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Temple Sinai

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Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Northern Nevada

*\*at time of printing*

### Nevada Prayer Breakfast Planning Committee

Rt. Rev. Sean Savoy, Chairman

Rev. Neal Anderson, Toni de Salvo, Nicholas Frey, Patricia Meidell

Rev. Tom Nelson, Rev. Stefani Schatz, Rajan Zed

The Nevada Prayer Breakfast is a gathering of citizens — as well as civic, business, and community leaders — who wish to pray on behalf of our State and bring the spiritual resources of the community together to bear on issues that face Nevadans. Although members of the community may believe differently in their approach to the Divine, we gather at the Nevada Prayer Breakfast as equals. Together, we devote our energies to the good of the State of Nevada. Together, we pray.

The Nevada Clergy Association is a non-profit interfaith network of religious and spiritual leaders in Nevada. Programs include the Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Service, the Annual Nevada Prayer Breakfast, the Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Eve Service, and Biannual Interfaith Clergy Luncheons.  
(775) 786-1800 [www.NevadaClergy.net](http://www.NevadaClergy.net)

# *"A Future Together"*



The  
Nevada Clergy Association  
presents the

## NEVADA PRAYER BREAKFAST

Welcome by Nevada's First Lady  
Kathleen Sandoval

Keynote Address by State Treasurer  
Kate Marshall

Tuesday, April 30, 2013 – 7:00 AM  
Atlantis Casino, Resort & Spa  
Reno, Nevada

## Dr. Clair Earl (1933 - 2011)



Clair Frehner Earl was born one of five children in the small farming community of Overton, Nevada, to Milton and Erma Earl. He attended the University of Nevada-Reno from 1951-1955. Upon completion of four years of ROTC, he was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Artillery. Clair studied at Brigham Young University where he met Mildred Meyer. They were married for "time and eternity" in the Logan Utah Temple of the LDS Church.

Clair was employed as a chemist for Titanium Metals and Bureau of Mines in Southern Nevada. He became a 1st Lieutenant in the U.S. Army and later served in the Army Reserves. In 1963, he graduated from the University of Oregon Dental School. As a dentist for 47 years in Reno, he was an active

member and leader in the Nevada Dental Society, and served as president.

Seeking to make a difference in his community, he envisioned bringing people of various faiths together to solve problems, build relationships, and serve those in need. Some of his contributions included service on the Community Welfare Board, Family Promise of Reno/Sparks, the Washoe County Interfaith Clergy Association, and the Interfaith Council. Since its inception, Clair and Mildred have been strong supporters of the annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Eve Service.

Clair was known for his charity, his kindness, and his interest in people. His smile, handshake and "Tell me how you are!" were his trademarks. Devoted to God and dedicated to his faith, Clair served his entire life within the LDS Church, including assignments as teacher, Young Men's president, bishop, and 27 years in multi-congregational leadership as counselor in two Stake presidencies and as a Stake president. He was a leader in the Scouts of America for over 40 years. All of his sons were Eagle Scouts.

Amidst all their other commitments, Clair and Mildred prioritized family. They are the parents of 11 children and grandparents to 54 grandchildren and one great-grandchild. In March 2011, Clair and Mildred celebrated 55 years of marriage.

## Rabbi Myra Soifer



Myra Soifer was ordained a rabbi at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (the rabbinic seminary of Reform Judaism) in Cincinnati in 1978, becoming one of the first 10 women rabbis in the world. Her first rabbinic position was as the Assistant Rabbi at Temple Sinai in New Orleans. In 1984, she came to Reno to be the rabbi of Temple Sinai. She served in that position for 25 years, retiring in July 2009 when she was named the synagogue's Rabbi Emerita. In September of 2012, Myra was called back to Temple Sinai to guide it through rabbinic transition. She will be retiring a second time (!) this coming June. She is also a per-diem Spiritual Care Counselor with Circle of Life Hospice.

Myra was born in Miami and grew up in a far-south suburb of Chicago. She graduated from Lawrence University in Appleton, Wisconsin, with a B.A. in 1973. In addition to her M.A. in Hebrew Letters (HUC 1977) and her 1978 ordination, she was awarded a Doctor of Divinity, honoris causis, from the seminary in 2003.

Myra's rabbinate has always included a heavy focus on social justice, with commitment to a host of causes including reproductive freedom, abolishing the death penalty, gay rights, and championing all manner of diversity. In the 1980s, she was involved in peace and justice work in Central America, serving as the National Chair of Witness For Peace. Interfaith work has been a central joy and blessing in her career. In 1991, she organized a local group of colleagues, known as the "Study Buddies," that met monthly for nearly two decades. She is the convener of a local clergywomen's group, and she can be seen at most local interfaith events. She is proud that, as a member of the Interfaith Hospitality Network, Temple Sinai was the only Jewish congregation in the country to work together with the Muslim community to help families in need. Outside of her ministerial passions, Myra loves ballroom dancing and traveling. She also loves her legal ward, 20-year-old Adam Fliess. She rejoices in a life that has been mightily blessed and is very, very good.

## PROGRAM

**Opening Remarks:** the Rt. Rev. Sean Savoy, *Emcee*  
*Chancellor, Int'l. Community of Christ & Chair, NPB Committee*

**First Lady's Welcome:** Kathleen Sandoval

**Posting of the Colors & the Pledge of Allegiance:**  
Boy Scouts of America, Troop 5 - *Truckee River Ward (LDS Church)*

"Invitation to Prayer" – Interfaith Players, *Toni de Salvo, Director*

**Invocation:** the Rev. Luther Dupree, Jr.,  
*Bishop, Northern Nevada Churches of God in Christ*

**- Breakfast Served -**

**NCA Welcome:** the Rt. Rev. Gene Savoy, Jr.,  
*President, Nevada Clergy Assoc. & Bishop, Int'l. Community of Christ*

**Presentation of the Vision Awards:**  
to Dr. Clair Earl (*posthumously*)  
Presenter: *Bruce Brinkerhoff, Bishop, LDS Church*  
Accepted by: *Mildred Earl*  
Musical Tribute: "*Thankfulness*" performed by  
*Janet Orton & Mauri Earl (vocalists)*

—  
to Rabbi Myra Soifer, *Temple Sinai*  
Presenter: *the Rev. Neal Anderson, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship*  
Musical Tribute: "*When You Believe*" performed by  
*the Nevada Opera Chorus with Camile Franke*

**Keynote Address:** Kate Marshall, *Nevada State Treasurer*

**Expressions of Faith:**  
Harpal Singh, *Priest, Northern Nevada Sikh Temple*  
Rev. Denise Cordova, *Pastor, Light of the Soul United Church of Christ*  
Rev. Jikai' Phil Bryan, *Reno Buddhist Center*  
Dr. Sherif A. Elfass, *President, Northern Nevada Muslim Community*

**Benediction:** Rajan Zed, *President,*  
*Universal Society of Hinduism*

"America the Beautiful" – Janet Orton leads the Assembly  
(*Please refer to the lyrics provided.*)