

# Women Transcending Boundaries Monthly Newsletter

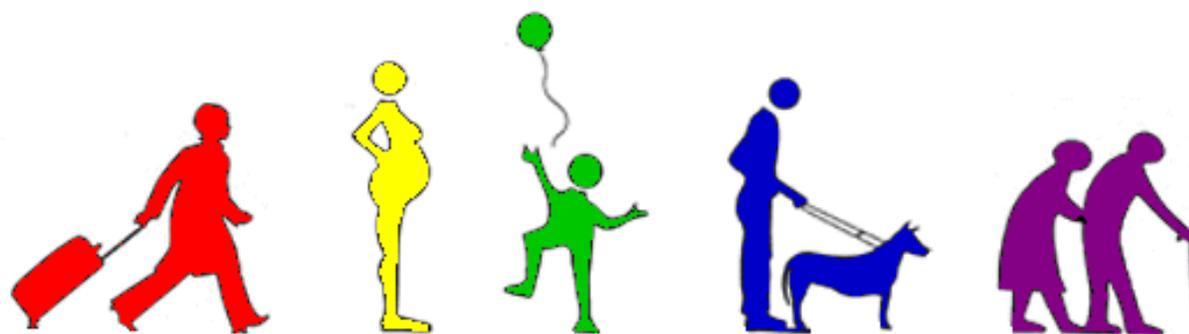
Bringing women of faith together after 9/11



All information is also available on our Web site [www.wtb.org](http://www.wtb.org)

**March 2017**

**2016 - 2017  
WTB Yearly Series  
Transcending Boundaries  
LIFE CYCLES**



**MARRIAGE & DIVORCE**  
**In Different Faiths & Cultures**  
**Sunday, March 19**  
**Jowonio**  
**3049 E. Genesee St.**  
**Syracuse, NY**  
**3:00 - 5:00**

We will continue our LIFE CYCLES series by looking at the marriage and divorce stages through the eyes of different faiths and cultures. Guest speakers will attend and share their insights.



A letter from your president,

Dear WTB sisters:

As March is almost here, I wanted to take a moment to thank all of you for making 2017 a Momental year. WTB volunteered again at WCNY for their January Travel Auction. A fun evening of answering phones and taking bids was had by all.

In January our Life Cycle Series continued with the program on Adolescence which was just fantastic. Our guest speakers, Suzanne Williams, Madeline Kujabi and Fran Greenman did a wonderful job of presenting adolescence in various aspects. Sharing the experiences and importance of schooling and education, both in our country and The Gambia was an eye opener. Madeline and Fran gave us first hand experiences of both. The importance of healthy, safe and affordable housing and how this affects our children certainly was brought to light through the mission of Habitat for Humanity. Suzanne William's 17 years of experience in this ministry is a blessing to the Syracuse Community. Remember that Habitat is looking for volunteers to help build their in faith houses in Eastwood in April. If you are interested in volunteering call 315-422-2230 to sign up. It is going to be quite the unifying project, as all the different faith communities get to work together in love and harmony for a common goal. If you were unable to attend the meeting, the minutes are on the website. We are blessed that our secretary's minutes are of such excellence that when you read them, you feel like you were almost at the meeting itself. The website was down, but thanks to the efforts of Joy Pople and Barbara Fought it is back up and running. Joy has been working hard on updating the website with pictures and new formats, so check it out.

Speaking of love and harmony, February brought us the 7th Annual World Interfaith Harmony Assembly, "Love is the Answer". Last year "Opening the Windows of Understanding" took my breath away. This year "Love is the Answer" took me on a fast track from the past, to the present, and a glimpse of the future. Each year this Assembly is different and so up lifting. God takes each of us on our various individual path of life in His will in amazing ways. I cannot thank you all enough for making this 7th World Interfaith Harmony Assembly such an amazing and unforgettable experience. Over 400 people and more faith communities than you can count on two hands were in attendance. The spirit was moving and "The Harmony Song" was loud and clear. The Welcome Mat was out for everyone to join together in love and harmony for peace on "Mother Earth".

Thank you again to Daryl Files and Penny Hart for years of Co-chairing this event with such love and kindness. Danya Wellmon has volunteered to Co-chair this for the future event. It takes many hands and lots of hours to bring this event together and we have a great committee. Thank you to all the Hostesses and everyone who attended and brought refreshments. The reception was delicious and delightful also due to the Hospitality Committee of UUMC and WTB.

We were saddened by the passing of Betsy's husband, Jim Wiggins. He is such an example of how much one person can make a difference to family, friends and community. Jim will be very missed in the "Compassionate Community" of Syracuse and Onondaga County that he spent years helping to make that happen. Our thoughts and prayers are with Betsy and all their family. It was a blessing that there was time for WTB to send gift cards for special meals, home made meals, love and prayers. I know this meant so much to Betsy and Jim. The memorial service for Jim will be held at University United Methodist Church, 1085 East Genesee St. on Saturday 4th at 11:00 am.

