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Series G: Speaking Engagements. 1975-1992

Box 109, Folder 3, Rabbi Ferdinand Isserman Interfaith Memorial Seminar for Clergy and Lay Leaders [Saint Louis, Mo.]. 14 April 1983.





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You are cordially
 invited to attend

The Rabbi Isserman Interfaith Memorial Seminar For Clergy and Lay Leaders

Thursday, April 14, 1983
 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
 Temple Israel
 10675 Ladue Road

(Enter on Ladue Road between
 Lindbergh and Spoede)



The Rabbi Isserman Interfaith Memorial Seminar

PURPOSES:

To celebrate the unique contribution to amicable and creative interfaith relations made by Rabbi Ferdinand M. Isserman to the St. Louis community, and to promote ecumenical activities and social justice by addressing the issues before us today.

To advance cooperative interfaith activities in preparation for the 8th National Workshop on Christian-Jewish Relations to be held in St. Louis on October 29 - November 1, 1984.

To encourage interfaith associations which will open possibilities for continued dialogue.

Rabbi Ferdinand M. Isserman 1898-1972

A positive ecumenical climate drew Rabbi Isserman to St. Louis in 1929. During a distinguished 34-year career as spiritual leader of Temple Israel, he was in the forefront of furthering interfaith relations and championing social justice.

Joining with his friends, Bishop Scarlett and Dean Sweet of the Episcopal Diocese, Bishop Holt of the Methodist Church and others, the Social Justice Commission of St. Louis was formed in the early years of his ministry in St. Louis. Their accomplishments included the settling of a street car strike and a strike of milkmen. They also met with John L. Lewis and the coal miners of Illinois to assist in resolving disagreements with mine owners.

In 1948, Rabbi Isserman started the first interracial school in St. Louis, The Nursery Foundation — a place where working mothers could leave their children. There were some in the community who were not ready for what seemed like a drastic move at that time.

With the rise of Hitler, the threat of Nazism became one of his pre-occupations. In the face of grave personal risk, he made three trips to Germany and returned to alert Americans to the Nazi danger.

Rabbi Isserman often said his inspiration for his rabbinate came from the prophets of Israel. For 22 years, he was heard each Sunday morning from 8:00 to 8:15 on Radio Station KSD.

PRESIDING



Archbishop John L. May

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Bishop A. James Armstrong



Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum

PROGRAM

9:00 - 10:00 a.m.
Registration

9:15 - 9:45 a.m.
Tour of Temple Israel (optional)

10:00 - 10:15 a.m.
Welcome and Invocation — Rabbi Alvan D. Rubin,
Temple Israel

10:15 - 11:45 a.m.
**THE FUTURE OF CHRISTIAN AND JEWISH
RELATIONS**

Presiding: The Most Reverend John L. May,
Archbishop of the Archdiocese of St. Louis

Keynote Addresses:

Bishop A. James Armstrong, President,
National Council of Churches of Christ
in America

Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum, National Director
of Interreligious Affairs, American Jewish
Committee

12:00 - 1:30 p.m.

Luncheon

"Pioneers in Interfaith Progress in St. Louis —
a Reflection"

The Rev. Paul S. McElroy, Charter Member
of the Interfaith Clergy Council in St. Louis
and Past President of the Metropolitan Church
Federation

"A Remembrance"

J. Arthur Baer, II, President, Baer Enterprises

1:30 - 3:00 p.m.

THE RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY AND HUMAN NEED IN THE ST. LOUIS REGION

Coordinator: Dr. James H. Laue, Director,
Center for Metropolitan Studies, UMSL

A. Clergy as Change-Agents

Moderator: Rabbi Susan Talve, Assistant
Rabbi, Temple Shaare Emeth

Resources: Dr. Joseph Hookey, Senior
Pastor, Second Presbyterian
Church

Msgr. Joseph O'Brien, Director,
Radio and Television Office of the
Archdiocese of St. Louis

Dr. Malcolm Warford, President,
Eden Seminary

B. Employment and Economic Development

Moderator: George T. Guernsey, III,
Consultant and Former President,
Commerce Bank

Resources: J. Arthur Baer, II, President,
Baer Enterprises
William Douthit, Executive Director,
Urban League of St. Louis

James O'Flynn, President,
Regional Commerce and Growth
Association

C. Housing

Moderator: Lynn Broeder, Executive Director,
Ecumenical Housing Production
Corporation

Resources: Fr. Richard Creason, Pastor,
St. Barbara's Catholic Church

Dr. Richard Fisher, Pastor,
Washington Metropolitan AME
Zion Church

The Rev. Larry Rice, Director,
New Life Evangelistic Center

D. Hunger

Moderator: Dr. Kenneth Gottman, Executive
Director, United Methodist
Metro Ministry

Resources: Bo Axelrod, Executive Director,
Operation Search

Harlow (Bill) Donovan, Executive
Director, Food Crisis Network

Fr. P. Joseph Buckley, Director,
Roman Catholic Food Bank

E. Race Relations

Moderator: Hon. Frankie Freeman,
Partner in Freeman, Whitfield,
Montgomery and Walton, and
former Commissioner, U.S.
Commission on Civil Rights

Resources: Rabbi Jerome W. Grollman,
Senior Rabbi, United Hebrew
Congregation

The Rev. Buck Jones, Director,
Operation Live and Staff Minister,
Metro Mission for United Church
of Christ

Msgr. John Shocklee, Pastor of
Ste. Genevieve duBois Roman
Catholic Church and Director,
Archdiocesan Office of
Human Rights

F. The Role of the Church and Synagogue in Meeting Human Need

Moderator: Rabbi Robert P. Jacobs,
Executive Vice President,
St. Louis Rabbinical Association

Resources: Gloria Hirsch, Vice President,
American Jewish Committee and
Co-Founder, Women's Interfaith
Conference

Sr. Patricia Kelley, Coordinator
of Project Energy Care,
City of St. Louis

Margaret Sonnenday, President,
Missouri Council of Churches and
former National President,
Church Women United

G. The Role of the Clergy in Personal Crises

Moderator: Rabbi Jeffrey B. Stiffman, Senior
Rabbi, Temple Shaare Emeth

Resources: The Rev. James H. Gunn,
Representative, Care and
Counseling

Dr. Robert Reber, Director,
Thompson Center

H. Next Steps in Interfaith Activities in St. Louis

Moderator: O'Ray Graber, Regional Director,
National Conference
of Christians and Jews

Resources: Rabbi Bruce Diamond,
Congregation Kol Am

The Rev. Cyrus Keller, Presiding
Elder, Columbia-St. Louis
District of the AME Church

Father Ronald Modras, Professor
of Theological Studies, St. Louis
University

3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Closing Plenary

Dialogue with Bishop Armstrong
and Rabbi Tanenbaum

Closing Worship -

Dr. John Tietjen, President,
Christ Seminary - SEMINEX

4:00 - 4:30 p.m.

Tour of Temple Israel (optional)

Kindly fill out the enclosed card indicating
your workshop preference and mail along
with your check for registration. Registration
fee (including lunch) is \$5.00.