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### **WRN Is About Support**

Our WRN community is an amazing group of rabbis. We are thinking of you during this extraordinary crisis, as you balance professional and personal needs, struggle to find space and time for yourself, overcome loneliness and isolation, provide for your and your loved ones basic needs, and support your communities. Some of us entered into this pandemic with personal illness, trauma, or struggle. We know those problems and concerns have not been diminished by the communal crisis. Others are overwhelmed by our new abnormal. Please know the WRN leadership and members are here to support each other. Make be sure to join one of our virtual support gatherings, Connection and Koah. Details and schedule below. Or look for connection, ideas and resources on our very active private Facebook group (always make sure you are NOT posting on the public FB page - look for the word private in the name). If you need a break creating a lesson plan, figuring at video learning, or even leading a service, ask for help. We can support each other. And of course, the WRN leadership is here, as well.

We wish you and your loved ones sweetness this Passover. It will surely be an unusual holiday. However, may the example of our ancestors who survived so much be a source of strength and inspiration. May there be drops of joy along the way.

Rabbi Kelly Levy, Co-president, [presidents@womensrabbinicnetwork.org](mailto:presidents@womensrabbinicnetwork.org)

Rabbi Leah Berkowitz, Co-president, [presidents@womensrabbinicnetwork.org](mailto:presidents@womensrabbinicnetwork.org)

Rabbi Mary L. Zamore, Executive Director, [maryzamore@womensrabbinicnetwork.org](mailto:maryzamore@womensrabbinicnetwork.org)

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# WRN CONNECTION





# ANU KUAH

## Connection and Koah, Virtual Support Gatherings

As we entered into self-isolation last month, WRN quickly organized regular zoom-based gatherings of support. These are an opportunity to share in a safe space what each of us is holding in our hearts and minds during this pandemic. WRN members have been able to listen to and support each other, to be rabbis to the rabbis. Every gathering has included a spiritual gem, a *nechemta* of poetry, prayer, teaching or guided meditation, offered by a WRN rabbi. Please note that each gathering will have a unique zoom link. No registration is required. We are varying between morning and evening slots to help make this accessible to all. Each is about an hour long. All dates with links will also be posted on FB, week by week.

Here are our upcoming gatherings:

**Monday, April 6, 7pm PDT/8pm MDT/9pm CDT/10pm EDT** <https://zoom.us/j/731701308>

**Wednesday, April 15, 6pm PDT/7pm MDT/8pm CDT/ 9pm EDT**

\*Different than our regular support gathering. We will include a remembrance ritual of lighting the Yizkor candle. An opportunity to remember our loved ones who are sorely missed during this crisis. <https://zoom.us/j/110118514>

**Monday, April 20, 9am PDT/10am MDT/11am CDT/12noon EDT** <https://zoom.us/j/220484963>

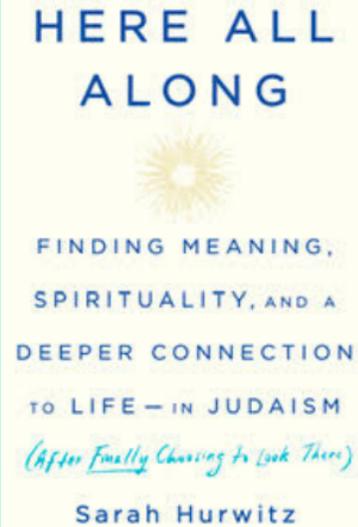
**Thursday, April 23, 7pm PDT/8pm MDT/9pm CDT/10pm EDT** <https://zoom.us/j/679807640>

**Monday, April 27, 9am PDT/10am MDT/11am CDT/12noon EDT** <https://zoom.us/j/754776004>

**Thursday, April 30, 7pm PDT/8pm MDT/9pm CDT/10pm EDT** <https://zoom.us/j/648409606>

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# National Learning Opportunity



## **WEBINAR WITH SARAH HURWITZ**

**April 14th 1pm EST  
Moderated by Rabbi Patricia Karlin-Neumann**

Mark your calendars and plan on joining us for this wonderful opportunity to learn, recharge, and come together in community!

