

THE AMERICAN JEWISH EXPERIENCE

WHERE HAVE WE COME FROM? WHERE ARE WE GOING?

NOVEMBER 14-16, 2014

FREE AND
OPEN TO THE
COMMUNITY

DR. JONATHAN SARNA

WEINGOLD GUEST SCHOLAR

Dr. Jonathan Sarna is the Joseph H. & Belle R. Braun Professor of American Jewish History and Chair of the Hornstein Jewish Professional Leadership Program at Brandeis University, as well as Chief Historian of the new National Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia.



FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14:

The Emergence of American Judaism

Recount the dynamic story of people struggling to be Americans and Jews from 1654 to the present. Learn how each generation has had to wrestle anew with the question of whether its own children and grandchildren will remain Jewish and how the past can both inform and inspire.

- 6:00 pm Service
- 7:00 pm Dinner (*reservations required*)
\$18 / adult
\$10 / child (*under 12 years*)
\$50 / family max.
- 8:00 pm Presentation and Q&A

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15:

How Could American Jews Be Slaveholders?

Does the Bible condone slavery or condemn it? Americans debated that issue on the eve of the Civil War, and Jews played an important part in that debate. In a broad way, the question remains timely: how should the Jewish historical experience shape Jewish policy positions?

- 9:00 am Service & Presentation
- 12:00 pm Congregational Lunch (*free of charge*)
- 1:15 pm Presentation and Q&A

That Obnoxious Order:

Ulysses S. Grant and the Jews

As the Civil War entered its second winter, General Ulysses S. Grant issued a sweeping order expelling "Jews as a class" from his war zone. It remains the most notorious anti-Jewish official order in American history. But, surprisingly, Grant did more for Jews than any other president to his time. How this happened, and why, sheds new light on one of our most enigmatic presidents, on the Jews of his day, and on America itself.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16:

What Lies Ahead? American Judaism in the 21st Century

What are the central issues facing the American Jewish community in the decades ahead? In this provocative presentation, examine key trends affecting Jewish life, particularly lesser-known economic, demographic and religious changes that will affect American Jewry this century and beyond.

- 9:00 am Breakfast (*free of charge*)
 - 9:30 am Presentation and Q&A
- Books available for purchase and signing.*



27501 Fairmount Boulevard, Pepper Pike, Ohio 44124

(216) 831-6555 • info@bnaijeshurun.org

Presented through the generosity of the Weingold Family.

American Jewish history weds together two great historical traditions: one Jewish, dating back to the Patriarchs, the Prophets, and the rabbis of the Talmud, the other American, dating back to the Indians, Columbus, and the heroes of the Revolution. Bearing the imprint of both, it nevertheless forms a distinctive historical tradition of its own, now more than three centuries old. Instead, the articles selectively profile the American Jewish experience, emphasizing essential features and trends, with detailed bibliographies appended for those who wish to fill out the larger picture. The basic outline of this volume follows the traditional periodization of American Jewish history, and is organized into five parts: early American Jewry, the "German Period," the era of East European . . .