

Temple Beth Torah

2018-2019/5779

- Jewish Life
- Jewish Belonging
- Jewish Community



Temple Beth Torah

Adult and Family Learning & Programs

A TASTE OF JUDAISM AND JEWISH LITERACY

Rabbi Mike Lotker

Tuesday evenings, 7:00-8:30 p.m.
in the library 10/30/18-3/26/19



The three-part "Taste of Judaism" class, designed to introduce the main tenets of Judaism, will be followed by a 15-week "Jewish Literacy" class. These classes are ideal for Jews, for their spouses, for those who are exploring conversion, and those who simply wish to broaden their knowledge about the fundamentals of Judaism's extraordinary history, beliefs and faith. The 15 classes of "Jewish Literacy" touch on most of the areas of concern and interest to adults who wish to explore the holidays, sacred literature, history, spirituality, mysticism, and living a full Jewish life. **This class is required for conversion candidates.** Copies of the syllabus are available at TBT.

Tuition: There is no cost for "A Taste of Judaism" for anyone or for "Jewish Literacy" for members of area synagogues. The suggested donation for "Jewish Literacy" for non-members is \$150 plus the cost of any texts and materials. Couples pay only one registration fee. The suggested donation for non-members deciding to "drop in" on classes is \$10 per session. If these fees are a barrier to anyone's participation, please speak with Rabbi Lotker; nobody will be turned away.

This program is made possible by Temple Beth Torah and the Jewish Federation of Ventura County. For more information or to reserve your seat, email or call Temple Beth Torah.

Introductory Sessions (3 session overview of the entire subject—no charge for this component of the class)

- 10/30 A Taste of Judaism—God (Jewish views of God, spirituality etc.)
- 11/13 A Taste of Judaism—Torah (Jewish sacred texts, Jewish way of life)
- 11/20 A Taste of Judaism—Israel (the land, people, and modern state)
- Sacred Time**
 - 11/27 The Hebrew Calendar, cycle of holidays and Shabbat
 - 12/4 The High Holy Days
 - 12/11 Chanukah, Purim, Pesach, Shavuot, and Sukkot
- Sacred Literature**
 - 12/18 Bible
 - 1/15/19 The Mishna & Talmud
 - 1/22 Midrash, Halacha, Jewish legal codes and issues
 - 1/29 Jewish mysticism: Kabbalah & Zohar
 - 2/5 The Prayerbook
- Jewish History**
 - 2/12 All of Jewish history in 90 minutes
 - 2/19 Judaism and Christianity—the parting of the ways
 - 2/26 The 20th century (Zionism, anti-semitism and the Holocaust)
- Living a Jewish Life**
 - 3/5 Temple and Synagogue: Home and kashrut
 - 3/12 Life Cycle: Brit milah, b'nai mitzvah, marriage (and inter-marriage), divorce, funerals
 - 3/19 Jewish community: Conversion, movements, synagogue life, etc.
 - 3/26 What does Judaism say about sexuality and ???
(students select topics)

MINDFUL MIDDOT: THE PATH OF JEWISH SELF-GROWTH

with Rabbi Lisa Hochberg-Miller

8 Sunday mornings, 9:30-11:00 a.m.

Oct. 21	Nov. 18	Dec. 16
Jan. 27	Feb. 24	March 17
April 28	May 19	



Encountering a trait each month, we will read core Jewish texts that help us understand which of our personal traits need growth and/or repair, so that we can be the person we want to be! Using the techniques of Rabbi Israel Salanter, the 19th century rabbi who brought the practice of mussar (mindful self-discipline) into popularity, we will work on our own traits toward self-growth. The discipline of mussar invites us to journal, reflect, pray, and consciously work on qualities such as Equanimity (peace of mind), Anger, Holiness, Feeling Secure, and more.

