

## **Lifelong Learning - Fall Offerings**



Continuing to learn as adults is a basic element of our Jewish tradition. The Lifelong Learning Committee, Rabbi Klein and Rabbi Siegel are pleased to provide many opportunities to study with master teachers and listen to world-class speakers. Some of the offerings are inspiring, some are thought provoking, and some are just for fun.

During this challenging year, many classes will be online or hybrid. We hope to be able to meet in person as often as it is safe and possible. A few classes require pre-registration so that materials can be ordered, and for others you can just show up!

This is just a preliminary listing. Watch for additional programs as details become available. Your suggestions and requests for learning opportunities are welcome.

Looking forward to learning with you!

Lifelong Learning Committee  
Joanne Skop and Steve Greenfield, Co-Chairs  
Ira Blankstein  
Mindy Goldstein  
Steve Kussin  
Terri Lieberman  
Cheryl Uram  
Rabbi Klein and Rabbi Siegel, Advisors

**Noteworthy Speakers** – watch your email for login information as the dates draw near.

- ✚ Monday, August 30, 7:00 - "Why Don't People Change and How We Could" with **Rabbi Shai Held**, Chair of Jewish Thought at Mechon Hadar Yeshiva. This brilliant teacher will share his insights on Tshuvah, turning anew in the coming year. Available on MJC Zoom.
  
- ✚ Sunday, September 12, 7:00 pm - Author **Erica Brown** will continue the High Holiday theme with "The Big Sorry," exploring the nature of forgiveness and what happens to us when we fail to forgive. Her new book is *Take Your Soul to Work*. Available on MJC Zoom.
  
- ✚ Sunday, October 10, 7:00 pm - Actress **Tovah Feldshuh**, renowned for her roles on Broadway, TV and Hollywood, will discuss her fascinating life as told in her new book, *Lillyville: Mother, Daughter and Other Roles I Have Played*. MJC will have copies of her book on hand for sale. Available on MJC Zoom.
  
- ✚ Thursday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm - **Ambassador Dennis Ross** will speak live at the Merrick Jewish Centre. An outstanding diplomat who has represented the U.S. in Middle East negotiations under multiple administrations, Ambassador Ross will discuss the U.S.- Israel alliance, past and future.

## **Special Lecture Series - Personality Counts: The Men and Women Who Created and Shaped the State of Israel**

A six-part lecture series taught by **Dr. Stephen Berk**, an outstanding scholar and incomparable lecturer who has spoken previously at MJC.

The dates of the 2021 lecture series are Sept 23, 30, Oct 7, 14, 21, 28, all at 7:30 pm.

The cost of the series is normally \$75 per enrollee, however Rabbi Klein is offering to sponsor the first 25 enrollees at no cost with funds from the Klein Institute. Participants who sign up will receive an access code for the Zoom lectures. In case you miss a session, each lecture will be recorded and made available to registrants. To register email [lifelonglearning@merrickjc.org](mailto:lifelonglearning@merrickjc.org)

## **New Offerings**

**The Hebrew Bible as Literature** - Past President and Lit Maven Saul Rosenberg will teach 3 sessions based on a college course he is teaching at the New School in New York. He will focus on fascinating stories from the Torah that may be lesser known to many congregants. Watch for details in November.

**Learn How to Conduct a Shiva Minyan** – Steve Kussin will provide training for congregational members who would like to assist families suffering a loss by leading a home shiva minyan. If you are interested please email [lifelonglearning@merrickjc.org](mailto:lifelonglearning@merrickjc.org)

## **Ongoing Classes and Programs**

- ✚ **Hebrew Instruction** - Sharyn Kussin offers two different classes for those who want to learn basic Hebrew and those who wish to improve existing Hebrew understanding. To register or request additional information email [lifelonglearning@merrickjc.org](mailto:lifelonglearning@merrickjc.org)
  
- ✚ **Learn Español** – Sharyn Kussin continues her class from last year in basic Spanish. Tuesday nights on Zoom at 7:00 pm. To register email [lifelonglearning@merrickjc.org](mailto:lifelonglearning@merrickjc.org)
  
- ✚ **Would you like to Chant a Haftorah?** – Sharyn Kussin—again our star teacher—is willing to teach the Haftorah trope which will help you prepare to chant a haftorah at Shabbat Services. To register email [lifelonglearning@merrickjc.org](mailto:lifelonglearning@merrickjc.org)
  
- ✚ **Virtual Hollywood** - Coming to you live from Omaha, Rich Knox will continue his weekly presentations on Sunday mornings at 10:00 am which focus on Hollywood greats or related topics of interest. Watch your email for upcoming programs and login information. No pre-registration required.
  
- ✚ **Weekly Zumba Classes** - Carrie Dale leads weekly Zumba classes online from her Dance Studio in Merrick. Email [lifelonglearning@merrickjc.org](mailto:lifelonglearning@merrickjc.org) if you are interested in getting on her contact list. Classes also posted in your email. There is no charge to participate.

✚ **Coming to a Theater Near You...** - We will continue our film series by picking a recent Israeli movie for you to watch independently and then host a discussion group led by Cheryl Uram. Warm up with this offering in December.

### ✚ **Our Rabbis Teach**

- Rabbi Klein will teach some of his favorite topics from the Talmud based on his daily study of the Daf Yomi (Page of the Day). Watch for details.
- Rabbi Howard Siegel - “Gutsy Torah,” weekly on Wednesdays, 11:00 am – noon. Participants will be exposed to an “eye opening” discussion of the week’s Torah portion. Meet, discuss, and debate “up close and personal” with the most profound and controversial Torah scholars of the past two-thousand years. Beginning on October 6. Class will be live and on MJC Zoom.