

Just War in the 21st Century

How do the teachings of the Hebrew Bible, the New Testament, and the Koran provide ethical frameworks for conflict?

Eighth Annual Interfaith Luncheon

Tuesday, March 25, 2008
The Temple
1589 Peachtree Street
11:00 A.M.--1:30 P.M.

Speakers:

- Rabbi Donald Berlin, interim Rabbi for The Temple
- Rev. Dr. Mark Douglas, Associate Professor of Christian Ethics, Columbia Theological Seminary
- Dr. Jamillah Karim, Professor of Religion, Spelman College
- Dr. Laurie Patton, Winship Chair of Religion, Emory University
- Moderator, Judy Marx, Executive Director, American Jewish Committee

Among NCJW's core beliefs is the need to promote mutual respect and understanding among all people. Your participation in our Annual Interfaith Luncheon helps turn these beliefs into realities.



Interfaith Luncheon Planning Committee:
Standing: (L—R) Valerie Hartman Levy, Barbara Levy,
Debbie Neese, Valerie Needle
Seated: Susan Jacobson, Millie Hyman
Not pictured: Audrey Gale

Plan ASM Update

On February 24th, at the home of Lila Hertz, NCJW members shared an informative afternoon with Judy Singer and Sammie Moshenberg.

Sammie Moshenberg is National Council of Jewish Women's (NCJW) Director of Washington Operations. As head of the organization's Washington, D.C. office, she was recently selected by Women's eNews as one of this year's "21 Leaders for the 21st Century."

Ms. Moshenberg is the staff director for NCJW's advocacy efforts nationwide as well as staffing NCJW's newest effort, Plan A: NCJW's Campaign for Contraceptive Access. Judy Singer, a former State Public Affairs Chairperson, is Chairperson of the Plan A Campaign and is on the NCJW National Board.

Sammie and Judy were in Atlanta for the JCPA and were able to spend Sunday afternoon with our group.

Although you may have seen some of the Plan A materials, unless you delve a bit into the subject, you may miss the scope of this effort. This is not about Roe V. Wade. This is not only about a right to choose. This is a program to protect women and families from the loss of even the most basic of contraceptive services and information.

Personal Decisions, Public Action

Plan A is firmly rooted in the belief that such access is essential for women's well-being and equality. Additionally, restrictions that seek to impose one religious viewpoint on everyone jeopardize the constitutional guarantee of religious liberty.

As strange as it seems, women around the country are being denied access to contraception and given misinformation. Every single day. To find out more about Plan A, please visit the NCJW.org web site and participate in NCJW Atlanta Section's efforts to educate and legislate in Georgia.

Unsold, but not Unwanted

Ever wonder what becomes of the unsold Bargainata clothes? Thanks to some very generous and caring NCJW members, a thrift shop in North Georgia received a tremendous boost to their inventory last winter.

After Winter Bargainata in November, **Karen Friedenberg** took many of the remaining clothing items to the North Georgia Mountain Crisis Center for Battered Women and Children of Fannin County. This thrift shop is run for the sole purpose of supporting the battered women and children's shelters of Fannin County, GA. Karen had been a long time supporter of the thrift shop and when her friend **Luci Sunshine** saw the thrift shop, she was inspired to help.

"The rate of domestic abuse and violence in that part of the state is alarming," said Karen. "And helping these shelters fits perfectly with what NCJW is all about."

When asked about the type of thrift shop they run in McCaysville, staff member Betty said, "If we don't have to feed it, we'll take it"! Betty said they were very appreciative of the donations from NCJW and reminded us that they too are a non-profit organization with all proceeds from their shop going directly to the shelters they support.

In addition to the two thrift stores in Fannin County, the North Georgia Mountain Crisis Center also supports a thrift store in Ellijay.

More Bargainata Gifts

Kudos to Sherry Frank for taking clothes to the **Burgess-Peterson Elementary School** in Atlanta. The Burgess-Peterson school held a rummage sale in April to raise funds for the Burgess-Peterson Elementary Playground Project. This school did not have a playground. That is, it didn't until they held a rummage sale.

