

halom, and welcome to the fifth annual National Jewish Retreat! Our exceptional faculty is drawn from across the world in order to bring you the best in Jewish teaching and learning.

We know that people come to a retreat for different reasons, and we want to make it easy for you to customize your own personal learning experience. That's why we've classified our sessions this year in ways that let you nurture yourself in a variety of ways.

We've tagged sessions that are designed to feed your mind with a brain icon. Some of these sessions are text-based; others explore modern applications of Jewish law. But all of them are designed to stretch your thinking in creative and exciting ways.

Sessions designed to stir your emotions have a heart icon. These will make you laugh and cry, ignite your soul, and move your spirit. They're about prayer, repentance, love, and loss. And we will provide the human wisdom and compassion that helps you to make sense of your inner world.

Practical and hands-on sessions have a hand icon. These are the how-tos of Jewish life: making challah, or learning about the daily prayers. These sessions will provide you with skills and information that you can take home.

Finally, we've tagged sessions on personal interaction with an ear. Share your challenges in trying to increase your Jewish involvement. Sing and dance together at a concert. Spend an evening talking with one of our scholars. Share your experiences and build new friendships.

We hope you will enjoy the outstanding range of learning provided by this year's retreat. And if there is something you would like to study that is not represented here, please be sure to let us know. We are often able to arrange private sessions with faculty members on the study topic of your choice.

For added security, we request that you wear your name tags at all times. Please note that if you have any questions about visiting the surrounding area, the Hyatt Reston's concierge, located near the front desk, will be happy to advise you.

Rabbi Hesh Epstein

Chairman

Rabbi Boruch Cohen

Coordinator

**Bruce Backman** 

Liaison

#### Faculty

#### Rabbi Zalman Abraham

Author, Marketing Director, The Rohr Jewish Learning Institute

#### The Hon. George Allen

Former United States Senator: Former Governor of Virginia

#### Mr. Bruce Backman

Senior Research Analyst, Fox News; Retreat Coordinator, National Jewish Retreat; Former Aide, Former New York Governor George Pataki

#### Rabbi Berel Bell

Judge, Rabbinical Court of Montreal; Dean, Kollel Beis Yosef for Advanced Talmudic Studies; Author, The Rohr Jewish Learning Institute

#### Dr. Erica Brown

Director of Adult Education, The Partnership for Jewish Life and Learning;
Faculty Member, The Wexner Foundation; Author and Lecturer

#### Rabbi Moshe Bryski

Director, Chabad of the Conejo (Agoura Hills, CA); Founder, Conejo Jewish Academy

#### Mrs. Matty Bryski

Co-Director, Chabad of the Conejo (Agoura Hills, CA)

#### Rabbi Boruch Cohen

Coordinator, JLI National Jewish Retreat

#### Mrs. Batsheva Cohen

Co-Director, Chabad of Hebron, Israel

#### Rabbi Danny Cohen

Director, Chabad of Hebron, Israel

#### **Rabbi Shalom Deitsch**

Director, Chabad-Lubavitch of Northern Virginia

#### Rabbi Levi Deitsch

Director, Chabad of Tysons Corner, VA

#### Mrs. Chanie Deitsch

Co-Director, Chabad-Lubavitch of Northern Virginia

#### Rabbi Dovid Eliezrie

Director, Chabad of North County (Orange County, CA); Board Member, Renaissance and Renewal Pillar of the United Jewish Communities; Member, Advisory Board, The Rohr Jewish Learning Institute

#### Mrs. Stella Eliezrie

Co-Director, Chabad of North County (Orange County, CA)

#### Mrs. Chavi Epstein

Co-Director, Chabad Lubavitch of South Carolina; Lecturer and Musician; Founder, Niggun Workshop Seminar

#### Rabbi Hesh Epstein

Chairman, Executive Committee, The Rohr Jewish Learning Institute; Chairman, The National Jewish Retreat;

Executive Director, Chabad Lubavitch of South Carolina; Executive Director, Columbia Jewish Day School

#### Rabbi Leibel Fajnland

Director, Chabad-Lubavitch of Reston and Herndon, VA

#### Rabbi Tzvi Freeman

Team Leader, Ask the Rabbi, Chabad.org; Author and Lecturer

#### Rabbi Manis Friedman

Dean, Bais Chana Institute of Jewish Studies; Host, Torah Forum with Manis Friedman; Author, Lecturer, Social Commentator

#### Mr. Bradley Gordon

Director, Policy and Governmental Affairs, The American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC)

#### Dr. Gill Heart

Biomedical Engineer; Entrepreneur and Lecturer; Former Commanding Officer, Special Forces, Israel Defense Force

#### Rabbi Avrohom Jacks

Rabbi, Cong. Zichron Kedoshim, Montreal, Canada

#### **Cantor Sholom Jacobs**

Concert and recording artist; guest chazzan, U.S. and worldwide; Chazzan, Chabad of the Five Towns (NY); President and CEO, Jacobs Real Estate Advisors, Lawrence, NY

#### Rabbi Simon Jacobson

Director, Meaningful Life Center; Author, The Rohr Jewish Learning Institute; Noted Author, Lecturer, Social Commentator

#### Mrs. Rochel Kaplan

Co-Director, Chabad of Maryland

#### **Rabbi Shmuel Kaplan**

Executive Committee, The Rohr Jewish Learning Institute;

Chairman, Advisory Board, The Rohr Jewish Learning Institute;

Member, Executive Board, Merkos L'Inyonei Chinuch -

Lubavitch World Headquarters;

Director, Chabad of Maryland

#### Rabbi Moshe Kotlarsky

Vice Chairman, Merkos L'Inyonei Chinuch -

Lubavitch World Headquarters;

Chairman, The Rohr Jewish Learning Institute;

Chairman, International Conference of Shluchim

#### Rabbi Yehuda Krinsky

Chairman, Merkos L'Inyonei Chinuch, and Machne Israel,

the educational and social services arms of Chabad Lubavitch:

Member of The Secretariat of The Lubavitcher Rebbe:

Rabbi Krinsky was named by *Newsweek* as the most influential Rabbi in America.

#### Mrs. Rivkah Kotlarsky

Teacher, Beth Rivkah High School (Brooklyn, NY);

Lecturer, Chabad of the Five Towns (NY); Mentor

#### Mr. Nathan Lewin, Esq.

Prominent Washington, D.C. Attorney;

Renowned Advocate for First Amendment Rights;

Former American President, International Association of Jewish

Lawyers and Jurists; Lewin & Lewin, LLP

#### Rabbi Elchonon Lisbon

Director, Chabad of Park Heights (MD)

Rabbi, Congrgation Ohel Levi Yitzchok Lubavitch

#### **Dr. David Luchins**

Chair, Political Science Department, Touro College (New York);

Senior Advisor, former U.S. Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan;

Senior Vice President, Orthodox Union

#### Rabbi Mendy Mangel

Director, Chabad Lubavitch of Camden County (NJ)

#### Rabbi Nissan Mangel

Philosopher, Author, Lecturer; Authority on Kabbalah, Chabad

Chasidut, the Holocaust (survivor), and Jewish Jurisprudence

#### Rabbi Efraim Mintz

Executive Director, The Rohr Jewish Learning Institute

#### Mrs. Shaina B. Mintz

Camp Director, National Jewish Retreat;

Faculty Member, The Rohr Jewish Learning Institute

#### Mrs. Baila Olidort

Editor-in-Chief of Lubavitch News Service/lubavitch.com and Wellsprings magazine.

