

Opening Our Tent ...Wider

A Shabbaton Dedicated to Welcoming and Understanding

Friday, January 28

- Rabbinic Education at Auerbach CAJE/ Jewish Outreach Partnership
- Early Childhood Education Staff Development with Rabbi Greenberg 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. TBI staff only.
- Congregational Shabbat Dinner 6:30 p.m.
\$12 children age 2 - 12; \$18 adults 13 and older. RSVP required no later than Friday, January 21
- Kabbalat Shabbat Service 8:00 p.m. Open to the public. (Babysitting available by advance registration only.)
- Teen Discussion with Rabbi Greenberg and Staff Facilitators 8:00 p.m. (TBI member teens only)
- Rabbi Greenberg will speak about his personal story at the end of services (approximately 8:45 p.m.)
- Oneg Shabbat to follow.

Saturday, January 29

- Religious School Shabbat b'Yachad 9:00 a.m.
- Shabbat in the Round Morning Service 9:30 a.m.; Sixth Grade Students lead services; Rabbi Greenberg will speak and lead discussion about Hachnasat Orchim - Welcoming the Stranger. Open to the public. (Babysitting available by advance registration only.)
- Congregational Kiddush Lunch & Learn sponsored by Women's League and Men's Club. Following the meal Rabbi Greenberg will teach on the text of Leviticus 18:22, Leviticus 20:13 and Deuteronomy 23:18. Open to adults, and to youth of b'nai mitzvah age and older at parents' discretion; concurrent programming for children will be available.
- Havdalah followed by the film "V'Ahavta" 7:00 p.m. Suitable for adults, and youth 12 and older who are accompanied by an adult. Open to the public. (Babysitting available by advance registration only)

Sunday, January 30

- Religious School Staff Development with Rabbi Greenberg 8:30 - 10:30 a.m. TBI staff only.

Rabbi Steven Greenberg

Rabbi Greenberg writes and speaks about integrating lesbian, gay, transgendered and bisexual Jews into the broader Jewish community. Author of the groundbreaking book *Wrestling with God and Men: Homosexuality in the Jewish Tradition*, Rabbi Greenberg will teach throughout a weekend program entitled 'Opening Our Tent - Wider', January 28-30, 2011, at Tiferet Bet Israel, a Conservative synagogue in Blue Bell, PA.

Wrestling with God and Men, winner of the coveted Koret Book Award for Philosophy and Thought, is the product of Rabbi Greenberg's 11-year struggle to reconcile his two warring identities. In it he challenges long-held assumptions of scriptural interpretation and religious identity and marks a path that is both responsible to human realities and deeply committed to God and Torah. He contends that Jewish communities must open up debate, dialogue and discussion, "precisely the foundation upon which Jewish law rests to truly deal with the issue of homosexual love."

A senior teaching fellow at the New York-based National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership, Rabbi Greenberg was featured in the nationally acclaimed 2001 film *Trembling Before God*, which examines the many obstacles facing Orthodox gay Jews, and has appeared in more than 500 post-screening community dialogues throughout the world. As educational coordinator for the film's outreach project, he arranged for screenings in Israel's religious school system, reaching some 2,000 principals, educators and school counselors.

Rabbi Greenberg is a popular speaker on issues of faith, sexuality and tradition and has participated in gay advocacy forums held at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government and Grace Cathedral in San Francisco. He also helped organize the first Orthodox mental health conference on homosexuality and has worked with families seeking reconciliation with a gay member.

A Yeshiva University graduate ordained at the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary in Washington Heights, N.Y., Rabbi Greenberg is resigned to the possibility he may never lead an Orthodox congregation. "At this point, no congregation could hire an openly gay rabbi and retain their Orthodox affiliation," he says. "It might be possible -- at least in theory -- for a gay rabbi to head a non-affiliated Orthodox synagogue, but it is unlikely in the near future." He suggests there's a growing tendency within the American Jewish community to be more tolerant toward gays and lesbians, "though the move from tolerance to real welcome and from welcome to celebration is something that has yet to occur."



