



## Upcoming Programs, Shul Tours and More – June 24, 2024

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### CSP

We are pleased to be a partner congregation of the Orange County Jewish **Community Scholar Program (CSP)**. Please join us at an upcoming program!



#### **Sketching Community: Honi's Story and Our Circles**

Tuesday, June 25, 1:00 pm EDT (online)

Taking inspiration from the Talmudic story of “Honi the Circle Maker,” this session examines friendships and the role of the individual within the community. What circles do we belong to, and what will remain of us after we have gone? Combining text study and art we’ll explore a known story from a new angle and see how it connects to each of us personally. Please have basic drawing materials (pen, pencil, paper) at hand if you want to engage with the optional drawing prompts. No prior drawing experience needed.

**Jacqueline Nicholls** is a London based artist, award-winning visual poet and Jewish educator. She uses her art to engage with traditional Jewish ideas in untraditional ways. Her recent drawing project, Draw Yomi, completed in January 2020, Jacqueline drew the Talmud, following the Daf Yomi schedule. She coordinates arts and culture events at JW3 London, and regularly teaches at the London School of Jewish Studies. Jacqueline’s art has been exhibited in solo shows and significant contemporary Jewish Art group shows in the U.K., U.S. and Israel. Jacqueline has an MA in Fine Art from Central Saint Martins. Art. Recent residencies include ‘Wasted Books’ at The London Library, ‘50 Jewish Objects’ Jewish Studies Department, Manchester University, and Beit Venezia, where she was the lead artist for the Deck of Esther project, reimagining Megillat Esther as a pack of playing cards.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwdeCoqzsrHtbKw-bdgzBmlly0BsuaKLv7#/registration>

#### **Breaking Boundaries, Building Faith: The Pioneering Journey of Women in the Rabbinate**

Thursday, June 27, 3:30 pm EDT (online)

Judaism was transformed by the 1972 ordination of the first woman rabbi in America, Rabbi Sally Priesand, which opened the way for nearly 1,500 women rabbis of all movements who have transformed Jewish tradition, worship, spirituality, scholarship, education, and pastoral care. Experience the impact of 24 pioneering women rabbis across all denominations of Judaism, as evoked by 24 leading Jewish contemporary women artists who capture their mission, vision, and values.

**Jean Bloch Rosensaft** is Senior Advisor to the President and Director of the Dr. Bernard Heller Museum at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion. Over the past four decades, she has organized over 150 exhibitions and scores of traveling exhibitions at venues throughout North America and in Jerusalem. A founder and Vice-President of the International Network of Children of Jewish Holocaust

Survivors and Vice President of the American Gathering of Jewish Holocaust Survivors and Their Descendants, she serves on the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's Education Committee, and chairs the Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture's Panel on Art and Photography.

[https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwkcOChqD4tH9ePTZv-v-4XVJICo9\\_Vidg#/registration](https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwkcOChqD4tH9ePTZv-v-4XVJICo9_Vidg#/registration)

### **Legacy, Leadership & Scholarship: A Conversation with Prof. Susannah Heschel**

Sunday, June 30, 1:00 pm EDT (online)

We are excited to invite you to an engaging conversation with Professor Susannah Heschel, the Eli M. Black Distinguished Professor of Jewish Studies at Dartmouth College. As a leading scholar, Professor Heschel's work spans Jewish and Protestant thought during the 19th and 20th centuries, focusing on areas such as the history of biblical scholarship, Jewish scholarship on Islam, and antisemitism. Her notable publications, which include *Abraham Geiger and the Jewish Jesus* and *The Aryan Jesus: Christian Theologians and the Bible in Nazi Germany*, have garnered national awards and widespread acclaim. A forthcoming book, *The Woman Question in Jewish Studies*, co-written with Sarah Imhoff, is eagerly anticipated. Professor Heschel has held prestigious fellowships worldwide, received numerous honors including the Mendelssohn Prize and five honorary doctorates, and is currently a Guggenheim Fellow. This conversation promises deep insights into Professor Heschel's impressive career and her profound impact on Jewish studies.

Professor Heschel will be in dialogue with **Rabbi Elie Kaplan Spitz**, a spiritual leader and scholar specializing in topics of spirituality and Judaism, who teaches, writes and speaks to a wide range of audiences. He served as the rabbi of Congregation B'nai Israel in Tustin, California, for over three decades and served as member of the Rabbinical Assembly Committee on Law and Standards for twenty years. Rabbi Spitz is author of *Duets on Psalms: Drawing New Meaning from Ancient Words*, co-authored with Rabbi Jack Riemer, *Healing from Despair: Choosing Wholeness in a Broken World; Does the Soul Survive? A Jewish Journey to Belief in Afterlife, Past Lives & Living with Purpose and Increasing Wholeness: Jewish Wisdom and Guided Meditations to Strengthen and Calm Body, Heart, Mind and Spirit* (all Jewish Lights) and many articles dealing with spirituality and Jewish law. Rabbi Spitz spent the past 17 months teaching the Psalms with half-hour presentations for each Psalm (recently completing all 150 Psalms!).

