



## HUC-JIR in the Berkshires Event Details

**We look forward to a meaningful weekend together! Details related to each event are provided below. Please arrive early to ensure there is enough time to check-in and get settled so the presentations can begin on time.**

If your plans have changed, please email [events@huc.edu](mailto:events@huc.edu) to modify your registration. If you have any questions on the day of the event, please call 212-824-2207.

Visit [huc.edu/berkshires](http://huc.edu/berkshires) for general information about the sessions offered, event partners, speakers, and more.

### **Thursday, July 27**

#### **“I Created the World”: Humans and the Environment in the Bible and Contemporary Art**

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Presenters: Adriane Leveen, Ph.D. and Robert Wisenberger, Ph.D.

Pick up your entrance ticket from the HUC-JIR team at the Visitor Service Desk in the Manton Research Center. If you would like to arrive earlier in the day to enjoy the grounds and exhibits, please check in with a Clark representative at the Visitors Service Desk and let them know you are part of the HUC-JIR in the Berkshires event.

The discussion will take place in the auditorium, followed by a short shuttle ride to the exhibition in the Lunder Center at Stone Hill building. Please note, the full program will likely run until 4:00 due to the large number of attendees.

We hope you will stay after the program to enjoy the grounds of the Clark Institute. [This website provides a map](#) of the many walking trails that traverse the property, including trails up historic Stone Hill, whose summit offers a spectacular view of Williamstown and the Green Mountains of Vermont.

#### **Venue Location, Contact, and Parking:**

The Clark – Auditorium at 227 South Street Williamstown, MA 01267

[Visit the Clark's website](#) for additional information about the campus

Main Phone at Venue: 413-458-2303

### **Friday, July 28**

#### **Loaves of Torah: A Challah Shaping Workshop**

9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Presenters: Rabbi Vanessa Harper '22 and Daniel Fisher-Livne, Ph.D.

Bring your curiosity and creativity, we'll bring the dough! Following a conversation with Rabbi Vanessa Harper and Daniel Fisher-Livne, guests will shape their own challah. You will have the option to bake the dough at home or have Hevreh's team bake it for you on site, with pickup available at the front desk between 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. or following services that evening. Dough is being provided by Pittsfield Rye.

Guests can pre-order Rabbi Vanessa Harper's upcoming book, **Loaves of Torah: Exploring the Jewish Year through Challah** (Published by CCAR Press, Copyright 2023), directly through [the publisher](#) with anticipated publication of December 2023. Use code LOAVES20 to receive 20% off through Monday August 7 at 11:59 CT.



**Venue Location, Contact, and Parking:**

Hevreh of Southern Berkshire (270 State Road, Great Barrington, MA 01230) in the Sanctuary  
Main Phone at Venue: 413-528-6378

---

**Kabbalat Shabbat Worship Service and Shabbat Dinner**

**Service:** 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Presenters: Rabbi Neil P.G. Hirsch '10, Rabbi Jodie Gordon '14, and Cantor Jill Abramson '02

**Dinner:** Beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Presenters: President Andrew Rehfeld, Ph.D., Rabbi Andrea L. Weiss, Ph.D. '93, Rabbi Shirley Idelson, Ph.D. '91, and Cantor Jill Abramson '02

Friday night service, followed by a delicious and engaging community Shabbat dinner featuring a panel discussion. Guests staying for service and dinner will be seated at tables; guests attending the service only will be seated in chairs at the front of the Sanctuary. A kosher-style, buffet dinner is being catered by Marketplace Catering.

**Venue Location, Contact, and Parking:**

Hevreh of Southern Berkshire (270 State Road, Great Barrington, MA 01230) in the Sanctuary  
Main Phone at Venue: 413-528-6378

**Saturday, July 29**

**Trails and Torah**

9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Presenters: Rabbi Andrea L. Weiss, Ph.D. '93, Rabbi David Adelson '99, D.Min. '16,  
Daniel Fisher-Livne, Ph.D.

Click here to view the [new Pleasant Valley map](#), including recent updates to the All Persons Trail. Upon arrival, find the HUC-JIR check-in table outside the education center (the green building at the beginning of BlueBird Trail, down the hill from the barn). The group will spend a few minutes together before separating for two sessions: hiking or meditation. The hike will be on the ADA compliant All Persons Trail, however the torah study will be outdoors and we cannot guarantee seating.

Remember to wear comfortable shoes and bring a water bottle, sunscreen, a hat, bug spray, and any other items you prefer for outdoor activities. Note that visitor services staff will open the visitor center and bathrooms at 9:00 a.m. A filtered water bottle station and water fountain are available in the barn.