#DoJewish @Home:
JEWISH RITUALS, PRACTICE,
AND OBSERVANCES THAT WILL
ENRICH FAMILY LIFE, DEEPEN
FAMILY JEWISH CONNECTIONS,
AND INTEGRATE FAMILY VALUES
INTO FAMILY BEHAVIORS



Student Rabbi Noah Diamondstein

7 Sunday mornings, 9:30-11:00 a.m.

Oct. 7	Dec. 9	Feb. 3	May 5
Nov. 4	Jan. 13	March 3	

Every family that has a connection to Judaism, whether all, most, or some of the family members are Jews, has a set of values that guide family life. Sometimes those values are spoken and specific, sometimes they are implicit and very general, but values shape family life. Jewish values, as we will learn in Rabbi Hochberg-Miller's course on Middot, are an amazing resource for imbuing a life with Judaism, and Judaism has an entire series of rituals and practices (some daily and some just once or twice a year) that can take those immaterial values and make them tangible! Over the course of seven weeks, we'll discuss major categories of Jewish ritual and practice, learn where they come from and how to perform them, and make Jewish actions feel doable, customizable, and ready to plug-and-play at home. You get out what you put in! If we take Jewish practice and action seriously, and ensure that they are grounded in middot, they will meaningfully enrich our lives every single day.

WOMEN DURING THE HOLOCAUST

Annette Halpern

Tuesday afternoons, 2:00-3:00 p.m.

April 30, May 7, May 14

"The historian of the future who will write about the events of our days will have to devote a special page to the Jewish woman and her place in this war. The Jewish woman has assumed a special chapter in Jewish history. In the abyss of darkness she was a pillar of strength and courage." Emanuel Ringelbaum, historian and head of Oneg Shabbos, the secret archives and chronical of the Warsaw Ghetto

Join Annette, a Holocaust Education Specialist, for an exploration and discussion of complex and varied responses of Jewish women to the Holocaust.

Enroll by 4/28; email Deborah Pollack at dpollack@vcccd.edu



PRAYERBOOK HEBREW

Kathy Fink

Tuesday evenings, 7:00-8:00

April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 May 7, 14, 21, 28
June 4, 11

Would you like to be able to read along with the Rabbi in the siddur (prayerbook) without looking at the transliterations and even be able to follow along in the Torah? Kathy will be your guide to this simultaneously ancient and modern language using, using a text book written specifically for adult beginners, Aleph Isn't Tough. Whether you don't know an aleph from a bet or learned Hebrew so long ago that you've forgotten most of it, this is the class for you. You'll enjoy feeling more involved in Shabbat services, especially if you're thinking about preparing for an adult bar or bat mitzvah.

Enroll by 3/25; email Deborah Pollack at dpollack@vcccd.edu



FAMILY STORIES AND HISTORIES

Pam Small

Saturday afternoon, May 11, 12:30-2:00 p.m.

Are family members downsizing and giving you old papers and photos? Do you need some direction on organization, storage, and donating? Are there clues to interesting facts you may be missing?

Pam Small has been the recipient of many boxes of photos and documents, much to the dismay of her husband, Sam, who wishes she would inherit money instead. Through a lively Power Point presentation, she will show you her journey through their family history, the scandalous tidbits she uncovered, the software she uses, and the storage methods she recommends.



True Stories: Great Films

16th Annual Jewish Film Festival

Sunday October 28, 2 PM TBT:

Broken: A Project in Fused Glass by Frances Elson

Artist's talk and 57 minute film and wine and cheese reception

\$15.00 per person

Tuesday, December 25, 12:30 PM TBT

YULE AT THE SHUL

Chinese Lunch and a Movie: Fiddler On the Roof (Sing-Along)

Bring the whole family for a sumptuous Chinese buffet and sing-along opportunity.

Adults: \$25 (Kids 12 and under - 1/2 price)

The Festival Schedule:

Saturday February 2
Sponsors Dinner

Sunday, February 3 2 PM TBT
Monkey Business and short film: An Average Story
Free Movie sponsored by Jewish Family Services

Saturday, February 9 7 PM Regency Theater
OFFICIAL OPENING NIGHT: 1945

Sunday, February 10 2 PM TBT
Woman in Gold

Saturday, February 16 7 PM Regency Theater
Black Book

Sunday, February 17 2 PM TBT
Bag of Marbles

Saturday, March 9 7 PM Regency Theater
Itzhak

Sunday, March 10 2 PM TBT
Late Summer Blues

Saturday, March 16 7 PM Regency Theater
Sammy Davis, Jr.

