

INTERFAITH RELATIONS: A RESOURCE GUIDE
PREPARED BY THE COMMISSION ON INTERRELIGIOUS AFFAIRS OF REFORM JUDAISM

The Commission on Interreligious Affairs of Reform Judaism, a joint instrumentality of the affiliates of the Reform Jewish Movement, is dedicated to working with other religious communities on interfaith issues to promote interreligious understanding and cooperation. This resource guide and further information are available on the Commission's website, <http://www.rj.org/interreligious>, or by emailing interreligious@urj.org.

PROGRAMMING SUGGESTIONS

Open Doors, Open Minds: Synagogues and Churches Studying Together. Interfaith dialogue curriculum, Union for Reform Judaism, Nov. 2003. <http://www.urj.org/opendoors>

Where do We Begin? A Guide for NFTY Temple Youth Groups to Foster Dialogue with Our Christian Neighbors. Ed. Matthew Soffer, NFTY, Feb. 2004. <http://www.nfty.org/resources/studytheme/2004-2005/docs/Where%20Do%20We%20Begin%20-%20Youth%20JC%20Dialogue.pdf>

Cunningham, Philip A. *User's Guide: Walking God's Paths.* 2003.
A six-segment Jewish-Christian dialogue video and study guide
http://www.bc.edu/research/cjl/meta-elements/texts/WALKING_GODS_PATHS/WGP_Users_Guide_Contents.htm

I am Joseph, Your Brother. Prod. Tal-El. 2001. Interreligious Coordinating Council in Israel. A video that chronicles the history of Catholic-Jewish relations and the tremendous evolution of church teaching since Nostra Aetate in 1965.
<http://www.icjs.org/clergy/kronish3.html>

Interfaith Resources. *Interfaith Circles.* Anoka, MN: Interfaith Resources, Inc., 1986. A 24-unit discussion program designed for Christian-Jewish living room dialogue groups. For information write Interfaith Resources, Inc., 1328 Oakwood Dr., Anoka, MN 55303, or phone (612) 421-1896.

National Council of Churches, "Interfaith Relations and the Churches: The Interfaith Policy Statement of the National Council of Churches USA and Resources to Help You Use It."
<http://www.ncccusa.org/interfaith/ifrresources.html>

"Questions Frequently Asked in Christian-Jewish Dialogue" in *The Report of the Bishop's Advisory Committee on Christian-Jewish Relations.* <http://www.icjs.org/clergy/icjsfaq.html>

Union of American Hebrew Congregations, The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), and The National Council of Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. *Thinking and Working Together: Study and Action Suggestions for Jewish and Christian Congregations.* Louisville: Global Mission Ministry Unit, Presbyterian Church, 1993. <http://www.pcusa.org/pcusa/wmd/eir/jews.htm>

RECOMMENDED READING

Boys, Mary. *Has God Only One Blessing? Judaism as a Source of Christian Self-Understanding.* Paulist Press, New York and Mahwah, NJ, 2000. <http://www.icrelations.net/en/?id=1479>

Dabru Emet: A Jewish Statement on Christians and Christianity. Tikva Frymer-Kensky, David Novak, Peter Ochs, Michael Signer. <http://www.icjs.org/what/njsp/dabruemet.html>

Eck, Diana. *A New Religious America: How a "Christian Country" Has Become the World's Most Religiously Diverse Nation.* Harper: San Francisco, 2001.
http://www.pluralism.org/publications/new_religious_america/index.php

- Frymer-Kensky, Tikva, and David Novak, Peter Ochs, David Fox Sandmel, Michael A. Signer. *Christianity in Jewish Terms*. Westview Press: Boulder, Colorado and Oxford, England, 2000. <http://www.jcrelations.net/en/?id=1449>
- Leighton, Christopher. *The Old and New Challenges of Reading Noah in the Christian Tradition*. The Institute for Christian and Jewish Studies, 2003. <http://www.icjs.org/clergy/noah.html>
- Levinson, Tom. *All That's Holy: A Young Guy, an Old Car, and the Search for God in America*. Wiley & Sons: 2003. http://www.gracecathedral.org/enrichment/excerpts/exc_20031022.shtml
- Magonet, Jonathan. "How a Rabbi Reads the Bible" in *Christian-Jewish Dialogue: A Reader*. Ed. Helen P. Fry. Exeter, UK: University of Exeter Press, 1996.
- National Council of Catholic Bishops, Statement on Catholic-Jewish Relations, 1975. http://www.bc.edu/research/cjl/meta-elements/texts/documents/catholic/NCCB_Statement.htm
- Nostra Aetate*: "Declaration on the Relation of the Church to Non-Christian Religions", October 28, 1965, proclaimed by Pope Paul VI. http://www.vatican.va/archive/hist_councils/ii_vatican_council/documents/vat-ii_decl_19651028_nostra-aetate_en.html
- Sandmel, David F. and Christopher Leighton. *Irreconcilable Differences? A Learning Resource for Jews and Christians*. Boulder, Colorado: Westview Press, 2001. http://www.icjs.org/what/njsp/ir_toc.html
- Saperstein, Marc. *Moments of Crisis in Jewish-Christian Relations*. Philadelphia: Trinity Press International, 1989.
- Wilken, Robert L. *The Land Called Holy: Palestine in Christian History and Thought*. New Haven: Yale UP, 1994. <http://yalepress.yale.edu/YupBooks/viewbook.asp?isbn=0300054912>
- Younan, Rev. Munim A, bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan (and Palestine). "Bible Study #3" August 15, 2004. http://www.elca.org/assembly/03/Younan_text.html

