



Lower Merion
Synagogue



Is proud to host our

Scholar in Residence

Dr. Tamara Morsel-Eisenberg

Feb 15-16, 2019 ♦ י"א אדר א'

Friday Night Oneg Shabbat ♦ 8:30pm

Halakha and the Organization of Knowledge: Why it matters how knowledge is ordered.

We will discuss the revolution in 16th-century halakha as a revolution in knowledge organization, illustrated by a halakhic case study. **Home of Monique and Stephen Wallace**

Shabbat Day Lecture Series: Halakha and History

This two-part series will explore the question of Halakha and History: Is a historical attitude to halakhic texts opposed to a religious attitude, and can the study of history contribute to the study of halakha?

Shabbat Morning ♦ 11:45am Following Kiddush

Part I: R' Yacov Emden and the Zohar - Strange Bedfellows

Part I of this two-part series will explore R' Yacov Emden's *Mitpahat Sefarim*, a critique of the Zohar, as well as some of R' Emden's other writings, and ask: was the author a historical critic or a religious kabbalist?

Shabbat Afternoon ♦ 4:10pm

Part II: Book History, Print History, and the Zohar

Part II of this series will provide historical context to some of the more perplexing aspects of R' Emden's attitude. The history of early modern scholarship in Europe and book history will illuminate R' Emden's attitude towards the Zohar and help us understand it.

Seudah Shlishit

Technology, Tradition and Transmission: The Print Revolution and the World of Halakha

We will examine some of the astonishing consequences of the invention of print for the world of halakhic scholarship.

Dr. Tamara Morsel-Eisenberg is a historian of Early Modern Jewry and studies the history of knowledge in 16th-century Ashkenaz, especially the world of halakha. Tamara wrote her dissertation at the University of Pennsylvania, during which time she lived in Lower Merion. She is currently a Junior Fellow at the Harvard Society of Fellows and divides her time between Cambridge and Manhattan, where she lives with her husband, Ori, and her two sons, Yechiel and Emmanuel.

Talia and David are delighted to sponsor this Shabbat's Scholar in Residence Program and Seudat Shlishit in honor of their children and grandchildren.