

## 2012 SEEDS OF FAITH CONFERENCE

### ***JEWISH-CHRISTIAN RELATIONS: PROBLEMS AND POSSIBILITIES***

*with*

***Amy-Jill Levine***

The 17<sup>th</sup> Seeds of Faith conference will be in Meridian February 17 – 19, 2012. This conference will feature Amy-Jill Levine as the speaker, and will be held jointly with Congregation Beth Israel of Meridian. The congregations co-hosted the 2008 Seeds of Faith with Rabbi Lawrence Kushner.

Dr. Levine is University Professor of New Testament and Jewish Studies, E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Professor of New Testament Studies, and Professor of Jewish Studies at Vanderbilt University Divinity School and College of Arts and Sciences. Her recent books include *The Misunderstood Jew: the Church and the Scandal of the Jewish Jesus* (HarperOne), and, along with Marc Brettler of Brandeis University, she has edited the *Jewish Annotated New Testament* (Oxford).

A self-described “Yankee Jewish feminist who teaches in a predominantly Christian divinity school in the buckle of the Bible Belt,” Levine combines historical-critical rigor, literary-critical sensitivity, and a frequent dash of humor in a commitment to eliminating anti-Jewish, sexist, and homophobic theologies.

The weekend starts at 5:15 p.m. Friday, February 17 at Congregation Beth Israel, followed by Shabbat services at 6 p.m. led by Rabbi Marshall Klaven. Dr. Levine will introduce the conference topic. Saturday morning the event will move to the Mediator for continental breakfast and continued registration from 8 a.m. until 9 a.m. The morning topics are: “Old Testament and Tanakh: How Jews and Christians Read Scripture Differently,” and “Do Jewish Ears Hear Jesus’ Parables?” Lunch is provided. The afternoon talk is: “The Passion Narrative: Jewish History and Christian Faith.” There will be ample breaks for refreshment and book signing. Sunday the event concludes with a question and answer session at the Mediator at 9:30, followed by Holy Eucharist with the homily by Dr. Levine.

The Church of the Mediator and Congregation Beth Israel hope you will not miss this opportunity to learn, be challenged and entertained. The cost for the entire conference is \$65.00 per person, which includes the Friday night reception, continental breakfast and lunch Saturday, and all sessions of the conference.

Please contact Robert Covington, chairman, or Barbara Thomas, co-chair, for opportunities to assist in making this as successful a Seeds of Faith as in the past. Registration forms can be found on the Mediator web site, or will be available at the church office.

