



# LEV SHALEM INSTITUTE

of the Woodstock Jewish Congregation

*Inspiring full-hearted living through the wisdom, joy, and gifts of Judaism*

**November 15, 2016—January 17, 2017, 1:45-3:45pm**

**9 Tuesdays: November 15, 22, 29, December 6, 13, 20, January 3, 10, 17**

## IN THE TENT OF ABRAHAM: THE MYSTICAL HEART OF ISLAM, CHRISTIANITY AND JUDAISM

**with Karuna Foudriat, Juliet Rabia Gentile, Reverend Matthew Wright and Rabbi Jonathan Kligler**

Last year we took a powerful and revelatory journey with Rabbi Jonathan Kligler and Rev. Matthew Wright in the course, "Judaism and Christianity: Shared Origins, Different Paths." This year we are thrilled to expand our inquiry and incorporate Islam into our shared study. We are fortunate to be joined by two Islamic Sufi scholars and practitioners, Karuna Foudriat and Rabia Gentile.

Judaism, Christianity and Islam all occupy the "Tent of Abraham" – that is, we all trace our spiritual lineage back to Abraham. In this course, we will ask each other all of our questions, even the ones we have been afraid to ask. We will learn about our profound similarities and our important differences.

*Cost for the series: \$135/General; \$67.50/members of St. Gregory's and WJC. We urge you to sign up for the entire series. Drop-in cost is \$20 per class/General; \$10 per class/members of St. Gregory's and WJC. Please note: If the cost of tuition is prohibitive for you, please contact Lauren at [levshalemstitute@wjcshul.org](mailto:levshalemstitute@wjcshul.org), and we will be happy to make it possible for you to attend.*

**Karuna Foudriat** is an ordained interfaith minister, meditation teacher, and dance leader of the Sufi Ruhaniat International and has been a practicing Muslim since 2007. She received a Master's of Divinity from Starr King School for the Ministry, a Unitarian Universalist seminary where she focused her studies on the ecological teachings of the Qur'an.

**Juliet Rabia Gentile** is a spiritual representative of her teacher, Shaykha Fariha al-Jerrahi of the Nur Ashki Jerrahi Sufi Order. She served as a founding member and spiritual minister of Faith House Manhattan, an interfaith center in Manhattan (2008-2011) and has lectured widely on Sufism. Rabia recently completed a narrative nonfiction book on Sufism in Turkey, India and North America and her work on Sufism has appeared in many anthologies and scholarly works. She is the founder of the Murshida Council, [www.murshidacouncil.org](http://www.murshidacouncil.org), an organization devoted to developing the voices and preserving the legacy of Sufi women.

**The Rev. Matthew Wright** is an Episcopal priest, writer, and retreat leader working to renew the Christian Wisdom tradition within a wider interspiritual framework. He serves as priest-in-charge at St. Gregory's Episcopal Church in Woodstock, NY and as a teacher for Northeast Wisdom ([northeastwisdom.org](http://northeastwisdom.org)). Matthew lives with his wife, Yanick, alongside the brothers of Holy Cross Monastery in West Park, NY.

**Rabbi Jonathan Kligler** is a gifted teacher of Jewish wisdom and an inspiring and transformative leader. His experiential teaching style reveals that Judaism can be a heart-opening and joyful spiritual path, without sacrificing the precious Jewish attributes of intellectual depth and inquiry. Rabbi Jonathan is rabbi of the Woodstock Jewish Congregation.

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