

# **Machar Adult Education and Community Sundays March, April, and May 2013**

at Jewish Primary Day School  
6045 16<sup>th</sup> St. NW, DC 20011

**Adult Education and Jewish Cultural School meet on Sunday mornings.  
They are followed each time by Community Sunday activities.**

NOTE: Adult Education and Jewish Cultural School begin at 10 am promptly. They will be followed immediately by refreshments, music, and other Community Sunday activities for all ages. Programs conclude at 12:30 pm.

*Many of our Adult Education sessions will be held upstairs in the Library. If you wish to attend and cannot climb the stairs, please let us know at [info@machar.org](mailto:info@machar.org) or 202-686-1881 in advance and we'll be happy to move the session downstairs. We want to be sure that all who wish to come are able to!*

## **Sunday, March 3 Adult Ed**

*Children on the Fringe: How We Make Meaningful Connections in Their Lives*

(originally scheduled for March 17)

Debby Brennan, Machar Sunday School Director and public school teacher in Washington, DC

Debby Brennan will share the lessons she has learned from teaching in the inner city.

**Community Sunday—Social Time**

## **Sunday, March 17 Adult Ed**

*A Look Inside the Book of Esther*

(originally scheduled for March 3)

Michael Prival, Long-time Machar Member and Madrikh

Michael Prival discusses the Book of Esther, which tells the story of Purim. It is a fantasy that never mentions God. Where did it come from? Was Esther a secular Jew who was able to live as queen in the Persian court, not known for its kosher cuisine? Who is the real hero of the story? And just how did Esther win that famous "beauty contest" anyway? It would be helpful to read this short biblical book before the session.

**Community Sunday—Preparing for Passover**

**COME TO MACHAR'S ANNUAL COMMUNITY PASSOVER SEDER AND POTLUCK  
Saturday, March 23, 4:30 to 8 p.m.**

Cedar Lane UU. Church, 9601 Cedar Lane, Bethesda, MD 20814

member adults \$18; nonmember adults \$18; children \$7.50

**Sunday, April 14 Adult Ed**

*Jewish Life in Palestine before the State of Israel*

Ami Argaman, Machar Member

Ami Argaman will begin with the story of the arrival of his great-grandfather in Jerusalem in 1888. He will describe the Ottoman system of governance at that time, the structure of the Jewish community in Jerusalem, living conditions, and relations with other communities and with the newly arrived Zionists. He will also discuss the attitudes toward religion, and the system of distributions coming from abroad on which the community depended.

**Community Sunday**—Israel and Middle East Peace Day

**Sunday, April 21 Adult Ed**

*We Are Here: Memories of the Lithuanian Holocaust*

(originally scheduled for May 5)

Ellen Cassedy, Author

Ellen Cassedy will speak on how her personal journey into the land of her Jewish forebears expanded into a larger investigation. Probing the terrain of memory and moral dilemmas, she explores how a country scarred by genocide moves forward. Ellen, a former Machar member, is a journalist whose articles and Yiddish translations have appeared in numerous publications. She will be available to sign her book.

**Community Sunday**—Machar's Annual Membership Meeting

**Sunday, May 5 Adult Ed**

*Enhancing US Foreign Assistance by Advancing Gender Equality and Women's*

*Empowerment*

Carla Koppell, Machar member

Carla Koppell is spearheading efforts at the US Agency for International Development Senior Coordinator for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment to transform the way US assistance serves and empowers women while designing and implementing all aid programs in a gender sensitive manner. She will share with us challenges and priorities for increasing gender equality and empowering women during the second Obama Administration.

**Community Sunday**—Post-mitzvah class presentation and b'nei mitzvah presentation by Yael H.-L.

**Sunday, May 19 Adult Ed**

*Social Action & Tikkun Olam: Humanistic Judaism's Progressive Vision & Challenges*

Rabbi Ben Biber, Machar's Rabbi

Rabbi Ben will discuss Humanistic perspectives on the evolution of the Jewish concept of *tikkun olam* (improvement of the world). We'll also probe the centrality of social action in Humanistic Judaism.

**Community Sunday**—End of year picnic, Rock Creek picnic area at 16<sup>th</sup> & Kennedy, NW