Clothing which was not sold in the Spring 2007 Bargainata were donated to Burgess Peterson for their Rummage Sale.

According to Gwendolyn Carter, school Principal, the sale was a great success, "Thanks again for the donation of items for our rummage sale," Ms. Carter said in an email to the NCJW office. The playground was completed in November, and the children now have a place to play. "Again, thank you for your help. Mrs. Frank has been wonderful in helping us to make 'critical connections' to help our school."

Bargainata Goes to Africa and South America

We brought clothes to the SAFE shelter in North Georgia. Some clothes went to Burgess-Peterson Elementary School in Atlanta. We had a Bag Day to sell the remainder of the clothes. We don't want to keep clothes from one sale to another.

Shoes, clothes and housewares which didn't sell in our Fall Bargainata have been sold, at a small price, per pound, to a company which exports them to certain countries in Africa and South America. People who cannot afford clothes are able to purchase them for very little.

Bargainata is certainly the best recycling event — a win-win for everyone.

Volunteer Help Wanted — and Needed

Grant Writer

Office Assistance — Please come and help us with occasional large mailings.

Call the NCJW Office, 404-843-9600, for Details

Reminder

If you haven't paid your dues for the 2007-2008 fiscal year, please mail your check today!

The Electronic Way

Paper. More paper. Businesses are all hawking paperless statements. I know why – Waste and postage and printing costs.

A large part of our budget is spent on postage and printing. We can cut this expense dramatically by sending out and posting information electronically.

Beginning this summer, we will use our web site and email distribution for our bulletins and all notification of upcoming events. By doing this we will save the section over \$6,000 per year.

If you are not currently receiving e-mails from us, send us your e-mail address at ncjw@ncjwatlanta.org. If you do not use e-mail please let us know. We will continue to print and mail whatever is necessary for our members who wish to receive their information by mail.

Thank you for your cooperation – and for helping us to save money and trees!

Elise Kurian

BINGO at the Breman

On Wednesday, January 9, 2008, 12 volunteers played BINGO with residents of the William Breman Jewish Home. NCJW's participation in the Breman's weekly BINGO night is an annual event for our Section. It is with sincere gratitude to Francine Lowe, who gathered a troop of volunteers to head to the Home. This crew kept track of their bingo numbers, handed out the \$1.00 winnings, served refreshments, and generally schmoozed and socialized.

From one volunteer:

"I sat down next to 'Lenora' who told me she never comes to bingo but that her friend, Wilma, insisted she come this time."

"Because she has severe problems with her sight and

hearing, she was unable to participate as much as she would have liked. Even though she could not keep up with the game, I did; and we won the first bingo. I looked at our win as our good luck together, and she was thrilled to receive the \$1.00 bill."

"As we agreed, it is not about the money but the excitement of winning. At the end of the evening, we shared over donuts and cola, and we found that I knew some of her family."

This is the spirit of volunteering and we thank Anne Bernstein and the other volunteers for their time with this wonderful mitzvah.

2008 BINGO at the Breman Volunteers

- Francine Lowe, Chair
 - Susie Berk
- Ann Bernstein
- Mike Cohen
- Nancy Gastel
- Valerie Gordon
- Dianne Kaufman
 - Frank Leff
- Abby Rotenstreich
- Sally Rotenstreich
 - Phil Shapiro
 - Suzi Weener

Program Support

Every NCJW Section receives a yearly invoice from our National Office. In order to operate the New York and Washington Offices and to create and fund the wonderful advocacy programs which has made this organization so effective, Atlanta's part in this support is over \$40,000 per year. We, too, have many program support expenses, including the Atlanta Jewish Coalition for Literacy, and we have the expense of operating our office.

Dues, alone, can't begin to meet our needs, nor were they intended to.