#### Rabbi Shalom Raichik

Director, Chabad of Upper Montgomery County (MD)

#### Rabbi Yona Reiss

Dean, Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary, Yeshiva University; Former Director, Beth Din of America

#### Mrs. Molly Resnick

Founder and Director, MATCKH (Mothers Against Teaching Children to Kill and Hate); Former News and Documentary Producer for NBC, PBS, and Israel TV

#### Mr. George Rohr

President, New Century Holdings; Chairman, The Rohr Family Foundation; Principal Benefactor, The Rohr Jewish Learning Institute

#### Mr. Eli Rosenbaum

Attorney and Investigator, U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Special Investigations (WWII Era Crimes); Author

#### **Professor Jonathan Sarna**

Professor of American Jewish History, Brandeis University; Director, Hornstein Jewish Professional Leadership Program, Brandeis University; Chief Historian, National Museum of American Jewish History (Philadelphia); Member, Academic Advisory Board, The Rohr Jewish Learning Institute

#### Rabbi Yossi Shanowitz

Director, Chabad of Westmount, QC

#### Rabbi Levi Shemtov

Director, American Friends of Lubavitch (Washington, DC)

#### Rabbi Yitzchak Shochet

Rabbi, Mill Hill Synagogue, England; Lecturer and Author

#### Dr. Stephen Serbin

Family Practitioner (Columbia, SC); Chairman, National Jewish Retreat Lay Committee

#### Mrs. Rivkah Slonim

Co-Director, Chabad House at Binghamton University (NY); Author, The Rohr Jewish Learning Institute; Author and Lecturer

#### Rabbi Eliezer Sneiderman

Director, Chabad Center for Jewish Life, University of Delaware

#### Mrs. Miryam Swerdlov

International Lecturer; Teacher of Jewish History

#### Mrs. Shimona Tzukernik

Founder and Director, Omek Learning Center for Women; Author, The Rohr Jewish Learning Institute, Corporate Trainer, Lecturer, Mentor

#### Rabbi Aryeh Weinstein

Director, Jewish Learning Academy at Lubavitch of Bucks County, PA

#### Rabbi Simcha Weinstein

Director, Chabad of Clinton Hill and Pratt University (NY); Author

#### Arts and Entertainment

#### **Avraham Fried**

International Chassidic recording and concert artist

#### **Stuart Greenwald**

Wines and spirits expert; Kosher Specialist, Shoppers Vineyard

#### .loshua London

Wines and spirits expert; Lecturer, Writer, Teacher

#### Michoel Muchnik

Chassidic Artist and Illustrator

#### **Gaylen Ross**

Film Director: Killing Kasztner

#### Chef Jack Silberstein

Chef, Restaurant Consultant, Kosher Caterer, Cooking Instructor

#### **Jamey Turner**

Glass Harpist

#### **Marc Weiner**

Comedian, Puppeteer, Creator, Producer Creator and Former Host, Weinerville (MTV 1993-1996)

#### Staff

#### Administration

Rabbi Mendy Weg, Brooklyn, NY

Mrs. Fraydee Kessler, Brooklyn, NY Mrs. Mussie Kesselman, Brooklyn, NY

Menachem M. Epstein, Columbia, SC

#### Torah Café

Moshe Raskin, Brooklyn, NY

Miri Birk, Brooklyn, NY

Getzy Raskin, Brooklyn, NY Yosef Schmalberg, Brooklyn, NY

Yosef Kramer, Brooklyn, NY

#### **Camp Staff**

Devorah Stolik, Brooklyn, NY

Shayna Karp, Brooklyn, NY

**Devorah Leah Brafman,** Brooklyn, NY Frumet Jedwab, Brooklyn, NY

Rochel Karp, Brooklyn, NY

# TUESDAY, AUGUST 17 ז' אלול

#### 3:00-7:15pm



#### 3:00 p.m. - Registration

Lobby

#### 5:30 p.m. - Minchah

Grand Ballroom FFG

#### 6:00 p.m. - BBQ Dinner

Grand Ballroom ABCD and Foyer

#### 6:50 p.m. - Orientation

#### 7:15 p.m. - Workshops

#### Does G-d Make Us Good?

Regency A

#### Mrs. Shimona Tzukernik

Is morality dependent upon religion? Can you be a good person without G-d? Are there universal truths about morality, or only our own opinions? This issue has been debated over the centuries by philosophers and religious scholars alike. Find out how the answers to these questions may change the way you look at religion.

#### Thank G-d: A Jewish Guide to Gratitude

Regency B

#### Rabbi Tzvi Freeman

How do we live a more thankful, grateful life? Join Rabbi Freeman on a guided step-by-step journey through the words and thoughts of the *Modeh Ani* (prayer upon awakening), providing imagery and concepts for mindful focus. Learn about this essential prayer and discover the ancient method for starting the day off on the right foot.

#### 8:30 p.m.

#### Killing Kasztner – The Movie

Grand Ballroom FFG

Moderator: Rabbi Shmuel Kaplan Panel discussion featuring the director, Gaylen Ross, and two survivors of Kasztner's transport.

Some consider Rezso Kasztner a collaborator who sold his soul to Eichmann and the SS. Others view him as a hero for rescuing almost 1700 Hungarian Jews, sending them on a train to safety in Switzerland. In Israel today, few figures remain as controversial as Kasztner. Learn how — even after a sensational libel battle in a trial that galvanized the nascent country, and his ultimate assassination in Tel Aviv in 1957 — Kasztner remains an enigma in the public mind.

#### Multitasked and Overtaxed: Torah Directives for Smart, Successful Living

Lake Fairfax

#### Mrs. Rochel Kaplan

In this era of sound bites and text messages, how can we all live a more meaningful and successful life? Join Mrs. Rochel Kaplan as we learn how the timeless wisdom of the Torah can enrich our lives

#### 10:30 p.m. – Maariv

Grand Ballroom FFG

# WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18



#### 7:00 a.m. - Workshops

#### Baruch Atah . . . :

#### Does G-d Need Our Blessings?

Lake Fairfax

#### Rabbi Tzvi Freeman

Join us for meditations on the meaning of the most familiar phrase in Jewish life, "Baruch atah...." We say these words at times of joy and times of bereavement, but what do they mean? Rabbi Freeman will take us through the meaning of blessing G-d and teach how to see the blessings in our lives.

#### Meditation and Movement (For women only)

Lake Thoreau

#### Mrs. Shimona Tzukernik

A healing workout that involves stretches geared to invigorate and align the body, as well as strengthening positions. The session includes self-massage techniques and Qi Gong to encourage energy flow.

