

# Wednesday Evening Lecture Series

**Wednesday, February 3, 7:30 pm**  
**"God in the Wilderness" with Rabbi Jamie Korngold,**  
**The Adventure Rabbi**

Come learn the answers to seemingly divergent, but actually quite connected questions such as: What do Judaism, nature and the recession all conspire to teach us? How can nature bring more Jews back to Judaism? "And what does Shabbat have to do with me?"

Rabbi Korngold is nationally recognized for her innovative approach to Judaism as well as for her cutting edge use of technology. She serves as the spiritual leader of Adventure Rabbi. Adventure Rabbi was envisioned by Rabbi Korngold, who has experienced her most vibrant Jewish experiences in the outdoors. Based in Boulder, Adventure Rabbi runs programs designed to help participants experience That Which Is Greater Than Ourselves, through wilderness and outdoor programs and services.

**About the speaker:** Rabbi Korngold received her ordination from Hebrew Union College- Jewish Institute of Religion, the academic, spiritual and professional development center for Reform Judaism. Rabbi Korngold is a member of the Central Conference of American Rabbis (the international rabbinic association of Reform Judaism) Chaver (The Boulder Colorado Rabbinical Council) and a member of Synagogue 2000 Emergent Leader's group. For more information see [www.AdventureRabbi.org](http://www.AdventureRabbi.org). Books will be available to purchase for \$12.

**Wednesday, February 10, 7:30 pm**  
**Judeo-Islam with Prof. Sharon Coggan**

In the fall Sharon gave a fascinating lecture "Judeo-Christian and Judeo-Islam." Time prevented us from really delving into the Judeo-Islam part of the lecture, so Sharon is returning to complete her talk. You need not have come to the fall lecture for this talk to make sense. The Christian tradition originated as an apocalyptic sect within Judaism, but there is a great deal in it that is quite foreign to Judaism. Judaism instead shares a great deal more in common with its other, little recognized offspring, Islam. This lecture will address the issue of parentage and history of religions. You will learn about how much Islam "borrowed" from Judaism, and why it is so much more closely related to Judaism than Christianity is. Sharon L. Coggan, Ph.D. earned a Master of Theological Studies from Harvard Divinity School, a Master of Arts in Religious Studies from Stanford University, a Ph.D. in Religious Studies from Syracuse University. She teaches at the University of Colorado Denver, where she serves as Director of the Religious Studies Program, a program she created. She is currently writing a book on themes in early Christianity and Greek religion. Her areas of study include History of Religions, Religion and Culture, and Psychology of Religion.

**Wednesday, February 17**  
Join the Denver Jewish Film Festival for their movie of the evening. For information go to [www.maccjcc.org](http://www.maccjcc.org)

**Wednesday, February 24, 7:30 pm**  
**Lecture on Purim with Dr. David Sanders**  
**About the speaker:** Dr. David Sanders is the head instructor and Executive Director of Kabbalah Experience. David grew up in a traditional Jewish home and attended Yeshiva through high school before intensive study at ITRI Jerusalem for two years. Upon his return to the United States he studied Talmud for three years with Rabbi Joseph Dov Soloveitchik and was enrolled at Yeshiva University in the Chaver Program in Jewish Medical Ethics and in the Bernard Revel graduate school in Jewish Studies. He completed a doctorate in Clinical Psychology from Hahnemann University in 1985. He became interested in Jewish mysticism in 1981 and started studying Chassidic texts and Kabbalistic meditation. Upon moving to Denver in 1989 he joined TRI and was a study partner of Rabbi Mordechai Twerski for many years. David's kabbalah teachers include, Harav Moshe Shapira of Jerusalem and Rav Yitzchak Ginsburgh from Kfar Chabad, Israel. From his teachers he has learned the inner meaning of the Kabbalah and from his students how to make spiritual growth accessible and pragmatic.

**Wednesdays, March 3 and 10, 7:30 pm**  
**Purim, Pesach and The Kabbalah. Why Matzah**  
**Elevates Your Soul with Cantor Martin Goldstein**

**Wednesday, March 17, 7:00 pm**  
**Documentary: The Hidden Star with discussion**  
**following by Prof. Carlos Zarur**

This documentary chronicles Brazil's Jewish past and the fascinating stories of descendants of the Marranos- Conversos-New Christians. They were forced to convert to Christianity and were persecuted during the Spanish and Portuguese Inquisitions. Despite publicly practicing Catholicism, they still maintained Jewish customs, traditions, and beliefs in secret. The film chronicles their battle to be recognized as full Jews in the mainstream Jewish community.

**About the speaker:** Carlos Zarur is an adjunct Professor in Anthropology and Jewish Studies at the University of Colorado in Boulder. He holds Masters Degrees in Jewish Studies in the areas of Western and Eastern Sephardic Studies, Customs and Culture of Mizrahi (Oriental or Eastern) Jewries, Peripheral Jewish Communities, Crypto-Jewish Studies and Marrano- Converso Phenomena among others. Carlos has participated in two documentaries about the Crypto-Jews in Brazil, and he is an independent researcher of the subject. Involved with Jewish Identity issues in Brazil, as Sephardic/Mizrahi Jew, one of his main goals is the dissemination and teaching of these rich Jewish Cultures.