Your Council has established a new scholarship which is in the memory of Jim Wiggins, but will not have his name attached to it, as it will be open for everyone to donate to, for their special intentions, in the future. It will be called the Women Transcending Boundaries Interfaith Leadership Award.

Thank you all for being such special, thoughtful, caring women.

There are lots of exciting future events on the calendar, so enjoy reading your newsletter to hear all about them. Our newsletter editor Judy Antoine is the talent that puts it all together. Thank you.

Love and best regards,  
Betty Lamb  
Women Transcending Boundaries  
President  
[bettyslz@aol.com](mailto:bettyslz@aol.com)  
315-727-5996



Come gather with us again as we continue to build friendships and explore new places offering exotic food in Syracuse.

**What:** A Schmai ( meaning informal get together to share our stories, laugh and maybe even to cry a bit)

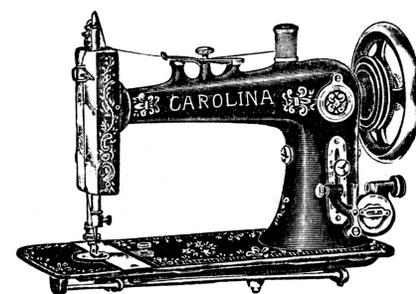
**Where:** [Francesca's Cucina](#)  
545 N Salina St, Syracuse, NY 13208-2530

**When:** Tuesday, March 7, 5:30-7:30.  
No need to make a reservation....just show up.

## NEW-AMERICAN SEWING CLASSES

Sewing classes are going well, now in the third session for the 2016-2017 year. This session will end with machine and fabric giveaway on March 23, with the fourth and final class beginning a week later. As always, visitors are welcome Thursdays from 12:15 to 2:45 at 501 Park Street. Just call my cell phone 315-345-9217 and I'll come to unlock the outer door.

If you know of a refugee who knows how to sew (therefore doesn't need to take this beginner class) and needs a machine, let me know his/her skill level and I will probably be able to provide a machine. Donations have been very generous this past year.



## Women's Community-Wide Seder

Wednesday, March 22 at 6:15 pm

Jewish Community Center

5655 Thompson Rd. Dewitt, NY



You are cordially invited to attend a Women's Community-wide Seder, open to all women, daughters & granddaughters, as well as inter-faith sisters. Join us for a light Passover meal with symbolic foods, and joyous singing and dancing.

If you are interested in attending please go to our web site, [wtb.org](http://wtb.org) for more information,

You may ask: Why a **Women's** Seder?

In the words of longtime Jewish feminist Francine Klagsbrun, "Women's seders have become a phenomenon of our time...From New York to Nebraska, from Berlin to London, thousands of Jewish women throughout the world celebrate the Passover holiday every year with an evening of ceremony and remembrance led by women for women."

A women's seder serves to add a feminist, woman-centered dimension to the observance of the universally Jewish holiday of Passover.

