December 2019-February 2020
Jewish Learning for Jewish Living

Enjoy warm soup (completed with salad, bread, drinks, and dessert), good conversation, and fascinating lecturers on a cold winter's night!

Monday, December 16, 2019 at 6:00pm: Author Ed Elhaderi, Nomadic Soul
Nomadic Soul tells the remarkable story of how the author, Ed Elhaderi, discovered meaning depth and community in Judaism. He was born in a tiny village in the Libyan Sahara into a Sunni Muslim family without electricity or running water and was lucky to survive his poor Bedouin childhood. Ed obtained his B.Sc. from the University of Tripoli and received a Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Southern California. Since then, he has become a broker and investor in real estate. Ed is devoted to learning as much as he can about the traditions and the history of the Jews of Libya and sharing that knowledge with his community.

Monday, January 20, 2020 at 6:00pm: Skokie Village Mayor and Author George Van Dusen, Clear it with Sid!
The Jewish son of a Lithuanian blacksmith, Sidney R. Yates rose to the pinnacle of Washington power and influence. As chair of a House Appropriations Subcommittee and dean of the Jewish Caucus, Yates was a preeminent national figure involved in issues ranging from the environment to Israel to support for the arts. Speaker Tip O'Neill relied on the savvy Chicagoan in the trenches and advised anyone with controversial legislation to first “Clear it with Sid!” This book draws on scores of interviews and unprecedented access to private papers to illuminate the life of this Illinois political icon. Wise, energetic, charismatic, petty, stubborn — Sid Yates presented a complicated character to constituents and colleagues alike. Yet his get-it-done approach to legislation allowed him to bridge partisan divides in the often-polarized House of Representatives.

Monday, February 17, 2020 at 6:00pm: Author Jennifer Cody Epstein, Wunderland
An intimate portrait of a friendship, severed by history and wartime. Manhattan, 1989. Things had never been easy between Ava and her estranged mother Ilse. Too many questions hovered between them: Who was Ava’s father? Where had Ilse been during the war? Why had she left her only child in a German orphanage during the war? But now Ilse’s ashes have arrived from Germany, and with them a trove of unsent letters addressed to some-one else unknown to Ava: Renate, a childhood friend. As her mother’s letters unfurl a dark past, Ava spirals into the shocking history of a woman she never truly knew.

Jennifer Cody Epstein, daughter-in-law of our own Temple member Stephen Epstein, is the author of the international bestseller The Painter from Shanghai and The Gods of Heavenly Punishment and winner of the 2013 Asian Pacific Association of Librarians Honor award for outstanding fiction. She has written for The Wall Street Journal, Vogue, Self, Mademoiselle, and many others. She has an MFA in fiction from Columbia University and an MA in international affairs from the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies.

Yes! I want to be warmed on a cold winter’s night with good food and fascinating lectures.

Name: ___________________________ Contact info (email/phone): __________________

_____ I want to attend all three 2019-2020 Souper Study programs = $25

Mark me down for the following:

_____ Ed Elhaderi, Nomadic Soul (12/16/19) X $10 = _______

_____ George Van Dusen, Clear it with Sid! (1/20/20) X $10 = _______

_____ Jennifer Cody Epstein, Wunderland (2/17/20) X $10 = _______

+3% Mazon (Optional) = _______

Total Enclosed: _______

Please send this form and check to TBI – Attn: “Soup”er Study or RSVP via shulcloud.

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