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwkdeGhqjIqHNcTpQ-hygD9O7h7xFbpWmMu#/registration>

### **Jewish Heritage Across the Balkans: A Journey Through History and Culture**

**Part 2 – Slovenia and Serbia** - Sunday, July 14, 1:00 pm EDT (online)

Immerse yourself in the captivating history and rich culture of Balkan Jewry with our exclusive series, "Jewish Heritage Across the Balkans: A Journey Through History and Culture." Join us for a virtual exploration through Croatia, Trieste, Slovenia, Serbia, and Bulgaria. Discover the enduring legacy of Jewish communities, from ancient synagogues to modern-day resilience. Witness the unique blend of Sephardic and Ashkenazi traditions, and learn about their significant contributions throughout history.

**Part 2 – Slovenia and Serbia** - Travel through time in the former Yugoslav territories, discovering the blend of Sephardic and Ashkenazi traditions. Learn about Jewish life from ancient times to the present day, including the heroic stories of Jewish Partisans during WWII.

**Evgenia Kempinski**, our guide, is a Russian Jew born and raised in St. Petersburg. Her family was originally from the Pale of Settlement – Poland, Ukraine and Belorussia – and endured the suppression of Judaism in the Soviet Union then the rebirth of Jewish culture and religious life in today's St. Petersburg. She has been an official St. Petersburg tour guide for over 15 years and is the founder and owner of St. Petersburg Jewish Tours – a company offering Jewish travelers a unique experience of showcasing the best of Russia from a Jewish point of view. She currently lives in Haifa, Israel, still keeping close connections with St. Petersburg and its Jewish community.

[https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlufu6hqD0uH9wMLvu-oRJvc-SkG7ernZkB?utm\\_source=CSP&utm\\_campaign=6a79f54d1d-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2020\\_04\\_03\\_04\\_55\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_5ee28fcb1-6a79f54d1d-386548940#/registration](https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlufu6hqD0uH9wMLvu-oRJvc-SkG7ernZkB?utm_source=CSP&utm_campaign=6a79f54d1d-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_04_03_04_55_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_5ee28fcb1-6a79f54d1d-386548940#/registration)

## SHUL TOURS

If you live in the Boston area and have never seen our historic shul, or haven't visited in a while, or if you plan to visit the area, we welcome you to see our shul in person and take a tour! We were added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1993. Please follow the link below for more information and to request **Individual/Family** or **Group (new)** tours.

**Visitor Information** - <https://walnutstreetsynagogue.com/visit/>



Yad Chessed helps Jewish individuals and families who struggle with financial hardship pay their bills and buy food. As a social services agency rooted in the Jewish values of kindness (chessed) and charity (tzedakah), they are committed to helping those in need navigate a path toward financial stability while preserving their privacy and dignity. They provide emergency financial assistance, grocery gift cards and compassionate advice for those trying to make ends meet. Hundreds of families and individuals throughout the state rely on Yad Chessed to provide for their essentials, and even at times, a Jewish burial for a loved one. Members of our community, as well as others in the Jewish community, who need assistance may contact Yad Chessed by phone at 781-487-2693 or by Email at [intake@yadchessed.org](mailto:intake@yadchessed.org) for a confidential conversation. Questions can be directed to [info@yadchessed.org](mailto:info@yadchessed.org).

**Support Yad Chessed** - <https://givebutter.com/yadchessed>

## OUR COMMUNITY NEWS

Do you have milestones such as marriages, births, Bar and Bat Mitzvahs, special birthdays, graduations, etc. to share with our community? If so, please submit details to [central.walnutstreetshul@gmail.com](mailto:central.walnutstreetshul@gmail.com) to be included in our weekly announcements. Photos are welcome!

## GIVING

Please visit our Giving page to send tributes, recognize yahrzeits and make other general donations to support the Walnut Street Synagogue. Donations can be made online or through the mail.  
<https://walnutstreetsynagogue.com/giving/>

## VISIT US ONLINE

Website

<https://walnutstreetsynagogue.com/>

Facebook Page - Walnut Street Synagogue

<https://www.facebook.com/WalnutStreetSynagogue>

Facebook Group - Jews of Chelsea, MA Then and Now

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ChelseaJews>

*The Walnut Street Synagogue is the center for Jewish history, education and culture serving Chelsea, Greater Boston and beyond and is the historic home of Congregation Agudas Sholom. (added to National Register of Historic Places in 1993)*



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