Sunday, March 17 Noon TBT
Brotherhood Brunch
Keep the Change (speaker to follow movie)

Sponsorships welcome:

Please see flyer for more information
on the films and tickets.



PARENT AND CHILD CHALLAH BAKING

DeAnna Scott

Friday afternoon, October 12, 2:00-3:30 p.m.

Are you ready to learn, or improve upon your ability, to make a handsome and mouth-watering challah? Challah maven DeAnna will bring the dough and some wild mix-ins so that we can focus on enhancing our kneading and braiding skills. Children ages 4 and up are welcome to participate, but you don't need a child to attend, and each of us will walk out with a homemade Shabbat loaf!

There will be a materials fee of \$4.00 for adults, free for pre-B'nai Mitzvah children. Enroll by 10/10; email Deborah Pollack at dpollack@vcccd.edu

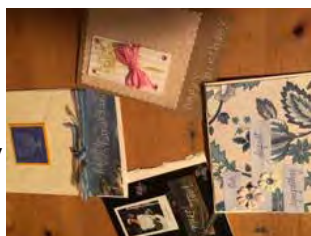
CRAFTING WORKSHOPS

Joy Goldowitz

CARD CRAFTING

Monday, January 7 at 2:00 p.m.

Have you ever admired cards made by hand or been the lucky recipient of a handmade card? Why not make your own cards in this fun workshop! We'll learn several easy and creative ways to make each card special.



Creative Lettering

Saturday, January 12 at 12:30 p.m.

You don't have to have nice handwriting to do beautiful lettering! Come have fun while learning easy and artful ways to create beautiful letters. Use your newfound skills to address envelopes, copy a quote, or write a lovely sentiment.



Beaded Bracelets

Monday, January 14, 2:00 p.m.

Let's make beaded bracelets together! Learn to make a sliding knot (size adjuster) style and beading with elastic. It's fun and easy with loads of ways to be creative!



There will be a materials fee of \$5 per class. Enroll by 1/5; email Deborah Pollack at dpollack@vcccd.edu

SCULPTING

Susan Kaufman

Thursday evenings, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

January 31 & February 7

A class designed to teach parents, grandparents, and other budding sculptors how to go about creating a small sculpture start to finish. Once you've learned, you can do this with the kids; they will love it!

Susan, a professional and award-winning sculptor, will teach the basics of how to create a figure using armature wire or wire mesh and non-drying Sculpey clay. Different from water-based clay, Sculpey sculptures are not baked in a kiln but rather in a toaster oven, which we're all more likely to own. You can experiment with small animals or Valentine hearts; the possibilities are up to your imagination. Makes great gifts.

There will be a materials fee of \$9. Enroll by 1/28; email Deborah Pollack at dpollack@vcccd.edu —class size is limited to 12.

LEARNING ABOUT THE INTERNATIONAL FLAVOR OF WINES

Ron Halpern

Saturday evening, April 6, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Following a brief Havdalah service, join Certified Wine Specialist Ron as he teaches us about different types of wine we may want to consider for our holiday needs, ranging from Kosher, to Organic, to Bio-Dynamic, and regular types. We will taste reds, whites, and sparkling wines. Ron will cover what to look for on the labels, the different varietals, countries of origin, and estimated costs. Cheese and crackers will be served.

There will be a materials fee of \$10-15 depending on the number of participants.

Enroll by 4/2; email Deborah Pollack at dpollack@vcccd.edu



SHORT STORY DISCUSSIONS

DEBORAH POLLACK

Tuesday afternoons, 2:00-3:00 p.m., every other month

In the Library

September 25, November 27, January 29, March 26, May 28

Join us as we engage in close reading and discussion of superb short stories by writers from diverse backgrounds. Our first story will be I.B. Singer's "Gimpel the Fool." Contact Deborah for upcoming story titles.



