



THE CITY CONGREGATION for HUMANISTIC JUDAISM

Adult Education Calendar 2006-2007

Adult Education and **Parent Discussion** sessions are held on Sundays from 3:30 to 5:00 in the Social Hall at The Society for the Advancement of Judaism, 15 West 86th Street, between Central Park West and Columbus Ave. in Manhattan.

Judaism 101 and the **Sunday Salon and Schmooze** sessions are led by Rabbi Schweitzer. **Parent Discussion** sessions are led by members.

All dates and programs subject to change. To confirm events and for more information, contact the office at 212-213-1002 or info@citycongregation.org.

Sept. 17 – Judaism 101: Basic Principles of Humanistic Judaism

Learn how to articulate a positive and inclusive message that describes the array of beliefs that our members hold. Learn how to explain our values and principles by defining ourselves by what we do believe rather than what we don't believe.

Oct. 8 – Program-in-the-Park (Note: This session will meet in Prospect Park, Brooklyn)
Parents will meet by class to get to know each other. We'll share stories of our backgrounds and aspirations for shaping our children's Jewish identity.

Oct. 22 – Judaism 101: A Survey of Jewish Literature from Ancient to Modern Times

What's the Torah? What's the Talmud? What's the Midrash? What are the Commentaries? What is Responsa? And where do Shalom Aleichem, Anzia Yezierska, Grace Paley, Bernard Malamud, Elie Wiesel, Amos Oz and Yehuda Amichai fit into this mix? Come find out about the wealth of Jewish literature.

Nov. 5 – Parent Discussion: Talking with Children about Prejudice, Hatred and War

How do we talk to our children about racism, sexism, anti-Semitism? What steps can we take with them to solve these problems? How do we explain the realities of violence and war?

Nov. 19 – Judaism 101: Jewish Time – The Events of Our Lives and of the Seasons

Travel through the year and across the centuries in this whirlwind tour of Jewish time. How does the calendar work? What are the holidays of the year? What are the special moments of one's life and how do we observe them? What's the Humanistic perspective on these celebrations? (P.S. We probably will run out of time and have to cover some of this another time!)

Dec. 3 – Sunday Salon and Schmooze

For every two Jews there are three opinions. Come share your views. Rabbi Schweitzer will pick an engaging short story, provocative article, or book selection to use as an introduction to a guaranteed lively discussion. These selections will be read aloud in the session so no advance preparation is necessary. Topics may range from “Jews and Their Bodies” to “Jews and Christmas Trees” and beyond!

Dec. 17 – Chanukah Party

Parents will help decorate the Social Hall for the Chanukah party. There is no adult study session this week.

Jan. 7 – Judaism 101: The Place of Place in Jewish Culture - From Shtetl to the Suburbs, from Israel to Diaspora

What are the loci of the Jews? What does it mean to have lived in so many lands and among so many cultures? What are the iconic locations for our memory? Why is the Lower East Side so important to us? Or isn't it? Are we still living in a diaspora?

Jan. 21 – “A Tribute to Wendy Wasserstein”

Our member, Richard Mann, has prepared an engaging program of Wendy Wasserstein's material to honor this celebrated playwright of our time who died last year. Described as a “chronicler of women's identity crises,” Wasserstein explored the challenges for women of combining a career and family.

Feb. 4 – Sunday Salon and Schmooze

Trying to figure out your Jewish identity? Here's the place to probe a little deeper. Rabbi Schweitzer will pick an engaging short story, provocative article, or book selection to use as an introduction to a guaranteed lively discussion. These selections will be read aloud in the session so no advance preparation is necessary. From “Jewish Guilt” to “Jews and Money,” it's all grist for the mill.

Feb. 25 – Judaism 101: Magic and Mysticism through the Ages and Today

Does Judaism have angels? Incantations? Special charms? What is a dybbuk? Who is the golem? What is kabbalah? And how does all of this fit into Humanistic Judaism?

March 4 – Purim Party

Parents will help set up the Social Hall for the Purim Carnival and party. There is no adult study session this week.

March 18 – Sunday Salon and Schmooze

Who is a Jew and what kind of Jew am I? Come figure out where you fit in. Rabbi Schweitzer will pick an engaging short story, provocative article, or book selection to use as an introduction to a guaranteed lively discussion. These selections will be read aloud in the session so no advance preparation is necessary. Topics may include everything from “Growing Up Jewish in the Bronx” to “The Most Recent Wave of Russian Immigration.” What's not to talk about?

April 15 – Judaism 101 – Machers, Mavens, Priests and Prophets: What and Who are all these Jewish Jobs and Roles?

From *kohens* to *rebbe*s, *shochets* to *mohels*, our culture is replete with functionaries. Let's not forget the *kvetchs* and *shlemiels*, the *yentas* and *baalabustas*, the list goes on. Find out who all these people are and their role in our culture.

April 29 – Parent Discussion: Talking with Children about Poverty and Economic Injustice

How do we explain why some people sleep on the streets and are homeless? How do we talk about those who beg for money? What steps can we take with our children to solve these problems?

May 6 – Sunday Salon and Schmooze

How did our roots define us? And how have we defined ourselves? Rabbi Schweitzer will pick an engaging short story, provocative article, or book selection to use as an introduction to a guaranteed lively discussion. These selections will be read aloud in the session so no advance preparation is necessary. Let's talk - about growing up gay, dealing with family tensions, remembering the holocaust, and more.

May 20 – KidSchool Feedback/Congregation Meeting

There is no adult study session this week.

June 3 – Final Session: No Adult Perspectives

Join kids in class for *The Year in Review*, and then convene for our final sing-along and pizza party. There is no adult study session this week.