

home COMING

WESTCHESTER REFORM TEMPLE AT 65

A Shabbat to Inspire: Friday, April 13, 6-10 PM and Saturday, April 14, 9 AM-12 PM

Join us for a festive Shabbat service with clergy past and present, as well as a light dinner and discussion with distinguished guests. Rabbi Jonathan E. Blake will moderate a discussion about the opportunities and challenges facing Reform Judaism with leaders of our movement, including:



Rabbi Angela Warnick Buchdahl has served as the senior rabbi of Central Synagogue in New York City since 2014, the first woman to lead the large Reform congregation in its 175-year history. Rabbi Buchdahl first joined Central Synagogue as senior cantor in 2006. Rabbi Buchdahl was invested as a cantor in 1999 and also ordained as a rabbi in 2001 by the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in New York where she was a Wexner Graduate fellow (Class VIII). She earned a B.A. in Religious Studies from Yale University in 1994. Born in Korea to a Jewish American father and a Korean Buddhist mother, Rabbi Buchdahl is the first Asian American to be ordained as cantor or rabbi in North America. Prior to her service at Central Synagogue, Rabbi Buchdahl served as associate rabbi/cantor at Westchester Reform Temple in Scarsdale, N.Y.

Rabbi Buchdahl has been nationally recognized for her innovations in leading worship. She was listed as one of *Newsweek's* "America's 50 Most Influential Rabbis."



Rabbi Daniel Frelander serves as president of the World Union for Progressive Judaism (WUPJ). With headquarters in Jerusalem and offices in both New York and Israel, Rabbi Frelander leads the international umbrella body of over 1.8 million Reform and Progressive Jews, representing almost 1200 congregations around the globe. The World Union strives to establish new Reform Jewish communities wherever Jews choose to live, to strengthen Progressive Jewish life with youth camps, Torah scrolls, and conversion programs, and to ensure the training of the next generation of international Rabbis, congregational leaders, and youth.

Ordained by HUC-JIR in New York, Rabbi Frelander also served in senior positions Union for Reform Judaism (URJ) for almost 40 years providing creative vision to dozens of programs, including URJ Biennial conferences, music and worship initiatives, camping and Israel programs.



Rabbi Rick Jacobs is the president of the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ), the largest Jewish movement in North America, with almost 900 congregations and nearly 1.5 million members. An innovative thought leader, dynamic visionary, and representative of progressive Judaism, he spent 20 years as the spiritual leader of Westchester Reform Temple in Scarsdale, NY. During his tenure, he reshaped communal worship, transformed the congregation into a community of lifelong learners, and strengthened the synagogue's commitment to vibrancy and inclusion. Under Rabbi Jacobs' leadership, WRT completed a new "green" sanctuary, one of only a handful of Jewish houses of worship in the nation to carry this designation. Prior to his tenure at WRT, Rabbi Jacobs served the Brooklyn Heights Synagogue, where he founded

and co-directed the first synagogue-based homeless shelter in New York City.

Rabbi Jacobs is a product of the Reform Movement, and has held numerous leadership posts within the URJ, the CCAR, ARZA, and WUPJ. Deeply dedicated to global social justice issues, he has led disaster response efforts in Haiti and Darfur.



Rabbi Aaron Panken, Ph.D., is President of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, North America's first Jewish seminary. He has taught Rabbinic and Second Temple Literature at HUC-JIR in New York since 1995. His previous roles at the College-Institute include Vice President for Strategic Initiatives and Dean of the New York campus. An alumnus of the Wexner Graduate Fellowship, he earned his doctorate in Hebrew and Judaic Studies at New York University. He has spoken at synagogues throughout the United States and Israel, at seminaries and universities including the University of Sydney and the University of Nanjing, and has offered the Jewish Baccalaureate sermon at the U.S. Air Force Academy and taught aboard the USS Harry S. Truman, a nuclear aircraft carrier. He has taught for the Wexner Foundation, the Hartman Institute, and has served as a member of the Editorial Board of RJ Magazine, the Birthright Education Committee, the Ethics Committee of the Central Conference of American Rabbis. He served at Congregation Rodeph Sholom in New York City and at Westchester Reform Temple in Scarsdale, NY.



Rabbi David Stern, Senior Rabbi of Temple Emanu-El, Dallas, Texas, and President of the Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR), was inducted onto the Board of Governors of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR) in November, 2017.

Rabbi Stern joined Temple Emanu-El in June of 1989, serving as assistant and then associate rabbi until his appointment as senior rabbi in August, 1996. Rabbi Stern received his rabbinical ordination in 1989, his M.A. in Jewish Education in 1988, and his M.A. in Hebrew Letters in 1986. He also received a B.A. with high honors in English from Dartmouth College, graduating Magna Cum Laude and Phi Beta Kappa in 1983.

As CCAR President, Rabbi Stern heads the international rabbinic organization of the Reform Movement. He serves on the HUC-JIR President's Rabbinic Council as well as the Board of Trustees and the Oversight Committee of the Union for Reform Judaism. Rabbi Stern is also a social justice advocate on local, national, and international issues.



Rabbi Josh Weinberg is the President of ARZA, the Association of Reform Zionists of America. He was ordained from the HUC-JIR Israeli Rabbinic Program in Jerusalem and currently lives in New York. Rabbi Weinberg previously served as the Director of the Israel program for the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College and as a faculty member of NFTY-EIE High School in Israel teaching Jewish History. A reserve officer in the IDF spokesperson's unit, he made Aliyah to Israel in 2003.

Originally from Chicago, Rabbi Weinberg has a B.A. from the University of Wisconsin in Hebrew Literature, Political Science, and International Relations, and studied for an M.A. at the Hebrew University in Jewish Education.

Rabbi Weinberg has taught and lectured widely throughout Israel, the U.S., and Europe. Having hiked the Israel National Trail, he has led numerous tours and trained tour educators for the Reform movement's Israel experiences. Passionate about anything connected to Israel, Rabbi Weinberg hopes to strengthen the connection between the Reform movement and the Jewish State.