We ask that you support all of our wonderful efforts, both with your time and skills. If you have not yet mailed a check for the 2007-2008 year, please do so. There has also been some confusion about where your donations and dues go. When you mail a check to New York, the Atlanta Section does not receive any of those funds. When you send your check to Atlanta, we utilize the funds in Atlanta and we send our commitment to the National Office. If you would like more information about how you can help the Atlanta Section, set up or donate to an Endowment Fund or to better support all of our worthwhile efforts, please call or e-mail Elise Kurian, 404-843-9600 or e-mail elisek@ncjwatlanta.org

Welcome New Members

Wendy L. Armstrong
Atlanta, GA

Rebecca C. Green
Sandy Springs, GA

Candy Margolin (Leff)
Marietta, GA

Patricia (Pat) Balser (Jack)
Atlanta, GA

Dolores (Dolly) Katz
Atlanta, GA

Judy Marx
Atlanta, GA

Beth T. Benamy (Paul)
Alpharetta, GA

Nina Kurian
Alpharetta, GA

Michelle Merrick-Davis (Gale)
Atlanta, GA

Penny B. Berk
Atlanta, GA

Ruth E. Levy
Marietta, GA

Barbara Pomerance (Leon)
Atlanta, GA

Roberta Callahan (Robert E.)
Norcross, GA

Brenda B. Lewis
Norcross, GA

Susie Sommer
Atlanta, GA

Emma Dix (David)
Atlanta, GA

Phyllis Libowsky
Atlanta, GA

Rhonda C. Wise (Michael)
Atlanta, GA

Marci Fisher
Atlanta, GA

Dianne Green Lovenheim (Lee)
Atlanta, GA

Our thanks to these Life Members
for their generous donations in
response to last year's
Life Member Annual Giving Campaign.

Irene Aronin

Janet Kolodner

Cherie Aviv

Laura Kuniansky

Stephanie Blank

Phyllis R. Levine

Amy Buchsbaum

Maralyn Lieberman

Carol Cleveland

Rita K. Loventhal

Janet Dortch

Pescha Penso

Carole E. Galanty

Sue Rothstein

Doreen Hartman

Susan Wittenstein

Elizabeth A. Johnson

We Honor the Memory of

Hilda Commins
Lottie Silva

The following have been added to our Life Membership Scroll

Diane Fisher

Brenda B. Lewis

Judy Marx

Michelle Merrick-Davis

Julie Feldman Roberts



Hello Advocates

We had the rare opportunity to be trained in December '07 by two outstanding legislators who are in the line of fire every day during the session.

Nan Grogan Orrock is a nine term Georgia state legislator and a second term State Senator representing the Grant Park community. Nan brings to the table 30 years of experience in drafting public policy. Her involvement in progressive causes has brought her recognition from legislators nation wide. She holds the position of President of WILL, a national multi-partisan network of women legislators. Working to impact federal spending priorities. Sen. Orrock earned a B.A. Degree in English from Mary Washington College of the University of Virginia.

Representative Kevin Levitas, a life resident of Dekalb County, was elected to serve the people of House District 82 in 2006. Representative Levitas earned a law degree from the University of Georgia. He served as an Assistant District Attorney for Dekalb County and as a special assistant U.S. Attorney for the Northern district of Georgia. Prior to entering Law School, Representative Levitas served as a legislative assistant to the speaker of the House of Representatives.

They skillfully gave us a real birds-eye view of life as legislators.

The subject of sitting down with our legislators and meeting with folks that have a very different point of view on issues was repeatedly stressed.

Last year many of the anti-choice bills that were introduced were watered-down dramatically as a result of meeting with the other side and working out compromises.

We are so fortunate to have the State Capitol in our front yard. Most of the other SPAs and their advocates have to travel hundreds of miles to attend a lobby day, but we have the legislative body in our front yard. The people who come down to the Capitol are impressed by the openness of the legislators and how eager they are to hear from us.

Regards,
Fran Travis
State Public Affairs chairwoman
NCJW

Can One Citizen Make a Difference?

NCJW thinks so.

