



CGLR Spring Conference 2024
Beyond the Eclipse Sisters Strong...
April 7-9, Cincinnati, Ohio



Meet our Workshop Presenters



Betsy Goldfarb - Shabbat Candle Decor

Sunday, April 7, 2:30-3:30pm and 3:45-4:45pm Betsy

Goldfarb returned to her Cincinnati hometown in 2007 after 34 years away. She has been an active member of Adath Israel Sisterhood for many years. Currently, she is Corresponding Secretary. After selling her business helping elders downsize and cleaning out estates in 2019, she started embracing her creative spirit. She specializes in up- cycling everyday household objects through painting, stamping, decoupage, transfers, molds and much more. She is really looking forward to the conference Judaic workshop!



Ilana Ben Ze'ev - Prayers-Let's Make It Personal

Sunday, April 7 from 2:30-3:30pm

Ilana is the immediate past Sisterhood President of Congregation Shaarey Zedek in Southfield, Michigan, where she has also served as Sisterhood Shabbat chair. Currently, Ilana is a Co-Chair for Tefillah on the International WLCJ Board.

In her prior lives she was a corporate attorney, a Dean of Students at Wayne Law and going back a few more years, a yeshiva girl, a Rahmahnik and Young Judean. Her mysterious Israeli accent is the product of moving to Jerusalem as a third grader and other years spent in Israel. Originally from Providence, Rhode Island, Ilana and her husband live in their empty nest in Huntington Woods, Michigan



Debbie Lempert - T'filot Through Shirim

Sunday, April 7 from 3:45-4:45pm

Debbie Lempert is a proud member of Adath Israel Sisterhood in Cincinnati, Ohio and Central Great Lakes Region of Women's League for Conservative Judaism. She is a former Sisterhood and synagogue President and has held a variety of positions in her Sisterhood and synagogue. Debbie has also been a Vice President of Education for Central Great Lakes Region. On the International Board, she served as co-chair of *T'filah*, help run *Makom B'Yachad*, and currently is a consultant, co-chair of The Learning Institute and Convention Programming Vice Chair. Debbie loves teaching children. She taught in public school for eight years and is in her 19th year of teaching Kindergarten religious school.

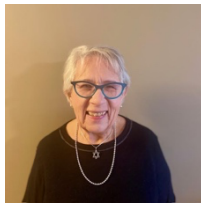
Over the past few years she began teaching adults through WLCJ in their Hebrew classes. In her spare time, Debbie sits on the board of the Jewish Community Relations Council, volunteers at The Heldman Kosher Food Pantry and has sat on the planning and allocations committee for the Jewish Federation. Debbie is married to her husband Hamilton and has a daughter, son, daughter-in-law and grand dog.



***Leah Marcus - Mental Wellness: Ways to Keep Sane in an
Insane World
Sunday, April 7, from 3:45-4:45pm***

Leah Marcus is an independently licensed social worker (LISW) and is the Director of Youth Mental Health Services at Jewish Family Service in Cincinnati. She received a bachelor's degree in psychology and criminology from Miami University of Ohio, and a master's degree in social work from the University of Cincinnati. Originally from Cleveland, Leah has lived in Cincinnati for twenty-two years where her professional focus has been to advocate for a broader and more universal access to mental health care services, and the consistent, effective coordination of those services.

Leah believes in creating environments that emphasizes the authenticity and strengths of young people, while supporting positive and collaborative communication and boundary setting in families and classrooms. In her free time, Leah volunteers as a Sound Assistant for a local community theater, participates in Jewish Social Justice efforts, and enjoys time with her husband, two children, a Mini Goldendoodle, Charley.



***Miriam Parker - Book Club: The Genius of Israel
Sunday, April 7, from 3:45-4:45pm***

Miriam grew up in Brooklyn, in a Jewish neighborhood with multiple shuls, Jewish bakeries, delis and butcher shops. From childhood she has always been drawn to words- spelling bees, word games, and reading. Two of her favorite texts, even in junior high were the Torah and Shakespeare's plays. She was a finalist in the 1st National Bible Contest and as an undergraduate, she won a scholarship to study at the Shakespeare Institute in Stratford-Upon-Avon, England. She graduated from Brooklyn College with a BA in English & Education and earned her master's in literature at the University of Wisconsin where she met her Buckeye husband.