**PLEASE RETURN THIS RSVP
WITH PAYMENT BY FRIDAY, JANUARY 21**
Tiferet Bet Israel • 1920 Skippack Pike • Blue Bell, PA 19422

Adult Head(s) of Household (required)

Phone (required)

Email

Friday, January 28

Shabbat Dinner RSVP and payment by Friday, January 21

# Adults	_____	@ \$18 =	_____
# Children	_____	@ \$12 =	_____
# Under 2	_____	No Charge	_____

Babysitting 8:00 - 9:00 p.m. During Services **by advance reservation only**

# Children	_____	
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Teen Discussion with Rabbi Greenberg (TBI member teens only)

# Teens	_____	(Grades 8 to 12)
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Oneg Shabbat

# Adults	_____	No charge, but kindly let us know that you plan to attend
# Children	_____	

Saturday Morning, January 29

Babysitting 9:00 a.m. - Noon During Services **by advance reservation only**

# Children	_____	
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Congregational Kiddush Lunch & Learn

# Adults/Youth (12+ with parent), congregational lunch & learn	_____	No charge, but kindly let us know that you plan to attend
# Children, congregational lunch & special children's programming	_____	

Saturday Evening, January 29

Film and Discussion: "V'Ahavta" (recommended for ages 12 and older)

# Attending	_____	No charge, please RSVP
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Babysitting during film **by advance reservation only**

# Children	_____	
Total Enclosed	\$	<input style="width: 50px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>

Opening Our Tent ...Wider

A Shabbaton Dedicated
to Welcoming and Understanding



Featuring
Rabbi Steven Greenberg
Friday, Saturday and Sunday
January 28 - 30, 2011

Please join us to explore issues of including gay, lesbian, transsexual and transgendered people in the Jewish community

We gratefully acknowledge our partners in this Shabbaton:

Carl & Terri Weiner
Carol Kaplan

In loving memory of our brother Joel Weiner

Jane & Mark Greenberg
Susan & Norbert Zeelander

YES! Coalition • ADL • ACAJE/JOP • Kehillah of Bux-Mont

Joshua Kalev, Rabbi • Elizabeth Shammash, Cantor
Susan Z. Kasper, Executive Director

TBI has joined the Yes! Coalition, a regional group of churches and synagogues making a deliberate effort to reach out to the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered community. We recently re-activated the Inclusion Committee, charged with making TBI a truly welcoming place for all those who fall outside the typical demographic of a Conservative Jew. Welcoming members of the GLBT community poses a particular challenge to our tradition, as some of us are uncomfortable with issues of sexuality, with the possibility of Biblical prohibition, and with "otherness".

We are pleased to host Rabbi Steven Greenberg, an openly gay Orthodox Rabbi, for a weekend of learning. Rabbi Greenberg is the author of *Wrestling with God and Men: Homosexuality in the Jewish Tradition* and the 2006 winner of the Koret Jewish Book award for Philosophy/Thought. He will share his personal story and lead discussion on the texts, rabbinic teachings and contemporary values shaping our feelings around homosexual relationships, and the influence of those feelings on our ability to open our congregational tent wholeheartedly.

Please join us for a thought-provoking weekend.

Jane Greenberg & Carl Weiner

Inclusion Committee Co-Chairs

Meryl S. Raskin

President

Your Support Is Needed

We hope you will help 'open our tent' by attending some or all of the events of the weekend. We also invite your financial support at any level. Thank you so much.

Benefactor \$500

Patron \$360

Sponsor \$118

Donor \$72

Supporter \$36

Friend \$18

Make checks payable to Tiferet Bet Israel and note "Opening the Tent" on the memo line. Your name(s) will be listed in the weekend program unless you request anonymity.

Tiferet Bet Israel
1920 Skippack Pike
Blue Bell, PA 19422
www.tbibluebell.org



Kehillah of
Bux-Mont

In partnership with
Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia



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Friday, Saturday and Sunday, January 28, 29 and 30, 2011