

A Finding Aid to the Judith Bluestein Papers

Manuscript Collection No. 893

3101 Clifton Ave, Cincinnati, Ohio 45220 513.487.3000 AmericanJewishArchives.org

Collection Summary

| Title | Judith Bluestein Papers |
|--------------------------|--|
| Dates | 1980-2014 |
| Collection Number | MS-893 |
| Repository | The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives |
| Creator | Bluestein, Judith A., 1948-2014 [Creator] |
| Extent | 0.8 linear feet (2 Hollinger boxes) |
| Abstract | Collection consisting primarily of sermons, with emphasis on Yom Kippur and Rosh Hashanah, and a yearly address on the anniversary of Kristallnacht. Also included are teaching materials and writings for temple bulletins. |

Language of the Material English

Administrative Information

Biographical Sketch Judith A. Bluestein was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, on April 2, 1948. She attended the University of Pennsylvania, earning a degree in Classics in 1969. In 1973, she received a Master of Arts in Religion (New Testament and Christian Origins) and a Master of Arts in Latin from Case Western University. From 1973-1979, she taught Latin at Walnut Hills High School in Cincinnati.

In 1984, Bluestein was ordained a rabbi and earned a Master of Hebrew Literature and Master of Philosophy in Hebraic and Cognate Studies at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR). She also received a Master of Education from Xavier University in 1984.

In 1990, Rabbi Bluestein began her appointment as Mississippi's first full-time female rabbi when hired by Temple B'nai Israel in Hattiesburg. While a rabbi in Hattiesburg, she served on the Board of the Sunrise Rotary and as an officer in the Hattiesburg Interfaith Alliance, the University of Southern Mississippi Campus Ministers, and the Dream Religious Community Task Force.

During her career, she served congregations in Greenville, Mississippi; Marion, Ohio; Ames, Iowa; Joplin, Missouri; Springfield, Ohio; Flagstaff, Arizona; Quincy, Illinois; and Galesburg, Illinois.

A member of the Greater Cincinnati Board of Rabbis, Rabbi Bluestein was active in the Cincinnati Council for Soviet Jews and the Dayton Christian-Jewish Dialogue. She chaired the Interfaith Plea for Soviet Jews in 1986 and participated in the steering committee for the Interfaith Service for World Peace at the Peace Bell in Newport, Kentucky.

In addition to rabbinical duties, Bluestein taught at HUC-JIR, Xavier University, the University of Cincinnati, Northern Kentucky University, Indiana University, Denison University and the University of Dayton.

In 2009, she received a Doctor of Divinity, honoris causa, from HUC-JIR.

Judith Bluestein died on May 29, 2014.

- Scope and Content This collection consists primarily of sermons, with emphasis on Yom Kippur and Rosh Hashanah, and a yearly address on the anniversary of Kristallnacht. Also includes teaching materials on Basic Judaism for Pleasant Ridge Presbyterian Church in Cincinnati, Prophets of the Hebrew Scriptures for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, Untold Stories of the Bible for the Mayerson JCC Seniors Program, along with writings for the Rabbi's Message in temple bulletins.
- Arrangement This collection is arranged in one (1) series: A. General.
- Terms of Access The collection is open for use; no restrictions apply.
- Preferred CitationFootnotes and bibliographic references should refer to the Judith Bluestein Papers and the American
Jewish Archives. A suggestion for at least the first citation is as follows:

[Description], [Date], Judith Bluestein Papers, MS-893, Box [#], Folder [#]. American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Provenance Received from Amy Shaiman, Oxford, Ohio, August 2014.

Index Terms

- Subjects Ames Jewish Congregation (Ames, Iowa) / Bluestein, Judith A., 1948-2014 / Hebrew Union Congregation (Greenville, Miss.) / Jews -- Ohio -- Cincinnati / Rabbis / Temple B'nai Israel (Hattiesburg, Miss.) / Temple Sholom (Springfield, Ohio) / Women rabbis
- Media Sermons

Series A. General, 1980-2014

Arrangement Sermons are arranged chronologically.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 1. Folder 1. Sermons, 1980-1988

Box 1. Folder 2. Sermons, 1990-1996

- Box 1. Folder 3. Sermons, 1997-1998
- Box 1. Folder 4. Sermons, 1999
- Box 2. Folder 1. Sermons, 2000-2002
- Box 2. Folder 2. Sermons, 2003-2004
- Box 2. Folder 3. Sermons, 2005-2010, 2013-2014
- Box 2. Folder 4. Teaching materials, 2000-2010
- Box 2. Folder 5. Writings. Rabbi's Message, 1983, 2003-2014