SHABBAT BOOK DISCUSSION AND POTLUCK

Saturday afternoons, 12:30 – 2:00 p.m. in the Library

Come join us for lively book discussions; there is no cost and all are welcome. Please bring a non-meat item to share.

OCTOBER 13:

THE WEIGHT OF INK: A NOVEL

BY RACHEL KADISH

FACILITATED BY ALAN KIRSCHBAUM

An aging British historian and expert in Jewish studies is invited to evaluate old manuscripts found during the renovation of a house in London. Her assistant is a young American graduate student and secular Jew. What they find—and the implications of it—astounds them both. Through Kadish's skillful writing, the reader effortlessly shifts between the worlds of both Helen and Aaron in modern-day London, Israel in the 1960s, and London in the 1660s with her compelling, richly-drawn characters. At nearly 600 pages, better start this one early!



DECEMBER 15:

WAKING LIONS: A NOVEL

BY AYELET GUNDAR-GOSHEN

FACILITATED BY NAN WALTMAN

Israeli author Gundar-Goshen brings us a suspenseful story dealing with some of the most difficult questions that a country and an individual can face. What do you do when you instinctively make a decision that is wrong and against your personal ethics? How do countries deal with the refugee crisis? How does a person view "the other"? What will a person do to protect his family? The protagonist is faced with overwhelming moral issues which are thoughtfully examined in this well-written story set in modern-day Israel.



FEBRUARY 2:

(((SEMITISM))) : BEING JEWISH IN AMERICA IN THE AGE OF TRUMP

BY JONATHAN WEISMAN

FACILITATED BY ALAN KIRSCHBAUM

After his role as a New York Times editor gave him visibility in the last presidential election campaign, Jonathan Weisman found himself the focus of thousands of virulent anti-Semitic attacks on Twitter. He was among 2,000 Jewish journalists subjected to such attacks - over a 12-month period, these journalists received 2.6 million hate-mail messages! (((Semitism))) is smart, timely journalism that places the current chapter of American political life in a larger context and makes some extremely astute observations about what's going on. A book as readable as it is relevant!



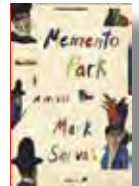
APRIL 13:

MEMENTO PARK: A NOVEL

BY MARK SARVAS

FACILITATED BY DEBORAH POLLACK

Set in Los Angeles, New York, and Budapest, Memento Park begins with an unexpected call from the Australian consulate through which protagonist Matt Santos learns of a valuable painting believed to have been looted from his family during WWII. To recover it, he must repair his strained relationship with his father, unearth his family history, and restore his connection to his own Judaism.



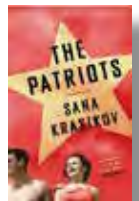
JUNE 15:

THE PATRIOTS: A NOVEL

A NOVEL BY SANA KRASIKOV

FACILITATED BY ANNETTE HALPERN

This gripping novel explores the life of a woman who leaves Brooklyn in the 1930s to help build the worker's paradise of the Soviet Union, only to find herself trapped in Stalin's horrifying world. Through the history of one family moving back and forth between continents over three generations, The Patriots reveals the untold story of Americans abandoned by their country and the secret history of two rival nations colluding under the cover of enmity. It is both a grand, old-fashioned epic and a contemporary novel of ideas that explores the power of love, the rewards and risks of friendship, and the secrets parents and children keep from one another.



JEWISH BOOK SHARING

Tuesday, November 6, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Many of us are looking for the next book to read in addition to the Shabbat book selections above. Bring a favorite Jewish adult or children's book (or two) to recommend to other readers during this participatory experience.

Inspirational



SHABBAT MORNING TORAH STUDY

Most Saturdays at 11:30 a.m. in the library

Connect yourself to Jewish text, tradition, and thought through lively and engaging weekly Torah discussion. Join our round table of ideas and provoking questions, as we plumb the depths of Torah wisdom and find insights for our own lives. Torah study in the library follows Shabbat morning worship most weeks (with the exception of a Bar/Bat Mitzvah, or a special Shabbat morning speaker) and is spiced with challah, Kiddush and oneg desserts.

