

**Greater Carolinas Association of Rabbis
Interfaith Institute at Wildacres**

**Food and Faith:
Ancient Laws and Traditions; Modern Concerns and Applications**

Tentative Schedule: August 1, 2016 – August 4, 2016

Monday, August 1, 2016

3-4:00 Registration

5:00 Happy Hour in the Canteen

6:00 Dinner

7:15 **Welcome to Wildacres - Introductory overview of creative writing group option by Kathleen Moloney-Tarr**

8:00 **Session I – Introductions of scholars, Rev. Dr. Nathan Stucky and Rabbi Dr. Natan Margalit**

Canteen will be open after the evening program

Tuesday, August 2, 2016

7:30A Jewish Worship Service

8:30 Breakfast

9:30 Creative Writing Group (optional)

10:00 **Session II – The Ethics of Eating: Kosher, Veggie, Vegan?** Eating ethically can sometimes be reduced to simple labels and ideologies. But what are the complex issues behind an ethics of eating for our day? We'll look from both Jewish and Christian perspectives at how we can form our own ethics of eating. Do Kosher Laws relate to ethics or not? Do New Testament instructions around food matter for contemporary food ethics? What are the economic, social and religious factors that we need to consider?

10:00 Program for Children with **Kitty Wolf**

12:30 Lunch

1:30 **Session III – Grace and Gratitude: Shabbat, Eucharist, and the Sacred Table.** How do we move from a commodity view of agriculture (back) to the idea of gift? How do religious institutions such as the Shabbat (also the Sabbatical Year and Jubilee) and the Eucharist promote the ideas of thankfulness, letting go of control, and finding joy in our human condition as mortal beings, creatures as well as creators?

1:30 Program for Children

3:30 Planning meeting (all are welcome)

5:00 Happy Hour

6:00 Dinner

8:00 Evening Entertainment, after which Canteen will be open

Wednesday, August 3, 2016

7:30A Jewish Worship Service

8:30 Breakfast

9:30 Creative Writing Group (optional)

10:30 **Session IV - Truth Sprouts from the Earth: Emergence, Eating and Educating for Relationship.** How can the act of farming or gardening be a part of theological education? What are the factors that make for health: our own and that of the farm, the community and the earth? How does the concept of “emergence” – most simply, the idea that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts, help us understand agriculture, eating and education?

10:30 Program for Children

12:30 Lunch

1:30 **Session V – Why Bother? The Theologies of Hope and the Reasons We Act.** One of the perennial questions that comes up in working with environmental agricultural or social issues is “why bother?” What can I as an individual do against the huge power of corporations, the massive forces of nature, the entrenched ideas of society? How can our religious traditions help us to have hope and to find reasons for acting? How do we make our actions count – practically and spiritually?

1:30 Program for children

3:30 Creative writing group sharing (preparation for evening program)

5:00 Happy Hour

6:00 Dinner

8:00 Sharing writings with the whole group, after which Canteen will be open

Thursday, August 4, 2016

7:15A Jewish Worship Service w/Torah reading

8:30 Breakfast

9:30 **Closing Program – Rabbi Steve Sager. What can we take from the mountain?**

10:30 Concluding *Tefillat haDerech* / Interfaith Prayers for travelers as we depart the mountain.