

HEA Sisterhood Press Release



HEA Sisterhood’s 85th Anniversary Scholar-in-Residence weekend. The HEA Sisterhood is sponsoring a Scholar-in-Residence weekend to celebrate our 85th anniversary. Join us for a weekend to remember on February 24th – 26th, with Rabbi Shawn Fields-Meyer.

Rabbi Fields-Meyer is Rabbi at Milken Community High School in Los Angeles and instructor in Bible at Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies. She is founder and Scholar-in-Residence of Ruach Nashim, an annual Jewish women’s spirituality retreat. She is also co-author of the book, *A Day Apart: Shabbat at Home*.

The weekend will start at 7:30 pm on Shabbat evening, February 24th with Rabbi Fields-Meyer discussing “Jewish Paths to the Soul: Bringing Jewish Prayer to Life.” Tefillah – Jewish prayer – is a central focus of Jewish life, yet many of us find it difficult, alienating or even meaningless. Yet the Siddur (prayer book) is rich in inspiration, depth and relevance. We will interactively explore some of the more rigorous, meaningful and palpable issues of prayer and will discuss tangible skills for making prayer more personally meaningful. An Oneg Shabbat sponsored by the HEA Sisterhood will follow.

During the Shabbat morning service Saturday, February 25th, Rabbi Fields-Meyer will give the sermon on “The Giver’s Dilemma: Ethical Challenges in Generosity.” To be a Jew means to care for others, the poor, the oppressed, and the vulnerable. But in this world of brokenness, financial hardship and shifting economic realities, how far does our obligation go? Rabbi Fields-Meyer will offer 3 complex models for our consideration.

A class will be held during Musaf when Rabbi Fields-Meyer will discuss “Lady Elijah, the Mystery Woman of the Torah.” She will delve into one of the great mysteries of Jewish tradition. In this dynamic, participatory session, she will explore the tale of one of the Torah’s most mysterious and intriguing personalities. As Rabbi Fields-Meyer discusses “Lady Elijah’s” haunting and beautiful story, she also will explore the power of memory, story-telling and tradition.

Following Shabbat services, the Sisterhood is sponsoring the Kiddush to celebrate its 85th anniversary. Later that evening the HEA is hosting a Gala Dinner Dance honoring the Sisterhood’s 85 years of service to the synagogue and the Denver Jewish community.

Complete the weekend on February 26th with a Sunday brunch of Bagels and Lox at 9:00 am. Rabbi Fields-Meyer will speak on “Texting, Technology & Torah: Spirituality and the Digital Age.” In daily life, everything has changed: the way we communicate, the way we educate, the way we shop and date and entertain ourselves. In a deeper sense, our fundamental notions of self and community have changed: how we understand and use time, what makes up a home, even the very notion of friendship. Does the Digital Age fill us or empty us? Does it strengthen or deplete communities? What is the spirituality of living in the technological world? This class will interest all ages.

All Scholar-in-Residence activities take place at the HEA and are free and open to the community.