#### 7:45 a.m.

#### Making Prayer Yours:

#### **A Guided Tour of the Prayer Service**

Lake Fairfax

#### Rabbi Tzvi Freeman

Do you ever feel lost in the synagogue? Does the Hebrew liturgy swim before your eyes? In a special beginners' service for those looking to gain a deeper appreciation of the basics of prayer, we'll delve into the daily affirmation of our faith as expressed in the *Shema* 

#### ₩ Women's Beginners' Services

Lake Thoreau

#### Mrs. Chavi Epstein

Mrs. Epstein uses her skills as a musician and teacher to help you gain a deeper personal appreciation of the *Modeh Ani*, morning blessings, and the first paragraph of the *Shema*. Increase your familiarity and fluency with these prayers through song.

#### Shacharit

Grand Ballroom EFG

A traditional *minyan*, paced appropriately for those fluent in Hebrew reading and who regularly participate in organized prayer.

#### 8:00 a.m. - Breakfast

Grand Ballroom ABCD

#### 9:00 a.m. - Workshops

#### 

Regency Ballroom A

#### Rabbi Manis Friedman

A life of happenstance — of existing without meaning — is painful, hollow, and unholy. But true life — one endowed with goodness — is a pleasure, a privilege, and divine. More than mere semantics, Rabbi Friedman teaches that when you've "got life," your existence on earth is validated, justified, and redeemed. Now *that* is a message you can live with!

#### Evidence! G-d and the Science of Reincarnation

Regency Ballroom B

#### Rabbi Avrohom Jacks

Are the eternal teachings of the Torah and our modern understanding of science diametrically opposed, or do they enhance each other by revealing a divine symmetry of purpose? Learn how scientific methods can be used to prove the existence of G-d, the afterlife, and reincarnation.

#### Will the Real Jewish Woman Please Stand Up?

Lake Thoreau

#### Mrs. Shimona Tzukernik

How do the Torah and Jewish tradition view women? Are they overlooked and undervalued, or are they empowered teachers and pillars of Jewish family life? Explore our secular cultural assumptions through our "ethnocentric lens," and see what unconsciously feeds our understandings of women in Torah: a fresh take on the pivotal role of women in Torah.

#### 10:25 a.m. - Workshops

#### The Crossroads of American and Jewish Law

Regency A

#### Rabbi Yona Reiss

We live a dual life, pulled between the uniquely Jewish traditions that bind us and our duties as citizens of the United States. What does a Jew do when traditional Jewish law seems to clash with American law? This session seeks to examine those places where American law and Halachah overlap and how they can be synthesized with modern Jewish life.

#### Biblical Diplomacy: From the Sphinx to the Senate

Regency B

#### **Dr. David Luchins**

Joseph helped Egypt capitalize on its period of economic growth and then continue to grow during times of famine and recession. What can we learn from the biblical narrative of a young Hebrew servant catapulted into the upper echelons of Pharoah's court? Was he a role model for statesmanship? This session provides a deeper look at Joseph's story, uncovering many modern principles of diplomacy to help us maneuver through the challenges of contemporary Jewish life.

#### Mind in Control

Lake Fairfax

#### Dr. Gill Heart

One of the fundamental teachings of Chassidic thought is that "the mind rules over the heart." In this engaging and interactive session. Dr. Heart will demonstrate how to take control of your emotions and live a more balanced life with this Kabbalahbased "Mind In Control" technique. Taught by a former commanding officer of the Israeli Defense Force's special operations unit, these lessons will help you deal with the stress and demands of daily life.

#### 11:50 a.m. – Workshops

#### © The Sacred and the Sensual

Regency B

#### Mrs. Shimona Tzukernik

In a landscape of broken families we all search for the foundations of a successful relationship. Join Shimona Tzukernik on a journey through the spiritual, metaphysical, psychological, and practical aspects of what it means to connect at the deepest of levels.

#### Kabbalah and Quantum Physics: Of Mind and Matter

Lake Thoreau

#### Rabbi Zalman Abraham

We stand at the brink of a new age, where research into the building-blocks of the universe attests to the truths of centuriesold kabbalistic wisdom. Just how unified are we with the matter that inhabits our universe? Can our positive thoughts actually create a positive reality? Explore the parallels between quantum physics and Kabbalah, and how they enhance our daily lives.

# Kidnapped! Bringing Our Soldiers Home at Any Price?

Regency A

#### Rabbi Dovid Eliezrie

Over four years after the capture of Gilad Shalit, the debate about his return rages on. Should he be brought home at any price? At what point should Israel be willing to release hundreds of terrorists in return for one Israeli soldier? A glimpse into the debate in Jewish law and Israeli society regarding prisoner exchange.

#### 1:00 p.m. - Lunch

Grand Ballroom ABCD

**Rabbi Shmuel Kaplan** 

Welcome, on behalf of Chabad of MD

#### 2:00 p.m. - Workshops

#### A House Divided: The Controversy Over Conversion

Regency Ballroom B

Rabbi Yona Reiss

A ruling in a British court reopens a highly controversial and divisive subject. Israel and the Diaspora stand divided over legislation that some say threatens to drive a wedge into the heart of the Jewish people. The question: Who is a Jew, and who gets to decide? The answer may surprise you.

#### The Emergence of American Judaism

Regency Ballroom A

Presenter: Professor Jonathan Sarna Moderator: Mrs. Baila Olidort

From Rodrigo de Triana, the Marrano sailor aboard Columbus's ship, the Pinta, who first spotted land in the New World, to Haim Solomon, the prime financier of the American Revolution, the Jewish people have played an integral role in the history of our country. Take a guided tour through the last 350 years of American Jewish history with one of the most eminent historians in America today.

#### From Krakow to Krypton: Jews, Comics, and the Creation of the Superhero

Lake Fairfax

#### Rabbi Simcha Weinstein

Batman, Superman, Spider-Man and the Fantastic Four: some of the greatest comic-book heroes were created by Jews. How did the Jewish roots of these caped crusaders shape their modern images? They disguised themselves to save the world, but did they also disguise their Jewish values?

# Heaven's Kitchen: Kashrut and the Kabbalah of Food

Lake Thoreau

#### Mrs. Rochel Kaplan

"You are what you eat," but is kosher just about food? Delve into one of the most important aspects of a Jewish home and learn what it means to truly live a kosher life. From practical tips on smoothly running a kosher kitchen, to a deeper insight into why we keep kosher.

#### 3:30 p.m. - Workshops

# Antebellum Anti-Semite? Ulysses S. Grant and the Jews

Regency Ballroom A

#### Professor Jonathan Sarna

In his infamous "General Orders Number 11," written in Oxford, Mississippi on December 17, 1862, Grant excluded Jews from his department. "The Jews, as a class, violating every regulation of trade established by the Treasury Department, and also Department orders, are hereby expelled from the Department." Was Grant an anti-Semite or were his beliefs manipulated by the politics of his time?

#### **♥** Learning to Like the People You Love

Regency Ballroom B

#### Rabbi Manis Friedman

As the saying goes, it's easy to love someone; it's liking him or her that's hard. Learn how to make the relationships that matter the most, more meaningful. In this talk we will examine the nature of relationships, their G-dly dimensions, and the secrets of getting along with the people you can't get along without.

# Kabbalatoons: What Is Kabbalah and Why Should I Care?

Lake Fairfax

#### Rabbi Tzvi Freeman

Learn the truth about the "soul" of the Torah and how its transcendent teachings can change your life. This exciting session will include multimedia material from the popular animated *Kabbalatoons* series featured on Chabad.org.

