



## **"FROM THE MACCABIM TO MIQVAOT:"**

***A TWO PART PRESENTATION DEVOTED TO THE HISTORY,  
PRESERVATION, AND ENDURANCE OF JEWISH RITUAL LIFE***

**BY PROFESSOR STUART S. MILLER**

Stuart S. Miller is Professor of Hebrew, History, and Judaic Studies at the University of Connecticut ("UConn") at Storrs. He also is the Academic Director of UConn's Center for Judaic Studies and Contemporary Jewish Life and is the Chair of the Hebrew and Judaic Studies section in the Department of Literatures, Cultures, and Languages. Professor Miller earned his Ph.D. in Near Eastern Studies and History at New York University in 1980, "with distinction." Before coming to UConn in 1982, he was a Visiting Assistant Professor of Jewish Studies in the Department of Theology at the University of Notre Dame. He has since been a visiting professor at New York University, the Hebrew University, and Brown University.

Prof. Miller's specializes in the history and literature of the Jews in Talmudic period Israel. He has written extensively about the ancient city of Sepphoris (Hebrew, *Tsipori*) and served as Talmudic historian to the Sepphoris Regional Project, a major excavation sponsored by Duke University which consisted of a consortium of five colleges and universities including UConn. Recently, Professor Miller has turned his attention to more recent Jewish history, specifically the history of Connecticut's earliest, "Hebrew" farming communities. In Summer, 2012 he co-directed along with CT State Archaeologist Nicholas Bellantoni, an exciting excavation of a more than one hundred year old ritual bath (*mikveh*) in Chesterfield, CT, which belonged to the oldest Jewish farming community in the state dating back to 1890, the "New England Hebrew Farmers of the Emanuel Society," whose descendants have successfully attained the listing of the site on the National Registry of Historical Sites and recognition as a CT Archaeological Preserve.

### **PART I—FRIDAY NIGHT SHIUR**

***"THE REAL MIRACLE OF HANUKKA"***

**FRIDAY NIGHT DECEMBER 19TH, 8:00PM AT YIWH**

### **PART II—SATURDAY NIGHT MULTIMEDIA PRESENTATION**

***"RITUAL BATHING PRACTICES AND JEWISH COMMUNAL LIFE***

***FROM ANCIENT SEPPHORIS (*Tsipori*) TO NINETEENTH CENTURY CHESTERFIELD, CT"***

**SATURDAY NIGHT DECEMBER 20TH, 8:00PM**

**AT THE HOME OF SHAYNE AND STU KESLER 57 PILGRIM RD.**