

# Adult Education

Fall 2017 Program



**"The Torah compares humans to trees because, like humans, trees have the power to grow."**

--Rabbi Jacob ben Isaac Ashkenazi

Classes are free for CJC members, except when a materials fee is noted. Non-member guests are welcome to enroll in classes for a fee of \$54 per course, per semester; or \$15 per session for classes of one or two sessions. It is essential that participants register no later than one week before the class begins because some classes require a minimum of 5 participants.

To register and for further information call the CJC office, 410-730-6044.

# Class Offerings

## SUNDAYS

### Let Freedom Ring: The Story of Marian Anderson

Carolivia Herron

Sunday, September 17, 2017 — 11:00am

CJCS/Oakland Mills HS, 9410 Kilimanjaro Road, Columbia

The operetta *Let Freedom Sing: The Story of Marian Anderson*, retells the life of Marian Anderson through the eyes of two African American teenagers. This opera has a backstory of high interest to Jewish audiences. Miss Anderson was discovered by a Jewish musician, Joe Bogash, who had to use a false name, Giuseppe Boghetti, in order to receive musical training at La Scala in Italy, since they would not admit Jews. Marian Anderson's grandfather was an African American Jew, and she herself stayed in the homes of Jewish Europeans while touring. Some hosts had been in Concentration Camps and were comforted by recalling Miss Anderson's singing. In fact, there is a persistent and powerful Jewish parallel story to Marian Anderson's overt story. Carolivia Herron's shares this story. Miss Anderson gave her concert at the Lincoln Memorial instead of at Constitution Hall because as a black woman, she was not allowed to perform there. The Jewish parallel story makes the concert even more powerful.

Carolivia Herron is an author and educator living in Washington, DC, best known for her children's book, *Nappy Hair*, which caused a nationwide crisis in multicultural education in 1991. She currently teaches Classics at Howard University and has also held professorial positions at Harvard University, Mt. Holyoke College, and California State University, Chico. Her other publications include the libretto for the opera *Let Freedom Sing: The Story of Marian Anderson* (composer, Bruce Adolphe), *Always An Olivia* (a retelling of her Sephardic Jewish heritage) and the novel, *Thereafter Johnnie*.

### Exploring Judaism

Rabbi Sonya Starr

Sundays, October 8, 22, 29; November 5, 19 and December 3, 10, 17 — 9:15am

CJCS/Oakland Mills HS, 9410 Kilimanjaro Road, Columbia

Learn the fundamentals of Jewish thought and practice. This course is perfect for faith seekers, G-d wrestlers, interfaith couples, potential converts,

people looking to walk their talk in a value based community. Class offers you a time and place to broaden your Jewish awareness. It can launch you on a path to deeper personal Jewish connection as you gain intellectual and experiential knowledge of Judaism and the skills necessary to "do Jewish."

### Spiritual Seekers

Rabbi Laurie Green

Sundays, October 22 and 29, 2017 — 11:00am

CJCS/Oakland Mills HS, 9410 Kilimanjaro Road, Columbia

How do we find spirituality in everyday life? What is spirituality? How can we cultivate our spiritual awareness? In this two-session course, we will explore these big questions in a small group. Using text study, writing exercises, discussion, and other techniques, we will explore our tradition with a new lens, and deepen our understanding of our own seeking.

Rabbi Green is the Rabbi of Congregation Bet Mishpachah in Washington, DC. She comes to this area from Temple Beth Zion in Buffalo, NY (Reform) where she was the associate rabbi. She was a founding board member of the National Union of Jewish LGBT Students, and worked in professional politics before attending rabbinical school. She has extensive experience in community organizing, interfaith relations, and social justice.

### Jews in American Musical Theater

Cantor Ben Kintisch

Sundays, November 19, December 17 — 11:00am

CJCS/Oakland Mills HS, 9410 Kilimanjaro Road, Columbia

From Yiddish Theater to the current mega hits on Broadway, Jews have been instrumental in creating the uniquely American art form we know as musical theater. We will learn about the biographies of important Jewish composers and lyricists in this field, and enjoy listening to musical selections from their best-known works.

## MONDAYS

### Parshat Hashavua – The Weekly Torah Portion – Review and Discussion

Rabbi Martin Siegel, Rabbi Emeritus, CJC

Mondays, 12:15pm – 1:15pm, ongoing

CJC Library, 5885 Robert Oliver Place, Columbia

Rabbi Siegel is celebrated by his students for his careful reading of Biblical texts and the spiritual insights he brings to these discussions. New participants are always welcome.

## FRIDAYS

### The Book of Psalms

Tom Laufer

Fridays, 11:00am, ongoing, beginning October 13  
CJC Library, 5885 Robert Oliver Place, Columbia

The book of Psalms - *Tehilim* in Hebrew, is part of the third section of The Hebrew Bible *Ktuvim*. It is basically a book of poetry and rhyme from the time of the period from the Kingdom of David through the Babylonian exile. It covers all sorts of subjects, and serve as a guide in our lives.

