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Review copies, book cover, and author photograph jpegs, and interviews with Author Rabbi Sheila Weinberg available upon request.

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### **New Book from Rabbi Weinberg**

#### **Focuses on Love and Compassion for All**

Philadelphia, Pa...Strangers are everywhere, from the struggling refugee to a neighbor who lives next door; from those of different ages, ethnicities, cultures, and physical differences to a family member—or even oneself. Rabbi Sheila Peltz Weinberg’s latest book, **GOD LOVES THE STRANGER** (White River Press), delivers an inspiring collection of blessings, stories, poems, teachings, and meditations that show how, in today’s world full of strangers, we can find peace and harmony.

Rabbi Weinberg said she chose “God loves the stranger” (Deuteronomy 10:18) as the theme of the book because of the strength and clarity behind those four simple words, through which God tells us to love one another as God loves us. “Whether we—or the strangers around us—are suffering, filled with joy, seeking truth, or searching for grace, this collection offers hope, reassurance, and a reminder that none of us is ever alone.”

Reverend Larry Peers, a Unitarian Universalist minister said, “This book is like taking a contemplative stroll with a wise teacher who occasionally shares a story, a poem, a laugh, a prayer, a psalm along the way. Each page whispers to us to ‘wake up’ and embrace the stranger within and around us.”

Having served as a congregational rabbi for seventeen years, Rabbi Weinberg has also worked in the fields of Jewish community relations, Jewish education, and Hillel. She is a spiritual director to a variety of Jewish clergy including students and faculty at HUC-JIR in New York City, and is the creator and co-leader of the Jewish Mindfulness Teacher Training Program.

The author of **Surprisingly Happy: An Atypical Religious Memoir** (White River Press 2010), Rabbi Weinberg has also released a CD, *Preparing the Heart: Meditations for Jewish Spiritual Practice*. She has published widely on topics that include feminism, spiritual direction, parenting, social justice, and mindfulness from a Jewish perspective, and has contributed commentaries to *Kol HaNeshama*, the Reconstructionist prayer book.