#### From Hollywood to Holy Wood

Lake Thoreau

#### Mrs. Molly Resnick

A remarkable odyssey from the halls of Hollywood decadence to the heights of spirituality, the story of an NBC producer's journey of inner transformation will inspire one and all.

#### 4:45 p.m. - Workshops

#### ♥ <sup>®</sup> Shtick Shift

Lake Thoreau

#### Rabbi Simcha Weinstein

The Jewish people have long used laughter and humor as a tool to deal with the harsh realities of life. From Vaudeville greats and the Borscht Belt tummlers, to modern comedic greats, learn how Judaism has changed the world of laughter and taught us all how to *kvetch*.

#### Hike and Meditation

Meet in the lobby

#### Mrs. Shimona Tzukernik

The early mystics and holy men used to wander the forests of Eastern Europe in an attempt to see the wonder of G-d's world and meditate on their inner spiritual growth. Enjoy a pleasant outing at Lake Fairfax, in the Virginia countryside while we learn about G-d's greatness and the wonders of nature.

#### Mind in Control

Lake Fairfax

Dr. Gill Heart (special encore lecture)

One of the fundamental teachings of Chassidic thought is that "the mind rules over the heart." Learn how to take control of your emotions and live a more balanced life with this Kabbalahbased "Mind In Control" technique. Taught by a former commanding officer of the Israeli Defense Force's (IDF) special operations unit, these lessons will help you deal with stress and the tribulations of daily life.

#### 6:00 p.m.

#### Mincha

Grand Ballroom EFG

#### Wine Tasting

Grand Ballroom Foyer

Joshua E. London

Joshua London has been drinking, writing and speaking professionally about wines and spirits for well over a decade. As the spirits lecturer for TasteDC, a food and drink educational and social organization in the Washington, DC area, Josh has conducted dozens of wine and whisky tastings as well as taught classes on kosher wines and the kashrus issues of Scotch, whisky, and other spirits. Join us and learn why the Talmud says, "There is no gladness without wine."

Our sincerest thanks to the Kedem Wine Company for their generous donation of products for this wine tasting session.

#### 6:15 p.m.

#### **©** Dinner

Grand hallroom ABCD

Entertainment:

**Glass Harpist Jamey Turner** 

#### Guest Speaker: The Hunter

Grand ballroom ABCD

#### Mr. Eli Rosenbaum, Esq.

America's greatest Nazi hunter recounts his efforts working with the U.S. Department of Justice to identify, investigate, and prosecute Nazi war criminals. Born ten years after the fall of Nazi Germany, Rosenbaum has dedicated the past 30 years of his life to bringing Nazi war crimes to justice. His stories are sure to thrill and inform you.

#### 8:15 p.m. – Workshops

#### Keeping Up With the Clintons: What Marc and Chelsea's Wedding Says About the Jewish American Experience

Regency Ballroom B

#### Dr. David Luchins

The press has spun the union of the Clinton and Mezvinsky families into an American royal wedding. While the groom stood under a "multi-faith" *chupah*, the Jewish world split on how to deal with rising rates of intermarriage and assimilation. How do we address the changes in the Jewish American scene while still remaining true to our religious heritage? Join us as we learn about the ramifications of one of the most telling events of the modern Jewish era.

#### **♥** The Comedy of Marriage

Regency Ballroom A

#### Rabbi Manis Friedman

Men and women: two halves of one whole, or strangers from another planet? Some say that G-d's biggest joke was having men and women marry each other. In this humorous but practical talk, Rabbi Friedman provides down-to-earth tips for happiness in marriage.

#### 9:30 p.m. - Maariv

Grand Ballroom F and G

#### 9:45p.m.

#### Late Night With a Scholar

Do you have a question for our faculty members? Do you want to further explore a topic raised in a workshop or seminar? This is your opportunity for informal discussion with the scholars on the topic of your choice.

#### Kumzitz – A Singalong and Discussion

(For women only)

Lake Fairfax

#### Mrs. Shimona Tzukernik and Mrs. Chavi Epstein

The first Chabad Rebbe once said, "The tongue is the pen of the heart, but melody is the pen of the soul." Experience the power of traditional Jewish music and the insight of soulful conversation in this late night women's get-together.

#### 9:45nm



#### © Ethics in Journalism

Lake Thoreau

#### Mrs. Baila Olidort

Mrs. Baila Olidort, editor-in-chief of Lubavitch News Service and Lubavitch.com, will lead a spirited discussion on ethics in the media. Drawing on famous and recent case studies, as well as hypothetical scenarios in which journalists expose public and private figures in the media, they will consider the secular and Jewish positions on questions of free speech vs. slander and gossip: the journalist's responsibility to inform the public vs. his/her responsibility to protect privileged information; and the public's "right to know" vs. discretionary sharing of information.





#### 7:00 a.m. - Workshops

#### Standing Before G-d: Understanding the Amidah

Lake Fairfax

#### Rabbi Tzvi Freeman

Three times a day we stand before G-d, beseeching Him for our personal needs in the *Amidah* prayer. How can we as mortals stand before the creator and ask for the most basic of needs, and what is the meaning of this, the most fundamental prayer in the Jewish liturgy?

#### Meditation and Movement (For women only)

Lake Thoreau

#### Mrs. Shimona Tzukernik

A healing workout that involves stretches geared to invigorate and align the body, as well as strengthening positions. The session includes self-massage techniques and Qi Gong to encourage energy flow.

#### 7:45 a.m.

#### Men's Beginners' Services

Lake Fairfax

Do you ever feel lost in the synagogue? Does the Hebrew liturgy swim before your eyes? Join us for a special beginners' service for those looking to gain a deeper appreciation of the basics of prayer, and the how-tos of talking to G-d.

#### ₩ Women's Beginners' Services

Lake Thoreau

#### Mrs. Chavi Epstein

Mrs. Epstein uses her skills as a musician and teacher to help you gain a deeper personal appreciation of the *Modeh Ani*, morning blessings, and the first paragraph of the *Shema*. Increase your familiarity and fluency with these prayers through song..

#### Shacharit

Grand Ballroom EFG

A traditional *minyan*, paced appropriately for those fluent in Hebrew reading and who regularly participate in organized prayer.

#### 8:00 a.m. - Breakfast

Grand Ballroom ABCD

#### 9:00 a.m. – Workshops

#### Ahmadinejad and Armageddon: the Nuclear Threat from Iran

Regency Ballroom B

#### Mr. Bradley Gordon

A madman makes an inexorable push for nuclear armament, yet the world seems to have turned a blind eye. Israel regards this nuclear Iran as an intolerable threat to its survival. America argues for restraint, preferring political sanctions and negotiations. Which strategy will ultimately succeed, and what are Israel's alternatives?

