

**JOIN US FOR THESE SPECIAL PROGRAMS WITH
JONATHAN MEYRAV
September 25, 2019
Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel
8339 Old York Rd, Elkins Park, PA 19027**



**MATINEE PROGRAM-1: 30 PM
" Birds and Birding in the Holy Land"**

Regardless of its small size Israel has one of the highest diversity of birds and wildlife in the world. Israel forms the land bridge between Europe, Asia and Africa and twice a year millions of migrants pass through the country. Join us and hear about the birds, nature and wildlife of Israel and the conservation efforts to protect its fragile nature.

**EVENING PROGRAM-7:00 PM
"Israel - Where Migration is Defined"**

Israel is well known as one of the best places in the world to witness and truly experience bird migration. Millions of migrants from hundreds of species pass through Israel twice a year, making it one of the world's busiest and most impressive flyways. Join us and hear about the amazing birds of Israel and the conservation, education and tourism projects that have become the core of our work.

Panel Discussion on Climate, Birds, and Conservation

Jonathan will be joining a panel following his presentation for a moderated discussion featuring participants from Audubon PA, Penn Environment, Sierra Club, and the Energy Cooperative. Wendy Ankrom, Chair of the Keneseth Israel Sustainability Committee and member of Cheltenham Environmental Advisory Council will moderate the panel discussion.



Jonathan Meyrav

Jonathan started showing interest in birds when he was 10 years old and by the age of 12 signed up as the youngest member of a junior birders' club. At 14 Jonathan earned his banding license and started participating in elaborate monitoring projects in Israel. While a young environmental studies student at Ben Gurion College, Jonathan fell in love with the desert and desert birding. He would spend entire days monitoring migrants and taking part in surveys and research programs. He rapidly grew to appreciate the more complicated families such as larks and wheatears and the incredible birding hotspots of southern Israel.



Jonathan has traveled the world extensively, from remote places like the African grasslands to the Amazon jungles and the frozen Canadian tundra. To date, he has seen more than 3,000 birds across 40 countries. He has intimate knowledge of southern Israel's birds, and his ability to lead tours in English, French, Spanish or Hebrew is incomparable.

Today, Jonathan is the most experienced birding tour leader in Israel, with sharp identification skills and a keen interest in desert birds, migration and vagrancy patterns. Jonathan spends the migration seasons where the birds do, in Eilat in the spring and Northern Israel in the fall and winter.



Since 2010 Jonathan serves as the Tourism Director of Israeli Ornithological Center (IOC). He still spends around 100 days a year guiding foreign birdwatchers, donors and birding tour groups. In recent years Jonathan and his team have developed several large-scale international events; the Hula and Eilat Birding Festivals and several seminars around bird conservation.

In recent years Jonathan devotes most of his time to the "The Champions of the Flyway" project. COTF is an international bird race that takes place in Eilat, Israel every spring. The project raises funds and awareness to protect migrants along the Flyways. Since the beginning

in 2014 Champions of the Flyway has raised close to \$500K for bird conservation, specifically projects tackling the illegal killing of birds on migration.



Society for the
Protection of Nature in Israel
Israel Ornithological Center