LINKS AND ORGANIZATIONS

- **National Conference for Community and Justice (NCCJ)**
NCCJ is a human relations organization that promotes understanding and respect among all races, religions, and cultures through advocacy, conflict resolution, and education. <http://www.nccj.org/>
- **Interfaith Youth Core**
IFYC seeks to build a movement that encourages religious young people to strengthen their religious identities, foster inter-religious understanding and cooperate to serve the common good. <http://www.ifyc.org/>
- **Interreligious Coordinating Council in Israel (ICCI)**
The ICCI is an umbrella organization of institutions and individuals that seeks to promote interreligious understanding within Israeli society and broaden and strengthen good relations among members of different faiths. <http://www.icci.co.il/>
- **Pluralism Project**
The Pluralism Project is an ongoing research project at Harvard University focusing on religious pluralism and diversity in the United States. <http://www.fas.harvard.edu/%7Epluralsm/>
- **Beliefnet**
Beliefnet is a multi-faith e-community designed to help you meet your own religious and spiritual needs -- in an interesting, captivating and engaging way. It is not affiliated with a particular religion or spiritual movement and not out to convert you to a particular approach, but rather to help you find your own. Fundamental to its mission is a deep respect for a wide variety of faiths and traditions. It

offers a wide array of discussions and dialogue groups.

<http://www.beliefnet.org>

- **Religion News Service**

RNS has a network of correspondents around the world, providing news and information on all faiths and religious movements to the nation's leading newspapers, news magazines, broadcast organizations and religious publications.

<http://www.religionnews.com/index.html>

- **Interfaith Voices for Peace and Justice**

A directory of nearly 700 faith-based and interfaith groups and coalitions. <http://interfaithvoices.org/>

- **International Council of Christians & Jews**

The ICCJ serves as the umbrella organization of 38 national Jewish-Christian dialogue organizations world-wide. The ICCJ member organizations world-wide over the past five decades have been successfully engaged in the historic renewal of Jewish-Christian relations. In more recent years the ICCJ and its members increasingly engaged in the Abrahamic dialogue: the encounter between Jews, Christians and Muslims.

<http://www.iccj.org/>

- **Boston College's Center for Christian-Jewish Learning**

The Center is devoted to the multifaceted development and implementation of new relationships between Christians and Jews that are based not merely on toleration but on full respect and mutual enrichment. This defining purpose flows from the [mission of Boston College](#) and responds to the vision expressed in Roman Catholic documents ever since the Second Vatican Council.

<http://www.bc.edu/research/cjl>

- **The National Council of Churches Interfaith Relations: Christians and Neighbors**

The NCC Commission on Interfaith Relations and Office for Interfaith Relations are charged with coordinating and facilitating the interfaith work of the NCC. Our goal is to help the NCC and member communions explore the challenges and opportunities of living among people of other faiths.

<http://www.nccusa.org/interfaith/ifrhome.html>

- **Secretariat for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops**

<http://www.usccb.org/seia/index.htm>

- **Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life**

The Forum seeks to promote a deeper understanding of issues at the intersection of religion and public affairs. The Forum pursues its mission by delivering timely, impartial information to national opinion leaders, including federal government officials, journalists, policy analysts and national advocacy organizations. <http://pewforum.org/>

- **World Conference of Religions for Peace**

The WCRP is the largest international coalition of representatives from the world's great religions who are dedicated to achieving peace. Respecting cultural differences while celebrating our common humanity, Religions for Peace is active on every continent and in some of the most troubled places on earth, creating multi-religious partnerships that mobilize the moral and social resources of religious people to address their shared problems.

<http://www.wcrp.org/>

- **Faith & Values Media**

FVM uses television, the Internet and other media to promote the vitality of religious experience in everyday life and to give expression to religious diversity. Its member association is made up of denominations, organizations and individuals, who encompass most of the recognized Jewish and Christian faith groups in the United States.

<http://www.faithandvalues.org/>

- **National Jewish Scholars Project**

The National Jewish Scholars Project opens the door to a serious and sustained inquiry into the values and beliefs that distinguish Christians and Jews.

<http://www.icjs.org/what/njsp/index.html>

- **Presbyterian Church (USA): Interfaith Relations**

<http://www.pcusa.org/interfaith/>

- **Evangelical Lutheran Church in America: Interfaith Relations**

<http://www.elca.org/ecumenical/interfaithrelations/jewish/index.html>