#### 

Lake Fairfax

#### Rabbi Simon Jacobson

Love and intimacy are among the most necessary and elusive ingredients in a happy, committed life. Join Rabbi Jacobson as he provides spiritual lessons in achieving more meaningful relationships through the ancient teachings of Kabbalah and Chasidut

#### **♥ ©** Climbing YOUR Mountain

Regency Ballroom A

#### Rabbi Moshe Bryski

Mount Sinai, the Temple Mount: the symbolism of mountains is found throughout the Bible. From the binding of Isaac to the revelation at Sinai, these Biblical metaphors are meant to teach us about our own lives and struggles. What are our own mountains and how do we climb them? When do we reach the peak and experience our own personal revelations?

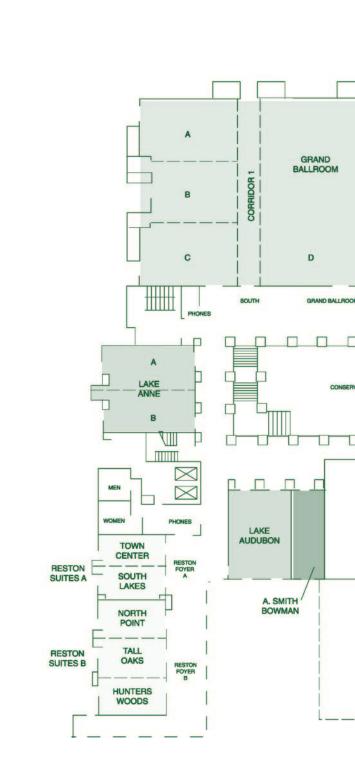
#### **10:25** a.m. – Workshops

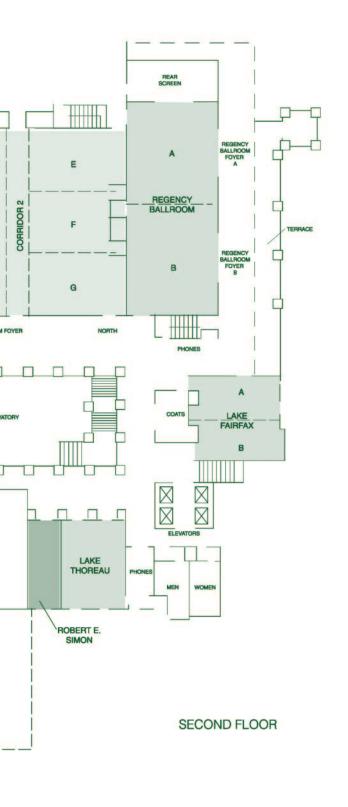
#### Judaism and the First Amendment: Landmark Cases in American Courts

Regency A

#### Mr. Nathan Lewin, Esq.

From *yarmulkas* in the military to public *menorah* displays, join noted civil-liberties lawyer Nathan Lewin in an examination of famous American court cases that have impacted the Jewish community.





# The Paradox of Choice: Can You Have Too Much of a Good Thing?

Lake Thoreau

Presenter: Dr. Erica Brown Moderator: Mrs. Baila Olidort

Recent studies have suggested that while customers appreciate multiple options to choose from, too many choices don't always bring the desired results. Does Judaism suffer from an overabundance of choice? Find out in this class about decision making and how we can get better at it.

#### Where Was G-d in the Holocaust?

Regency B

#### Rabbi Nissan Mangel

Some ask, "Where was G-d in the Holocaust?" But the real question is, "Where was humanity?" G-d was in a voice that has been speaking since man first walked the Earth, in the words, "Thou shalt not murder." G-d wasn't silent in the Holocaust; people were. Listen as a survivor tells his inspiring story of G-d's presence in Auschwitz.

## Yitgadal: Accepting G-d's Greatness in the Face of Pain

Lake Fairfax

#### Rabbi Leibel Fainland

Perhaps the most recognized of all Jewish prayers, the Mourner's Kaddish is also the least understood. How can a prayer for the dead not mention the departed? Learn how these ancient words can offer comfort and healing through recognizing G-d's presence in our lives.

#### 11:50 a.m. - Workshops

### What You Always Wanted to Know About Judaism but Were Afraid to Ask

Regency B

#### Rabbi Simon Jacobson

A gloves-off, no-holds-barred discussion of all the burning questions you may have about sexuality, cremation, abortion, and other controversial issues, as seen through the lens of Jewish psychology and mystical insight.

## The Rebbe and the Attorney: Personal Conversations

Regency A

#### Mr. Nathan Lewin, Esq.

Step inside the Rebbe's private room as we join Mr. Nathan Lewin, as he reflects on his personal encounters with the Lubavitcher Rebbe. Learn the inside story of the famous "Chabad Library Case," from the Rebbe's legal counsel.

#### Judaism and Love: A Biblical Tale of Passion

Lake Fairfax

#### Dr. Erica Brown

Few books in the Bible are as visually evocative as King Solomon's parable of two lovers in the *Song of Songs*. From these stunning images, we'll explore how love is fundamental to all relationships, and gain a Jewish perspective on intimacy and sexuality.

# The Big Bang or The Big Bust? Calculating the Age of the Universe

Lake Thoreau

#### Rahhi Ahraham Jacks

What light does kabbalah shed on the traditional Jewish belief that the world is only 5770 years old? Is there a way to reconcile tradition with modern scientific theories?

#### 1:15 p.m. - Lunch

Grand Ballroom ABCD

#### Rabbi Shalom Deitsch

Welcome, on behalf of Chabad of Northern VA

#### 2:00 p.m. - Workshops

#### Jewish Homeland Under Attack

Regency A

#### Mr. Bradley Gordon

"Know its past to ensure its future." It is imperative that we understand our people's traditional connection to our homeland in order to better understand the political struggles of today. An historical and biblical perspective on Israel, as a response to those who seek to delegitimize our connection to the Holy Land.

#### **♥ ©** Will Men and Women Ever See Eye to Eye?

Regency B

#### Rabbi Simon Jacobson

"Men are from Mars and women are from Venus," but will they ever be able to come together? Join Rabbi Jacobson in addressing the similarities and differences inherent in malefemale relationships, and how to succeed in making these relationships work.

#### Evolving from Darwin

Lake Fairfax

#### Rabbi Avrohom Jacks

Darwin scandalized the world when he published *On the Origin of Species*. Have we reached the perfection of our understanding of life, or has our perception since evolved? An intelligent argument for intelligent design, exploring some of the dramatic flaws in Darwin's Theory of Evolution, and compelling evidence indicating a creator.

#### Decoding Your Life's Purpose

Lake Thoreau

#### Mrs. Rivkah Kotlarsky

In an historic lecture, the Rebbe revealed a long hidden code buried in the names of the twelve *sedrot* (portions) of the book of Genesis. From "In the Beginning" (Bereishit) through "And he lived" (Va'yechi), the Rebbe traces the twelve stages in the journey of each of our lives.

#### 3:30 p.m. - Workshops

#### **▼** Auschwitz: Divine Knowledge or Free Choice?

Regency A

#### Rabbi Nissan Mangel

If G-d is all-knowing and merciful, how could He let the Holocaust happen? How do we reconcile G-d's omniscience with freedom of choice? Join a survivor as we learn from the tragedies of his past in order to bring us to a brighter future.

