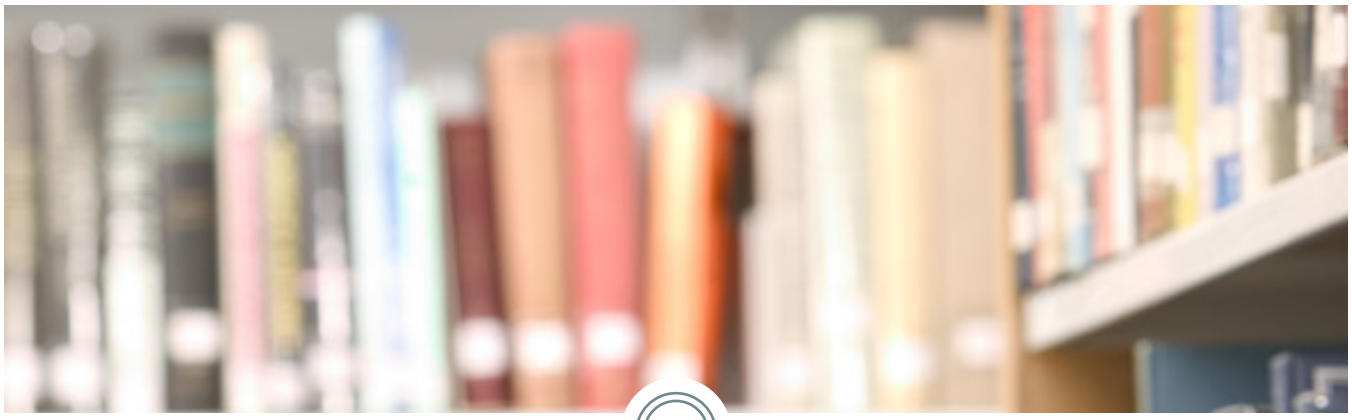


Join Us for Adult Education on Zoom with Rabbi Judith Kummer

List of classes with description and dates are on the back of this flyer. Classes are held on zoom starting at 7:30 pm and are about 1 hour and 15 minutes.

When you register for the class the zoom link will be sent to you.

Cost: **$25 per class.** If you pay for five classes ($125), you will be invited to attend the sixth class free.

BCC-JCG
P.O. Box 341164 ~ Bethesda, MD 20827
301-284-0082 ~ admin@bccjcg.org.



Name: _____

Email: _____ Phone Number: _____

Check off which class(es) you wish to attend:

_____ **"From "How To" to "Why Bother" – January 20, 2027, 7:30 pm**

_____ **"Jewish Attitudes toward the Commandments" – February 24, 2027, 7:30 pm**

_____ **"The Golem, Demons, and Other Mythical Creatures in Jewish Lore" – March 24, 2027, 7:30 pm**

_____ **"Traditional Jewish Approaches to the Problems of Evil and Suffering" – May 26, 2027, 7:30 pm**

_____ **"Jewish Denominations: Reconstructionist Judaism" - June 23, 2027, 7:30 pm**

_____ **"Jews and the American Revolution" – August 18, 2027, 7:30 pm (Tentative Date)**

Amount: _____ ($25 per class / Pay for 5 classes ($125) and get the 6th class free)

Payments can be made by check, Zelle or paid online via PayPal. If paying by check mail to:

BCC-JCG ~ P.O. Box 341164 ~ Bethesda, MD 20827

1. **“From “How To” to “Why Bother?” – January 20, 2027, 7:30 pm**

   In the 1970’s, many young Jewish Americans wanted to practice the traditions of their grandparents but weren’t exactly sure how. Many turned to texts like “The Jewish Catalog.” Imagine “The Joy of Cooking,” but instead of recipes, the guide to Jewish living had friendly instructions for hosting Shabbat dinners, building a sukkah and taking part in Jewish rituals from birth to death. The Jewish Catalog sold 300,000 copies and remains in print today.

   Fifty years later, Rabbi Michael Strassfeld, one of “The Jewish Catalog" authors, has written a new book that he calls a “bookend” to “The Jewish Catalog. ” If the first book is a Jewish “how to,” the latest is, he says, a “why bother?” “Judaism Disrupted: A Spiritual Manifesto for the 21st Century” asserts that an open society and egalitarian ethics leave most Jews skeptical of the rituals and beliefs of Jewish tradition. In the face of this resistance, he argues that the purpose of Judaism is not obedience to Torah and its rituals for their own sake or mere “continuity,” but to “encourage and remind us to strive to live a life of compassion, loving relationships, and devotion to our ideals.

   Please join us for a discussion of the text and ideas and your own responses and experiences. Why bother, indeed?

2. **"Jewish Attitudes toward the Commandments" – February 24, 2027, 7:30 pm**

   Many Jews have a complicated relationship with Jewish law. While Jews tend to be a highly ethical people, there are a variety of different attitudes in the Jewish community towards Biblical and Rabbinic commandments. Ask any non-Orthodox Jew about their religious observance level and the reasons for it, and you may be in for an extensive explanation! In honor of the springtime Jewish holiday of Shavuot, celebrating the giving of the Torah at Mt. Sinai, please join us for a study session and discussion focusing on the variety of Jewish attitudes towards commanded laws, as well as the content and structure of the 10 commandments if there is time.

3. **"The Golem, Demons, and Other Mythical Creatures in Jewish Lore" – March 24, 2027, 7:30 pm**

   Throughout the ages, Jewish culture has had a differentiation between formal religion and superstition. Many Jews will be surprised to hear of the beliefs in Judaism about mythical creatures, but Jewish culture is replete with tales about these creatures. Please join us to learn more about the history of this fascinating topic.

4. **"Traditional Jewish Approaches to the Problems of Evil and Suffering" – May 26, 2027, 7:30 pm**

   Why do bad things happen to good people? If God is so powerful, why doesn’t God prevent misfortune? The question of suffering and evil is unique among theological and philosophical problems because it confronts us almost daily and because Jewish history is replete with individual and communal tragedy. Many Jewish theologians have offered different responses. Please join us to study and discuss this age-old theological and philosophical challenge.

5. **"Jewish Denominations: Reconstructionist Judaism" – June 23, 2027, 7:30 pm**

   Reconstructionist Judaism is a religiously and politically progressive Jewish movement that is the smallest and youngest of the so-called “big four” American Jewish denominations. It balances a devotion to Jewish tradition with innovation and creativity, heady intellectualism with spiritual experiences and a focus on meaning-making. Please join us to learn about the history of this innovative Jewish movement and some of its central precepts.

6. **"Jews and the American Revolution " – August 18, 2027, 7:30 pm (tentative date)**

   As we celebrate the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States, we look back at Jewish experience at that time. Were Jews present in the American colonies at the time of the American Revolution? If so, what role if any did they play in the uprising, and what might have been at stake for them? What was life like for these Jews, in contrast to life for Jews in the US today? Please join us to address these questions and many others.