

Women of Reform Judaism-Northeast District
Second Biennial Convention

Friday October 8 - Sunday, October 10, 2010

April 15, 2010

This is the official **CALL TO CONVENTION** for the **SECOND NORTHEAST DISTRICT BIENNIAL CONVENTION** to be held at the Albany Marriott Hotel in Albany, New York. Registration information and dated return forms are enclosed. **We are certain that you are as excited as we are and that you will share this information with your Sisterhood Board and membership as soon as possible.** If you are the outgoing President, please be certain to pass on this material to your successor(s). Let your entire Sisterhood membership know about this opportunity.

The theme of this convention is “**Opening Our Hearts, Revitalizing Our Souls**”. **Our scholar in residence for this journey is Rabbi Sue Levi Elwell.** She will lead us as we explore new ways to reach our spiritual fulfillment. For over 3 decades, Rabbi Sue Levi Elwell has been exploring, teaching and writing about spirituality, and working towards creating and sustaining healthy and open-hearted communities. She has served as a congregational Rabbi and has taught at several prestigious institutions. Some of Elwell's accomplishments include editing "The Open Door, the CCAR Haggadah ", and serving as the poetry editor and member of the editorial board of the award winning "The Torah: A Women's Commentary", as well as being the founding Director of the Los Angeles Jewish Feminist Center. Elwell has served the Union for Reform Judaism since 1996.

We are also very excited to share with you that Blair Marks, First Vice-President of Women of Reform Judaism (WRJ), will join us for the weekend. Blair and Rabbi Elwell will expand our knowledge and guide us in understanding how we can lead ourselves and our sisterhoods to new levels. During the terrific workshops you will have many opportunities to consult with Northeast District experts, as well as Blair and Rabbi Elwell for your special sisterhood concerns.

The Biennial will begin with lunch on Friday, October 8. Check-in time for the hotel is 4:00pm. Bags will be stored for earlier arrivals. The convention will continue throughout Friday and Saturday and will conclude after lunch on Sunday.

We are very excited about this Biennial! Please encourage your Sisterhood Board and members to join us for this special weekend. **Plan today!! Please note the early date of the convention and the early bird due date of August 27, 2010. Please address this with your sisterhoods at your May and June board meetings. Come and be inspired!!**

DELEGATES

The enclosed Credential Form indicates the number of voting delegates to which your Sisterhood is presently entitled. This number is based upon your total paid membership to the Northeast District for the fiscal year 2009-2010, as of April 2010. To ensure your complete delegation, your **FULL** dues must be up to date. You can determine the size of your delegation by using the information provided on the enclosed Credential Form. The biennial is open to all members of your sisterhood who wish to attend. The number of women attending above your allotted voting delegate number will be considered alternates from your sisterhood and may participate in all activities except voting.

If, in addition to your delegates and alternates, you have Women of Reform Judaism Board members and/or Northeast District Board members and/or Consultants, you should consider offering them funds to attend since they represent and honor your Sisterhood. Please remember that these women are not counted as delegates. Any women recommended for the District Board must be included as a delegate or alternate from your sisterhood.

REMINDERS

Our Convention Book acknowledges the contributions your Sisterhood has made to the YES Fund through Circle of Service and Lifeline. Don't be left out! Make sure your checks are received in the office of:

Women of Reform Judaism
633 Third Avenue
New York, NY 10017
Attention: Judy Amill-Arnholdt

Please return the enclosed Sisterhood Registration Form by August 27th, 2010.

B'shalom,
Vivian, Denise and Trina
Vivian Blumstein, Denise Levine, Trina Novak
Convention Co-Chairs