#### **♥ ©** Do You Believe in Angels?

Regency B

#### Rabbi Moshe Bryski

Throughout the Bible, Rabbinic teachings, and liturgical prayers, references are made to G-d's angels, appointed to fulfill specific functions and tasks. This workshop will go beyond the abstract concept of the Holy Hosts, beckoning us to recognize the presence of angels in our own lives. A most inspirational and uplifting exercise.

#### Your Money or Your Life: Recalibrating Values in a Global Recession

Lake Thoreau

#### Rabbi Shmuel Kaplan

National bailouts, economic recession and Ponzi schemes: What is the world coming to? The Talmud relates that at the end of our lives we are each asked, "Did you conduct your business affairs with honesty?" This session will provide a look at the Torah's views on white collar crimes and the people who commit them.

#### It's Not Your Grandmother's Gefilte Fish: Kosher Cooking with Chef Jack

Lake Fairfax

#### Chef Jack Silberstein

Award-winning Chef Jack Silberstein is a graduate of the prestigious Culinary Institute of America and has held positions as a private chef, recipe developer, and most recently as a kosher caterer and cooking instructor. Join Chef Jack and learn about the tastes and delights of a traditional Rosh Hashanah themed menu.

#### 4:45 p.m. - Workshops

#### **Timeless Moments in the Rebbe's Presence**

Regency A

#### Rabbi Yehuda Krinsky

Rabbi Krinsky will share memories of his tenure as a member of the Rebbe's secretariat. Witness to the early years of Chabad-Lubavitch in the U.S. as a fledgling organization, he will offer his perspectives on critical turning points in its history, and the dramatic growth of the movement under the leadership of the Rebbe

# **♥ ¥** Soul Strings: The Secret Power of Chassidic Song (For women only)

Lake Thoreau

#### Mrs. Chavi Epstein

A special workshop for women that will generate joy and energy, empowering women to access their own *simchah* through the *nigunim*, traditional chassidic melodies. Through short stories, chassidic insights, and group melody, become inspired and develop a deeper connection to G-d.

#### The Jewish Survival Game

Regency B

#### Dr. Stephen Serbin

This workshop will focus on raising our Jewish consciousness and will provide a forum for participants to probe their Jewish identity and principles with a breadth and depth rarely encountered before. The journey is more important than the destination; the process of contemplating and discussing Jewish values is more important than the decision *per se. The Jewish Survival Game* provides a non-judgmental forum for the analysis and exploration of values which are often taken for granted.

#### **¥** Hike and Meditation

Meet in the lobby

#### Rabbi Shalom Deitsch

Rabbi Deitsch, a 20 year resident of Northern Virginia, will lead a relaxing and scenic hike in Great Falls Park, situated along the beautiful shores of the Potomac River and parts of the 800-acre George Washington Memorial Parkway.

#### Chassidic Art

Lake Fairfax and Grand ballroom Foyer

#### Michoel Muchnik

Michoel Muchnik, through his artwork and following the Lubavitcher Rebbe's ideal for what art should achieve, has taken the brush, paint, canvas, and clay, and implanted within them a spiritual life force. Experience for yourself the delight of Michoel Muchnik's artwork and see artistic skill raised to its highest spiritual level.

#### 5:45 p.m.

#### Mincha

Grand Ballroom FFG

#### **Art Exhibit**

Grand Ballroom Foyer

#### Scotch Tasting

Grand Ballroom Foyer

Our sincerest thanks to Shopper's Vineyard Wine and Spirits for their generous donation of products for this Scotch tasting session, and to Stuart Greenwald for his expert assistance.

#### 6:15 p.m. - Dinner

Grand Ballroom ABCD

#### Rabbi Yehuda Krinsky Greetings

Rabbi Moshe Kotlarsky JLI: The Ultimate Jewish Learning Experience

#### Keynote Address

# George Allen, Former Governor and Former U.S. Senator from Virginia

Former Governor and U.S. Senator George Allen believes that one of the pillars of a free and just society is religious freedom. From his time as Governor through his term in the U.S. Senate, he has exhibited a great understanding and appreciation for religious tolerance and freedom, including when he learned of his Jewish heritage and the story of his mother surviving Nazi rule in Tunisia

#### 8:30 p.m. -

#### ♥ © **Avraham Fried in Concert**

Grand Ballroom EFG and Corridor

#### Master of Ceremonies: Rabbi Moshe Bryski

Join us for an unforgettable mix of traditional and modern Jewish music with Chassidic superstar Avraham Fried. Experience the exuberant joy of group song and dance.

#### 10:15 p.m. - Maariv

#### 10:30pm

#### 10:30 p.m.

#### § Late Night With a Scholar

Lake Fairfax

#### Featured Scholar: Mrs. Rivkah Slonim

Do you have a question for our faculty members? Do you want to further explore a topic raised in a workshop or seminar? This is your opportunity for informal discussion with the scholars on the topic of your choice.

#### Jews and Politics

Lake Thoreau

#### Mr. Bruce Backman

A "Fair and Balanced" Report on contemporary American and Israeli politics with Bruce Backman, a senior research analyst at Fox News and former political aide to former Governor George Pataki.

# FRIDAY, AUGUST 20



#### 7:00 a.m. - Workshop

#### The King and I: The Month of Elul

Lake Fairfax

#### Rabbi Dovid Eliezrie

Elul, the last month of the Jewish year, has always been a time of spiritual accounting and preparation for the new year. Learn the inner meaning behind the month of Elul and see how its message sheds a new light into coming Days of Awe.

#### 7:45 a.m.

#### Shacharit

Grand Ballroom EFG

A traditional *minyan* paced appropriately for those fluent in Hebrew reading and who regularly participate in organized prayer.

#### **№ ● Men's Beginners' Services**

Lake Fairfax

Do you ever feel lost in the synagogue? Does the Hebrew liturgy swim before your eyes? Join us for a special beginners' service, for those looking to gain a deeper appreciation of the basics of prayer, and the how-tos of talking to G-d.

#### **¥ ♥** Women's Beginners Services

Lake Thoreau

#### Mrs. Matty Bryski

Gain a deeper personal appreciation of the Morning Prayer service, through discussion of key daily prayers. Increase your familiarity and fluency with selected prayers, through the power of music, dance, and song.

#### 8:00 a.m. - Breakfast

Grand Ballroom ABCD

#### 9:00 a.m. - Workshops

#### The Faith Factor: Does Anyone Still Believe?

Regency B

#### Rabbi Yitzchak Schochet

Is faith really blind? Does it deny us the right to question and reason? Does faith even have a role to play in a modern society? How to bring G-d back into a G-dless society and communicate faith in the face of adversity.

# ♥ Soul Sojourn: Finding Meaning in Every Step of Life

Regency A

#### Rabbi Moshe Bryski

King David writes in the Book of Psalms, "The footsteps of man are directed by G-d." The journeys of our lives — both those as individuals and those of our nation, the Jewish people, as a whole — are all part of a master plan. What can we learn from where we were, and where is it all leading?

# Soul Mates: Secrets from Kabbalah for Eternal Relationships

Lake Fairfax

#### Mrs. Rivkah Slonim

Even the most experienced and dedicated partner in a relationship has something to learn. Pick up where the self-help books leave off with this workshop offering timeless kabbalistic insight and practical advice for marriage and relationships.