Note: If the location needs to change due to inclement weather, an email will be sent by 7:15 a.m. on Saturday morning. Please make sure to check the email provided during registration the morning of the session.

**Venue Location, Contact, and Parking:**

Pleasant Valley Wildlife Sanctuary, 472 West Mountain Road, Lenox, MA 01240  
Main Phone at Venue: 413-637-0320

Parking is available in front of the sanctuary entrance or in the overflow lot up the road



---

### **Israel at 75: Why Reform Judaism in Israel Matters Now More Than Ever**

4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Presenter: President Andrew Rehfeld, Ph.D.

The event will be hosted in the Library. Please use [this form](#) to submit questions by July 27 for consideration in the Q&A portion of the discussion.

#### **Venue Location, Contact, and Parking:**

Ventfort Hall (104 Walker St, Lenox, MA 01240)

Main Phone at Venue: 413-637-3206

---

### **Havdalah and Concert**

6:00 p.m.; concert begins 8:00 p.m.

Presenter: Cantor Jill Abramson '02

If you haven't yet purchased your entrance ticket, make sure to visit <https://www.bso.org/events/bso-messiaen-zubel-ravel>. We recommend bringing your own lawn chairs, although a limited number are available for rent.

Before the concert, find the HUC-JIR team on the Music Shed Lawn – look for a table with blue, green, and white balloons. Join us between 6:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m., for a 6:30 p.m. Havdalah start. Craft packages and activities for children will be available, in collaboration with PJ Library.

Note: All concerts at Tanglewood take place rain or shine. In the case of severe weather, we will adhere to decisions and recommendations of the venue. Should our plans change, an email will be sent by 4:00 p.m. on Saturday afternoon. Please make sure to check the email provided during registration the morning of the session.

#### **Venue Location, Contact, and Parking:**

Tanglewood Music Center (297 West Street, Lenox, MA 01240)

Main Phone at Venue: 617-266-1200

## **Sunday, July 30**

### **Justice Shall You Pursue: A Dialogue on Making Change, Followed by Tour of Tzedek Boxes Pop-up Exhibition**

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Presenters: Rabbi Andrew Kaplan Mandel, Ed.D. '23 and Rabbi Shirley Idelson, Ph.D. '91

Join us in the Sanctuary for discussion and viewing of the pop-up exhibition. If you're staying for the writing workshop, bagel, and spreads will be provided between sessions.



**Venue Location, Contact, and Parking:**

Hevreh of Southern Berkshire (270 State Road, Great Barrington, MA 01230) in the Sanctuary  
Main Phone at Venue: 413-528-6378

---

**Connect and Create: WRJ and *Lilith* Salon and Writing Workshop**

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Presenters: Rabbi Liz P.G. Hirsch '15 and Sarah Seltzer

The conversation will jump off from Sarah Seltzer's story "[Ironing](#)" in *Lilith*'s brand-new fiction anthology, should you want to read it in advance of the discussion.

**Venue Location, Contact, and Parking:**

Hevreh of Southern Berkshire (270 State Road, Great Barrington, MA 01230) in the Library  
Main Phone at Venue: 413-528-6378

---

**American Values, Religious Voices: Speaking Religious Truth to Political Power**

3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Presenters: Rabbi Andrea L. Weiss, Ph.D. '93, Daniel Fisher-Livne, Ph.D., Marc Z. Brettler, Ph.D., and Casey Bohlen, Ph.D.

Check-in with guest services in the main lobby to receive your ticket before proceeding to the terrace for the event.

Please note that the museum closes at 5:00 p.m. If you would like to tour [any exhibitions](#) or take a 20-minute guided tour of [Rockwell's Stockbridge studio](#) where he spent the final two decades of his life at work, please plan accordingly. The last guided studio tour prior to the event is 3:00 p.m., and tours are limited to 15 people and typically sell out in advance. If interested, visit this site to [reserve a guided studio tour](#) and note that you do not need to purchase your own museum entrance ticket as HUC-JIR is providing that as part of the event.

**Venue Location, Contact, and Parking:**

Norman Rockwell Museum (9 Glendale Road / Route 183, Stockbridge, MA 01262)  
Main Phone at Venue: 413-298-4100

Note: Many GPS and online maps do not accurately place Norman Rockwell Museum. Please use the directions provided on their website: <https://www.nrm.org/visit/#directions> or [this map](#). Google Maps & Directions are correct! <http://maps.google.com/>