

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date October 30, 1979
to Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum
from Sid Sayles - Phoenix
subject Your visit, Phoenix November 19-20

Please note that we have arranged a booking for you on American Airlines, Flight No. 54, leaving Phoenix at 3:04 p.m. and arriving, LaGuardia Airport at 10:46 p.m.

I assume that your secretary will arrange to pick-up this booking in New York. The airlines stated that the ticket must be picked up by November 12th.

I look forward to seeing you in Phoenix at a luncheon on Tuesday, November 20th which is in the process of being arranged.

Regards,

SHS:dc
cc: Michael Jonas
    Reba Steiger
    Patsy Weber
Professor Ruth R. Wisse has gained recognition throughout the English-speaking world for her gifted interpretation of Yiddish literature and poetry. Her insightful analyses have rendered accessible a universe of artistic expression which until recently had only a limited readership. Dr. Wisse most recently co-edited The Best of Sholom Aleichem with Irving Howe. She is the author of The Schlemiel as Modern Hero and A Shetl and Other Yiddish Novellas. She is a frequent contributor to Commentary and other literary periodicals. Dr. Wisse is currently professor of Yiddish literature at McGill University and has taught at the Graduate Center of the YIVO Institute of Jewish Research. She has served on the faculties of both Tel Aviv University and the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

Professor Harry M. Orlinsky brings to Biblical interpretation an excitement and vitality ordinarily unknown in this field of scholarship. A co-translator of The Holy Bible, Revised Standard Version, and editor-in-chief of the Jewish Publication Society's The Torah: The Five Books of Moses, Dr. Orlinsky is also the editor of The Library of Jewish Bible Studies. Seven volumes have been published since 1966. Dr. Orlinsky, one of the world's most outstanding Bible scholars, is Professor of Bible at Hebrew University College in New York. He has sought in his work to let the original Hebrew text speak for itself, in translation faithful to the original, while bearing the text to the sensitivities of modern readers. His most recent lectures deal with the use of non-sentient language in the Bible as well as the difficulty of translating from a language as expressive as Hebrew to our rather more limited English.

Rabbi Harold M. Schulweis is considered one of the most dynamic and influential members of the American rabbinate today. His articulation of Jewish values and ethics, as they can affect contemporary life, has helped to establish role models for Jews of all ages. Rabbi Schulweis has suggested that the lack of adherence to — and knowledge of — Jewish ethical values has contributed to the influence of cults on American Jewish youth. Rabbi Schulweis is a contributing editor of SV/mo and frequently writes for Commentary, The National Jewish Monthly, Conservative Judaism and many other periodicals. He is the spiritual leader of Valley Beth Shalom in Encino, California, professor of Jewish Contem­porary Civilization at the University of Judaism, and teaches theology at Hebrew Union College.

All lectures will begin at 8:00 p.m.
All lectures will be held at Beth El Congregation 1118 West Glendale Ave., Phoenix, AZ
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JEWISH PASSAGES III, the Adult Education Lecture Series of the Greater Phoenix Jewish Community, will begin on Monday, November 19 with a presentation by Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum, Director of Interreligious Affairs of the American Jewish Committee. Internationally known and respected, Rabbi Tanenbaum most recently spoke on behalf of the American Jewish Community at the summer Camp David meetings convened by President Carter. A member of the Advisory Committee of the President's Commission on the Holocaust, he served as consultant to NBC-TV's nine hour dramatization, "Holocaust." Rabbi Tanenbaum will deal with "The Jewish Stake in the Political-Democratic Process."

Patsy Weber, Chairman of this year's series, noted, "In the two years since its inception, PASSAGES has earned national recognition for the quality of its program, and for our community's unusual support of Jewish educational enrichment. This year, we look forward to new directions and an even broader spectrum of Community involvement."

Other speakers in the series include: Dr. Irving (Yitz) Greenberg, Orthodox Rabbi, Professor of Jewish Studies at City College, and Director of the Presidential Commission on the Holocaust, appearing in dialogue with his wife, Blu Greenberg, author of The Jewish Woman: Tradition and the Contemporary Experience; Ruth Wisse, popular Yiddish scholar and author; world-renowned Bible scholar Professor Harry Orlinsky; and Rabbi Harold Schulweis, one of the most dynamic forces in the American rabbinate.

All lectures will begin at 8:00 p.m., and will be held at Beth El Congregation, 1118 West Glendale Avenue, Phoenix.

A decorative poster detailing all information concerning the series may be obtained by calling the office of the Jewish Education Council, sponsor of JEWISH PASSAGES III, at 279-7005

Contact: Rabbi Gerald M. Kane
(602) 279-7005
29 October 1979

Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum
American Jewish Committee
165 East 56th Street
New York, New York 10022

Dear Rabbi Tanenbaum:

I am pleased to send you copies of our JEWISH PASSAGES III poster/mailing and press release, in which you will note the information concerning your lecture on Monday, November 19.