## **BOOK CLUB**

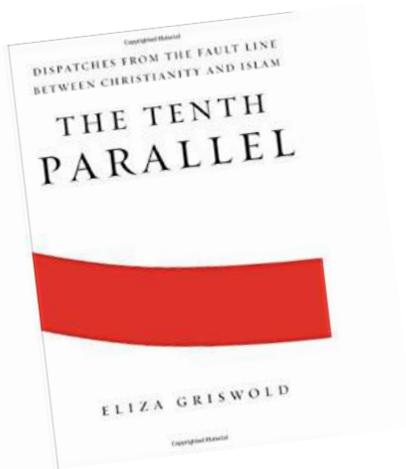
**Monday, March 27, 2017**

**7:00 - 9:00 pm**

**Home of Betty Lamb**

**734 Wadsworth St. Syracuse, 13205**

**315-727-5996**

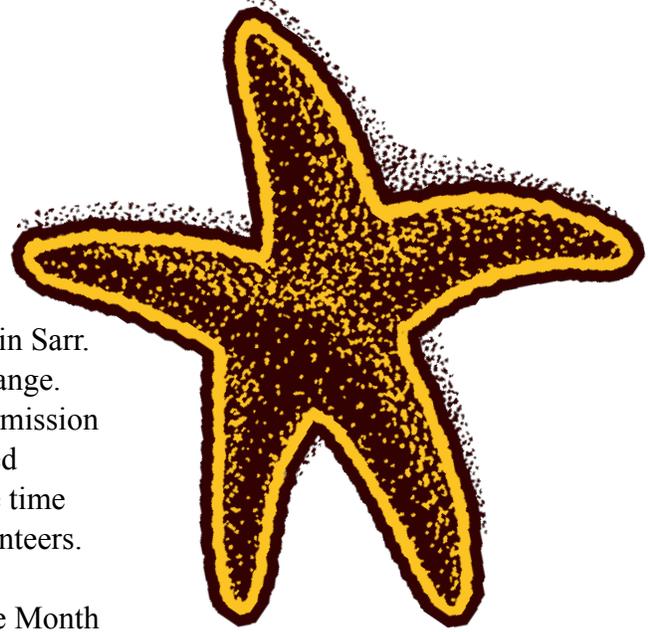


## **THE TENTH PARALLEL**

**By Eliza Griswold**

An award-winning investigative journalist and poet, Eliza Griswold has spent the past seven years traveling between the equator and the tenth parallel: in Nigeria, the Sudan, and Somalia, and in Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Philippines. The stories she tells in *The Tenth Parallel* show us that religious conflicts are also conflicts about land, water, oil, and other natural resources, and that local and tribal issues are often shaped by religious ideas. Above all, she makes clear that, for the people she writes about, one's sense of God is shaped by one's place on earth; along the tenth parallel, faith is geographic and demographic. (from [amazon.com](http://amazon.com))

# Starfish International



This organization was founded by one of our own members: Yassin Sarr. When she returned to her native Gambia she wanted to make a change. Thus, she founded Starfish International, a school for girls. Their mission is: to empower Gambian girls by providing them with an advanced education that is focused on service to humanity while at the same time providing international service-learning opportunities for our volunteers.

Four Starfish Girls and a Mentor will be in the United States in the Month of June to Raise Funds to Build their School back in The Gambia. They hope to stop in Syracuse for a performance. We are working hard to get a venue and make the arrangements. The chosen date is June 29th.

Keep your eyes on more information, coming soon. You won't want to miss this!



WTB has just established the Women Transcending Boundaries Scholarship for Interfaith Leadership.

This annual \$500 scholarship will honor a young person in our community who is actively working to nurture mutual understanding and respect among people of various beliefs, cultures, traditions, and ethnicities.

You may make a donation to this scholarship fund by sending your check to Women Transcending Boundaries, PO Box 6847, Syracuse, NY 13217.

Please note on your check that the donation is for the Scholarship Fund. Include your name and address so that WTB can send you an acknowledgement. Also, if your donation is in someone's honor or memory, please advise to whom notification of your donation should be sent.

# WTB is co-sponsoring this Interfaith Event at Congregation Beth Shalom Chevra-Shas



## Many Faiths, One World: How Are We Working Together?

As part of a weekend (March 31-April 2, 2017) at Congregation Beth Shalom-Chevra Shas about Judaism and the Environment with Rabbi Lawrence Troster, CBS-CS is hosting a multi-faith event on the environment that Saturday evening, April 1 at 8:30pm.

[Note: The start time is at the point in the evening due to the end of Shabbat. We appreciate everyone's willingness to begin at that time.]

**Title:** Many Faiths, One World: How Are We Working Together?

### Participants (and Faith Traditions):

- Rabbi Lawrence Troster (Conservative Judaism)
- Sister Caryn Crook (Catholic Church)
- Mohammed Khater (Sunni Islam)
- Kendra Hatfield-Timajchy (Ba'hai)
- Faith Jacques (Onondaga Nation)
- Catherine Landis (Zen Buddhism)

### The Questions

These are the four questions we would like everyone to speak to during the evening:

1. What environmental work are you doing now?
2. Imagine you could do more for the environment. What would that look like?
3. What are the barriers preventing you from doing that work?
4. How might we work together to overcome those barriers?

### The Format

The event will take place in our main sanctuary or social hall. Rabbi Lawrence Troster will be the moderator for the evening. The order for speaking will be determined closer to the event. There will also be a desert reception following the event, as well.

Segment	Minutes	Notes
Welcome/Introductions	5	From congregation, short bios
An Opening Prayer	2	TBD
Presentations	80	Each twelve minutes
Moderated Discussion	20	On the fourth question.
Q & A	15	Moderated
A Closing Prayer	2	TBD
<b>Total Time:</b>	124	Two hours

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Rabbi Pepperstone at [rabbi@cbscs.org](mailto:rabbi@cbscs.org) or (315) 427-4738.



We need a Chairman for the Sycamore Hill Garden event May 21st and volunteers for admissions and traffic control. We will have a Sheriff there, which Penny Hart is arranging. Please contact Betty Lamb at [bettyslz@aol.com](mailto:bettyslz@aol.com) or 315-727-5996, if you are interested. The weather should be beautiful by the 21st of May.

The Nominating Committee will be meeting in March. Anyone who is interested in volunteering to serve as a Council member or Officer for WTB for the 2016-2017 year, please contact Betty Lamb or Danya Wellmon.

To join this wonderful organization and pay your dues (Jan. - Dec. 2017), please click below. Your contributions make it possible for us to continue our work in the community.

To join, download our [membership form](#)



### 2017 WTB EVENTS

**March:**

**Tuesday, 7**

**Sunday, 19**

**Wednesday, 22**

**Monday, 27**

**Schmai**

**Monthly Meeting:**

**Marriage & Divorce**

**Women's Community-  
wide Seder**

**Book Club**