

***RETIRED MEN'S ASSOCIATION OF GREENWICH, Inc. (RMA)  
invites you to attend its meeting, on Wednesday, May 6, 2015.  
First Presbyterian Church, Lafayette Place, Greenwich, CT.***

***CONGRESSMAN JIM HIMES***

***CHALLENGES IN THE MIDDLE EAST: IRAN, ISIS, ISRAEL***



A diplomat asks God: “Will there be peace in the Middle East?” “Yes,” says God, “but not in My lifetime.” That was true enough when the dominant issue was the conflict between Israel and its Arab neighbors. Today, U.S. policy makers are faced with serious issues in every single country stretching from the Mediterranean to Afghanistan: the war in Syria; Saudi airstrikes in Yemen; uncertainty in Iraq and Afghanistan, non-state actors such as the Islamic State and Al Qaeda, Iran extending its influence in the region against the background of the United States embarking on direct negotiations with Iran. And today, strained relations between the

United States and Israel, long the United States’ strongest ally in the region.

From his unique perspective on the United States House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence (HPSCI), Congressman Jim Himes has focused on the Middle East, particularly ISIS and Iran, and is in a position to offer insights pulling together the diverse strands. He will take a deep look at the challenges throughout the region, particularly as to how it affects the United States, and to evaluate its available options. The HPSCI is charged with the oversight of the U.S. Intelligence Community, which includes the intelligence and intelligence related activities of the U.S. government, and the Military Intelligence Program.

Jim Himes represents Connecticut’s 4th District in the U.S. House of Representatives, where he is serving his fourth term. In addition to the HPSCI, he is a member of the House Committee on Financial Services. Born in Lima, Peru in 1966, he moved at the age of ten to the United States. After completing his undergraduate work at Harvard University, he earned a Rhodes Scholarship to attend Oxford University. Prior to his service in Congress, Jim ran the N.Y.C. branch of Enterprise Community Partners, a nonprofit dedicated to addressing the unique challenges of urban poverty, particularly financing the construction of thousands of affordable housing units. Putting his expertise in affordable housing to work, Jim served as a Commissioner of the Greenwich Housing Authority, and as a member of the BET, also serving as Chair of the Greenwich Democratic Town Committee. Jim began his professional career at Goldman Sachs & Co. where he worked his way up to Vice President over the course of a 12-year career. Jim lives in Greenwich with his wife Mary, and two daughters, Emma and Linley.

**RMA Meetings are free and open to the public; no reservations are required. Please plan to arrive around 10:45 for our social break (coffee and cake), followed by our speaker at 11:00. Meetings are held at the First Presbyterian Church in Greenwich. For additional information, call Bernard Schneider, 203-698-2558; bgsesq@gmail.com.**