

# Please join us for Congregation Anshei Israel's



## Scholar-in-Residence November 10 - 11, 2017

### DR. HARTLEY LACHTER

Dr. Hartley Lachter is an Associate Professor of Religion Studies at Lehigh University in Bethlehem, PA, holds the Philip and Muriel Berman Chair in Jewish Studies, and serves as the director of the Berman Center for Jewish Studies. His scholarship focuses on medieval Kabbalah, with a particular emphasis on the relationship between Jewish historical experiences and the development of kabbalistic discourses. His work explores how medieval

Jewish-Christian debates, as well as disruptive moments of violence and forced conversion, shape Jewish mystical literature and serve as a form of cultural resistance for some pre-modern Jews.

Dr. Lachter's visit will include a Shabbat dinner and presentation, and on Saturday, delivering the Shabbat morning D'var Torah and an afternoon presentation.

### DR. LACHTER'S VISIT INCLUDES:

#### FRIDAY, NOV. 10

- 5:45pm Mincha & Kabbalat Shabbat Service  
6:45pm Shabbat Dinner \*
- 7:45pm Dr. Lachter presents, *"Spreading Kabbalah: The Surprisingly Public Story of the Secret Jewish Tradition"*  
One of the most well-known features of the Kabbalah is, ironically, that it is a secret. This is hardly an accident – secret knowledge is always powerful. But Kabbalah has also played an important role in Jewish history and culture. We'll explore how Kabbalah developed in Jewish communities in Spain in the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> centuries in response to Christian anti-Jewish missionaries.

#### SATURDAY, NOV. 11

- 9:00am Shabbat Service; Dr. Lachter presents the D'var Torah, *"Destiny at the Well: Finding Rebekah and Fulfilling the Covenant"*  
The story of Abraham's servant searching for a wife for Isaac occupies a central place in this week's parsha. What does this dramatic narrative have to say about the nature of the covenantal relationship?
- 3:30pm Dr. Lachter presents, *"Joyous Words from Sinai: Readings from the Zohar on the Weekly Parsha"*  
We'll read a passage from the Zohar (in English) based on the parsha of the week. While the language of the Zohar can be mystifying at first, we will see that its message is surprisingly comprehensible and eminently human.
- 4:30pm Mincha, followed at 5:00pm by Seudah Shlesheet (Third Meal), Ma'ariv and Havdallah

\*RSVP & fee needed for  
Shabbat dinner only.

Share a traditional chicken dinner with  
couscous, green salad, seasonal  
vegetable, fruit and dessert.  
**With RSVP made by Nov. 3**  
CAI members: adults \$18, children \$12  
Guests: adults \$22, children \$15  
**(\$5 more per person after Nov. 3)**

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call 745-5550.



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