



Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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Series VI: Speaking Engagements, 1917-1964.

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Swarthmore, Pennsylvania (Swarthmore College), 1938, 1952.

TRINITY CHURCH
SWARTHMORE, PENNSYLVANIA
REV. J. JARDEN GUENTHER, RECTOR

TELEPHONES
RECTORY: 1810
CHURCH: 1893

November 22, 1938.

The Rev. Abba Hillel Silver, D.D.,
Benjamin Franklin Hotel,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Dear Dr. Silver:

When I read in the newspaper that you were going to be in Philadelphia I wanted to be able to come to see you. That seems impossible, so I am writing a letter that has been on my mind for a long time.

I do want to express my appreciation of your book, "Religion In A Changing World". It has been the basis of many sermons and addresses to young people and I have lent my copy to my parishioners and urged others to read it. This year we used it as a basis for our College Religious Discussion Group, which holds Supper Meetings at the rectory.

We have some splendid Jewish students at Swarthmore, some of whom have been our guests. Dr. Richard Salomon and Dr. Hans Wallach are on the Faculty - they are refugees. George Salomon is a student and he and Claus Brauer, a student from Wiesbaden, my father's native city, have been up to see me about the present situation. We have had all of the local pastors make an appeal for practical help and I have just sent a letter to the local paper, which the Clerk of Meeting and the pastors have signed, asking our people to open their homes to students, who may come, and to families who wish to re-establish themselves in the United States.

There is to be a meeting to-morrow morning at nine o'clock, I believe, at College. Will you be staying over and can you come out? If so, please have someone telephone me.

Next week there will be a Mass Meeting in Chester and I have been asked to speak as the son of a German-American.

Over the doorway of the Synagogue at Broad and Green and over the pulpit of my old Church, next to it - I was for many years a Presbyterian - there are these words, "My House shall be called the House of Prayer for All people". We have tried to have that spirit in our Parish and my joy is that students of all denominations and Creeds find it a place where they can freely come and be welcome.

With kindest personal regards and the sincere hope that I
may have the pleasure of meeting you, I am,

Faithfully y^{ours},

David Guenther



November 25, 1938

Rev. J. Jarden Guenther
Trinity Church
Swarthmore, Pennsylvania

My dear Reverend Guenther:

I deeply appreciate your kind letter of November 22. I regret that my stay in Philadelphia was so brief that I could not communicate with you. I left early the following morning for New York where I got a plane for Chicago.

I deeply appreciate your thoughtfulness in inviting me to come out to the College and meet with you and your friends who are doing such noble work in behalf of the refugees and the oppressed. I am sorry that my brief stay made it impossible for me to accept your invitation and I do hope that I shall have the pleasure before very long to visit your community.

With all good wishes, permit me to remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK



October 26, 1952

SWARTHMORE COLLEGE

SWARTHMORE, PENNSYLVANIA

Dear Dr. Silver,

The Student Christian Association of Swarthmore College has asked me to write to you to ask if you could address them the evening of Sunday, December 7th. The officers of this organization inform me that their aim is to present religious leaders of many faiths, not merely Christian ones. You would speak, according to their plans, on any topic which might be of interest to college students along religious lines, more particularly about some aspect of present-day Judaism. The officers have asked me to write you in the hope that on or around December 7th you might be in the Philadelphia area.

The reason I have been chosen to write you is that I am a Cleveland, a member of the Temple, and also because

you married my parents on December
29th, 1925.

If you could not come see them yourself,
could you possibly suggest some other
prominent rabbi, preferably from the Phila-
delphia area?

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours very truly,

B. David Rubinstein



October 29, 1952

Mr. B. David Rubinstein
Swarthmore College
Swarthmore, Pennsylvania

My dear David;

Thank you for your kind letter of October 26th inviting me to address the Student Christian Association of Swarthmore College on Sunday evening, December 7th. I wish I were free to come. However, I must be in my own pulpit on Sunday morning, and during the afternoon and evening of that date I have some long-standing local engagements. Perhaps at some other time I may be of service to you.

With best wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:er