

RABBI, AUTHOR VISITS CLEVELAND FOR PALM SUNDAY, DISCUSSION OF ISRAEL/PALESTINE

CLEVELAND-- Rabbi Michael Lerner, author of the new book *The Left Hand of God: Taking Back our Country from the Religious Right* (HarperSanFrancisco, 2006), editor of *Tikkun* magazine and rabbi of Beyt Tikkun in San Francisco, will visit Cleveland on Sunday, April 9 and Monday, April 10. Lerner's new book, published in February, explores the current state of faith in American politics and challenges the political left's lack of attention to spiritual issues. His visit to Cleveland is made possible by Cleveland Tikkun Community, the local chapter of an international interfaith organization called The Tikkun Community that Lerner founded in 1986. The name makes reference to the traditional Jewish value of tikkun olam, repairing the world through social action.

Rabbi Lerner's first stop in Cleveland is an unusual one. He will present a forum, preach and sign books at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral on Palm Sunday, the day Christians begin Holy Week by commemorating Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, the site of his crucifixion. "At Trinity, we are conscious that Holy Week texts and images have sometimes been used to feed hatred of Jews. Having Rabbi Lerner teach and preach on Palm Sunday is one way we can express our sorrow at that legacy of oppression and stand as Christians with integrity in a religiously pluralistic world," said the Very Rev. Tracey Lind, dean of Trinity.

The next day, Rabbi Lerner will speak on "Healing Israel/Palestine" at lunchtime at John Carroll University and on his latest book, "The Left Hand of God – Taking Back our Country from the Religious Right" at Anshe Chesed Fairmount Temple in the evening, where his visit is co-sponsored by Chevrei Tikva Chavurah of Anshe Chesed. "I think Rabbi Lerner frames the conflict between Progressives and Conservatives in this country in a way that explains how the religious right is accomplishing its political agenda and why spiritual progressives are not. More importantly, he describes what can be done to change this. I'm thrilled that we are bringing Rabbi Lerner to Cleveland to spread the message," said Alan Federman, a Cleveland Tikkun Community member.

All of Rabbi Lerner's speaking engagements in Cleveland are free and open to the public. To learn more about Rabbi Lerner's visit to Trinity Cathedral, please visit [www.trinitycleveland.org](http://www.trinitycleveland.org) or call 216-771-3630. To learn more about his visit to John Carroll University and Anshe Chesed Fairmount Temple, please visit [www.cleveland.tikkun.org](http://www.cleveland.tikkun.org).

Rabbi Michael Lerner in Cleveland

**Sunday, April 9**

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral  
2230 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland  
Free parking off Prospect  
Forum at 10:10 AM  
Worship at 11:00 AM with Rabbi Lerner preaching

**Monday, April 10**

John Carroll University  
Rodman Hall, Room A  
20700 North Park Blvd, University Heights  
Lecture at noon

Anshe Chesed Fairmount Temple  
Brickner Auditorium  
23737 Fairmount Blvd., Beachwood  
Lecture and book signing at 7:30 PM

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