

# JEWISH LEARNING @ TEMPLE ISRAEL

## 2011 FALL JL@TI COURSES

**Mondays, December 5, 12 and 19, 2011, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.**

Fee: \$36 per person (includes a resource for your Jewish library)

**Choose ONE of these three-session courses taught by our clergy and scholars.**

All courses are open to everyone. Classes may be closed or cancelled due to the number of registrations.

### A JEWISH VIEW OF LIFE AND DEATH

**INSTRUCTOR: RABBI MARCIA ZIMMERMAN**

Back by popular demand, this course deals with how questions about life, death and the afterlife challenge the Jewish soul. Explore how Judaism confronts these issues, helping us make sense of human mortality through ritual and belief. We will discuss these serious issues in a safe and supportive environment. A visit to Hodroff/Epstein Funeral Home is included.

*Rabbi Marcia Zimmerman holds the Alvin & June Perlman Senior Rabbinic Chair at Temple Israel.*

### GOD AND THE ATHEISTS

**INSTRUCTOR: RABBI SIM GLASER**

God is on trial yet again with increasing numbers claiming atheism as among their most profound beliefs. We will read and discuss primary Jewish sources on basic Jewish theology from the Torah, the Midrash, Zohar, Medieval commentaries and onward. We will examine works by Victor Frankl, Richard Rubenstein, Abraham Joshua Heschel and others, as well as selections from the current atheist manifestos of Sam Harris, Richard Dawkins and Christopher Hitchens. Believers, non-believers and doubters are all welcome. This should be an interesting class, God willing.

*Rabbi Sim Glaser is an Associate Rabbi at Temple Israel.*

### THE VIRTUES AND VICICES OF FOOD

**INSTRUCTOR: RABBI JENNIFER GERTMAN**

Eating is a part of being Jewish. It is how we celebrate, mourn and spend time together. Still, what and how we eat sends a message. What does our food say about who we are and what we believe and what does this have to do with being Jewish anyway??!! We will attempt to answer these questions and many more over...what else but food!

*Rabbi Jennifer Gertman is an Assistant Rabbi at Temple Israel.*

### BEYOND WORDS: THE SUBLIME ART OF THE CANTORIAL TRADITION

**INSTRUCTOR: CANTOR STEPHEN ABELSON**

Come immerse yourself in the flow and historical evolution of our sacred musical tradition with newly ordained Cantor Stephen Abelson. He will take us on a musical journey through the history and practice of the great synagogue and cantorial music from the Renaissance to the present day. Thanks to modern technology, we will hear and view great cantors from the 1600s (Solomon Sulzer) to the Golden Age of cantorial music in the early 20th century (Moishe Oisher). From there on to composers and performers of the modern age: (Leonard Bernstein, Kurt Weill, Shlomo Carlbach, Debbie Friedman). Learn about their lives, their unique contributions to synagogue music, and how they're immortalized through their compositions and recordings. Prepare to be awed and delighted by the rich world of Jewish music.

*Cantor Stephen Abelson is a Cantorial Intern at Temple Israel.*

### THE RISE AND FALL OF YIDDISH CIVILIZATION

**INSTRUCTOR: DR. JOE GOLDMAN**

In the 13th century East European Jewry established a political institution; in the 14th century tens of thousands of German Jews migrated to Poland and Lithuania establishing a cultural nation. Contrary to anti-Semitic "opinion" that Jews were incapable of governance in a Gentile world, the rise of Yiddish power continued to grow beyond language and religious intercommunication among all Jewish communities until the Holocaust seared Yiddish Civilization into near oblivion.

*Dr. Joseph R. Goldman is a senior lecturer on strategic management at the Carlson School of Management and holds Ph.D.s in both Political Science and History. He has taught over 40 years at universities and other institutions, including Temple.*

### RABBI DAVID HARTMAN UNDERSTOOD: THE PROVOCATIVE WRITINGS OF A MODERN ORTHODOX PLURALIST ZIONIST

**INSTRUCTOR: RABBI JOSEPH EDELHEIT**

Rabbi David Hartman is one of the most significant modern Orthodox thinkers of the 20th century. After serving in Canada for many years, he made Aliyah with his family and was responsible for founding the Shalom Hartman Center in Jerusalem. He has consistently argued for the recognition of all forms of Jewish observance--a pluralism of Judaism. He is a leader in bringing Jewish religious values into modern Israeli secular education. The Hartman Center has become known for its annual gathering of rabbis from North America who come to study in Jerusalem, to engage in dialogue and to build community. We shall study some of Rabbi Hartman's provocative essays.

*Rabbi Joseph Edelheit is the Director and Professor of Religious Studies and Jewish Studies at St. Cloud State University and Adjunct Professor at the Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at the University of Minnesota.*

### THE ALEF-BET OF TORAH: TORAH STUDY 101

**INSTRUCTORS: RACHAEL FREED AND STEVE LEVIE**

Have you wanted to study Torah but don't know where to begin? We will introduce Torah as a sacred text and as a historical document. Come, study Torah and examine its significance in our lives today.

*Rachael Freed, founder of Life-Legacies, is a Senior Fellow at the University of Minnesota's Center for Spirituality and Healing. Steve Levie is a retired engineer and teacher, and student of Torah for 20 years.*

### TIKKUN OLAM

In the spirit of Tikkun Olam, please donate soft-cover books for the Women's Prison Book Project on any night of JL@TI.

## FALL 2011 JL@TI REGISTRATION FORM

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a Temple Israel member?

Yes  No

### Fall 2011 JL@TI Classes:

(Choose ONE)

\$36/person \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> A Jewish View of Life and Death | <input type="checkbox"/> The Rise & Fall of Yiddish Civilization |
| <input type="checkbox"/> God and the Atheists            | <input type="checkbox"/> Rabbi David Hartman Understood          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Virtues and Vices of Food   | <input type="checkbox"/> The Alef-Bet of Torah: Torah Study 101  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beyond Words                    |  |

A contribution to support the participation of others \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Limited scholarships are available, contact Wendy for more information.

**Total enclosed (Make checks payable to Temple Israel) \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

### Return Registration and Payment to:

Wendy Schwartz • Temple Israel, 2324 Emerson Ave. S., Mpls, MN 55405 • 612-374-0344 • wendy@templeisrael.com