In addition, a copy of your article which you sent us is being prepared for inclusion in our first study guide.

We look forward to hearing from you concerning your travel plans, as we wish to meet you upon your arrival, and arrange for dinner preceding the lecture should you so desire. It has been customary for speakers to dine with members of the community before each lecture.

I have taken the liberty of making overnight reservations for you at the Del Webb Townehouse, 100 West Clarendon Avenue. I trust that this meets with your approval.

Your imminent appearance in our community has generated considerable interest and enthusiasm. We are really looking forward to having you with us.

Most sincerely,

Rabbi Gerald M. Kane
Educational Coordinator

GMK:rr

enc.

cc: Patsy Weber, Chairman, PASSAGES III
October 22, 1979

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum
National Director Interreligion Affairs
American Jewish Committee
165 East 56th Street
New York, New York 10022

Dear Marc:

Thank you very much for accepting the invitation to speak at Arizona State University. My colleagues and I are looking forward to hearing from you on Tuesday, November 20th, at 10:40 in the morning. I will be most happy to transport you to and from the campus.

Professor Wentz suggested that your remarks deal with any of the following three topics: 1) Judaism in America Today, 2) Jewish Black Relations: Roots and Resolution, 3) The Present State of Jewish Christian Dialogue. I hope that one of these is acceptable to you. Your remarks can be fairly general as most of the audience is not deeply informed on these matters.

Could you please forward to me a copy of your vita or brief biography. Also include your social security number.

Professor Len Gordon of Sociology asked to be remembered to you. He is looking forward to seeing you.

Although your visit here is of a purely academic nature, your presence is much appreciated by faculty concerned about Jewish-non-Jewish relations on campus. There are a fair number, probably around five hundred, Arab students on campus. The Muslims among them are fairly militant. Their recent activities have included the distribution of the Protocols and the showing of The Palestinians. In addition to these problems, Hillel recently was denied a zoning variance by city council for a house they had intended to purchase. The council's actions had some definite anti-Jewish bias. Finally, the student body at A.S.U. consists of a large number of ardent and fundamental Christians, most of whom are largely uninformed about Jews. Hopefully, your scholarly presentation can indirectly have some positive impact on the above problems.

Again thank you for accepting our invitation.

Sincerely,

Joel Gereboff
Assistant Professor
I merely want to confirm our conversation of last week regarding your appearance in Phoenix on behalf of the A.J.C. following the occasion of your November 19th appearance for "Passages."

Our Interreligious Committee is delighted with your availability, and they are working on a program for mid-morning or brunch on Tuesday, November 20th, keeping in mind your need to make a mid-afternoon plane to New York.

We checked with American Airlines and find that they have a flight leaving at 3:00 o’clock. However, after the new schedule under standard time goes into effect, it is possible that new planes will be added to the schedules of American and other airlines. Thus, there will be no problem with your leaving as you desire.

I spoke with Rita Resnick about this matter on Wednesday, and we now await your advice as to your arrival time, where you will be staying, etc.

Everyone looks forward to seeing you again.

SHS:dc
cc: Reba Steiger
     Michael Jonas
October 12, 1979

Dr. Joel Gereboff  
Assistant Professor, Religious Studies  
Co-Chairperson Jewish Studies Faculty  
Advisory Board  
Arizona State University  
Tempe, Arizona  85281

Dear Dr. Gereboff,

Thanks very much for your recent letter in which you invite me to visit Arizona State University in Tempe, on Tuesday, November 20th.

I would be glad to address Professor Wuntz's class at 10:40 in the morning.

I do not believe that I would want to add any additional speaking obligations since my schedule is already quite heavy during this Phoenix visit.

If it makes sense to you, please confirm that understanding either by telephone or by letter.

With warmest personal good wishes for the New Year, I am,

Cordially yours,

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum  
National Director  
Interreligious Affairs

MHT:RPR
Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum  
Director of Interreligious Activity  
American Jewish Committee  
165 East 56th Street  
New York, New York 10022

Dear Rabbi Tanenbaum:

I am very pleased to know that you will be speaking in Phoenix on Monday, November 19th, under the auspices of the Jewish Education Council. I look forward to hearing you on that occasion. I would like to extend an invitation to you to visit with us the following morning, Tuesday, November 20th, at Arizona State University. Tempe, the location of the University, is a suburb immediately adjacent to Phoenix.