Many of us come to the Capitol as volunteers and join forces with other coalition partners. NCJW works with coalition partners who care about Pro Choice issues. We work for free and often hold other full time jobs. We lobby because we believe in an issue, and we believe that our voice counts.

A few years ago, leaders of several women's groups started meeting at the Capitol to discuss issues, learn lobbying techniques and talk to lawmakers. These meetings led to "Women in the Halls," a program sponsored by Planned Parenthood Action Fund of Georgia.

We teach ordinary women about the legislative process and how they can express their views to lawmakers. NCJW plays a major role in the programming. At one meeting last year over 60% of the participants were from Jewish organizations.

I witnessed the tide turning our way because of the many activists who gave of their time and came to the Capitol to lobby their legislators. We then followed these meetings with personal thank you notes and sent letters and faxes to their offices to reinforce our commitment.

We have learned that persistence and patience are critical to make an impact under the Gold Dome. We know that there will be highs and

lows in the political process. We also know that there is no force that will stop us in our quest for reproductive justice.

This year we are encouraging participation from many generations. For those women who have never known life without Roe v. Wade, you cannot be complacent! By being involved in the citizen lobbyists' groups you will soon know how close we are to losing this fundamental right to privacy.

We meet every Wednesday in the Paul Coverdale building Room 306, across the street from the Capitol at : 9:00 A.M. Please use MARTA whenever possible.

TRIBUTE FUNDS

BARBARA ASHER CURRENT PROJECTS FUND

IN HONOR OF

Judge Stephanie Manis' Retirement	Ronnie G. Kaplan
Susie Habif's birthday	Morris Habif
Sandy Abrams	Joanie Shubin
Margie Steiner's recovery	Luci Sunshine
Adrienne Bisko's recovery	Luci Sunshine
Sylvia Berkowitz on the birth of her twin grandchildren	Adrienne Bishko
	Elise Kurian
	Elaine and Alan Kolodkin
	Luci Sunshine

IN APPRECIATION OF

Elise Kurian	Luci Sunshine
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IN MEMORY OF:

Lottie Silva	Gail and Frank Vexler
My father, Bernie Levin	Sugar Eisenberg
Mike Kantor	Luci Sunshine
Jonathan Katz	Luci Sunshine

FANNY JACOBSON EDUCATION FUND

IN HONOR OF:

NCJW Literacy Project	Martha S. Heyman
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IN MEMORY OF:

Paulette Burg	Carol Wien
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Yad B'YadSM

NCJW's Initiative to Nurture Knowledge

Yad B'Yad
(Hand in Hand with Israel)

Sandy Abrams	Margo Dix Gold	Barbara Planer
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Joan Barton	Billie Greenberg	Eather Rawn
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Shirley Friedman	Saralyn Oberdorfer	Hortense Wolf
Ila G. Galanti	Sandra Palay	Judy Zaban

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN, ATLANTA SECTION 2007/2008 PERSONAL GIVING CAMPAIGN

*Contributions in support of the many projects and programs
of the National Council of Jewish Women*

\$1,000 - \$2,499

Lila Hertz
Patricia Reid
Holly Strelzick

\$500 - \$999

Diana Silverman
Judith Taylor

\$250 - \$499

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Martha Heyman
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March

Thursday, Mar 20	Reading of the Megillah
Friday, Mar 21	Purim
Tuesday, Mar 25	<i>Interfaith Luncheon @ The Temple; 11:00 AM — 1:30 PM</i>

April

Saturday, Apr 19	First Seder
Sunday, Apr 20	First Day of Passover
Monday Apr 21	Second Day of Passover (Office Closed)
Sunday Apr 27	Last Day of Passover

May

Thursday, May 1, 11-7	Bargainata
Friday, May 2, 11-4	Bargainata
Sunday, May 4, 11-4	Bargainata — Bag Day

Bulletin

National Council of Jewish Women, Atlanta Section
6303 Roswell Road, Atlanta, GA 30328
Phone: 404.843.9600 Fax: 404.843.9699 ncjw@ncjwatlanta.org