



The spiritual orientation known as deep ecumenism represents one of Yavneh's core values, and one of the most obvious ways in which we and Jewish Renewal worldwide are striving to reframe the religious ecology of our planet. In support of this aim, our community has created the **Yavneh Center for Deep Ecumenism** to develop programming and learning opportunities for the wider Triangle faith community.

At sessions scheduled for the second Wednesday of each month from December 2015 through May 2016, representatives from multiple faith traditions will engage with one another and with participants to explore the richness of shared spiritual learning. Expect to learn with Jews, Christians, Jains, Buddhists, and Moslems as we approach next September's "immersion weekend" of devotional learning, "Among the Waters."

Upcoming Sessions:

- Jan 13** **Clarissa Schaeffer and Dr. Rachael Wooten, "At the Intersection of Tibetan Buddhism and Judaism"**
Clarissa Schaeffer has cultivated a mediation practice for over 25 years and served as a Buddhist and Jewish chaplain in California, teaching both Jewish mysticism and Buddhist dharma, and as the administrator of a Bodhipath Buddhist Center. *Dr. Rachael Wooten* is a Jungian analyst, Tibetan Buddhist meditation teacher, and founding member of Yavneh. She is currently working on a book about Tara, the beloved female Buddha of Tibet.
- Feb 10** **Sudhir Shah, "Jain Non-Absolutism: Creating Harmony amidst Difference"**
A scientist and social entrepreneur, *Sudhir Shah* has been involved in interfaith activities for more than 25 years, as well as serving as Jain Digest's editor, presenting workshops on Jain teachings internationally, and creating an extensive and well-received exhibition on the "Jain Way of Life."
- Mar 6** **The Rev. John Saxon, "Walking a Catholic Pilgrimage Path with a Universalist Heart"**
Rev. John L. Saxon, Lead Minister of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Raleigh, will share his reflections on his five-week, 500 mile, embodied spiritual journey last fall as a pilgrim walking the Camino de Santiago (an ancient Christian pilgrimage across northern Spain).
- Apr 13** **Salahuddin Muhammad, M.Div., "Interpreting Islam in the Context of American Society"**
Author of *America's Imam*, *Mr. Muhammad* has earned a Master's Degree in Islamic Studies and Christian-Muslim Relations from Hartford Seminary.
- May 11** **The Rev. Sterling Freeman, "African American Spirituality Engaging the World"**
In addition to serving as Program Director for the African American Denominational House at Chautauqua, *The Rev. Sterling Freeman* is a facilitator and trainer in the areas of leadership and organizational development. His range of interests includes homiletics and theologies of liberation and justice.

Sessions take place from 7:30 - 9:00 pm in the Educational Building at Beth Meyer Synagogue (504 Newton Road Raleigh, NC 27615). There is no cost to attend, although donations to help support future programming are gratefully appreciated.

RSVP to rsvp@yavneh-raleigh.org.