If you are willing and able to come to ASU, I hope that you would be able to serve us in two ways. First, Hillel would host a faculty breakfast at which some informal discussion could take place. Second, you would present a formal lecture. Professor Wentz's class, Religion in American Life and Thought, meets at 10:40 in the morning, and this would be a perfect setting for your presentation. I have enclosed a copy of the syllabus of his course; he expects to deal with Judaism around the time of your visit. (Professor Wentz informs me that you once spoke for him at Pennsylvania State University). If you are able to visit with us, Dr. Wentz will correspond with you separately and arrange a mutually agreeable topic.

For your services, we are prepared to offer an honorarium of one hundred dollars ($100). If you will be able to come, could you please notify me at your earliest convenience and send a copy of your resume, including your social-security number.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Joel Gereboff  
Assistant Professor, Religious Studies  
Co-Chairperson Jewish Studies Faculty Advisory Board

cc: Rabbi Barton Lee, Hillel Director  
Professor Delwin Brown, Chairman, Religious Studies

JG:mk
Syllabus

Purpose: The purpose of the course is to introduce the student to the nature of religion and the manner in which it has shaped and is shaped by American culture.

Method: The professor will present a working definition of religion and demonstrate the manner in which it accounts for different aspects of American life and thought. The student will be expected to apply this method to the books and ideas to be used in class.

Procedure: For the most part, Tuesday will be devoted to discussion, Thursdays to lecture. Each Tuesday, beginning the second week, the student will hand in a one/two paragraph report on the readings. The report is expected to apply the method (above) presented by the professor. Correct spelling, grammar, syntax, and neatness are expected. There will be a take-home examination for mid-term, a regular final examination. Grading will be based on excellence of reports, participation in discussion, regular attendance, and examinations.

Texts:

A Kino Guide, Charles Pulzer
Lindola's Religion, William J. Wolf
Bare Ruined Choirs, Gary Wills
The Names, Scott Nomaday

The Puritan Dilemma, Edmond S. Morgan
The Souls of Black Folk, W.E.B.DuBois
The Chosen, Chaim Potok
The New Religions, Jacob Needleman

Outline:

I. Religion as the Encounter with Wholeness
   A. Wholeness and the "Other"
   B. The Understanding of Religion in History
   Read: Flannery O'Connor's "A Good Man is Hard to Find"
         Frederick J. Hoffman, "The Search for Redemption"

II. Europe and the "Other" World
   A. Legends, Tales and Geography
   B. Eschatology and Navigation
   Read: "The Legend of St. Brendan"

III. Europeans as Missioners: The Dilemma of the "Other"
    Read: A Kino Guide, Charles Polzer

IV. The American Nation and the "Other" World
    Read: Lincoln's Religion, William J. Wolf

V. Americans and the Invisible "Other" as Black
    Read: The Souls of Black Folk, W.E.B.DuBois

VI. Wholeness and the Protestant Consensus
    Read: Bare Ruined Choirs, Gary Wills

VII. The Chosen Life as Shared Otherness: The Case of the Jews
     Read: The Chosen, Chaim Potok

VIII. The Other as Red
     Read: The Names, Scott Nomaday

IX. The Cosmic Whole and the Changing Order
     Read: The New Religions, Jacob Needleman
23 August 1979

Rabbi Marc Tannenbaum
American Jewish Committee
165 East 56th Street
New York, New York 10022

Dear Rabbi Tannenbaum:

Not having received a reply or acknowledgement of our letter of July 30, we are concerned.

In the event that our first letter did not reach you, we are enclosing a copy.

Since we have already extended our printing deadline, we are extremely anxious to receive the photos and biographical material requested as soon as possible.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Most sincerely,

Rabbi Gerald M. Kane
Educational Coordinator

GMK:rr

enc.

cc: Patsy Weber, Chairman, JEWISH PASSAGES III
    Michael Jonas, President, American Jewish Committee, Phoenix Chapter
30 July 1979

Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum
American Jewish Committee
165 East 56th Street
New York, New York 10022

Dear Rabbi Tanenbaum:

This letter will confirm our recent telephone conversation. We are most pleased that you have agreed to serve as the first speaker in our JEWISH PASSAGES III adult education series on Monday evening, November 19, 1979. Our series chairman, Patsy Weber, Phoenix American Jewish Committee board member, and a member of your National Executive Council, was particularly pleased and asked me to communicate this to you.

Your honorarium for this speaking engagement will be $1000.00.

As promised, I am pleased to send you a copy of our series brochure from last year along with a copy of the series study guide.

Since we must prepare our publicity immediately, I would appreciate receiving two glossy photographs of you and an updated biography. We would also like a brief article either by or about you which our series subscribers might read in preparation for your lecture. As mentioned in our conversation, we would like the substance of your presentation to deal with either "The Jewish Stake in the Political Democratic Process", or "Jews and the Future of America".

I look forward to hearing from you as soon as possible.

Most sincerely,

Rabbi Gerald M. Kane
Educational Coordinator

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