They settled in Cincinnati, but she missed the omnipresence of Jewish life. For 30+ years Miriam taught high school English, with a focus on critical thinking. When she retired, she wanted to strengthen her connection to Jewish learning and the Cincinnati Jewish community. She joined Adath Israel Sisterhood for the camaraderie programs, and the opportunities to be involved. Miriam facilitated Book Club for several years and was Corresponding Secretary for two terms and now she is participating in her first Region Conference. Miriam is looking forward to the questions, reactions, and takeaways readers of The Genius of Israel will share. There is so much to learn from one another.



Naomi Leitner - Israel Update

Monday, April 8 from 3:30-4:30pm

Naomi Leitner received her B.A. in Economics from Brandies University. She then attended Tel Aviv University where she received her LL.B. Naomi has practiced law privately since 1994. Prior to that she was a Prosecutor in the Tel Aviv District Attorney's Office in the White-Collar Criminal Division. She has been a certified mediator since 1989 with over 30+ years of active experience in mediation. Naomi has been a Lecturer in Business Administration and Business Law and occasionally lectured to Criminal Justice Students on Israel, Hamas and the Hamas Charter during the Second Intifada.

Naomi has been an active member of *Hod v 'Hadar* Congregation, *Kfar Saba*, Israel, (CGLR's Kehilla,) since 1993, was a Hasbara activist during the Second Intifada and represented deaf children in the Education Committee of the *K'neset* (Israeli Parliament) from 1999-2003.

We are thrilled to have Naomi join us from Israel!



Rabbi Rand Burke - Out of this World: The Sun, Moon, and Stars through Jewish Texts

Monday, April 8, from 1:45-2:45pm

Rabbi Rand Burke is an Arizona native with a passion for Judaism and education. After receiving his B.A. from Barrett, the Honors College at Arizona State University, he attended Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Cincinnati where he earned rabbinical ordination in 2022. Rabbi Burke has a passion for studying Torah, Talmud, Jewish history, and Jewish Mysticism. While in rabbinical school, Rabbi Burke served congregations in Louisiana and Indiana, interned as a chaplain in both a hospital and retirement community, and worked as a Jewish Foundation Fellow at Shelanu (formerly Kulanu), Cedar Village, and SAFE Cincinnati. Rabbi Burke is a Chaplain Candidate Program Officer in the U.S. Navy Reserve and holds the rank of lieutenant. In addition to his love of Jewish learning, Rabbi Burke enjoys cooking, college football (the Arizona State Sun Devils is his favorite team), eating ice cream, being outdoors, and exploring local craft breweries with his family.



Robin Beth Lash - T'filot Through Shirim

Sunday, April 7, 2024 from 3:45-4:45

Robin Beth Lash hails from Detroit and is passionate about music, musical theatre and performing. She received her Bachelor of Music Degree in Vocal Music Education from the University of Michigan and a master's degree in Elementary Education from Wayne State University. She taught vocal music and theatre arts for 34+ years with 24 of them at Hillel Day School of Metro Detroit. She loved seeing her students thrive and gain independence through the arts. She is also a professional singer and was a soloist and choir member in several groups in the Metro Detroit area.

Robin was Sisterhood President and is currently a Board of Trustee member at Congregation Shaarey Zedek, Vice President of Programming for CGLR and on the International Board of Women's League. She can be heard cheering loudly for the Detroit Lions and the Michigan Wolverine football team. Robin loves cooking, needlepointing and exploring the world with her husband while living the dream with their son, Yale, their Cavachon, Phoebe and cat, Squirt.



Susan Farber - Solar Eclipse Viewing

Monday, April 8, from 2:40-3:15pm

Susan has been an educator for a few decades and remains a life-long learner fascinated by a range of topics. She has been serving in a range of leadership roles for CGLR and the WLCJ International Board.

“Hearing that our CGLR Conference chose to offer us an experience associated with the April 2024 solar eclipse, I contacted some local scientists I know for information and guidance. As we spend part of midday Monday, April 8, on the open fields of Adath Israel, I welcome your questions and will share relevant details to help us appreciate this unique natural event. Remember to wear the special glasses Wanda acquired for us, as the 1% of sunlight peeking out from the moon’s circumference can damage our vision! “