### The Book of Leviticus

Rabbi Sonya Starr

Fridays, 12:00pm, ongoing, beginning October 13  
CJC Library, 5885 Robert Oliver Place, Columbia

After exploring in detail the books of Genesis and Exodus, we enter into the world of Leviticus. This one room schoolhouse will explore the sound, translation, and interpretation of this ancient Hebrew text. We will discuss its meaning in the biblical world as well as the vital role it played in the development of *halachah*, Jewish law.



**Marlene Katz Bishow**

CJCS/Oakland Mills HS, 9410 Kilimanjaro Road, Columbia

### Part 1: Getting Started

Sunday, November 5, 2017, 11:00am

Getting started on researching your roots can be daunting. Even if you only have minimal knowledge of your American ancestors, Marlene will provide a framework for this task which will strip down the initial foray into manageable basics: where do you start and how do you keep track of what you find? This approach will help you stay on track and might even help you involve your family.

### Part 2: Research Tools and Resources

Sunday, December 3, 2017, 11:00am

The internet has vastly improved the resources for genealogical research with thousands of free and fee-based websites. What are some of the best for Jewish research? How can DNA testing help you and which tests are best? How can you use social media to aid in your research? We will conclude with a discussion of specific "brick walls" that you may or have encountered.

Marlene Katz Bishow, a New York native, served five terms as President of the Jewish Genealogy Society of Greater Washington (JGSGW). She was Co-Chair of the 31<sup>st</sup> International Conference on Jewish Genealogy (IAJGS) held in Washington, DC in August 2011. She is the founder and current leader of the Howard County subsidiary of JGSGW, which meets monthly in Vantage House in Columbia.

# Mark Your Calendar

## Welcoming the Stranger

**Sunday, September 10, 2017 — 4:00pm**

Oakland Mills Interfaith Center, 5885 Robert Oliver Place, Columbia  
How can we respond to the needs of Immigrants and refugees in Howard County?

## Paradigms of Parting:

### Biblical, Rabbinic and Hasidic

**Guest Speaker: Richard Hirsh**

**Friday—Saturday, November 10-11, 2017**

Oakland Mills Interfaith Center, 5885 Robert Oliver Place, Columbia

Jewish sacred literature includes numerous stories about the deaths of spiritual leaders. As we read, share and discuss some of these stories, we will see a range of expectations, encounters, and experiences of death. A common goal throughout the sessions will be to extract contemporary insights about how Jewish sources and resources about mortality can help us to reflect on the quality as well as the quantity of years in a life.

We will be sharing a variety of such stories, beginning Friday night with several legends about the deaths of some of the rabbis of the Talmudic period. On Shabbat morning, when the Torah portion narrates the deaths of both Sarah and Abraham, we will explore the implications of the death of a founding generation.

## Global Day of Jewish Learning

**Sunday, November 12, 2017, 10:00**

The Jewish Federation of Howard County and the Howard County Board of Rabbis present a Global Day of Jewish Learning when Jews around the world will focus their attention to shared Jewish texts to glean wisdom, ask questions, and engender a sense of peoplehood.

## Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Richard Address

**Saturday, December 16, 2017, 10:00am**

Oakland Mills Interfaith Center, 5885 Robert Oliver Place, Columbia  
Join us for our B'Yachad Service as we welcome Rabbi Richard Address.

## Our Long And Winding Road: Jewish texts and tradition as guides to positive and sacred aging.

We will examine some key Torah texts as they form a foundation for the third stage of our life. How can these texts inform us and support us as we navigate this most challenging and potentially creative stage of life? Can they serve as a pathway to support us as we deal with expected loss and changes in relationships.

## Men's Club Human Rights Shabbat

**Saturday, December 9, 2017, 10:00am**

Oakland Mills Interfaith Center, 5885 Robert Oliver Place, Columbia  
Join us for this special Shabbat morning service led by CJC's Men's Club.

## Course Registration

**Pre-registration and pre-payment for classes are essential to ensure teacher availability and classroom space.**

Call the CJC office, 410-730-6044, for more information.

**Please complete and return this form with appropriate course fees, if applicable, to:**

**Robin Rosenfeld, Columbia Jewish Congregation, 5885 Robert Oliver Place, Columbia, MD 21045**

*Checks should be made payable to Columbia Jewish Congregation*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Course Name \_\_\_\_\_ Fee \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Course Name \_\_\_\_\_ Fee \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Course Name \_\_\_\_\_ Fee \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Course Name \_\_\_\_\_ Fee \_\_\_\_\_

CJC Member  Yes  No

Total Fee due \_\_\_\_\_