rye w/pickle

*All lunches include fresh fruit, pasta and Israeli salad, dessert and drink

PAYMENT

All registrations include a breakfast buffet and dessert reception.

Advance Registration	Late Registration (after 8/19)
___ # Classes and lunch @ \$20/person	___ # Classes and lunch @ \$25/person
___ # Classes only @ \$12/person	___ # Child lunch @ \$8/child
___ # Child lunch @ \$8/child	

___ TOTAL PAYMENT Enclosed

**Payment by mail can be made by cash or check (make checks payable to Rabbinical Association). Online payment can be made by credit card and will be charged a 3% processing fee and \$0.99 online fee.

MAIL THIS FORM WITH PAYMENT TO:

Rabbinical Association of Greater KC

5801 W. 115th St., Box 113, Overland Park, KS 66211

*** Registration due August 19 ***

For questions or to inquire about confidential financial assistance, contact Annette Fish, 913-327-4622, afprogram@aol.com, or visit kcrabbis.org.