

Faith

MORE FAITH HEADLINES

- **Wartime pope**
- **Garage sales will support African children**
- **Faith Insider briefs: 'Sunstone' gets new editor and director of publications**
- **Faith Insider quote: "I'm not afraid or anything"**
- **Everyday ethics: Silence is golden - or not**
- **Feast on traditional Russian food**
- **Conference to promote vibrancy and unity of the Jewish people**
- **Ultra-orthodox Jewish group hosts Retreat**
- **Americans: No faith has a monopoly on salvation**
- **Senator apologizes for linking polygamy, gay marriage**
- **Alabama senator to propose 'I Believe' license plate**
- **Families battle over who owns 'Footprints' poem**
- **Young Baptist preachers chart different courses**
- **Muslims launch nationwide census of mosques**
- **Faith in action**
- **Kirby: Crossing the plains was a pain**
- **Garage sales will support African children**
- **'Love Out Loud': Teens volunteer to help the needy with home-improvement projects (with multimedia)**
- **Gardening: Creating your own Eden**
- **Bishops told immigration is key to the future of Catholic Church**
- **Southern Baptists elect president, dismiss abuse database**
- **Hodges: Convention concerned about membership decline**
- **Everyday ethics: Follow the rules or the message?**
- **Spirit World: Gay Episcopal bishop, longtime partner wed before Lambeth**
- **Faith in action**
- **Faith Insider quote: 'Pray for me'**
- **Kirby: 'Crazy reader' feedback**
- **New survey: Evangelicals,**



'Why Be Jewish'

Conference to promote vibrancy and unity of the Jewish people

By **Jessica Ravitz**
The Salt Lake Tribune

Article Last Updated: 06/21/2008 07:06:25 AM MDT

For the second consecutive summer, some of the Jewish world's most influential leaders and thinkers will gather in Park City to wrestle with questions affecting their global and ever-evolving community

The 25-member invitation list includes renowned professors, award-winning writers, activists, political and religious authorities and others. Dubbed "Why Be Jewish," the three-day conference at Deer Valley's Stein Eriksen Lodge begins June 29 and is sponsored by The Samuel Bronfman Foundation, an organization dedicated to inspiring "a renaissance in Jewish life," as indicated on its Web site. Just before and once during the conference there will be events open to the public.

The foundation is headed by Edgar M. Bronfman, a philanthropic giant who has been, among other things, the chief executive of the former Seagram Company Ltd., a president of the World Jewish Congress and a 1999 recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom. The foundation is in his father's name.

To learn more about The Samuel Bronfman Foundation, visit www.TheSBF.org.

Public events coinciding with the "Why Be Jewish" conference:

TEMPLE HAR SHALOM is hosting two events, featuring some of the conference participants, that are free and open to the public, although RSVPs are requested. Please reply by Wednesday at 435-649-2276 or dondea@templeharshalom.com. The temple is at 3700 N. Brookside Court, Park City, off State Route 224 on the way up to Park City, just beyond The Colby School.

June 28 at 7 p.m. - Join Edgar M. Bronfman and Deborah Lipstadt in conversation.

Bronfman, a leading philanthropist, chairman of the board of governors of Hillel: The Foundation for Jewish Campus Life and former president of the World Jewish Congress, will speak about his vision and his book, *Hope, Not Fear: A Path to Jewish Renaissance*. He'll be joined by Lipstadt, a modern Jewish and Holocaust studies professor at Emory University.

Click photo to enlarge



Adam Bronfman

Related
Jewish Conference 2008
Jun 21:
Ultra-orthodox Jewish group hosts Retreat

Adam Bronfman, Edgar's 45-year-old son who lives in Park City, serves as the foundation's managing director. He described earlier this week the organization's commitment to looking forward to ensure the vibrancy and unity of the Jewish people.

"In order to have a sense of where we want to go," he said, "we have to have a sense of where we are."

Conference participants, who'll congregate from places as diverse as Germany, Hungary, Israel and Mexico, will study together and grapple with trends shaping Jewish identity. They'll look at the divergent paths, everything from the rise of secularism to the threats of religious extremism, as well as the influences of multiculturalism, intermarriage and more. They'll even hold a session to discuss what Jewry might look like in 2050.

"I don't have any answers," Bronfman said.

But by bringing these voices and minds together in one room, giving them a forum to meet and speak, he said he trusts the conference will, at a minimum, provoke thought and greater understanding. And there's no telling where these participants, once they make contact, will take this.

"It's all still a work in progress," he said. "I'm the type of person who's not as consumed with the immediate results. Let's have a conversation."

jravitz@sltrib.com

People who made the invite-only list

Arnold Eisen: chancellor of the Jewish Theological Seminary

Konstanty Gebert: Polish columnist, activist and leader in the Solidarity movement in Poland

Jonathan Freedland: religion columnist at the British newspaper, *The Guardian*

Rebecca Goldstein: author of *Betraying Spinoza: The Renegade Jew*

South Jordan \$799,000

Stunning Golf Course
Dramatic Mountain Views. Ideally situated on the 18th green of Glenmoor G.C. Upgrades abound. Former Model, 6,800 sq. ft., Open Floor plan....

CLICK HERE CITYCHURCH

Highland Cove
801-272-8226
www.highlandcove.com

and...
Utah Realty Guide
The Salt Lake Tribune MORTGAGE CENTER
Refinance your home
Quick, easy process.
Get a free quote

'unaffiliated' voters will be big players in fall elections

- **Spiritual simplicity:** Christian outreach ministry aims to help struggling college students
- **Stitching up 'religious divide' for charity**
- **Pope allows display of Shroud of Turin**
- **Sisters of the Holy Cross:** A history of devoted service
- **Roman Catholics:** Bishops to consider new translations for Mass, hone statement on stem cells
- **LDS Classic is reborn**
- **LDS Church denies misdeed**
- **Mormons dedicate a fifth temple in Brazil**
- **Southern Baptists:** Wide-open race could set stage for fresh leadership
- **Everyday ethics:** Kicked out of the kids' play group
- **Hodges: Politics and the pulpit don't mesh well**
- **Kirby: Cutting**

books including *History on Trial: My Day in Court with David Irving*, an account of her legal battle against Irving, who sued her for calling him a Holocaust denier and right-wing extremist. Beth Zasloff, from the Bronfman Youth Fellowships in Israel, will also participate. A dessert reception will follow.

June 30 from 1 to 3 p.m. - Luncheon forum: *How is our Judaism different from our children's?*

Dondea Sherer-Lykes, Temple Har Shalom's education director, will introduce the program, which will include a panel discussion featuring Adam Bronfman, managing director of The Samuel Bronfman Foundation; Wayne Firestone, president of Hillel: The Foundation for Jewish Campus Life; and Daniel Septimus, editor-in-chief of MyJewishLearning.com.

Who Gave Us Modernity and recipient of the MacArthur Foundation's "genius grant"

Avraham Burg: former member of the Israeli Knesset, or parliament, and former chairman of the Jewish Agency

Enrique Krauze: Mexican historian and essayist, president and publisher of *Editorial Clio* and the cultural magazine, *Letras Libres*

Rabbi Benny Lau: young Israeli spiritual leader and lecturer at Bar-Ilan University

Esther Perel: therapist and best-selling author of *Mating in Captivity: Reconciling the Erotic and the Domestic*

On the Web

To learn more about The Samuel Bronfman Foundation, visit www.TheSBF.org

[Return to Top](#)

Zoom AIRLINES

New York to London from \$355*

*rollover for terms