**[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)**

### **ABOUT SARAH HURWITZ:**

From 2009 to 2017, Sarah Hurwitz served as a White House speechwriter, first as a senior speechwriter for President Barack Obama and then as head speechwriter for First Lady Michelle Obama. Prior to serving in the Obama Administration, Sarah was chief speechwriter for Hillary Clinton on her 2008 presidential campaign. Sarah is a graduate of Harvard College and Harvard Law school, and she is the author of *Here All Along: Finding Meaning, Spirituality, and a Deeper Connection to Life – in Judaism (After Finally Choosing to Look There)*.

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## Ratifying The New Board Slate

The time has come for transition of our leadership. We are grateful for our present leadership and are optimistic that our new board members will carry us with purpose and passion into the year ahead. We need your help confirming those individuals nominated for election and approval.

In accordance with our organizational by-laws, members in good standing are expected to participate in the ratifying process of the board slate by electronic vote. Each member may vote only once.

**Your participation takes less than 1 minute!  
See link below**

**All votes must be submitted by Thursday, April 30, 2020.**

We look forward to receiving your input in this important process.

A special thank you to Rabbi Amy Memis-Foler, Immediate Past President and chair of the Nominating Committee, and the Nominating Committee members: Rabbis Faith Joy Dantowitz, Janet Offel and Marina Yergin for their efforts.

Please direct all questions or concerns to either [Amy Memis-Foler](#) or [Mary Zamore](#).

*Amy Memis Foler, Chair, Nominating Committee & Immediate Past President  
Mary Zamore, Executive Director  
Kelly Levy, Co-President  
Leah Berkowitz, Co-President*

**Moving Positions On The Board**



*Rabbi Emily Segal*  
**Co-President**

Emily Segal is the rabbi of Aspen Jewish Congregation, serving the Roaring Fork Valley of Colorado. Previously she served as the associate rabbi of Temple Jeremiah in Northfield, Illinois, in the suburbs of Chicago. Emily grew up in a small, tight-knit Jewish community in Virginia, nurtured by one of the first woman rabbis, and she is the proud product of an interfaith home. After graduating from the University of Virginia (Wahoo!), her studies continued at the Hebrew Union College where she was ordained in Cincinnati in 2010. Emily's rabbinic thesis was entitled "Telling and Retelling: The Women's Seder and Ritual Innovation." Emily's rabbinic interests include Jewish environmental and food justice, liturgical development, ritual innovation, biblical Hebrew, Jewish feminism, and scriptural and halakhic study. Her non-rabbinic interests include strong coffee, dark chocolate, good books, escapist baking, wrangling toddlers, and live music. She is married to Rabbi Scott Segal. You can find them cooking together, dragging their young children on character-building hiking expeditions, and having family dance parties.



*Rabbi Elisa Koppel*  
**Networking VP**

Formally served as secretary, but was moved to her current position as a mid-term appointment by our co-Presidents.

Elisa Koppel is the Director of Lifelong Learning at Congregation Beth Emeth in Wilmington, DE where she partners with lay leadership to direct the Religious School, coordinate Adult Education, and work with the Director of Youth Programs on informal education, in addition to other rabbinic responsibilities.

Rabbi Koppel grew up in Westfield, NJ, where she was very active from a young age in Jewish life at Temple Emanu-El. Following her graduation from Brandeis University, she worked as a Program Assistant in the URJ Youth Division and as the Assistant Director of the College Education Department before entering Rabbinical School.

Since being ordained by Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in 2001, Rabbi Koppel has served in a number of positions, including as the Assistant Rabbi at The Community Synagogue in Port Washington, NY; Dean of Jewish Life at the American Hebrew Academy in Greensboro, NC, the nation's first pluralistic, Jewish boarding school; Regional Director of Youth Programs for the Greater New York Council of the Union for Reform Judaism; Associate Rabbi at Temple Beth-El in Hillsborough, NJ; and Associate Rabbi at Temple Beth-El in San Antonio, TX.

Follow Rabbi Koppel's blog at <http://rabbiisa.wordpress.com/> and she can be found on twitter as @rabbiisa.



*Rabbi Heather Miller*  
**Secretary**

Started as a mid-term appointment by our co-Presidents.

An award-winning spiritual leader and social justice advocate, Rabbi Heather Miller was named the 2018 Giant of Justice by CLUE-LA (Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice), appointed Commissioner on the first-ever Los Angeles County Sheriff's Civilian Oversight Commission in 2016, selected as a Jewish Federation Edah Community Leadership Fellow in 2016, and identified as a Leader to Watch by the Liberty Hill Foundation in 2013.

In 2019, Rabbi Miller released her first book, [ReSOULutions: A Practical Guide for Self-Repair](#). Her actions and ideas have been featured in more than 15 publications including the *Los Angeles Times*, the *Jewish Journal*, *The Orange County Register*, *Orange County Jewish Life Magazine*, *The New York Times*, *Sh'ma Journal*, [ReformJudaism.org](#), [InterfaithFamily.com](#), *The Christian Science Monitor*, and the *Episcopal News Service*.

She has served as spiritual leader of several congregations across the United States including the world's first LGBT-founded Jewish synagogue. She has designed dynamic and accessible learning programs for four religious schools, the largest pluralistic Jewish Day School in the United States, and the American Jewish University Graduate School of Education.

Born and raised in an interfaith family in Los Angeles, California, Rabbi Miller received her B.A. from Wellesley College (2001) and her M.A. in Hebrew Literature (2007) and Rabbinic Ordination from Hebrew Union College–Jewish Institute of Religion (2008). She is a proud member of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, the Women's Rabbinic Network, and the Pacific Association of Reform Rabbis.

## **New To The Board**



*Rabbi Glynis Conyer*  
**Treasurer**

Rabbi Glynis Conyer is the Executive Director at Community Synagogue of Rye, NY. Previously, she has held roles such as chief operating officer of a leading provider of international staffing, director of staff development, rabbinic intern, hospice pastoral caregiver and career counselor in the United States and South Africa. A graduate of and ordained rabbi by Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Rabbi Conyer obtained her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Communications at the University of South Africa.

Rabbi Conyer brings to the WRN her experiences as a managing owner of a camp and travel program for kids with special needs, where she recruited, led and managed 180+ international staff members across a range of functional areas, from programming and administration to facilities and IT department. She was also instrumental in developing a \$25M budgeting process across 13 camps and transformed a camp with low registration, operating at a significant deficit, into a leadership and training center of excellence with sound financial controls and a budget of \$1.4M.



*Rabbi Lisa Delson*  
**Social Action and Advocacy VP**

Rabbi Lisa Delson is a rabbi at Peninsula Temple Sholom in Burlingame, California. Previously, she has served as rabbi and program director at Temple Beth Emeth in Ann Arbor, Michigan. She is a graduate of University of Cincinnati and Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion's Cincinnati campus. Rabbi Delson is an alumna of the Brickner Social Justice Rabbinic Fellowship and participates in local multi-faith organizations in the Bay Area. She is an active member of the Women's Rabbinic Network. One of the greatest joys of being a congregational rabbi is participating in people's lives while continuing to learn new ways to teach Torah and engage in the world.

Rabbi Delson and her husband, Brent, are parents of two children.

## Continuing On The Board

Rabbi Leah Berkowitz.....Co-President  
Rabbi Sarah Marion.....Membership and Outreach VP  
Rabbi Rachel Bearman.....Communication and Marketing VP  
Rabbi Beth Klaffer.....Convention and National Events Co-VP  
Rabbi Patricia Karlin-Neumann....Convention and National Events Co-VP  
Rabbi Sarah Reines.....CCAR Representative  
Rabbi Kelly Levy.....Immediate Past President

[Click Here To Review Slate and Vote!](#)



### Oys

Condolences to Ellen Nemhauser and her husband Jeff on the death of Ellen's father Isaac Mike Wierzba.

Condolences to Rebecca Lesser Dubowe and her husband Michael on the death of Rebecca's father Joseph Lesser.

### Joys

Mazal Tov to Molly Gabriella Kane and her wife Michelle Citrin on the birth of their son Avishai Lev.

Mazal Tov to Courtney Berman and her husband Jeffrey on the birth of their son Gavi Wolff.