Some come for services then leave, others come only for Torah study, some stay for the entire Shabbat morning offering. Try it and see how enriching it is to add some Torah study and some Shabbat to your life!



Brotherhood Bagel Brunches with Speakers

Sunday mornings, 9:30 a.m.-noon

October 14

November 18

December 9

Community Events

Community Simchat Torah Celebration

Sunday, September 30, beginning at 5:00 p.m. at Temple Beth Torah

Join congregants from Temple Ner Ami and Congregation Am HaYam for dinner, kids' crafts, close-up Torah encounters, and dancing with the Torahs.

\$10 per adult, free for children under 8.



TU B'SHVAT SEDER

Sunday, January 13 at Jewish Community of Ojai

Passover isn't the only time for a seder. Come and join us for a seder that celebrates the fruits of the land.

Yom HaShoah Program

Sunday, April 28, 2:00 p.m. at Temple Ner Ami in Camarillo

Hanna and Walter Kohner had one of the few Holocaust stories with a happy ending. The two were childhood sweethearts in Czechoslovakia before the war, with big plans for the future. When Hitler's armies closed in, Walter managed to get to the States, where his brothers were living. Hanna was arrested and miraculously survived internment in four concentration camps, including Auschwitz.

After the war, Walter learned from an American sergeant who helped liberate her that Hanna was still alive. He eventually found her in Amsterdam, and they were soon married. Settling in Los Angeles in 1946, Walter became a theatrical agent, and with Hanna wrote their amazing story, *Hanna and Walter, A Love Story*, published in 2008.

Julie Kohner, their daughter, will talk about the story that her parents first revealed on "This is Your Life."



SHAVUOT STUDY WITH CHEESECAKE

Sunday, June 9, 5:00 p.m. at Congregation Am HaYam in Oxnard

Community study, dinner, and prayer session on day 2 of Shavuot.

● Youthful Events



Temple Beth Torah

Torah School 2018-2019: Mishpacha Class

Join other families to create lasting relationships as we explore our Jewish world through play, music, movement, stories, crafts and circle time.

☆ Grandparents ☆ Aunts ☆ Uncles ☆ Moms ☆ Dads
Music, Art, Dance and Food!!!

THERE IS NO COST FOR THIS CLASS

This program is generously funded by The Jewish Federation of Ventura County



Jewish Federation
OF VENTURA COUNTY

For more information please contact TBT Torah School:

Danielle Stoyanoff ☆ (805) 647-4181 x19 ☆ danielle@templebethtorah.com

☆☆☆☆ Join us for Mishpacha Classes: 10am-11:30am ☆☆☆☆

August 26
September 16, 30
October 7, 14
November 4, 18

December 2, 10
January 13, 27
February 3, 24
March 3, 17

April 14, 28
May 5, 19
June 9



First Friday Family Shabbat



FFF Schedule

6pm Tot Shabbat

6:30pm Congregational Dinner

7:15pm Family Services

October 5

November 2

December 7

*January 11

February 1

March 1

*April 12

May 3

June 7

*Due to the Ventura Unified School District Winter and Spring break school closures, FFF is moved to the second Friday for these dates only

Call TBT Office to R.S.V.P. for Dinner by the
Wednesday before (805) 647-4181

Professional Staff

Rabbi Lisa Hochberg-Miller

Director, Education and Family Programs Marisa Schrier

Director, Early Childhood Education Marion Levin-Welch

Cantorial Soloist, Robin Faigin

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President

Secretary/VP of Community

VP of Governance

VP of Worship and Celebrations

VP of Finance

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VP of Member Engagement

VP of Education and Family

VP of Adult Learning and Programs

VP at Large-Member Engagement

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Brotherhood

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Pam Small

Alane Samuels

Nancy Marcus

Sara Alviani

Joel Goldenberg

Berta Steele

Allan Paskin

Sloane Burt

Deborah Pollack

Deni Jones

Alberto Kywi

Ron Halpern

TBD



Temple Beth Torah

7620 Foothill Rd.

Ventura, CA 93004

(805) 647-4181

TBTVentura@

TempleBethTorah.com