

August 2017



Friday, August 11
8:30pm and
Saturday, August 12
1:00pm

Jewish Identity Weekend

What makes someone a Jew? In 2017/5777, the major denominations have very different answers. This has implications for everything from who is counted in a minyan, to who may move to Israel under the Law of Return, to which rabbis will officiate at marriages, to the Jewish identity of our children. On Friday evening we will hear from members of our community about how they understand their own Jewish identity and the joys and struggles they have faced. On Saturday we will study the implications of the positions of the major denominations in the United States and the recent conversion bill in Israel. Both programs will take place after Shabbat services. Services begin on Friday evening at 7:00pm, followed by dinner and discussion. Services begin on Saturday morning at 9:00am, followed by lunch and the discussion. Free and open to the community.

Monday, August 14
12:00pm—1:00pm

NEW RABBI SERIES: Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Ariana Silverman

We are delighted to be wrapping up our New Rabbi Series with Rabbi Ariana Silverman! Regardless of income, every Jew is obligated to give money to the less fortunate. Traditionally, one would give 10%, or "tithing." However, very few of us do that today. While the average American earning under \$25,000 gives over 10% of their income to charitable causes, the average American earning over \$50,000 gives around 3%. Come learn about the Jewish obligation to give and how we can make informed decisions about how much to give and to whom. Kosher, vegetarian lunch provided.

Thursday, August 24
7:30—10:30pm

Annual Riverboat Cruise 2017

Send summer off in style at the Annual Detroit Riverboat Cruise. Dress in white and ride the waves with music, dancing, drinks, eats and one of the best views in the city. This year, Downtown Synagogue is partnering with NEXTGen Detroit, Hillel of Metro Detroit, Chabad of Greater Downtown Detroit, Repair The World: Detroit, and Detroit City Moishe House. We have ten free tickets to give away so, if you're interested, please contact vsitron@downtownsynagogue.org!

Friday, August 25
7:00—10:00pm

The Land of Milk and Honey Shabbat

Join us for our traditional Friday night Shabbat services at 7:00pm and then stay for dinner and an explanation and honey tasting and food pairing with beekeeper, Amalia Haas. Honey is an extraordinary food that possesses the quality of terroir - its taste derives from the soil, plants, and region from which it comes. A honey's taste is multi-layered, and the flavor tones of a single-source (varietal) honey will pair beautifully with the flavor panel of specific foods such as fruits, cheeses, or chocolates. In this session, we will taste and pair several varietal honeys, learn each honey's ecological narrative, and see how the topic of bees and honeys is appropriate to many touchpoints in the Jewish calendar: Shavuot, Pesach, Chanukah and more. Come taste, learn the Torah of bees, and enjoy! Amalia Haas, CEO/Founder of Bee Awesome, is a thought leader, social entrepreneur, and food justice activist whose work has been featured in Kosher Nation.

Sunday, August 27
11:00am—4:00pm

2nd Annual Michigan Jewish Food Festival at Eastern Market

Bring the whole family to the Second Annual Michigan Jewish Food Festival and enjoy food, celebrate our shared history in Detroit, and learn about Detroit's current food movement that's creating a more sustainable, healthier, and more just community for all. Stop by the Downtown Synagogue's table and say hi! Interested in volunteering? Contact vsitron@downtownsynagogue.org.

Isaac Agree Downtown Synagogue

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