# Desert Flowers: Life as a Rebbetzin on the West Bank

Lake Thoreau

#### Mrs. Batsheva Cohen

Learn about life behind the Green Line and the rebirth of Judaism in Hebron the city of our fathers. A story of courage, conviction and compassion.

# 10:25 a.m. - Workshops

# Playing G-d: Euthanasia, Assisted Suicide, and the End of Life

Regency A

#### Rabbi Berel Bell

Who gives life, and who has the right to end it? Debated by theologians and doctors alike, step into the unique halachic process, and learn about the compassion and the struggles a rabbi experiences in his response to life's most difficult questions.

# Traveling Through Time: A Crash Course in Jewish History

Lake Fairfax

#### Mrs. Miryam Swerdlov

From Jehu and Jehoshaphat, to Rashi and Rambam. Do you ever get confused about who did what, when? Take a journey through 3000 years of Jewish history and discover, through laughter and tears, the amazing story of the Jewish nation.

# § The Courage to Trust: Can I Believe in Myself?

Lake Thoreau

#### Rabbi Aryeh Weinstein

How can we begin to trust in others if we do not trust ourselves? Learn the secrets of living a life of serenity and peace by accepting those things out of our control in our challenging and less than ideal lives.

## Challah Baking

Grand Ballroom

#### Mrs. Chavi Epstein and Mrs. Matty Bryski

In general, challah refers to the two loaves of bread that form the core of the Shabbat meal. But in its more basic and halachic meaning, challah is the piece of dough that is separated and consecrated to G-d every time we bake bread. Replete with spiritual meaning, it is one of the three primary mitzvot of the Jewish woman. For more than a hundred generations, Jewish women have fulfilled this beautiful and life-transforming mitzvah.

# 11:50 a.m. - Workshop

### The Hand of G-d in Your Life

Regency A

#### Rabbi Moshe Bryski

We all search for the burning bush — the moment of revelation in our lives that will usher in a new epoch in our existence — only to be let down when it doesn't happen. If only we opened our eyes to the smaller moments in life, we would see how our lives are permeated with Divine Providence.

# The Challenge of the Jew in the 21st Century

Regency B

#### Rabbi Yitzchak Schochet

Apathy, assimilation, and disenfranchisement: the challenges we face in the years to come. How do we cope with changes in our society? Can we grow while learning to take risks and riding the waves of an ever-shifting world?

# Rabbinic Paradigms: Obstacles or Opportunities?

Lake Thoreau

#### Rahhi Elchonon Lishon

Join Rabbi Lisbon on an historical odyssey with four great sages of the Talmud: Rabban Gamliel, Rabbi Elazar, Rabbi Yehoshua, and Rabbi Akiva. See how their struggles bring a deeper understanding to our modern-day lives.

## **24/6: Living with Shabbat**

Lake Fairfax

#### Rabbi Dovid and Mrs. Stella Eliezrie

More than the Jewish people have kept the Shabbat, the Shabbat has kept the Jewish people. Join veteran Chabad emissaries, Rabbi Dovid and Stella Eliezrie, in this guided trip to celebrating Shabbat in your home.

# 1:00 p.m. – Lunch

Grand Ballroom ABCD

Welcome, from Rabbi Levi Shemtov, American Friends of Lubavitch in Washington, DC: *Capital Sparks* — Inside Tidbits of Chabad's Presence in the Nation's Capital.

# 2:00 p.m. – Workshops

# **७ ♥ ⑤** Total Immersion:

# The Mystery and Magic of the Mikvah

Regency A

#### Mrs. Rivkah Slonim

A frank discussion for couples of all backgrounds about the effects of Family Purity on marriage and intimacy. Uncover the many misconceptions that shroud the laws of *mikvah* and family relations, and gain a deeper understanding of the timeless nature of this sacred mitzvah. *Not* for women only!

# Are You Really What You're Worth?

Regency B

#### Rabbi Yitzchak Shochet

Benjamin Franklin once said, "Money never made a man happy yet, nor will it. The more a man has, the more he wants. Instead of filling a vacuum, it makes one." Delve into the esoteric teachings of the kabbalah and gain understanding about the challenges of money and materialism.

# Behind the Packaging: Kashrut in the 21st Century

Lake Fairfax

#### Rabbi Berel Bell

Why can't we tell if something is kosher by looking at the ingredients? Step inside the modern production line and find out how advanced technology has revolutionized food production and the world of keeping Kosher.

## 3:10 p.m.

## **Free Time to Prepare for Shabbat**

#### **Special Excursion**

Meet in the lobby

#### Rahhi Zalman Ahraham

Explore the outer limits at the "Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum-Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center" Opened in December, 2003, this world class facility houses the largest collection of aviation and space artifacts in the world. Glimpse the Apollo 11 Command Module, "Columbia". View the famous Enola Gay.

# 5:00 p.m. - Pre-Shabbat Reception

Ballroom Foyer

# 5:45 p.m. - Group Photo

Grand Ballroom EFG

#### Shabbat: A Taste of the World to Come

Grand Ballroom FFG

#### Mrs. Rivkah Slonim

The sages of the kabbalah speak of Shabbat as time when "Za and Nukvah" — the masculine and feminine — were united. Gain a deeper understanding of these esoteric terms in a kabbalistic look at gender relations, Shabbat, and the world to come.

# 6:45 p.m. - Candle Lighting

Ballroom Foyer

The Shabbat candles have ushered the holiness of Shabbat into the Jewish home for thousands of years, ever since the matriarch Sarah illuminated her tent with her Friday night lights. The primary functions of the Shabbat candles are to bring peace and tranquility into the home, and to enhance our enjoyment of the Shabbat meal, revealing the unseen and intangible G-dly energy which permeates our existence.

# **¥ ♥** Welcoming the Shabbat Queen

Ballroom Foyer

#### Mrs. Miryam Swerdlov

Gain a deeper understanding of Shabbat and the feminine soul, in this special talk during the mystical twilight hours that bridge the mundane and the Divine.

#### Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat

Grand Ballroom EFG

**Cantor Sholom Jacobs** 

# 7:45 p.m. - Shabbat Dinner

Grand Ballroom ABCD

# **Keynote Address:**

American Jewry: The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly Rabbi Yitzchak Shochet

#### Dessert

Ballroom Foyer

# 9:45 p.m. - Farbrengens

Grand Ballroom ABCD

# **♥ ©** Men's Farbrengen and Kumzitz

Rabbi Dovid Eliezrie, Chazzan Sholom Jacobs, and Rabbi Danny Cohen

# **♥** <sup>®</sup> Women's Farbrengen

Mrs. Rivkah Slonim

The Rebbe's 3 gifts to us: An examination of the Rebbe's influence on the three most important Jewish social changes of the last half century: Zionism, Feminism, and the *Ba'al Teshuvah* movement

# SHABBAT, AUGUST 21



# 7:30 a.m. – Light morning snack

Grand Ballroom ABCD

# 8:30 a.m. - Workshops

# Living With the Times: Chassidic Insights on Parshat Ki Teitzei

Regency B

#### Mrs. Rivkah Slonim

Get a glimpse at the insights and thoughts of the Lubavitcher Rebbe on the weekly Torah portion, as Mrs. Slonim analyzes the parshah in the light of the Rebbe's penetrating chassidic commentary.

