

## AGENDA – Metro Buffalo, NY Mosque-Synagogue Twinning Weekend 11/13-11/15/2009 Friday-Sunday

**Dedicated to the Vision and Memories of Cantor Susan Wehle and Mrs. Aasiya Hassan**

### Coordinators:

Dr. Othman Shibly DDS [shibly@buffalo.edu](mailto:shibly@buffalo.edu) 716-480-9647; Dr. Robert Stall MD [drstall@stallgeriatrics.com](mailto:drstall@stallgeriatrics.com) 716-861-1312

### Participating Religious/Faith Communities:

[Congregation Havurah](#) (Enid Bloch, member [enidbloch@yahoo.com](mailto:enidbloch@yahoo.com) - 6320 Main Street, Williamsville, NY 14221 - 716-689-2256 )  
Islamic Cultural Association of WNY (Imam Yahye Omar [yahyeharary@yahoo.com](mailto:yahyeharary@yahoo.com) - 444 Connecticut Street Buffalo, NY 14213 - 716-578-0735)

[Masjid An-Noor](#) (Imam Nazim Mangera [nazimm@gmail.com](mailto:nazimm@gmail.com) - 745 Heim Road, Getzville, NY 14068 - 716-568-1013)

[Masjid Nu'Man](#) (Imam Fajri Ansari [ansarif@buffalostate.edu](mailto:ansarif@buffalostate.edu) - 1373 Fillmore Ave, Buffalo, NY 14211 - 716-892-1332)

[Temple Beth Am](#) (Rabbi Irwin Tanenbaum [t.family@roadrunner.com](mailto:t.family@roadrunner.com) - 4660 Sheridan Drive, Williamsville, NY 14221 - 716-633-8877)

[Temple Beth El](#) (Rabbi Drorah Setel [dsetel@gmail.com](mailto:dsetel@gmail.com) - 720 Ashland Ave, Niagara Falls, NY 14301 - 716-282-2717)

[Temple Sinai](#) (Rabbi Alex Lazarus-Klein [lazarusklein@yahoo.com](mailto:lazarusklein@yahoo.com) - 50 Alberta Dr, Amherst, NY 14226 - 716-834-0708)

### Other contacts:

Foundation for Ethnic Understanding [ffeu.org](http://ffeu.org) (Rabbi Marc Schneier [ffeu@ffeu.org](mailto:ffeu@ffeu.org); Walter Ruby [walterruby@gmail.com](mailto:walterruby@gmail.com) 917-294-1772); Bridges TV (Faisan Haq [haq@buffalo.edu](mailto:haq@buffalo.edu) 716-923-4390)

### Friday, 11/13/2009 - Theme: *Shared Roots* (all welcome to attend)

Imams and Rabbis share pulpits; sermon topics on the common heritage of Jew & Muslims / how to work together locally for the common good

#### *Services and sermons*

1:00p Masjid An-Noor / Islamic Cultural Association of WNY / Masjid Nu'Man

7:30p Temple Beth Am / Temple Beth El / Temple Sinai

### Saturday, 11/14/2009 - *Jewish Sabbath* (all welcome to attend)

*Services* – 10a Temple Sinai

*Torah Study* – 9a Temple Beth Am, 11a Temple Sinai

### Sunday, 11/15/2009 - Theme: *Shared Responsibilities* (all welcome to attend)

1-3p at Masjid An-Noor - *Interfaith Community Projects Discussion* (moderated by Drs. Shibly and Stall)

#### Imams, Rabbis, and other Jewish/Muslim community leaders:

- 1) discuss the challenges faced by individual congregations and the community at-large
- 2) devise specific ways Muslims and Jews in our community can work together to address these challenges
- 3) establish concrete action steps and timelines for proposed projects

Sheik Rajab from Damascus, Syria (via Skype) as guest speaker (tentative)

3-5p at Masjid An-Noor - *Health Fair* (with Buffalo-area Muslim/Jewish dentists & physicians)

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Other interfaith/related events that weekend:

11/15/09 2-4p Alzheimer's Association of WNY Interfaith Remembrance Service – Brothers of Mercy Chapel, Clarence, NY.

11/15/09 2-5p Buffalo Chapter of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community will 13<sup>th</sup> Interfaith Conference, Millennium Hotel, 2040 Walden Avenue, Cheektowaga, NY 14225, across from the Walden Galleria Mall. Speakers: Dr. Dilip Sinha representing Hinduism; Rabbi Perry Netter representing Judaism; Sr. Katherine Marie Bogner representing Catholicism; President Stephen J. Free representing the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints; Imam Yahya Luqman representing Islam.

11/15/09 7-9p *Concert - An Evening With the Cantors* (\$18/person) – Temple Beth Zedek, Amherst, NY.

*Metro Buffalo, NY Mosque-Synagogue Twinning Weekend - Interfaith Community  
Projects Discussion by Congregational Leaders - Sunday, 11/15/2009*

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***DISCUSSION AGENDA***

1. **Introductions**
  - a. **Brief life history – where born & raised, parents/brothers-sisters/spouse-children, other jobs, personal interests, education, religious training**
  - b. **Congregational history – when was mosque/synagogue/congregation founded, previous leadership, vision/mission/goals, demographics (religious affiliation/sect, community served, # members, age/sex distribution), congregational structure/groups/committees**
  
2. **Defining congregational and community needs**
  - a. **On a scale of 1 to 10, where 1 is ‘not very good’ and 10 is ‘excellent’, how would you rate the well-being of your congregation?**
  - b. **If your rating was 5 out of 10, what 2 specific things would help get it to 6 out of 10? 8 out of 10? 10 out of 10?**
  - c. **On a scale of 1 to 10, where 1 is ‘not very good’ and 10 is ‘excellent’, how would you rate the well-being of Western New York?**
  - d. **If your rating was 5 out of 10, what 2 things would help get it to 6 out of 10? 8 out of 10? 10 out of 10?**
  
3. **Working together and follow-up plans**
  - a. **What can we do to help each other?**
  - b. **What can we do together to improve Western New York?**
  - c. **Specifically, what can we start doing right now? Who in our congregations, religious communities and WNY could help support these efforts?**

Notes: