

Passing the Word

A Conference observing the 25th Anniversary of the ELCA Declaration to the Jewish Community

With pre-conference session

35th Annual Raoul Wallenberg Lecture and Honors Presentation

**Muhlenberg College
27-28 October 2019**

Sunday, 27 October 2019, 3:30-8:00 pm

- 3:30 pm **Raoul Wallenberg Lecture** (Free and open to the public) Miller Forum, Moyer Hall
- *On Different Grounds: Jewish and Christian Understandings of the Middle East*
Dr. A.-J. Levine, Vanderbilt University
 - Council of Centers on Jewish-Christian Relations' *Shevet Achim* Award presented to
Dr. Levine for Outstanding Contributions to Christian-Jewish Relations
- 4:30 **Reception** Seegers Union Event Space
- 5:30 **Dinner** Seegers Union 111-113
- 2019 Jeanette Eichenwald Interfaith Award presented to Moshe Forman '20
 - 2019 Wallenberg Honors presented to Rev. Dr. Jesper Svartvik, Karlstad Diocese, Sweden



Raoul Wallenberg
Righteous Among the Nations
Honorary United States Citizen

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A Conference observing the 25th Anniversary of the ELCA Declaration to the Jewish Community

Monday, 28 October 2019, 10:30 am – 8:00 pm

Registration and Conference Sessions: Seegers Union 111-113

10:30 am **Registration / coffee**

11:00 **Session 1:** *Lutheran Liturgy and Christian-Jewish Relations*

Dr. Ruth Langer, Boston College / Rev. Dr. Scott S. Ickert, ELCA Pastor, retired

The renewed relationships between Christians and Jews challenges many of our communities' long-held liturgical traditions. The panelists will hold a conversation about these challenges, their roots, solutions that have been implemented, and issues that still require attention.

12:30 pm **Lunch**

Seegers Union Event Space

1:30 **Session 2:** *Doing Our Respective Theologies Together*

Dr. Philip Cunningham / Dr. Adam Gregerman, Saint Joseph's University

In recent decades, Jewish and Christian scholars have been collaborating more and more. Indeed, it is not an exaggeration to say that the level of interaction has reached historically unprecedented levels. Two CCJR members whose academic duties include regular team-teaching, ongoing study together, and joint research will lead a discussion of such questions as: What role does my own religious affiliation play? What are the boundaries between my Jewish or Christian identity and my commenting on or critiquing the traditions or actions of the other community? How is my self-understanding impacted by a deeper understanding of the related other tradition?

3:00 **Break**

3:30 **Session 3:** *The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and Inter-religious Relations in 2019*

Rev. Dr. Darrell Jodock, ELCA Panel on Lutheran-Jewish Relations

Kathryn Mary Lohre, ELCA Executive, Ecumenical & Inter-Religious Relations

2019 is the 25th anniversary of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's [*Declaration to the Jewish Community*](#) repudiating Martin Luther's anti-Jewish invective and expressing the church's desire to "live our faith with love and respect for the Jewish people." In August 2019, the Church-wide Assembly of the ELCA built on this and other church-wide policy statements by passing [*A Declaration of Inter-Religious Commitment*](#). This session will give an overview of the broader interfaith life of the ELCA, and how the particular Jewish-Lutheran relationship informs the church's engagement with other religious communities.

5:00 **Reception & Dinner**

Seegers Union Event Space

Recognitions

- Christian Scholars Group 50 Years of Service
- ELCA 1994 Declaration at 25 Years

7:00 **Closing Keynote:** *Challenges and Opportunities that Lie Ahead*

Rev. Dr. Jesper Svartvik, Karlstad Diocese, Church of Sweden

8:00 **Safe travels!**