# Tanya: The Surprising Power of Repentance

Regency A

#### Rabbi Shalom Raichik

Does G-d really expect me to be perfect? What is my role in this world, and how can I perfect myself when I feel so flawed? Join Rabbi Raichik in applying the teachings of *Tanya*, the fundamental work of Chabad chassidic thought, in our daily struggles.

# 9:15 a.m. - Davening

#### Main Service

Grand Ballroom EFG

Shabbat morning prayers include two services: *Shacharit* ("morning" prayer) and *Musaf* ("additional" prayer). While prayer is a daily mitzvah, Shabbat is a truly opportune time for your soul to commune with her Creator, free as she is of the worries and concerns of the workaday world. Indeed, the Shabbat prayers exclude the usual requests for material sustenance and other physical needs, including instead more psalms and spiritually inspiring prayers — all accompanied with each community's traditional Shabbat tunes.

# Men's Beginners' Services

Regency A

#### Rabbi Elchonon Lisbon

Do you ever feel lost in the synagogue? Does the Hebrew liturgy swim before your eyes? Join us for a special beginners' service for those looking to gain a deeper appreciation of the basics of prayer, and the how-tos of talking to G-d.

# **♥ ¥** Women's Beginners' Service

Regency B

#### Mrs. Matty Bryski

Gain a deeper personal appreciation of the Morning Prayer service, through discussion of key daily prayers. Increase your familiarity and fluency with selected prayers, through the power of music, dance, and song.

#### 10:15 a.m. – Sermon

Grand Ballroom FFG

#### The Power of Memories

Rabbi Moshe Bryski

Does it really matter that our children remember the Holocaust? The Jewish nation is not a people of history, as much as a people of memory. Memory is alive: intrinsic and personal.

# 12:00 p.m. - Lunch

Grand Ballroom ABCD

# ▼ Keynote Address: Facing the Final Test Rabbi Moshe Kotlarsky

# 2:00 p.m. - Workshops

# ♥ Is That All, Folks? A Realistic Look at Life After Life

Regency A

#### Rabbi Yitzchak Shochet

Does life begin and end on earth? What happens when the soul leaves the body and the human form returns to the earth? Explore the mysteries of reincarnation, guardian angels, and the truth about heaven and hell.

# Judge Jewry: You Be The Judge

Regency B

#### Rabbi Berel Bell

Damages, payments, and property rights: How does Jewish law resolve human conflict? Rabbi Bell will lead you through the proceedings of a *Beit Din* as they reach a verdict, and participants can voice their opinions on the outcome.

# ♥ Un-Apocalypse Now: Demystifying the Messiah

Lake Fairfax

#### Mrs. Miryam Swerdlov

Was this world created for some apocalyptic finale? What will happen when the Messiah comes? Join in this timely discussion on the end of days and the day-to-day, the differences between them, and how to reveal the inner redemptive spark in the very heart of the exile.

#### **Shabbat Afternoon Walk**

3:15 p.m. - Free Time

# 4:30 p.m. - Farbrengens

# 

Regency AB

#### Rabbi Yitzchak Shochet and Rabbi Berel Bell

From the Holocaust to personal challenges, explore a sensitive approach to dealing with adversity and making sense of seemingly senseless human suffering.

# ♥ Women's Farbrengen Nourishing Myself, My Spouse, and My Family

Lake Fairfax

Mrs. Miryam Swerdlov

# **♥ © Behind Closed Doors** (For women only)

Lake Thoreau

#### Mrs. Rivkah Slonim

Bring all the questions you've hesitated to ask, to this "Rap With the Rebbetzin" session. No holds barred.

# 6:00 p.m. - Keynote Address

# Snatching Hope from the Clutches of Despair

Grand Ballroom EFG

#### Rabbi Moshe Bryski

From the microcosm to the world at large, we confront a new wave of disconcerting — even depressing — turns of events: recessions, lay-offs, Intifada, political discord. Discover the promise and opportunity within adversity, with these precious pearls of timeless Jewish wisdom.

# 7:00 p.m. – Mincha

Grand Ballroom EFG

# 7:30 p.m. – *Shalosh Seudos*

## **♥ §** Life in the Wild, Wild West Bank!

Grand Ballroom ABCD

#### Rabbi and Mrs. Danny and Batsheva Cohen

Learn about life behind the Green Line and the rebirth of Judaism in Hebron, the city of our fathers, in this humorous and touching talk.

# 8:40 p.m. - Maariv

Grand Ballroom FFG

#### Havdalah

Conservatory

# 10:00 p.m.

#### **©** Live from Weinerville

Grand Ballroom ABCD

#### Marc Weiner

Comedian/ba'al teshuvah Marc Weiner returns to the National Jewish Retreat with an all new show. Laugh as you learn, for in Weiner's world, everything's sacred but nothing's profane.

# 10:45 p.m. – Melaveh Malkah

Grand Ballroom ABCD

Experience the afterglow of Shabbat as we escort the departing Shabbat Queen. The tradition includes the giving over of stories about the Ba'al Shem Tov. the founder of Chassidism.





#### 7:15-11:00am

#### 7:15 a.m.

# The Surprising Power of Repentance

Regency A

#### Rabbi Yossi Shanowitz

Does G-d really expect me to be perfect? What is my role in this world, and how can I perfect myself when I feel so flawed? Join Rabbi Shanowitz in applying the teachings of chassidic thought in our daily struggles, as we release the power of repentance.

#### 8:00 a.m. - Shacharit

Grand Ballroom FFG

#### 8:30 a.m. - Breakfast

Grand Ballroom ABCD

# 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. - Resource Fair

Grand Ballroom Foyer

#### 9:30 a.m.

#### Crossfire

Grand Ballroom FFG

#### Moderator: Mrs. Molly Resnick

You've got questions, they've got answers! You're sure to enjoy this annual forum for quick-thinking analysis and debate. No subject too controversial, no challenge shirked.

# 11:00 a.m. - Workshops

# A View From Behind the Mechitzah: Jewish Women in Jewish Law

Regency A

#### Mrs. Rivkah Slonim

*Mechitzah, minyan*, and the role of women in the synagogue. A frank discussion about legal, historical, and sociological aspects of controversial issues that often present challenges to the modern Jewish woman

# Kabbalah and Red Bracelets: Going Beyond the Fad

Regency B

#### Rabbi Yitzchak Shochet

Is Kabbalah a passing Hollywood fad? Are its teachings really banned from being taught to anyone under 40? Join Rabbi Shochet and see if Madonna and Kabbalah really have all that much in common, and learn how this ancient wisdom can change the way we view the world.

# Is There Free Choice? G-d's Direction in the Details

Lake Fairfax

#### Rabbi Eliezer Sneiderman

The sages teach, in *Pirkei Avot*, that, "Everything is expected, but free choice is given." How does free choice work? Does our free choice limit G-d? If G-d directs the details, how do I still have the ability to choose? Join us as we examine one of the most difficult paradoxes in Jewish thought.

# 12:30 p.m. - Lunch

Grand Ballroom ABCD

# 1:30 p.m. - Farewell

# Friends I met at the retreat

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