

## MACHAR ADULT EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY SUNDAY CALENDAR—FALL 2015

Adult Ed sessions are on select Sundays from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM

at Jewish Primary Day School, 6045 16th St. NW, DC 20011

**Community Sundays follow at JPDS unless noted; we share details by email, newsletter, and at [www.machar.org](http://www.machar.org).**  
*Sessions are open to all members and first-time visitors. There is parking on 16<sup>th</sup> Street and in the lot behind the building. All talks will be in the gymnasium unless otherwise noted. (If you have trouble climbing stairs, use the rear entrance.)*

### **September 20**      *Welcoming the New Year - Introductions and Overview*

This first meeting of the year is an opportunity to meet new and old members and to hear about the various activities community membership offers. Please bring friends or family who are interested in finding out more about Machar.

**Community Sunday: Short Tashlikh celebration led by Rabbi Nehama and Rock Creek cleanup**

### **September 27**      *Political Progress in the Moral Center: A Talk by Maryland State Senator Jamie Raskin*

Senator Raskin, a professor of constitutional law at American University and Majority Whip of the Maryland Senate, has led successful fights to pass marriage equality, the Second Chance Act (for people convicted of certain crimes one time), abolition of the death penalty, and campaign finance reform. He will discuss the challenge of pursuing a democratic political morality grounded in human reason and sentiment, not sectarian dogma and ideology.

**Community Sunday: Celebrate Sukkot**

### **October 18**      *David Wittenberg – A Taste of Wine*

Using short handouts of selected readings from Sherwin Wine's "A Provocative People, A Secular History of the Jews," David will model small-group open-ended discussions to advance the idea that reading Wine's work can serve as a vehicle to strengthen our identity as Jews with a secular humanistic outlook. Bring your own copy of the book if you have one. David is a retired teacher and active Machar member since 1981.

### **October 25**      *Obada Shtayeh - Amplifying the Voice of Moderates in Israel and Palestine*

What does the next generation think about prospects for peace between Palestine and Israel? Join us to hear One Voice Palestine Youth Leader and George Mason University graduate student, Obada Shtayeh, describe the work of One Voice. One Voice is an international grassroots movement to empower mainstream Israelis and Palestinians to propel their elected representatives toward the two-state solution. The Movement recognizes that violence by either side will not be a means to end the conflict.

### **November 8**      *Linda Tebelman – Supporting Others Through Difficult Times*

We've all heard of the Five Stages of Grief. How does that inform us as we help others who are grieving? Join us for a discussion about how individually and as a community we can provide comfort and support during difficult times. Linda is a retired social worker, having served for over 8 years at Montgomery Hospice, most recently as Director of Bereavement Care. In 2006 Linda and her family moved to DC from Michigan where they had been members of the Birmingham Temple.

### **November 22**      *Marlene Zakai - Help Make a Museum!*

The Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington is in the process of creating a new museum for our region's Jewish history (projected 2020) and needs your input! The sneak peak powerpoint presentation includes interactive activities to get your creative input regarding some of the objects and stories the Society plans to tell in its future home. Marlene Zakai is a Senior Advisor at the Corporation for National and Community Service, active with the Hill Havurah, and a Bethesda Jewish Congregation Board Member. She is also a ServeDC Commissioner, appointed by Mayor Gray.

### **December 13**      *Stephen Cohen - Why Are Jews Often Both Victims and Perpetrators of Securities Fraud?*

Is it a coincidence that Bernie Madoff and Allen Stanford wreaked havoc in the Jewish Community? What is affinity fraud, and how does it affect us? And what can we do to help prevent it? Stephen's talk will be a blend of history, practical guidance, and open-ended discussion. Stephen is Associate Director of Enforcement at the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and served as Senior Advisor to SEC Chairman Mary Schapiro during the 2009-10 financial crisis and the immediate aftermath of the Madoff and Stanford ponzi schemes. Stephen and his wife Alison are Machar members, and their three children attend Machar Jewish Cultural School.