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המכללה העברית
HEBREW COLLEGE
Jewish learning and leadership for a pluralistic world

NEWS & VIEWS

March 14, 2019 | 7 Adar II 5779

Blog & Events Issue

BLOGS

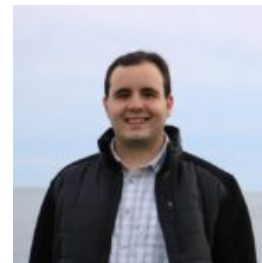


STATE OF
FORMATION

State of Formation is a joint venture of the [Miller Center of Interreligious Learning & Leadership](#) and [Boston University's School of Theology](#).

Interfaith Spaces as Communities of Spiritual Growth

By Joe Viola
M. Div. Student
Boston University School of Theology



If you Google “interfaith,” a number of results for the Boston area will appear. On the first page, you will likely find the websites of organizations that operate food banks, offer financial assistance to those facing economic emergencies, or work to address climate change. When I think back to when I first encountered interfaith work, these were the prime factors that led me to feel called to this work – I wanted to address social justice issues in a multi-faith context, seeking common ground while advocating for social change. I still find the work of seeking common ground important, especially given our political context, but through this type of interfaith engagement, I discovered there was another dimension to interfaith spaces. Interfaith spaces provide opportunities for transformative spiritual experiences—moments that allow us to discover (or rediscover) something about our own faith through the act of being in community with others.

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Posts from this [Hebrew College-hosted blog](#) are published weekly in [Patheos](#).

A Call to Relationship

Parashat Vayikra (Leviticus 1:1- 5:26)

By Rabbi Suzanne Offit, Rab`09
Chaplain, Hebrew SeniorLife



“God called to Moses...”

For millennia, commentators have discussed the meaning of this brief statement with which the third book of the Torah opens.

For me, it is all about relationships. It is about inviting or being invited into an intimate relationship - the details of which God will spell out throughout the remaining books of the Pentateuch.

While I struggle with questions of theology, I am certain of the power of relationships.

When I am in a crowded room I can hear my name above the cacophony. When my children were small, I knew their “mom” call distinctly from the call of other children on the playground. In a deep sleep I can hear the gentle call of my partner.

If I were to try and make a concise personal theological statement, I would say that I experience God as the relational context or “sacred space” in which meaningful connections are forged or strengthened in times of sorrow, joy, fear, or affirmation. It is a place of genuine human contact where people are seen and heard, where they can express their vulnerability.

Read more

EVENTS



Alternative Realities: Purim & the Possibility of Transformation
 Rabbis Ebn Leader, Nehemia Polen & Or Rose
 March 18 | 8-10:15 pm
 Israeli-American Council of Boston, Newton
[View English flyer](#) | [View Hebrew flyer](#)
 \$10 | [Register](#)

Dying Well: Multi-Religious End-of-Life Conversations
A one-day conference on religion and its role in end of life care
 Sponsored by the Boston Theological Institute
 Lifelong Learning Consortium
 Featuring Rabbi Or Rose & Rabbi Joel Baron, Rab` 14
 April 2 | 9:30 am-3 pm
 Hebrew College
 \$10-\$25 | [Register](#)

Preparing Our Hearts for Passover & Easter
 Featuring Hebrew College's Rabbi Ebn Leader, Rabbi Or Rose, Rabbi Jane Kanarek, Tom Reid
 April 12 | 8:30 am - Noon
 Temple Beth Zion, Brookline, MA
[Information](#) | [RSVP](#)

Torah Godly Play
 May 19-20
 8 am-3 pm
 Hebrew College
[Learn more](#) | [Register](#)

SPRING COMMUNITY EVENT!
Hebrew College Live! Stories in Honor of Our Teachers
Featuring stories by Hebrew College Faculty & Alumni, with emcee Mark Oppenheimer, host of Tablet Magazine's podcast "Unorthodox"
 May 30 | 6:30 pm

Temple Beth Elohim, Wellesley, MA
[Information](#) | [Online tickets & Gift Opportunities](#)



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