

Common Origins, Distinct Paths: Jews and Christians in Conversation

Amy-Jill Levine, Ph.D.
Scholar-in-Residence
in Green Bay, Wisconsin

May 14-16, 2010

A coalition of Northeast Wisconsin synagogues, churches, and other groups is hosting a very special free program. We have invited Amy-Jill Levine, professor at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee, to be our “Scholar-in-Residence” May 14-16, 2010. Why? *To encourage understanding and respect among the Jews and Christians in Northeastern Wisconsin through study of our common origins and through conversation and interaction.*

And we invite you to participate!

Coalition Sponsoring the Scholar-in-Residence weekend:

Catholic Diocese of Green Bay
Congregation Cnesses Israel
Ecumenical Center of the University
of Wisconsin-Green Bay
Elaine Milson Special Birthday Fund
First United Church of Christ
First United Methodist Church
Grace Lutheran Church
Moses Montefiore Synagogue, Appleton
Norman Miller Family Foundation
Religious Studies Department of
St. Norbert College
St. Anne’s Episcopal Church
Union Congregational UCC
West Side Moravian Church
Winnebago Presbytery



About our speaker:

Amy-Jill Levine is E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Professor of New Testament Studies at Vanderbilt University’s Divinity School, Graduate Department of Religion, and Program in Jewish Studies. Holding a B.A. from Smith College, an M.A. and Ph.D. from Duke University, and several honorary doctorates, Professor Levine is an internationally renowned speaker and consultant on issues in Jewish-Christian relations. Along with numerous publications, including the award-winning *The Misunderstood Jew: The Church and the Scandal of the Jewish Jesus*, Professor Levine has also done several taped series for the Teaching Company. She describes herself as a “Yankee Jewish Feminist who teaches New Testament in the buckle of the Bible belt.”

PROGRAM

— Friday, May 14 —

Congregation Cnesses Israel,
222 S. Baird St., Green Bay

7:30 p.m. Service

8:15 p.m. Presentation: Judaism, Jesus,
and Jewish-Christian Relations

Recognizing “Jesus the Jew” not only helps us understand his parables, piety, and politics, it also prevents the anti-Semitism that for too long marked Church teaching and offers a new approach to Jewish/Christian relations. Refreshments to follow.

— Saturday, May 15 —

Congregation Cnesses Israel,
222 S. Baird St., Green Bay

9 a.m. Service

11:30 a.m. Kosher Lunch (advance payment necessary as no money can be accepted in the Synagogue on the Sabbath)

12:15 p.m. Presentation: How Jews and Christians Read Scripture Differently

Although Jews and Christians both speak of Adam, Abraham, Moses, and David, we read our shared stories in different ways. To what extent are we reading the same text and telling the same story, and how can our distinct readings inform our distinct theologies?

Green Bay-DePere YWCA,
230 S. Madison St., Green Bay

3 p.m. Presentation: The Bible and Sexuality
(Students in grades 7–12 and parents welcome)

The Bible is often regarded as a prim taskmaster that

seeks to divorce sexuality from spirituality, suppress sensuality, and connect physical pleasure with guilt. The Bible has another message, however. What is commanded, what is forbidden, what is encouraged, and why? Pizza will be served.

Grace Lutheran Church,
321 S. Madison St., Green Bay

7:30 p.m. Presentation: David and Bathsheba

The household of King David — the sweet singer, the mighty warrior, the royal son granted an eternal covenant — is the setting for adultery and murder. Why does the Bible cast David and his family in such morally ambiguous roles, and how should we respond to such accounts? Informal social hour to follow.

— Sunday, May 16 —

Grace Lutheran Church,
321 S. Madison St., Green Bay

8 a.m. Service: The Good Samaritan, A Jewish Story

First United Methodist Church,
501 Howe St., Green Bay

9:15 a.m. Service: The Good Samaritan,
A Jewish Story

St. John The Evangelist Church,
413 St. John St., Green Bay

1:30 p.m. Closing Presentation: Next Stages
in Jewish-Christian Relations

After 2,000 years marked by mutual misunderstanding, distrust, and often hatred, what are the much-needed advances that have taken place in Jewish-Christian relations, and where do we go from here? Refreshments to follow.

All religious services and educational sessions are open to the public. The only charge will be a nominal fee for Saturday’s lunch. So we can plan for seating and refreshments, please reply by May 1.

Number Planning to Attend

Friday evening (Cnesses Israel Synagogue) _____

Saturday Kosher Lunch (Cnesses Israel Synagogue) _____

Space is limited. Your check for \$5 per person, payable to: **Congregation Cnesses Israel-Special Event**, reserves your seat and must be received by May 1.

Saturday afternoon Youth (YWCA) _____

Saturday evening (Grace Lutheran) _____

Sunday morning (Grace Lutheran) _____

Sunday morning (First United Methodist) _____

Sunday afternoon (St. John the Evangelist) _____

No reservations required

No reservations required

Name(s) _____

Contact Information: _____

Reservations may be e-mailed to: commonorigins@gmail.com.

Mail this form and/or lunch reservation checks to:

Common Origins, 5765 W. Grande Market Dr. Ste B, Appleton WI 54913.

For additional information, call Leah at 920-465-0492.

