

Beth El Book Group 2007-2008

All sessions start at 7:00 p.m. and, unless otherwise noted, will meet at Beth El.

September 17 - The Sabbath, Abraham Joshua Heschel. The Beth El book group will meet with St. John's Episcopal Church's book group (at St. John's, 225 French St.) to discuss this classic meditation of Shabbat as sacred time.

October 11 - *Close to Home - Karov La Bayit* (film). An Israeli film focusing on two 18-year old young women who are serving in the army, shown at the home of Sol Goldman.

November 8 - The Reluctant Fundamentalist, Mohsin Hamid. A novel about a Princeton-educated Pakistani who feels torn between his adopted land and its attackers.

December 13 - The Way into Judaism and the Environment, Jeremy Bernstein. A founder of Tel Aviv's Heschel Center for Environmental Learning and Leadership explores Judaism and environmental ethics.

January 10 - Yiddish Policemen's Union, Michael Chabon. This novel creates an alternative history in which the Jewish homeland was founded in Sitka, Alaska.

February 14 - The Life of David, Robert Pinsky. America's former poet laureate considers King David's life in full, with both flaws and accomplishments rendered whole.

March 13 - "You Never Call! You Never Write!: A History of the Jewish Mother," Joyce Antler. A look at the Jewish mother in comedy, popular culture and life.

April 10 - Periodic Table, Primo Levi. This poetic and fascinating collection by an Auschwitz survivor and chemist was named the best science book ever by the Royal Institution of Great Britain in 2006.

May 16 - Discussion at Chavurah Shabbat - Kabblah, A Love Story, Lawrence Kushner - A novel of mystery and mysticism and Beth El's Book of the Year.

June 12 - Prisoners: A Muslim and Jew Across a Divide, Jeffrey Goldberg. The experience of an Israeli who served as a prison guard and his links with a Palestinian he once guarded.

July 10 - Choosing My Religion, Stephen Dubner. A memoir of man who grew up Catholic, found out that his parents were born Jews, and then embarked on a journey that led him to Judaism.