



The Ziegler School  
of Rabbinic Studies

בית המדרש ע"ש זיגלר

# Walking with the Jewish Calendar

Edited By  
Rabbi Bradley Shavit Artson  
and Rachel Miriam Safman

דרכיה דרכי נעם

## CONTRIBUTORS

**RABBI AARON ALEXANDER** is the Associate Dean of the Ziegler School and Lecturer in Rabbinics and Jewish Law at American Jewish University where he was ordained and achieved his Masters in Rabbinic Studies. He received his BA in Religion from the University of Florida, and then spent two years studying at the Conservative Yeshiva in Jerusalem and a year doing graduate work in Talmud and Rabbinics at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America. Rabbi Alexander is the webmaster for the Ziegler School's podcast page ([www.zieglerpodcasts.com](http://www.zieglerpodcasts.com)) and contributes to *Today's Torah*, the Ziegler School's weekly Parsha commentary. He serves on the Board of Directors for Camp Ramah Darom.

**RABBI DR. BRADLEY SHAVIT ARTSON** ([www.bradartson.com](http://www.bradartson.com)) holds the Abner and Roslyn Goldstine Dean's Chair of the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies at the American Jewish University, where he is Vice President. He teaches Jewish Theology and Philosophy as well as Homiletics, and is the author of over 200 articles and 9 books, most recently *The Everyday Torah: Weekly Reflections and Inspirations* (McGraw Hill).

**RABBI MICHAEL BERENBAUM** is the director of the Sigi Ziering Center for the Study of the Holocaust and Ethics at American Jewish University where he is also a Professor of Jewish Studies. He received his ordination from the Jewish Theological Seminary and his doctorate from Florida State University. He has served as a member of the President's Commission on the Holocaust and oversaw the development of the Holocaust Memorial Museum, spending a decade as the project director, and was the first director of its Research Institute. In addition, he has served as President and Chief Executive Officer of Stephen Spielberg's The Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation. Berenbaum is the author and editor of eighteen books, scores of scholarly articles and hundreds of journalistic pieces, and the Executive Editor of the *New Encyclopaedia Judaica*.

**RABBI SHARON BROUS** is the founder and rabbi of IKAR an innovative congregation that stands at the intersection of spiritual and religious practice and the pursuit of social justice. She was listed among the Forward's 50 most influential American Jews for three years in a row, and was named one of the leading rabbis in the country by *Newsweek* magazine. Rabbi Brous was ordained by the Jewish Theological Seminary in 2001 and received a master's degree in human rights from Columbia University, where she also received her bachelor's degree. She served as a Rabbinic Fellow at Congregation B'nai Jeshurun in NYC.

**RABBI MIKE COMINS** received his M.A. in Jewish Education from Hebrew University. He is an Israeli desert guide. Rabbi Comins is the author of *Making Prayer Real: Leading Jewish Spiritual Voices on Why Prayer is Difficult and What to Do about It* and *A Wild Faith: Jewish Ways into Wilderness; Wilderness Ways into Judaism* (both Jewish Lights Publishing). He is the founder of TorahTrek Spiritual Wilderness Adventures ([www.TorahTrek.com](http://www.TorahTrek.com)) and the Institute for Jewish Wilderness Spirituality ([www.IJWS-online.org](http://www.IJWS-online.org)).

**RABBI GILAH DROR** received her ordination and master's degree from the Jewish Theological Seminary in 1990, and has since left her mark worldwide. The current spiritual leader of Rodef Sholom Temple in Hampton, Virginia, Rabbi Dror also served for ten years at Eshel Avraham in Beer Sheva, Israel. Rabbi Dror was the first woman to lead a rabbinical organization, having been elected to the presidency of the Rabbinical Assembly of Israel in 1993, and in this capacity published a number of *teshuvo*t on issues ranging from the ordination of women as rabbis to the donation of bodies to medical science. In May 2010 she was installed as the president of The Rabbinical Assembly, the international association of Conservative/Masorti (traditional) rabbis.



## CONTRIBUTORS

**RABBI DANIEL GREYBER** recently completed a nine-year tenure as Executive Director of Camp Ramah in California. He holds an MA in Speech and Communications Studies from Northwestern University and was ordained at the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies at American Jewish University, where he was awarded the Henry Fisher Award for outstanding achievement in Jewish Studies. While in rabbinical school, Rabbi Greyber founded the Neshama Minyan at Temple Beth Am and Minyan Nifla at Sinai Temple in Los Angeles, as well as Lishma, a joint Ziegler-Camp Ramah summer program for Jewish young adults to explore traditional texts, prayer, and practice. Rabbi Greyber lectures on liturgy and halakhah at Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies, and has been published in *CJ Voices of Conservative/Masorti Judaism*, *Conservative Judaism*, *Midstream*, and other Jewish periodicals.

**RABBI JACK MOLINE** is a native of Chicago and the rabbi of Agudas Achim Congregation in Alexandria, Virginia. A graduate of Northwestern University (School of Speech, 1974), and studied for two years in the rabbinical seminary at the University of Judaism before being ordained by the Jewish Theological Seminary in 1982. Rabbi Moline is an adjunct faculty member of the Virginia Theological Seminary and has contributed to speeches by President Clinton, including his eulogy for Prime Minister Rabin. He has published two books, *Growing Up Jewish*, a book of humor published by Penguin, and *Eizeh Hu Gibbor: Jewish Leadership and Heroism*, a source book of case studies, published by United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.

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**RABBI REBECCA ROSENTHAL** is the Director of Children and Family Education at IKAR in Los Angeles. Prior to coming to IKAR, she was the Director of Education at Congregation B'nai Zion in El Paso, TX and the Shabbat and Holidays Coordinator for the Youth and Family department at Congregation B'nai Jeshurun in New York City. She has a BA from Yale University and was ordained and received a master's degree in Jewish education from the Jewish Theological Seminary, where she was a Wexner Fellow.

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**DR. RACHEL SAFMAN** is a rabbinical student at the American Jewish University. Prior to beginning her rabbinical studies she served on the faculty of the Department of Sociology at the National University of Singapore, where she taught courses and conducted research related to the impact of major health events on rural communities.

**RABBI JOANNA SAMUELS** is the Director of Strategic Initiatives at Advancing Women Professionals and the Jewish Community. Previously, she served as the spiritual leader of Congregation Habonim on the Upper West Side. She is a graduate of Barnard College and the Rabbinical School of the Jewish Theological Seminary, where she was a Wexner Graduate Fellow.



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**RABBI PAUL STEINBERG** is an associate rabbi and educator at Valley Beth Shalom in Los Angeles. He has published four books, including the three-volume series *Celebrating the Jewish Year* (JPS, 2007 & 2009) of which each volume was chosen as either the winner of the National Jewish Book Award or Runner-Up. Rabbi Steinberg holds masters degrees in both education and rabbinic studies and was ordained by the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies in 2004. He is currently a doctoral student in education at the Jewish Theological Seminary and also teaches in the Fingerhut School of Education at AJU.

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