

## **June 11, 2018 Adult Education Report to The Emanuel Synagogue Annual Meeting**

This has been an amazing year of lifelong learning at The Emanuel.

We started the year with a Shabbaton with Professor Benjamin Sommer from JTS as our 'Scholar in Residence', and to deliver a lecture for Selichot.

Judith Fox taught a class on Prayer book Hebrew, September through December

In October we heard Professor Stuart Miller from UCONN speak about the origins of Christianity and the history of Judaism.

Moving to the Suburbs: The Challenges of Fair Housing in Jewish Hartford in November with JHSA.

November, we had a multi media talk and presentation by Emanuel Artist Susan Fishman Hoffman called "Imagining Water".

In December we had an Immigration Refugee panel including: Dr. Michael Kahn speaking of his personal experience as his family fled Germany, as well as Professor Avi Patt, Professor Abigail Williams and a Syrian refugee. The panel explored the similarities and differences between the crisis of the Jews in World War II and the present Syrian Refugee crisis.

December 10 we had a joint program with Brotherhood; Jeff Kaimowitz gave a talk on the story of Hanukah.

For the anniversary of Martin Luther King Jr. we co-sponsored a JCC event with Professor Max Klau on Social Justice.

In January, Rabbinic Intern Leora Perkins led a learner's service on Shabbat morning and a study group on Sunday morning.

This year included a number of live stream programs with discussions, including:

- Anatomy of a Genocide with an introduction by Dr. Leon Chameides ;
- February live stream with Rabbi Naomi Levi, on Einstein and the Rabbi: Searching for the Soul
- March live stream program from JTS with former U.S. Solicitor General and Emanuel family member, Seth Waxman discussing three upcoming Supreme Court cases and Jewish values.

March also included a joint program with the Jewish Historical Society on genealogy

In April we joined Jewish Historical Society for a bus tour of Brooklyn, and Rabbinic Intern Leora Perkins organized a Dvar Torah Slam for Shavuot

May 1 we cosponsored Irene Berman telling her story of Norway and the Holocaust with the Emanuel Sisterhood.

May 9 we co-sponsored a lecture by journalist Susan Fisher Sullam with the Jewish Historical Society talking about how she discovered her father's involvement in the search for Nazi plunder.

May 30 we heard Professor Lewis Glinert from Dartmouth College talk about "The Story of Israel".

June 18 we have a field trip to Middleton to tour the Judaic Collection at Adath Israel Synagogue

Additionally, this year a volunteer led monthly Adult Hebrew Club started.

We have supported Rabbi Lazowskis lunch and learn study groups and his Pirket Avot study groups between Passover and Shavuot.

The Natalie Ziplow study session with Rabbi Small continued to draw participants from the entire Jewish Community.

It has been my privilege to serve as the chair of the Adult Education Committee for the past 2 ½ years. We have worked to bring interesting speakers and content to our synagogue community and the community at large every month. As I step aside from the chair position for someone else to have this opportunity, I invite everyone to consider becoming an active part of the committee in any way you can. I will continue to participate on the adult education committee and hope many of you will join us.

Submitted by Gail Adler