

January 2018



10 of Judaism's Best Ideas with Rabbi Ariana Silverman

**Thursdays,
January 4 to
March 8,
7:30—8:45pm**

This 10 week course will cover topics such as Shabbat and the holidays, lifecycle events, social justice, Hebrew, eating as a Jew - everything you wanted to know about Judaism but were afraid to ask! This class is intended for beginners, non-Jews, interfaith couples, or anyone who would love a refresher course on how cool Judaism really is. This is not a drop-in class and participants are encouraged to sign up for and attend the entire series by contacting Rabbi Silverman at with questions or to register.

Tikkun America: Racism and the National Anthem

**Saturday,
January 6,
12:30—2:00pm**

It is 2018 and race relations is still the most divisive issue in America. Join us for a discussion that will bring new insight into practices, programs, policies and thoughts that many hold dear, versus taking an analytical look at what is really meant in these documents (National Anthem, Judicial system, Education, etc.). We will also explore some ways to begin to close the divide. Speakers include: Ginger Hopkins, a member of the Downtown Synagogue who has been a lifelong community activist and free thinker, Chantel Henry, REACH Coordinator raised in Southwest Detroit and on Chippewa of the Thames First Nations reservation in Ontario, and Dr. Marcy Epstein, who teaches social justice and writing at the Comprehensive Studies Program at the University of Michigan.

MLK Shabbat and Discussion

**Friday,
January 12,
7:00—9:30pm**

After our Friday night services beginning at 7:00pm, join us and Repair the World at 8:30pm for a special MLK weekend dinner and discussion about reparations with Anita Belle. Belle is a human rights activist from Detroit. She received her Bachelor of Science degree from Wayne State University and a JD from the University of Florida College of Law. Belle is a voting rights advocate who envisions reparations as ensuring that blacks' right to vote is not diluted or rigged, thus setting the precedent that no American is subject to a dictatorship under which he or she is taxed without representation.

Troubled Water Film Screening

**Wednesday,
January 24,
7:00—9:00pm**

Join Hazon Detroit, Detroit Jews for Justice, and the Downtown Synagogue community for a screening, discussion, and action around Detroit's *Troubled Water*. We'll screen the video from the 2nd Annual Michigan Jewish Food Festival that features stories covering the criminal poisoning of the people of Flint, health damaging water shut-offs in Detroit, the corporate giveaway draining the Great Lakes, and the need to provide water in a climate that's heating up; we are at the front-line of the Water Wars. Hear stories from the field, meet the people who have chosen to work for solutions to one of the most important issues of our lifetime, and find out how you can take action.

Tu b'Shevat b'Schvitz

**Saturday,
January 27,
4:30—6:30pm**

Join Congregation T'chayah, the Reconstructionist Congregation of Detroit, Repair The World, and the Isaac Agree Downtown Synagogue for a Tu b'Shevat seder and havdallah at the Schvitz Health Club (8295 Oakland Ave, Detroit). The seder, led by Rabbis Ariana Silverman and Alana Alpert, will have lots of fruits, nuts, and Jewish wisdom about being better stewards of the Earth. Special activities for children will enable each generation to celebrate and learn. Space is limited and RSVP is requested by January 23 at: downtownsynagogue.org/tubshevat2018.

Isaac Agree Downtown Synagogue

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